

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The coronavirus pandemic has seemed to affect everything but here in semi-rural Missouri the result hasn't been as heavy handed as it has been in the cities. The farm has reopened with some minor restrictions and protections and work on the farmhouse is nearly finished.

Regretfully, we have had to cancel the reunion but we will make sure that it is bigger and better next year!

We were able to hold the second shoot and will have the third and final one of the year in September. As you know, this is an important way for us to gain funds so we are ready to help the farm if something comes up. Fortunately, the shoots are outdoor activities with plenty of room for social distancing.

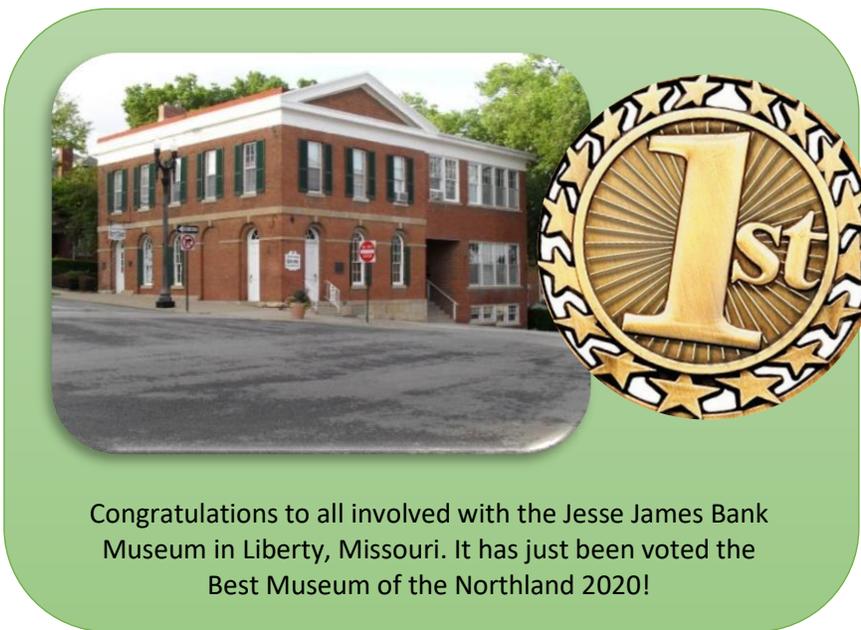
Paul Weller has recently had to retire from the board due to other responsibilities but he will continue to help out on our shoots. We thank him for all his hard work.

The ongoing search for a printer for Marty McGrane's book has been put on hold because of the virus. We will let you know as soon as there are any developments.

Until next time. **Bryan Ivlow.**



BY BRYAN IVLOW



Congratulations to all involved with the Jesse James Bank Museum in Liberty, Missouri. It has just been voted the Best Museum of the Northland 2020!

### This Issue

- Page 1 – President’s Message
- Page 2 – The James Farm And The Worldwide Pandemic
- Page 3 – Meet Our President
- Page 4 – Frank James Part 2: The Massacre at Lawrence, Kansas
- Page 9 – Shoot Report
- Page 10 - Arthur McCoy: “The Wild Irishman”
- Page 17 – The Trouble With Reward Posters
- Page 19 – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Jesse’s Exhumation

## The Friends of the James Farm

### Executive Officers

President  
Bryan Ivlow

Vice President  
Kevin Makel

Secretary  
Vivie Tison

Treasurer  
Vivie Tison

Website Management  
Kevin Makel

Newsletter Editor  
Michelle Pollard

### Board Members

Pam Banner  
Scott Cole  
Laura Ganschow  
Marty McGrane  
Caleb Pooker

### Ex-Officio

Beth Beckett

### Honorary Board Members

Betty Barr  
Michelle Pollard  
David Smith

[www.jessejames.org](http://www.jessejames.org)

Friends of the James Farm  
c/o The Jesse James Birthplace  
21216 Jesse James Farm Road  
Kearney, Missouri, 64060

### Newsletter Proof Reading

Elizabeth Rains Johnson

### Additional Research

Linda Gay Mathis

## THE JAMES FARM AND THE WORLDWIDE PANDEMIC

As we are all acutely aware, the world has been gripped by the Coronavirus pandemic, the result of which has been widespread lockdown and temporary closing of museums such as the Jesse James Birthplace.

We tried to find a time when the James Farm had been similarly hit in the past – by the Spanish Flu epidemic during the First World War, for example – but, as yet, we have found no specific mention of the Farm during that time.

What has this current situation meant? Well, the Farm was closed to visitors for several weeks and work on the restoration came to a temporary standstill but you will be pleased to know that, as the world carefully learns to live with the virus, the Jesse James Birthplace and Museum is now open again and welcoming visitors.

“We opened on June 1,” managing director, Beth Beckett, told us. “The first visitor through the door was from South Africa!” Beckett had thought the first visitors would be local, but that has not been the case. “They are coming from all over the US plus we have had visitors from London, Australia, Croatia, Canada and Germany.”

There are a few things to take note of if you are planning a visit. There are a limited number of tours per day, accessed via a signup sheet, and visitors are discouraged from waiting inside for their tour to begin. If there is a long wait for a tour, then it is advised you visit one of the many wonderful museums in the area.

The restoration on the old, 1822 portion of the cabin is almost complete. If you are quick, you can still see the logs exposed! “We still need to install the wall boards and ceiling boards inside,” Beckett says. “It looks nice!”



## MEET OUR PRESIDENT, BRYAN IVLOW



Hello! My name is Bryan and I was born and raised in a small town in north central Illinois named LaSalle. It was located on the Illinois River and near a park with rich Native American history, Starved Rock State Park. The history of the area featured the many French explorers that came down the river. These early French names grace many towns and streets.

That historical background prepped me for the Civil War history in this area. I became an eagle scout and loved outdoor activities including canoe trips, working summers at scout and private camps, and as a youngster hiking two or three miles north of town to fish.

My interest in history led to an interest in guns and their role in history. I hunted with the preacher and some churchmen. My father's passion was golf. I went to Knox College my first year and made the high five on the ROTC rifle team as a freshman. I then transferred to Park College. Riss Lake was a

large wooded area that surrounded the campus at the time and the Missouri river was nearby. It was an outdoor loving student's dream and back in those days many of us kept our guns in our dormitories.

In 1979, I bought my home and wooded acreage six miles north of the old James farm. I worked in Indiana, Ohio but mostly in Southwest Ontario. I would fly to work on Sunday night and fly home on Friday night. For half a year, I worked in northern England. When working in England I would stay seventeen days and come home for four days.

In 1980-81 the Friends of the James Farm organization began and they hosted shoots both of those years as a fundraiser. I became a member at that time. In the early 90s, Jeanne Ralston was president of the organization and she asked if I could run the shoots. John Hartman was the Park Director. He built the backstop berm and set up the targets. Over the years we have made changes but have hosted the shoots ever since. I am again president of the Friends of the James Farm and we have an active board of directors.

I love this area and all of the history. I even think there is a Civil War ghost near my house. I used to take my dogs for a walk on my gravel road about midnight. One of my dogs was a big Chow that wasn't afraid of anything. On the walks he started to bark at something ahead of us on the road. He would then turn and run back to the house. After the third time he quit going on the walks. I could never see anything with my flashlight, however Oakland Cemetery, circa 1850, is about 200 yards from the road and the Bigelow brothers, who were both killed on their local farms the same day by Jesse James are buried next to each other on my road side of the cemetery. A ghost is my favorite fantasy explanation for my dog's behavior. Isn't history wonderful? **BI**



Bryan at one of the many shoots he has organized at the Jesse James Birthplace.

