Chapter Eight

People in Elizabeth Jane Todd Grimsley Brown’s Life

John and Elizabeth Fisher Blair Todd Family

Dr. John Todd (1787-1865)  
Elizabeth Fisher Blair Todd (1793-1865)

John Blair Smith Todd (1814-1872)  
Lockwood Marcus Todd (1826-1876)  
Elizabeth Jane Todd Grimsley (1825-1895)

Dr. Francis Walton Todd (1816-1898)

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Tuesday, February 18, 2020
William “Will” L. Grimsley<sup>409</sup>
(1852-1887)

Mary Todd Lincoln’s Sisters and Elizabeth Jane Todd Grimsley’s Cousins

Ninian Wirt and Elizabeth Todd Edwards
(Second and Charles Streets)

Ninian Wirt (4-15-1809 – 1889)
(merchant, legislator)
Elizabeth Todd (1813 –1888)

Julia (___-funeral 10-2-36)
Julia Cook (4-29-1837 – 7-1908)
Albert S. (12-16-39 –1915)
m. Josephine Remann
Elizabeth E. (1-7-1843 – ___)
Charles (7-6-1846 –1912)

Ninian (ca. 3-1852 – 9-4-53)

Clark Moulton and Ann Maria Todd Smith
(southwest corner of Fifth and Edwards)
(South Fourth, between Cook and Lawrence)

Clark Moulton (5-10-1820 – 7-28-1885)
(merchant)
m. 10-24-46
Ann Maria Todd (1824 – 3/21/1891)
Clark Jr. (1850 – June 12, 1860)
Edgar (ca. 1853 –1921)
Lincoln (ca. 1855 –1863)
Clara (ca.1858
Allen (1863 – 1910)
Minnie (ca. 1868


Tuesday, February 18, 2020
William and Frances Todd Wallace
(Southeast corner of Seventh and Capitol)
William (8/10/1802 – 5/23/1867) (physician)
Frances “Fanny” Todd (3/7/1815 – 8/14/1899)
Elizabeth Edwards (5/18/1840 – 2/28/1841)
Mary* (ca. 7/15/1842 – 9/10/1911)
William (1845 – 7/19/1923)
Frances “Fanny” (ca. 1848 – 5/10/1881)
Edward (ca. 1853 – 4/12/74)
Charles (ca. 1858 – 4/12/74)

The Stuart Family

John Todd and Mary Virginia Nash Stuart
(west side of Fourth between Jackson and Edwards)
John Todd, (11-10-1807 – 11-28-1885)
(attorney, politician)
m. 10-25 – 1837
Mary Virginia Nash, (1816 – 1901)
Elizabeth Jane (Bettie) (July 29, 1838 – March 2, 1869)
John Todd, Jr. (December 16, 1842 – January 15, 1905)
Virginia Lockwood (Ginnie) (March 29, 1845 – April 1, 1893)
Francis Nash (Frank) (March 29, 1847 – August 21, 1896)
Robert Lockwood (September 3, 1851 – February 26, 1924)
Hannah Lockwood (September 12, 1853 – February 18, 1909)
Edwards (April 24, 1856 – December 1, 1860)

John Todd Stuart’s mother was a Todd, a ________

410 Herndon’s Informants.
Chapter Nine

Elizabeth Jane Todd Grimsley Brown’s Maternal Ancestry

The Blair Family

Samuel Jacob Blair (1712-1751)
Elizabeth’s great, great grandfather

Samuel Blair was born in Londonderry, Antrim, Northern Ireland on June 14, 1712. He was the son of Samuel J. Blair (1667 – 1754) and Martha Campbell Lyle (1672 – 1729). Samuel came to America when quite young. He was said to be one of the earliest students educated at the Log College at Nashaminy under the Rev. William Tennent.411

On November 9, 1733, having completed his classical and theological study, at age 21, he was licensed to preach the gospel by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. The following September, he accepted a call to Middletown and Shrewsbury, New Jersey, where he continued for about five years, until 1738.

In 1739, Samuel accepted a call to a church in New Londonderry, otherwise called Fagg’s Manor, in what is now Chester County, Pennsylvania, and moved there in November 1739. Shortly thereafter, he established a classical school similar to the Log College. In addition to his normal ministerial duties, Blair’s pastorate was distinguished by a most gracious revival. Dr. Finley described Blair as a man most remarkably grave and solemn in his aspect and deportment. It was said that his appearance was such as to strike his hearers with awe.412

In the summer of 1744, Samuel toured New England preaching. He participated in those events that agitated and finally divided the Presbyterian Church. In his doctrinal views he was a thorough Calvinist, as appears from his “Treatise on Predestination and Reprobation.”

Samuel was a co-founder and member of board of trustees for the Princeton College of New Jersey, as well as charter consultant on morals and standards for that school.