## FRANK JAMES PART 2: THE MASSACRE AT LAWRENCE, KANSAS HOW IT LIKELY SHAPED THE CHARACTER OF FRANK JAMES

*In my last article on Frank James that ran in the Spring Journal, I introduced Frank through what may have been his first act as a guerrilla serving under leader William Clarke Quantrill. That act was the small raid on Missouri City in May of 1863. That incident led to the raid on the James/Samuel farm a few days later where 15-year-old Jesse was beaten and left for dead, and his stepfather, Reuben Samuel, was hung numerous times as a form of torture to entice him to inform the Union soldiers where Frank and other guerrillas were hiding. That incident, while I believe it was the impetus that caused Jesse to later join Quantrill, was yet another notch in the character development of 20-year-old Frank James.*

*A few months after Missouri City, the heinous raid on Lawrence, Kansas took place. There is literally very little said about Frank James' participation in the Lawrence raid of August 21, 1863. I have chosen to write about the raid to provide readers with more insight into what developed Frank's character. His participation in battles as a CSA soldier and as a guerrilla, and his witness to the sufferings and indignities born by his family, would have firmly developed much of his adult character.*

*Yet, the man was a survivor. Read on about the raid on Lawrence and set your mind to imagining what Frank might have been thinking, doing and how this son of a gentle preacher might have turned into a hardened killer of men and boys that occurred during the sacking of Lawrence, Kansas.*



BY ELIZABETH  
RAINS JOHNSON

Lawrence, Kansas was the Kansas headquarters for Jayhawkers, also known as Red Legs, who were pro-Union abolitionists. Many who lived in Lawrence were known for terrorizing western Missouri towns that housed numerous pro-southern sympathizers. While the acts against men and boys that took place on Friday, Aug. 21, 1863 by the guerrillas, were horrifying, they believed they were retaliating against Union supporters for the terror inflicted upon their own families back in Missouri.

Frank James did participate in the raid on Lawrence. Of the approximately 450 men who perpetrated the raid, some were notable: Cole Younger, with whom Frank would forge a lifelong friendship; John McCorkle, whose sisters would die in the Kansas City prison collapse that took place Aug. 14, 1863, and who would pen a book about his years as a guerrilla in 1914; George Todd, Fletch Taylor and Dave Pool, just to name a few.

It had been a bloody and busy few months for the guerrillas, and for Frank, beginning with the Missouri City raid in May, covered in my previous article. Frank, had, of course, begun life as a soldier in 1861 when he enlisted with the Missouri State Guard. He had fought in various battles including the August 1861 Battle of Wilson's Creek and, just a month later, the three-day Battle of the Hemp Bales in Lexington, Lafayette County. During the winter of 1861-2, he caught measles, was captured and sent home, where he had to take the loyalty oath and pay \$1,000 to do so (equal to \$28,571 in 2020).

Taking the loyalty oath meant nothing to Frank. He was a southern sympathizer through and through. He eventually made the decision to join Quantrill, whom he once described as, "full of life and a jolly fellow."

During these early summer months of 1863, the guerrillas were involved in skirmishes, raids and the burning of the farms of Union loyalists.

### Planning the raid

Quantrill called a meeting of his men for August 10, 1863 in an area near Blue Springs, Mo. At this meeting, he announced plans to attack Lawrence, a city of two- to-three-thousand inhabitants. It took Quantrill 24 hours to convince his men to execute the raid and any in opposition could bow out of the raid. Just a small portion of men refused to participate.

Lawrence was a city known for its abolitionists and was home to Senator and brigadier general, Jim Lane. Lane led many raids in Missouri in which his troops pillaged and burned homes, farms and killed many private citizens. He was greatly hated by the southern troops and guerrillas.

A list of targets to hit in Lawrence was drawn up, likely with Lane near the top of the list. Actually, Quantrill wanted to capture Lane, bring him back to Missouri where he would be tried and burned at the stake or hanged.

What was Frank thinking during this meeting? He was just 20 years old, but then most of Quantrill's men were in their late teens and early twenties. By now, I suspect that Frank was seasoned by his time as a soldier and guerrilla. He would be affected by the atrocities committed against his fellow southern sympathizers and probably just as angry at the Union troops and supporters as Quantrill. Something readers must remember is that the atrocities were committed on both sides. Union troops were just as cold-hearted in killing, burning homes and forcing women and children into homelessness and poverty.

And, of course, Frank's own family had personally suffered at the hands of Union men. The war had become personal for him and there is likely no doubt that he was chomping at the bit to join in the raid.

Four days after the Aug. 10 meeting in Blue Springs, the jail in Kansas City that housed many sisters and wives of the guerrillas, collapsed and killed or maimed them. If any of the guerrillas had been doubting the reason for the raid on Lawrence, they would now be incensed and motivated for it after the jail collapse.

That same day, General Order No. 10 had been issued, though it was not formerly announced until August 18. Order No. 10 ordered the roundup and exile of southern sympathizers from the western Missouri border counties, which would include the families of some of the guerrillas.

Fuelled by these recent events, the guerrillas began preparing for the raid on Lawrence the night of Aug. 18. Quantrill had about 150 men with him that night as they broke camp and rode to a pre-arranged place on the Blackwater River to meet up with William "Bloody Bill" Anderson who had about 40 men with him. Anderson, by now nearly insane with fury over the Kansas City prison collapse, had lost one sister and another was terribly maimed. One hundred more guerrillas joined Quantrill and Anderson – bringing the approximate total to 350 for the attack on Lawrence.

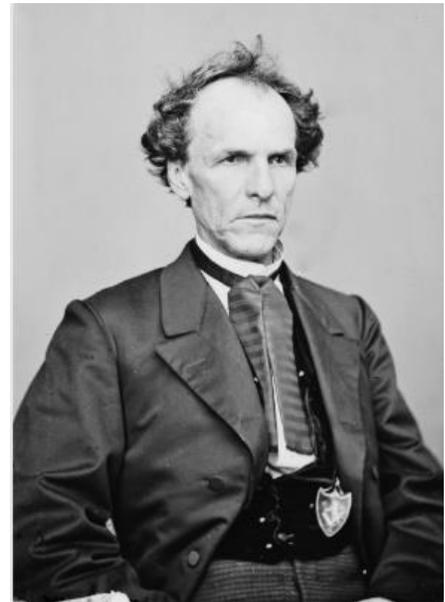
The next day, the men slowly and carefully made their way toward Lawrence. Having to avoid various Union troops was slowing them down, causing the guerrillas to send out scouts repeatedly.

Ten miles down the road, Quantrill called the men together and clarified that the clear target was Lawrence. Despite the magnitude of the raid, Frank James did not quit.

The group was soon joined by Confederate Colonel John D. Holt, who brought a hundred men with him from northern Missouri. An additional fifty men joined up who were simply men from Bates and Cass counties. The total amount of raiders was now about four hundred and fifty.

Interestingly, various noted books on the raid, as well as memories of bushwhackers who survived the war, have placed the amount of men at around one hundred and fifty to three hundred.

We will never know the true count.



**Jim Lane:** Senator and Union Brig. General Jim Lane was one of the main targets of the Lawrence Raid. He escaped into a cornfield and was never caught. However, he shot himself in the head on July 1, 1866, after jumping from his carriage in Leavenworth, Kansas, allegedly deranged and depressed. (Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress)

**William Clarke Quantrill:** This photo of Quantrill, a carte de visite, was found in the backing of another photo by workmen who were demolishing an old building in Kansas City, Mo., in the 1950s. Quantrill historians have identified the man in the photo as Quantrill.



As they proceeded toward Lawrence, one could imagine the men having time to think about the recent atrocities committed against their families, and becoming more and more incensed and mentally ready for the assault on Lawrence.

### August 21, 1863: The Lawrence Raid

In the pre-dawn hours of August 21, 1863, Quantrill and his men galloped into Lawrence and began a four-hour day of terror. One can imagine the thunderous sound of hooves, the kicking up of dust, and the guerrillas in their specially-made shirts, pistols in their hands, hell-bent on wreaking havoc through the town.

“Kill,” Quantrill reputedly shouted. “Kill and you will make no mistake! Lawrence should be thoroughly cleansed and the only way to cleanse it is to kill! Kill!”

Quantrill’s men complied with the order. They killed nearly every man and boy they encountered – executing them right in front of their families. Homes and businesses were looted and burned. It is estimated that between one hundred and fifty and two hundred men and boys were massacred during the timeline of the raid.



**Raid on Lawrence:** Copy of engraving of Quantrill’s Raid from Harper’s Weekly, September 5, 1863, courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Meanwhile, one of the most-wanted men on Quantrill’s list of targets, Jim Lane, escaped capture. Leaving his wife behind in their home, Lane escaped in his nightclothes by running through a cornfield and hiding. Quantrill found Lane’s home and it has been said that he treated Mrs. Lane with respect, permitting her to save as many of her possessions as she could before he set the house on fire.

Nothing much has been written about Frank’s involvement that day. In fact, I could not find anything Frank ever said about the raid. Perhaps, like many soldiers over the centuries, he preferred to put those years behind him. Yet, I surmise that Frank killed many in cold-blood that day as that is what he’d been told to do.

According to Ted Yeatman’s book, *Frank and Jesse James: the Story Behind the Legend*, “latter day Quantrill hater and biographer, William E. Connelley, claimed that Frank was ‘as ferocious and merciless as a hyena,’ though Connelley failed to explain any particulars (nor cite his sources).”

As the raid took place, the women and children were frantic. Everyone had been awakened in those pre-dawn hours by the guerrillas beginning their assault. Many hadn’t had time to even change out of nightclothes into day clothing. Their men and sons had been killed right in front of them ... houses and possessions set on fire.

The women were heralded as the heroes of the day. They did their best to hold onto their possessions, protect their children and men as best they could. Some of the women were able to hide their men in creative ways. One

woman hid her husband in the cellar and then rolled him in a big rug and placed the rug under a tree with nearby guerrillas gleefully watching the house burn unaware of the man in the rug. Another woman dressed her husband up to look like an old lady, placed an infant in his arms, effectively fooling the bushwhackers who were in her home searching for a man who was hiding in plain sight.

“The ladies of Lawrence were brave and plucky,” Quantrill was quoted as saying later, “but the men of Lawrence were a pack of cowards.”

Some of the men were shot while in the arms of their wives. Very little quarter was given that day – though some accounts of the Lawrence raid do indicate that a few of the guerrillas exhibited some compassion. Most of the raiders were drinking, shooting and burning buildings ruthlessly, without any mercy.

So many women and their children were left without a husband to earn a living, as well as those who also lost their teenage sons. Numerous businesses were burned, too. Only one guerrilla died that day – Larkin Skaggs who was shot with an arrow fired from an Indian named White Turkey.

### **Hotly pursued, the guerrillas flee Lawrence**

The raiders eventually fled Lawrence and were under hot pursuit from Union forces. Jim Lane had already returned to Lawrence and put together a posse of about one hundred and fifty, joined by fifty volunteers from the Kansas City area and one hundred and eighty from the Kansas border garrisons.

The posse caught up with Quantrill at Brooklyn, Kansas, a small, early trading center on the Santa Fe Trail. A skirmish was fought and the guerrillas took off, heading toward but not quite reaching Paola, Kansas. Then, they headed east and crossed back into Missouri the next morning.

According to the late historian, Ted Yeatman, “Five miles west of Pleasant Hill, Mo., ‘Col. Bazel Lazear, with part of the First Missouri Cavalry, engaged the raiders in a sharp fight, eventually killing 16 guerrillas and wounding a number more.’ ”

Quantrill knew the men needed to split up and said, “Disband and every man take care of himself.” However, he also sent word to the scattered guerrilla forces that they were to meet back in Lafayette County to decide where next to focus their energies. Fall was coming and with it, the dropping of leaves on the trees, cold weather and nowhere for the guerrillas to hide.

A group of about three to four hundred of Quantrill’s men would eventually head south to Texas for the winter.

### **Lawrence tasked with damage control and memories**

Following the Lawrence raid, on August 25, 1863, General Order No. 11 was issued by Union General Thomas Ewing, which outlined that the residents of the four Missouri counties of Jackson, Cass, Bates and Vernon, must relocate within fifteen days. Those leaving were required to turn over all grain and hay to the Union forces, among other requirements. Order No. 11 was established in hopes it would flush out the guerrillas and limit vigilante activity. Despite the Order, the guerrillas still managed to garner all the supplies they needed as they continued to fight for nearly two more years until the war ended.

The damage to Lawrence? The figures of \$1 million to \$1.5 million to \$2 million have been mentioned over the years. To put that in perspective, \$1.5 million in 1863 is equal to \$30 million in 2019 dollars (davemanuel.com - inflation calculator).

News of the Lawrence Raid quickly reached the four corners of the U.S. The *Evening Courier and Republic of Buffalo, N.Y.*, reported in its Saturday, August 22, 1863, edition (citing Leavenworth, Kansas as its source) that, “About 6 o’clock last evening the rebel guerrilla chief Quantrell [sic] with a force of 800 strong crossed the Missouri river into Kansas, near the town of Gardner, sixty miles below here (Leavenworth), and immediately started for Lawrence.” The key error here was that the paper stated there were 800 in the raiding party. There was closer to 450 men, nearly half the reported amount.

The *Wichita Eagle*, 150 years later, stated in its August 17, 2013, edition, “Quantrill’s raid on Lawrence still stirs deep emotions – on both sides.”

Yes, the memories of August 21, 1863, have lived on through descendants of those killed and those who survived, as well as those on the other side. The Lawrence historians remember the horrifying acts committed

by the guerrillas, while many Missouri historians remember the heinous acts committed by the Kansas Union men to those on the Missouri border counties.

Just the same, the acts committed that hot summer day in 1863, would likely have contributed to Frank James remorseless and strategic life as a post-war outlaw. Next time ... Centralia.

**Sources:**

-Yeatman, Ted, "Frank and Jesse James, The Story Behind the Legend," 2000.

-Leslie, Edward, "The Devil Knows How to Ride: The True Story of William Clarke Quantrill and His Confederate Raiders," 1998.

-Stiles, T.J., "Jesse James Last Rebel of the Civil War," 2002.

-Pence, Samuel, "I Knew Frank ... I Wish I Had Known Jesse," 2007.

-McCorkle, John & Barton, O.S., "Three Years With Quantrill, A True Story Told by His Scout," 1914.

-Evening Courier and Republic newspaper of Buffalo, New York, Saturday, Aug. 22, 1863 edition, page 1.

-Williams, Burton of the Kansas Historical Society, "Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence: A Question of Complicity," 1968.

-Epps, Kristen, University of Central Arkansas, "Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence." ERJ

---

## ARE YOU UNABLE TO VISIT THE JAMES FARM?

---

Here are some lovely recent photos!



# FRIENDS OF THE JAMES FARM SHOOT

## 20 June 2020



The image above was taken at a previous shoot.