In 1735, Samuel married Francinke Van Hook (1714-1786) and they had twelve children.

Elizabeth Blair (1757); William Lawrence Blair (1813); Martha Blair (Aft 1786, Pennsylvania); Isaac Blair (1750 -- 30 Jul 1752); Frances Blair (Aft 1735 -- date unknown); Sarah Blair (___ -- date unknown); Joseph Blair (1736, d. 22 May 1748); Mary Blair (1739, d. 1804); Reverend Samuel Blair, Jr. (1741, Faggs Manor, Chester County, Pennsylvania -- September 14, 1818, Germantown, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania); Johanna (Hannah) Blair (March 15, 1745, Faggs Manor, Chester County, Pennsylvania -- May 14, 1810, Mercer County, Pennsylvania)

Samuel Blair’s last illness was contracted from his going on an urgent call and in an enfeebled state of body to meet the Trustees of New Jersey College (Princeton). He died on July 5, 1751, at age 39413 and was buried in Manor Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Cochranville, Chester County, Pennsylvania.414

411 Richard Owen Roberts Bibliography of Revival Literature.
412 Richard Owen Roberts Bibliography of Revival Literature.
413 From The Presbyterian Heritage Center: http://www.phcmontreat.org/bios/Bios-Ba.htm
414 Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Samuel Blair, Jr.  
(1741-1818)  
Elizabeth’s great grandfather

Samuel Blair Jr., born in 1741 at Faggs Manor, near Cochranville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, was the son of Samuel Blair Sr. and Francinke Van Hook Blair. His father died in 1851 when Samuel was ten and his mother was responsible for his education. In 1760, Samuel graduated from The College of New Jersey (Princeton) with honors and served as a tutor there from 1761 until 1764. He published the first official history of the College, An Account of the College of New Jersey (1764).

In 1764 at age 23, Samuel was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Newcastle. He was a popular preacher. In November 1766, Samuel became the pastor of the Old South Church in Boston. On his way there, he was shipwrecked in the night, losing his wardrobe and manuscripts and narrowly escaping with his life. The exposure injured his health.

In 1767, at the age of 26, he was offered the presidency of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) but voluntarily stepped aside when John Witherspoon, later a signatory of the Declaration of Independence, became available.

In 1769, Samuel resigned his ministry at the Old South Church due to his ill health. He moved to his wife’s home in Germantown, Pennsylvania, where he lived the rest of life devoted to study. He was a man of polished manners, of amiable and generous disposition, a superior scholar, a well-read theologian and an eloquent public orator. He was generous in his contributions to the support of religion and of all evangelical enterprises. He was one of the most generous contributors in the building of the Germantown Presbyterian church structure.

Samuel married Susan Shippen, of Philadelphia, and they had six children.
1. Susan Shippen Blair (March 2, 1771-date unknown); 2. William Shippen Blair (May 21, 1773-died young); 3. Frances Van Hook Blair (March 21, 1777-date unknown); 4. Samuel Blair (March 10, 1779-date unknown); 5. Abby Phillips Blair (May 12, 1780-March 13, 1804); 6.Unnamed Blair (October 27, 1782-October 27, 1782)

During the American Revolution, Samuel served as chaplain to the American armies as follows: Thompson’s Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, November 9, 1775. 1st Pennsylvania, March 1, 1777. He resigned on August 11, 1777. He was back in the army as chaplain of an artillery brigade from March 1, 1779 to June 20, 1780.

In 1790, he earned the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the University of Pennsylvania.

On December 10, 1790, when the federal capital moved to Philadelphia, he was appointed the second Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives, a position he held for two years until November 5, 1792.

Samuel Blair, Jr. died on September 23, 1818, at age 77.

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414 Samuel’s brother, the Rev John Blair, succeeded him and continued the school that his brother had established. In 1767 he became a professor in the College of New Jersey, at Princeton, and moved there.
The Smith Family

Robert Smith
(1728-1798)
Elizabeth’s great grandfather

Robert Smith was born in Londonderry, Ireland, in 1728. His father immigrated to America when Robert was seven years of age and settled in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Robert was educated by Reverend Samuel Blair at Fagg’s Manor School, Chester County, Pennsylvania. In 1749 at age 21, he was licensed to preach. In the same year, Robert married Elizabeth, the sister of his teacher, Reverend Samuel Blair, and daughter of Samuel Blair (1712-1751) one of the founding trustees of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton). Among the children of Robert and Elizabeth were two sons, Samuel Stanhope Smith and John Blair Smith.

From 1751 until 1798, Robert was pastor of the Pequea Presbyterian Church in Pequea, Pennsylvania, a part of the time supplying the church at Leacock.