**THE CAP & BALL WINNERS OF THE GENERAL SHOOT:**  
First place: Caleb Blackwell  
Second place: Paul Weller  
Third place: Colby Rollins

**THE CAP & BALL WINNERS OF THE SPECIAL TARGET:**  
First place: Colby Rollins  
Second place: Caleb Blackwell  
Third place: Paul Weller

**THE CARTRIDGE REVOLVER WINNERS OF THE GENERAL SHOOT:**  
First place: Dennis Brown  
Tied second place: Eric Gansen and Del Warren  
Third place: Caleb Blackwell

**THE CARTRIDGE REVOLVER WINNERS OF THE SPECIAL TARGET:**  
First place: Eric Gansen  
Second place: Gary Blackwell  
Third place: Dennis Brown

**THE ANNA JAMES GENERAL AND SPECIAL TARGET:**  
First place: Annie Reyes  
Second place: Bonnie Pooker



BY BRYAN IVLOW

Our 20 June, 2020 shoot started with a lot going against it - the main road to the farm was closed for culvert repairs; local weather sources were predicting rain all morning; and we were in the middle of a worldwide pandemic!

Well, in spite of all that, everyone found an alternate route, the predicted rain didn't arrive and, as far as I know, everyone followed the

guidance and stayed safe and well.

We were ably assisted by park rangers Kyle Rasche and Blake Boehm and we thank them for working to keep the event safe.

For our own part, we placed the targets farther apart and asked the shooters to score their own targets, which worked well. Although we had fewer targets, so we could keep a greater distance between shooters, the shoot didn't take much more time than usual.

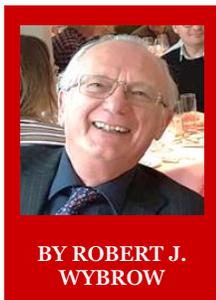
It was hot but not unbearably hot. Everyone had a good time and our gross income for the Friends was \$525.00. Thank you do everyone who participated. BI



Our next shoot is –  
**SEPTEMBER 19, 2020**  
**We Will See You There!**



## ARTHUR MCCOY: THE “WILD IRISHMAN”



BY ROBERT J.  
WYBROW

When John Newman Edwards wrote his lengthy article “A Terrible Quintette” for the *St. Louis Dispatch* on November 22, 1873, it came as no surprise that four of the five were Frank and Jesse James, and John and Cole Younger. But the fifth person was Arthur McCoy and though there is some information on his early life, the details of his later exploits are less well known and one wonders why, aside from his wartime experiences close to Edwards, he warranted an inclusion in Edwards’ “Terrible Quintette.” Perhaps it had something to do with Shelby’s division giving him the soubriquet of the “Wild Irishman.”

The first mention of McCoy in “A Terrible Quintette” is fairly early in the article and concerned the train derailment and robbery on 21 July 1873 in Iowa, where Edwards wrote, “The robbers were known, described, located and individualized. They were from Missouri, they were from Western Missouri, they were highwaymen by practice and profession, they were guilty beyond all possibility of a doubt, and they were Jesse James, Frank James, John Younger, Coleman Younger and Arthur McCoy.” The *St. Joseph Morning Herald*, however, pointed out that “McCoy was not with them [“the three Younger brothers”].”

Eventually, Edwards concentrated on McCoy three-quarters or so through his article, “the far-famed and notorious Arthur C. McCoy, who, like the James and the Younger brothers, had been accused of robbing all the banks in the country from Russellville, Ky., to Ste. Genevieve, Missouri.” On the first of these robberies in 1868, Edwards was correct. Detective Delos Bligh of Kentucky had given McCoy as one of the band who committed the Russellville robbery. But on the Ste. Genevieve bank robbery in 1873 there are no contemporary accounts mentioning McCoy. It is not until towards the end of the 20th Century that he is said to have been in the raid, when Eakin and Hale gave Arthur McCoy as the leader with possibly two of the Youngers and a fourth unidentified man making up the gang.<sup>1</sup>

Apart from the ‘printed word’ there is, of course, nowadays the cyber net with a mass of material on almost every subject under the sun. Thus, it is inevitable that the Ste. Genevieve robbery is covered. One of the sites has, among other topics, specialised in the history of Arthur McCoy: Geo and Deb Rule writing extensively about the James gang and its members. In one article about McCoy it is said that, “He’s also strongly connected to the Ste. Genevieve robbery... At the time of the robbery, his wife’s relatives apparently lost control of the bank in what appeared to be an action related to removing former Confederate sympathizers from control. To target the Ste. Genevieve bank at that time suggests McCoy had a personal motivation.”<sup>2</sup> From what we know about McCoy, this is a possible, though circumstantial, link with him and the Ste. Genevieve robbery. But let us not forget the man himself; according to Edwards, in an interview, McCoy said: “I was raised in Ste. Genevieve; I know nearly everybody in the town; I have a host of near friends there, and it does not stand to reason that I could go in to a place like that in broad daylight and take the chances of robbing my old neighbors and friends without being recognized or discovered. It’s against any reason to accuse me of being at Ste. Genevieve, and I have in my possession three letters from three prominent citizens there stating in mere charity for me and my family that they saw the robbers ride in and ride out – saw them good in the face, and that knowing me as well as they do, they would swear before any court that I was not one of the *five* [author’s italics] who did the work.” Descriptions of the two men who entered the bank did not fit McCoy. The first was described as too short to have been McCoy, even stooping, and suffering with a crippled arm and poor finger manipulation. The second was also too short to have been McCoy and was “slim built,” hardly Arthur’s physique.<sup>3</sup> This writer remains to be convinced about his involvement.

As well as Russellville and Ste. Genevieve, Edwards linked McCoy with the Gallatin robbery and murder: “Or, at least some newspapers here declared that he also helped rob the bank at Gallatin and to kill Sheets, but those who *know* McCoy know positively that he was a thousand miles away from Gallatin when the bank was robbed – that he was in fact at the time digging for gold in the mountains of Montana.” He next mentions McCoy in connection with the Iowa train affair and again cites McCoy himself, though Arthur has little to say on the subject,



South, and was always a man much esteemed until after the war. His wife, now living in St. Louis, is also of the best families in St. Louis, and occupies a very high position. She is connected by cousinship with the very first families of the country, and with those who now hold the most elevated positions in America.<sup>8</sup>

Given what the *Chicago Tribune* report had said about McCoy's ability to escape from imprisonment, it was rather foolish of them to then write, "McCoy cannot escape."



In 1881, following the train robbery and murder near Winston, Missouri, William Pinkerton gave an interview to *The Chicago Times* in which he claimed that his son, Robert, was sent into Missouri after the Corydon, Iowa, bank robbery in 1871 and while in the Clay County area he was warned "that he was being shadowed by a tall, powerful man with red whiskers, who intended to kill him if he got troublesome. Robert was a young fellow then and quite boyish in appearance... The tall man turned out to be Arthur McCoy, one of the most ferocious of the James gang. Soon afterward the bank determined to give up the hunt and Robert returned home."<sup>9</sup>

It was not until 1873 that McCoy next appeared in the newspapers when a train was wrecked and robbed near Adair in Iowa. In the September following the July robbery, an Ohioan newspaper ran a piece entitled "The Iowa Train Robbers," taken from a Missouri source. In this article was a section on McCoy in which was written that he was "undoubtedly the most noted desperado in all Missouri, and the man most to be feared, is Arthur P. McCoy. He is about 35 years of age, a giant in stature, and as brave as a lion." They then gave some of his earlier history: before the war he had been a painter in St. Louis but on the outbreak of hostilities he joined the Confederates, becoming known "as a desperado of the most bloodthirsty type. He became a spy and a bushwhacker, but seemed to bear a charmed life, as he was never even known to be wounded. He has had a hand in every bank robbery of consequence that has occurred in Missouri and has also 'worked' in Kentucky, and other Southern states." To prove the claim that "McCoy has earned the reputation of being the deadliest pistol shot in America," they have him being chased by citizens of Gallatin and shooting two of them while on horseback, one at 60 yards and the other at 110 yards.<sup>10</sup> Identification of the train robbers would have been difficult immediately afterwards as they were "masked in full Ku Klux style," though if they were later properly identified it could have come from an informant.<sup>11</sup>



Top: Site of the Corydon Bank Robbery,  
3 June 1871.

Above: Robert Pinkerton.

At around the same time, McCoy's wife was mentioned in connection with the arrest of Henry Lyon, otherwise known as 'Dublin,' an ironic twist given McCoy's Irish background. Lyon had been arrested in Omaha, Nebraska on suspicion of being one of the Iowa robbers and was said to have a \$75,000 interest in a gambling-house in San Francisco. McCoy was also mentioned as being a suspect for the robbery and 'Dublin' was said to be a friend of his and his family. Mrs McCoy had been in communication with 'Dublin' and through this he learnt that she was in financial problems, giving her a draft for \$100 to help. Letters between the two were found when 'Dublin' was arrested, and he was later given bail on \$5,000.

In this same article, McCoy was alleged to have been implicated in the robbery of a Wells, Fargo stage in California in 1850, when it lost \$30,000, though the date given was of course two years before Wells, Fargo had been formed. They were robbed in May 1860 but the loot amounted to \$11,000, so the robbery might possibly have been the 1869 affair mentioned above, though the dates are wrong.<sup>12</sup>

The Iowa robbery had aroused so much anger that the St. Louis *Democrat* wrote:

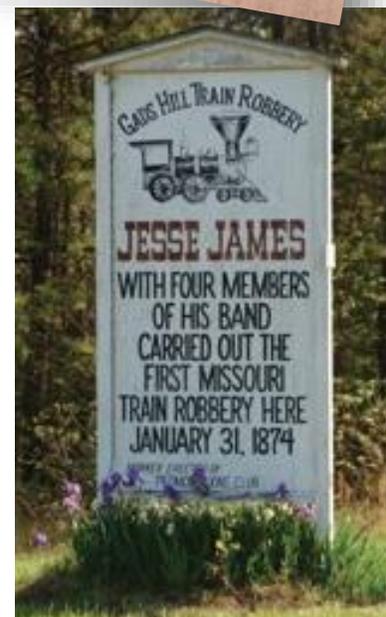
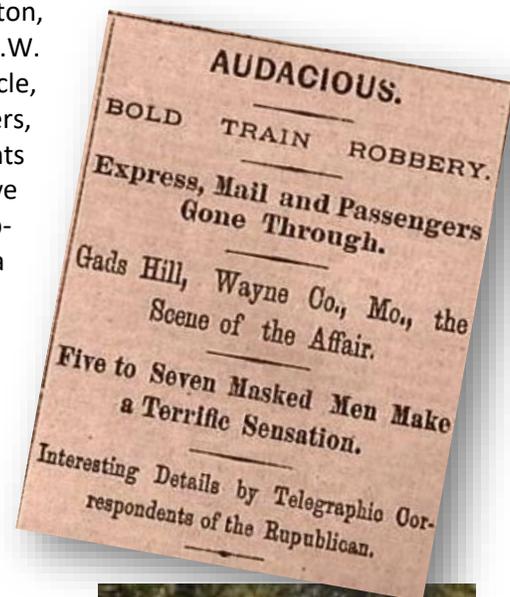
The Iowa railroad-train robbers, who have been flitting about in some of the western counties of this State, are all together again except McCoy, and the detectives have information that another bank robbery is being planned by them, and it will be carried out as soon as McCoy joins the gang. All the banks in that part of the State are being closely watched by special officers and efforts are constantly being made to capture these desperadoes."<sup>13</sup>

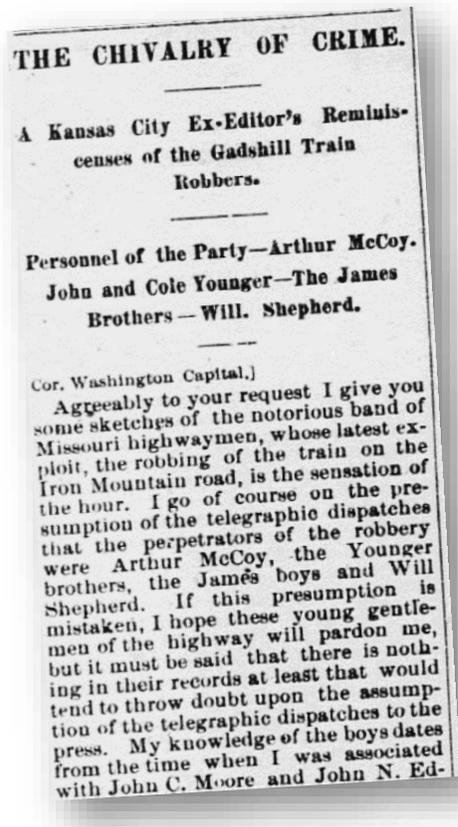
1874 began with the first train robbery in Missouri, on January 31, by five men, named in one report as being "Arthur McCoy, Jesse and Frank James and Cole and Budd [sic] Younger." This information allegedly came from "an officer connected with the police force who was born in Jackson county and raised in the same village with the James boys. He is also well acquainted with the Younger brothers." The informant spoke about "all five of the present McCoy band," which was a strange way of describing the band and probably caused some annoyance to Jesse.<sup>14</sup>

On the last day of February *The Weekly Caucasian* of Lexington, Missouri published a lengthy piece from the *National Capital* by J.W. Buel, in which the author stated, almost at the beginning of his article, that the train robbers had been "Arthur McCoy, the Younger brothers, the James boys and Will Shepherd," making at least six participants not five. He also wrote that McCoy "may be said to be the executive officer of the band," though there is no mention of McCoy in the subtitles of *The Border Outlaws*. Buel then went on to say he was "a remarkable man, with a somewhat remarkable history," briefly mentioning McCoy's pre-war life in St. Louis, "where he occupied a respected position in society for sometime, but which he partially lost by his reckless behavior during the two or three years immediately preceding the outbreak of the conflict." His description of McCoy was "about five feet eleven inches high, dark complexion, has dark brown hair and dark hazel eyes, a well-proportioned and altogether handsome face, and weighs, I should suppose, about 175 pounds. He is well educated – that is, has a good common education – and is a man of considerably more than average intelligence."<sup>15</sup>

Another but possibly less favourable description of McCoy is: "A tall, gaunt man was Arthur McCoy, six feet and over, a little stooped about the shoulders, very long in the arms, having a stride like a race horse and a nervous energy that was expending itself even while he slept. All the lower face was massive - the lower jaw especially square cut and huge. The eyes were of that cold, glittering, penetrating blue that might be cruel as a serpent's - soft and tender as the eyes of confidence and trust."<sup>16</sup>

In Buel's article mentioned above, he went on to list further characteristics of his subject but saying, "I have no time or space to record any of his adventures as a Confederate spy" and going on to wax lyrical about both McCoy's brave and desperate actions, which brought about "many thousands dollars in rewards are set on the head of Arthur McCoy, but it amounts to considerably more than a year's salary of a Cabinet officer." So far this writer has seen not any reward notices for





Morning Republican, Little Rock, Arkansas,  
18 February 1874.