Shortly after his settlement in Pequea, Robert founded a classical and theological seminary, which enjoyed a high reputation, and was one of the most popular schools in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Robert received the degree of D.D. from Princeton in 1760, and was an overseer (Trustee) of Princeton from 1772 until 1798.

In 1791, Robert served as the second moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

Robert Smith died in Rockville, Pennsylvania, on April 15, 1798.
Rev. John Blair Smith  
(1756-1799)  
Elizabeth’s grandfather

John Blair Smith was born in Pequea, Pennsylvania Colony, on June 12, 1756, the son of the Rev. Robert and Elizabeth Blair Smith. John was valedictorian of the Class of 1773 at the College of New Jersey, now Princeton University. He had been one of the original faculty recruited in 1775.

At the age of 19, he was recruited to come to Virginia as a tutor at Hampden-Sydney College, then being founded by his elder brother, Samuel Stanhope Smith. While there, John studied theology under his brother.

In 1778-79 he was captain of the student military company and was now the senior member of the faculty.

In October 1779, Samuel Stanhope Smith resigned his presidency of Hampden-Sydney College and the pastorates of his churches in order to teach at the College of New Jersey (now Princeton). John succeeded him as president of Hampden-Sydney College, and was ordained and elected president on the same day his brother resigned.

With the Revolution in full swing, some students left to join the forces and others followed Samuel Stanhope Smith to Princeton. The boarding arrangements were unsettled. The faculty were difficult to secure and of brief tenure. The College buildings narrowly escaped being a target of British Colonel Tarleton’s raiders in 1781 - but the operation continued, and showed such viability that on May 28, 1783 the General Assembly of Virginia granted a charter, with the authority to grant degrees.

Rev. Smith soon became celebrated for his pulpit oratory. Dr. Addison Alexander says of him: “In person he was about the middle size, his hair was uncommonly black, divided at the top and fell on each side of his face. His large blue eyes, of open expression, was so piercing that it was common to say, ‘Dr. Smith looked you through.’”

But just as things were really looking up, John Smith, who had none of his brother’s suave and winning ways, began to draw criticism for his religious zealotry. His freely expressed Federalist politics, though agreeable to some, were particularly irritating to Patrick Henry, who had been a Trustee since November 1775 but did not attend a Board meeting until 1789, when he helped seal the deal of Smith’s resignation as President of Hampden-Sydney College, accepting a call as pastor of the Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia.

In 1795, John was elected the first president of Union College in Schenectady, New York.

In 1797, John published The Enlargement of Christ’s Kingdom, a sermon (Albany, New York, 1797).

In 1799, he returned to his pastorate in Philadelphia, where eight months later on August 22, 1799 he died of yellow fever in an epidemic that was then raging. He was buried in the Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Samuel Stanhope Smith
(1751-1819)
Elizabeth’s great uncle

Samuel Stanhope Smith was born in Pequea, Pennsylvania Colony, on March 15, 1751, the year in which his father, Robert Smith, was installed as pastor of the Presbyterian church there.

Samuel was prepared for college by his father, who conducted a famous school at Pequea. He was admitted to the College of New Jersey (Princeton) in 1767 as a member of the junior class. In 1769, having excelled in mathematics and having become one of the earlier members of the Whig Society, he graduated with the highest honor and delivered the Latin salutatory address at commencement.

After graduation, Samuel returned to Pequea to assist his father in the school and to study theology with him.

In 1770, Samuel returned to Princeton as a tutor, where he continued his preparation for the ministry with John Witherspoon.

Licensed to preach in 1773, Samuel went to Virginia as a missionary, where he had a leading part in the founding of two academies. One of them, located first in Augusta County, later became Washington College and still later Washington and Lee University.

Prince Edward Academy, of which Smith was appointed first rector (President) in 1775, became in 1783 Hampden-Sydney College. He was President until 1779. He also assumed a lead in bringing the support of Virginia’s Presbyterians to the hope of Jefferson and Madison for the separation of church and state.

On June 28, 1775, Samuel married Ann, the oldest daughter of Princeton President Witherspoon.

In 1779, he was called back to Princeton as Professor of Moral Philosophy. Smith and his family reached Princeton in December, taking up residence in the President’s House, as Witherspoon moved to Tusculum, the house and farm he owned outside the village. Smith would occupy the President’s House (now Maclean House) for almost 33 years, one of the longest tenures in the some 220 years of Princeton’s history. Witherspoon, who remained active in the affairs of state and church, promptly turned over a large part of his administrative responsibilities to his son-in-law.

At that date the college was in a deplorable condition from the ravages of the Revolution. The students were dispersed and the buildings were burned. Samuel Smith made great exertions and many pecuniary sacrifices to restore it to prosperity.

In 1783, Samuel accepted the additional chair of theology.