McCoy and those offered by the State of Missouri were almost always a mere \$300, except in special circumstances; banks and railroad companies could of course offer rewards into the thousands of dollars. In what one can only describe as an act “in the spirit of competitiveness” Buel set out the details of a meeting in the fall of 1872, when he was sitting with John Newman Edwards in the offices of the *Kansas City Times* and in strode none other than Arthur McCoy, who presented Edwards with a gold watch and chain; out in the street were the James brothers and Cole Younger.<sup>17</sup>

In December 1873, two men robbed a country store in Cass County, Missouri and around the same time a number of horses were stolen. Four men were tracking some of the stolen horses when they were ambushed by five men: John and Bob Younger, Arthur McCoy and two other men named Kirkpatrick and Morrow. After an amount of banter between the two groups, the ‘hunters’ were stripped of their weapons and allowed to go.<sup>18</sup>

Two days later, the same newspaper returned to the topic of the outlaws, again naming Arthur McCoy as one of them. Some details were published again about McCoy’s earlier life: Irish born; being a painter in St. Louis; becoming a spy during the war; and having a wife and children near Ste. Genevieve. He was said to be close to John Younger but the newspaper’s description of him was both similar in parts to others made of Arthur but also at odds with what had been published about him elsewhere, being “more ignorant and illiterate than any

other of the gang. His force is brute force, and his prowess is purely animal courage and tenacity. All the stories that are told of him are full of pure bloodthirstiness, and if there ever was fiend incarnate it is Arthur McCoy. He is very tall and gaunt, reaching six feet four inches, but stoops so much that he appears a man of ordinary size; nervous and uneasy when at rest, with an eye as cold and gray as that of a tiger; a face massive, especially at the jaws and very bony, with black beard, generally closely cut.”<sup>19</sup>

In mid-April the news broke that McCoy was dead, though *The State Journal*’s headline covering the story was “Is Arthur McCoy Dead?” According to their report, he had died of pneumonia three weeks before, but they copied a story from the *St. Louis Democrat* that he had been killed in a shootout down in Arkansas six weeks earlier.<sup>20</sup>

Despite supposedly being dead, three letters appeared in early April under the name of McCoy. The first was quite short and was addressed as Wyandotte, Kansas, on 3 April:

Editors of the K. Journal pleas publish Gov. Woodson: Ha ha ha old fellow you have played hell with your messages. You can frown fret foam prepair your weapons threaten strike shoot stab and bring on your d---d secret police, do what you will you can neither capture or intimidate us, our purpose is as fixed as the eternal pillars of heaven, we are determined to never be taken alive. When you send your police send a coffin for everyone of them. [Signed] Arthur McCoys band

P.S. Gov. Wootsons secret police can find us somewhere about the office of the *Kansas City Times*, as I am engaged in writing for the *K. City Times*. OUTLAW<sup>21</sup>

Just a week later the second, longer letter appeared, said to have been mailed in Independence on April 12:

As there has been so many lies told in regard to me and my friends, I embrace this opportunity of writing to you.

I had the pleasure of interviewing Mr G. G. Nunnally, one of the attaches of the *Herald*, at Independence, last Sunday; he seemed quite ignorant, and was about frightened to death when I made known my name, and refused to impart any information whatever. So I take the privilege of writing this to you.

We are determined never to be taken alive, and will protect ourselves in every particular. We will never harm an innocent man - one that attends to his own business; but when they send detectives, militia, or any others after us, let them bring their coffins with them.

We, in the first place, were forced to the life we now lead. The lovers of the blind goddess, unmindful of the sufferings of the human race, drove us to what we are. How often have we tried to do right, and no sooner did we attempt to do right than we were assaulted by cowardly, insignificant men, who for the paltry sum of a few dollars would bind us over to death.

True, we have done wrong, but will it make worse better by treating us thus? No, Sir, it will not. Their best men can be bought for money, and the money we have. Now, once and forever, we say to all concerned that we are going to 'skedaddle' to parts unknown, not that we fear any one, but for the happiness of friends. If the most efficient (?) detectives want anything, they can get it by calling on me.

I know their every movement and action, and if they desist not from our track, woe be they. You may publish this or not, as you like, and may ..... [few words indecipherable] we are a humbug but the above ..... [few words indecipherable].

Wincher would never have been killed had he not acted so suspiciously as he did.

Chief Pinkerton must send different men after us if he wants us. Whicher said he was a farmer and needed work. Now, it is no use for a man with white soft hands to come that game on us. We hated to take the fellows life, but for our own safety we did it.

Well, you will hear ever more from one of the DETECTIVE SCALPERS. A. McC.<sup>22</sup>

Yet another McCoy letter appeared, dated 9 April, denying the earlier letter to Governor Woodson:

To the Kansas City Times: I see in the Journal of April 7th an open letter directed to Governor Woodson; and purporting to have been written by Arthur McCoy's band, dated at Wyandotte, Kansas, but the editor wishes to make the public believe that the letter was written in Kearney, Mo., post mark. Now, sir, I wish to inform the editor of the Journal that the whole thing is a base lie. The letter was not written in Clay county, as Arthur McCoy nor any one of his band has been in Clay county since the first of December last. Please publish this for the benefit of the Journal. A Friend.<sup>23</sup>

The Missouri authorities certainly assumed that McCoy was still alive later in the year, when his name appeared in a letter sent by Acting Governor Johnson to the sheriff of Ray County calling for Arthur's arrest.<sup>24</sup>

It is probably fairly easy to dismiss the story of McCoy being killed in a fight in Arkansas as no Arkansas newspaper carried a full report of the incident, neither did it appear in nearby states. But his death from natural causes may be easier to believe. A letter written to "a gentleman of St. Louis, an old citizen and public officer," said "You know that I live on the San Marcos river, in Texas, . . . .Arthur McCoy came to my house the last week of December, suffering very much from a severe attack of pneumonia that had happened to him in Louisiana. He told me that he had had two dreadful hemorrhages [sic], and that he would not be able to do duty much longer. . . . I did every thing possible for him, but he failed daily, his lungs were very much diseased, and one hemorrhage followed another. He died peacefully and calmly the 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, and was buried on my place."<sup>25</sup>

Just to add to the confusion over the passing of Arthur McCoy, he was mentioned in another letter from two participants in "The Rebellion" in Arkansas. The story of this political "Rebellion" is outside the scope of this article but the letter is worth reproducing:

May 4, 1874.

JUDGE McClure: Myself and Bennett were seized by Arthur McCoy, the James and Younger brothers this morning at Argenta, and they now have us closely guarded, and demand ransom of \$50,000 for us. If you, Clayton, Brooks, and all interested, think we are worth this amount, please raise it, and have the same published in the Republican. Don't think they intend to hurt us - merely desire to make money out of the transaction. We are not happy at all. Our little schemes are now gone up.

SEARLE.<sup>26</sup>

Bennett and Searle were Supreme Court judges and the report suggested that possibly one side of the "Rebellion" had spirited them away. This was confirmed by later newspapers covering the disappearance of the judges, though why the letter mentioned the outlaws or who actually wrote it remains a mystery.<sup>27</sup>

Almost a year later, a newspaper carried the following short piece: “The wife and family of Arthur McCoy, of Gad’s Hill fame, have been visiting in town the past week.” That appears to be the last mention of the noted outlaw.<sup>28</sup>

### Notes and Sources

1. Joanne C. Eakin & Donald R. Hale, *Branded as Rebels, Volume I*, (Privately published, 1993), p.292. It has proved impossible so far to obtain a copy of the source for McCoy’s involvement, from either the authors or institutions in Oregon, where the account originated.
2. [www.civilwarstlouis/history/arthurmccoy](http://www.civilwarstlouis/history/arthurmccoy).
3. *The Sedalia Democrat*, Missouri, 29 May 1873. Physically, he was tall - in excess of six feet - according to Edwards, *Noted Guerrillas* (Dayton: Morningside Bookshop, 1976) p.316. Cole Younger, in November 1874, wrote that McCoy was “48 or 49 years old, 6 feet and over in height; dark hair and blue eyes and low forehead.” Pleasant Hill *Missouri Review*, 26 November 1874. An article on “The Missouri Highwaymen” in *Fair Play*, Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, 16 October 1873, taken from *The St. Louis Democrat*, says that he was “the most noted desperado in all Missouri, and the man most feared.... He is about thirty-five years of age, a giant in stature, and as brave as a lion..... He has had a hand in every bank robbery of consequence that has occurred in Missouri, and has also worked in Kentucky and other Southern States.” In mid-February 1874, he was named as being in the Gad’s Hill train robbery and the robbery of the Hot Springs stage. *The State Journal*, Jefferson City, Missouri, 13 February 1874. According to Harry Drago, *Outlaws on Horseback* (New York: Bramhall House, 1964) p.64, McCoy was left for dead on the street in front of the bank in Huntington in 1875! None of the Huntington robbers ended up a corpse on the street.
4. Edwards, op.cit.
5. Letter, D.T. Bligh to Governor, State of Missouri, 3 March 1875, in *State Archives*.
6. *Chicago Tribune*, Illinois, 14 September 1869.
7. *Deseret News*, Salt Lake City, Utah, 22 September 1869.
8. Op cit.
9. In *The Jewell County Monitor*, Mankato, Kansas, 28 July 1881.
10. *The Findlay Jeffersonian*, Ohio, 19 September 1873.
11. *Sioux City Journal*, Iowa, 23 July 1873.
12. *The New York Times*, 21 August 1873; *The Placer Herald*, Rocklin, California, 2 June 1860.
13. *The Andrew County Republican*, Savannah, Missouri, 19 September 1873.
14. *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, Missouri, 10 February 1874.
15. Op cit, 28 February 1874.
16. Edwards, op.cit.
17. *The Weekly Caucasian*, Lexington, Missouri, 28 February 1874.
18. *The Inter-Ocean*, Chicago, Illinois, 2 April 1874.
19. *The Inter-Ocean*, Chicago, Illinois, 4 April 1874.
20. *The State Journal*, Jefferson City, Missouri, 17 April 1874.
21. *Kansas City Daily Journal of Commerce*, 7 April 1874.
22. *Kansas City Daily Journal of Commerce*, 15 April 1874.
23. *Liberty Tribune*, 17 April 1874.
24. *St. Louis Daily Globe*, 4 October 1874.
25. *The Waco Daily Examiner*, Texas, 22 April 1874.
26. *Daily Arkansas Gazette*, Little Rock, Arkansas, 5 May 1874.
27. *Daily Arkansas Gazette*, Little Rock, Arkansas, 7 May 1874.
28. *Alton Telegraph*, Illinois, 29 April 1875.

This article is dedicated to Liz in Scotland for everything.

## THE GREAT NORTHFIELD OUTLAW RUN!



With so many events being cancelled this year due to Coronavirus, it is great that Northfield are able to continue with some of their planned events for September.

The Outlaw Run is on!

5k/15k Virtual Run-Walk  
August 30 – September 11  
Entry fee - \$25  
Go to [RunSignup.com](http://RunSignup.com).

And keep an eye out for other virtual events on the Defeat of Jesse James facebook page.

## THE TROUBLE WITH REWARD POSTERS



LINDA  
BROOKSHIER

Reward Posters for Frank and Jesse James? My conservative guess is that there are roughly a "bajillion" of these bad boys in existence today.....My conservative guess is also that there are just a "handful" that are the "Real Deal".

Come with me, if you will, to a fictitious house in a fictitious town anywhere in America. Johnny and/or Sally (also fictitious) have just been to an estate sale or a flea market or a Goodwill store and have come home with an antique trunk. (OR....they have just cleaned out Grandma's house before she moves into a fancy, gated retirement community--YOU choose your own scenario!) Anyway, after a pizza and refreshment break, Johnny and Sally decide to see what treasures await them inside the newly acquired trunk. They pry it open and most of it is just junk... keys with no locks, locks with no keys, and letters and postcard to unknown people from the past. There may also be pictures of unknown pictures with no names on the back. However, there IS something that almost literally jumps out at them: A WANTED POSTER FOR FRANK AND JESSE JAMES!

Immediately the heart rate begins to rise and the virtual dollar signs begin to appear in their minds.....They have, for \$8.50, stumbled upon a true gold mine! The poster, a 12X18 inch, yellowed piece of paper, undoubtedly having the words WANTED: DEAD OR ALIVE on it, is surely their ticket to fame and fortune. Likely, lists of the Brothers James' crimes are also on it.

Governors were limited on how much they could offer as rewards to around \$300 so they had to be creative in how they raised more funds! Often, banks, railroads and the family of men killed during robberies added their own amounts to the reward. Governor Thomas Crittenden was so anxious to bring in Frank and Jesse that he amassed \$5000.00 for the arrest of either of the James brothers and \$5,000 more for their conviction. In today's money, \$5,000 would be about \$125,967.65! To say he wanted the James Boys caught, would be an understatement, but the reward posters he authorized, would not have included images of the James brothers. Law officers did not hold images of either one of them.

The reward money was never collected by Jesse's assassins as the \$5,000 for his apprehension had to be shared with others who had helped with searching for the outlaw. No one was entitled to the second \$5,000. Six months after Jesse's assassination, Frank gave himself up to Governor Crittenden, was tried and found not guilty. He lived another thirty-three years, until his death at the age of seventy-two.



Top: The actual Proclamation of a reward being offered by Governor Crittenden.  
Above: A mass produced reward poster, incorrectly showing an image of Jesse.

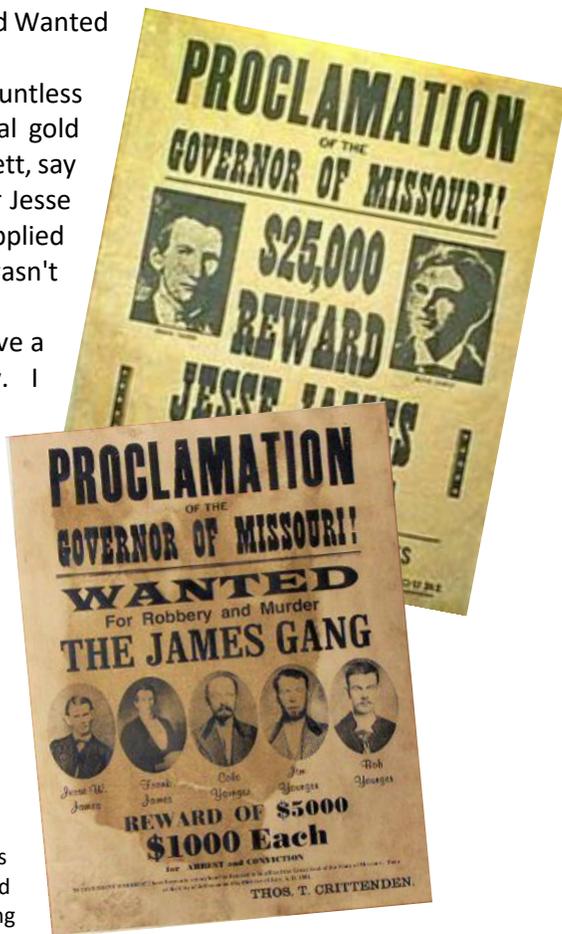
Fast forward to modern day: In June of 2012, a creased, yellowed Wanted Poster of Jesse James sold for \$42,000 in Denver, Colorado.

Working at the Jesse James Birthplace, I have witnessed countless people calling and coming in truly "Believing" they have a real gold mine, a genuine wanted poster. I have heard my boss, Beth Beckett, say countless times that if the poster has a picture of Frank and/or Jesse on it, it won't be authentic as the only person that would have supplied that picture would have been their mother Zerelda, and that wasn't going to happen.

I, personally, have seen people come in, excited that they have a wanted poster, and leave disappointed... but that is reality. I answered the phone one day, many years ago, and a lady was so excited because she had what she believed was a genuine baby picture of Jesse's mother, Zerelda Cole. Zerelda was born in 1825 so the likelihood of that being a legitimate photo was very slim. I listened to her and genuinely felt bad for her....and was so thankful that I was not the one to have to break the news. Thankfully we have Beth and Kerrie that can and do that very well without breaking any hearts. They tell them the news in such a way that they still have their dignity intact.

In closing, if you think you have a Wanted Poster that may be the "Real Deal", don't be afraid to check it out.....Who knows, YOURS could be THE ONE!

At right: Two more posters trying to look authentic. The top one not only shows images incorrectly but it also includes an image of Jesse Edwards James instead of his father. While the bottom poster claims Thos. Crittenden was offering rewards for the Youngers who had been in jail for five years before he was elected Governor.



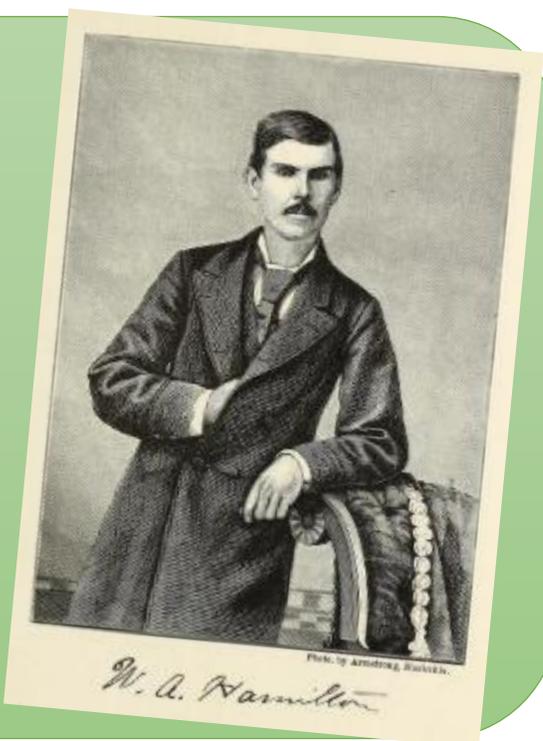
## DR. WILLIAM ANDREW HAMILTON

Dr. Hamilton was born in 1851 in Nashville, Tennessee and famously diagnosed Jesse to be suffering from malaria on 17 March 1879. But an article in the St Louis Republican on 7 October 1882 may put that into question.

The Republican reported that Dr. Hamilton "waited on Howard for the first time on 17th March of that year [1879]", but it made no mention of the malaria diagnosis until later in the article. "In November 1880," the report continued, "Dr. W. C. Cook was called to visit James, who was then sick with malarial fever."

According the St Louis Republican of the same date, Dr. Cook had also vaccinated the James children when they were living at Russell street.

The search continues for more information on both these Tennessean doctors!



## 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF JESSE'S EXHUMATION

It hardly seems possible but 17 July 2020 marked the 25th anniversary of the exhumation of Jesse's grave at Mount Olivet by Professor Starrs and his team.

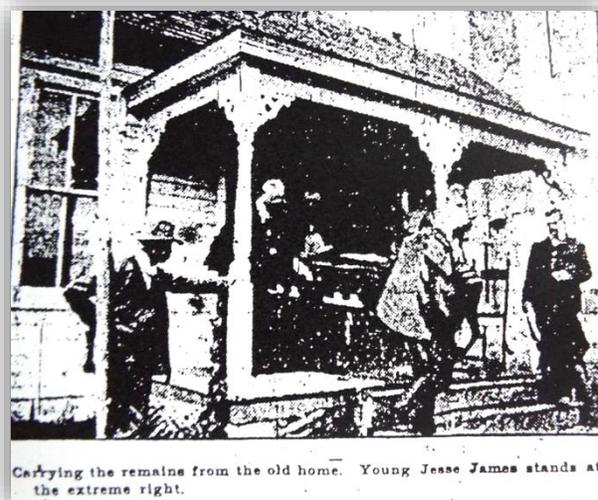
The exhumation took three days and caused quite the media frenzy at the graveside, with news teams turning up from around the world.

Those who have studied or been interested in Jesse and his family for a number of years will know that nothing is ever simple, and the exhumation was no exception.

As the team neared the coffin on the first day, they found that it had collapsed and consequently a relatively straightforward exhumation became a far more daunting archaeological dig. Professor Starrs had expected a coffin that was made of metal, as described in 1882. Unfortunately, that coffin had already been exhumed in 1902, when Jesse was moved from the James Farm to Mount Olivet and replaced due to its poor condition. Despite Starrs' assertions, there seems to be no record that the replacement coffin was also made of metal. On 30 June 1902, a reporter for the Kansas City Journal described the coffin as follows - "the body, still on the bottom of the old coffin, was lifted gently into a new one, black, covered with cloth and silver mounted."

The second day went better. The team found six coffin handles, some fabric, bones from the skull and a tooth. For DNA purposes, the tooth offered the most tantalizing opportunity. The unearthing of further bones showed that the skeleton was face down, denoting a second burial, while the skull showed lateral cuts made by a saw, evidence of an autopsy. All promising signs.

It did not go unnoticed that the grave, and Jesse James within it, was guarded throughout the proceedings by Pinkerton Security, a service they provided for free.



Carrying the remains from the old home. Young Jesse James stands at the extreme right.



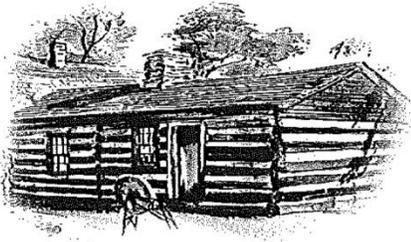
Top: Experts, media and the general public gather at the grave in 1995.

Middle: Men carry Jesse's remains from the Farm in 1902. St Louis Post Dispatch, 30 June 1902.

Bottom: A caste of Jesse's skull showing the lateral cut made during the autopsy.

**Friends of the James Farm**

c/o Jesse James Birthplace  
21216 Jesse James Farm Road  
Kearney, MO 64060  
www.jessejames.org  
816.736.8500



James homestead cabin —  
Original art by Jim Hamil

**Return Service Requested**

**YES**, I want to renew my membership with the Friends of the James Farm or begin a new membership. I have checked my level of membership in the box and enclosed a check or money order for the amount indicated.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please mail membership form and payment to:*

**Friends of the James Farm**  
c/o Jesse James Birthplace  
21216 Jesse James Farm Road  
Kearney, MO 64060



You can also scan  
QR Code to visit our  
website.  
www.jessejames.org

**Membership Levels**

*(Mark One)*

- Bushwhacker . . . . . \$25
- Clay County Irregular . . . . \$50
- Road Agent . . . . . \$100
- Long Rider . . . . . \$250
- Home Guard . . . . . \$500

Is this a renewal?  Yes  No

Outside the continental U.S.,  
please add \$5 to your membership  
contribution.