Samuel was a member of the committee to draw up a system of government for the Presbyterian church in 1786.

In 1786, he was named to the office of vice-president of the college. As President Witherspoon advanced in years, becoming totally blind during the last three years of his life, Smith’s responsibilities grew.

Dr. John Witherspoon died in 1794 and in 1795, Smith succeeded him as president of Princeton, holding office till 1812. He was the seventh president of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) and the first alumnus to hold the office. The College in 1795 was still struggling to recover from the disastrous effects of the war years. Especially critical was the financial problem. Smith’s success in getting from the state legislature in 1796 a grant of 600 per year for three years provided only partial relief. The grant was not renewed, and the College remained primarily dependent upon tuition fees for its income.
An enrollment of just above 75 students in 1794 had grown to a total of 182 in 1805, and the 54 A.B. degrees awarded in 1806 was the largest number since the founding of the College. A faculty of two professors, including the president, had grown to one of four professors in addition to the president, the usual two or three tutors, and an instructor in French.

Faculty minutes, which had their beginning in 1787 and for a time dealt almost exclusively with a nagging problem of student discipline, reveal that the faculty increasingly was consulted on academic questions.

Yale gave him the degree of D. D. in 1783, and Harvard that of LL. D. in 1810.

Tall and well proportioned, with finely formed features and noticeably blue eyes, Smith by all accounts was an unusually handsome man who paid close attention to his dress and manners. Archibald Alexander recalled that when he first saw him at a meeting of the Presbyterian General Assembly he thought him the most elegant person he ever had seen. As a preacher Dr. Smith was popular and eloquent. Anyone who turns to the collection of his sermons published in 1799, or to the two-volume edition of them brought out after his death, will be impressed by their quality and their readability.

In 1785, he was elected to the American Philosophical Society, and delivered before that body *An Essay on the Causes of the Variety of Complexion and Figure in the Human Species*. It argued that all mankind belonged to the same family, and attributed diversity within the species to environmental influences. Above all, the Essay expressed Smith’s abiding faith that there could be no conflict between science and revealed religion.

That faith provides the key to his educational policies at Princeton. Without challenging the fundamental place of classical languages and literature in education, he sought more time for the study of science and modern languages.

Smith did not achieve all that he hoped for in the way of curricular reform, but his achievements in other areas were impressive.

The high point in Smith’s presidency came just after the fire that in 1802 destroyed Nassau Hall. The constituency of the College rallied to its support so well that funds were raised not only for the reconstruction of Nassau Hall but for the addition of two new buildings to flank it on the front campus, Stanhope Hall and Philosophical Hall, which no longer stands.

A student riot in 1807, resulting from Smith’s mishandling of a problem of discipline, brought the suspension of 125 students and a growing distrust by the trustees of the president. For some of them his educational reforms had gone too far, and there was discontent over the declining number of students preparing for the ministry. Enrollments declined, four professors resigned. In that year, too, Smith was given no choice but to resign. He was provided a pension and a house.415 Samuel died in Princeton, New Jersey, on August 21, 1819.

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The Nash Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Nash, Sr.------------------------Elizabeth Fisher (1732-1813)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Nash, Jr.------------------------Anna Tabb (1762-1811)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Fisher Nash---------John Blair Smith (___-1811)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Nash---------1812---------Judith Bland (1791-1833)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Virginia Nash---1837----John Todd Stuart (1803-1901)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birth of John Nash Sr.  
(1732-1813)

John Nash Sr. was born in Henrico, Virginia in 1732 to John Nash and Anne Owen.

Marriage of John Nash Sr. and Elizabeth Fisher

John Nash Sr. married Elizabeth Fisher and they had 8 children.

Birth of John Nash Jr.  
(1762-1811)

John Nash Jr. was born in Sussex, Virginia in 1762, the son of John Nash Sr. and Elizabeth Fisher Nash.

Marriage of John Nash Jr. and Ann Tabb

John Nash Jr. married Anna Tabb (1763-1811) and they had 8 children.
1. Elizabeth Fisher Nash 1762-1843
2. John Tabb Nash 1784-1829
3. Wiley Nash 1782-1857
5. Susanna Fisher Nash 1790-1837
6. Francis Nash 1791-1833 m. Judith Bland
7. Martha Wallace Nash 1789-1833
8. Mary Virginia Nash 1805-1875

1762

Birth of Elizabeth Fisher Nash
(1762-1843)

1791

Birth of Francis Nash
(1791-1833)

Francis Nash was born in 1791, in Prince Edward County, Virginia, the son of John Jr. and Anna Tabb Nash.

1793

Birth of Elizabeth Fisher Blair Smith
(1793-)

Elizabeth Fisher Blair Smith was born on April 18, 1793, in Philadelphia. She was the daughter of John Blair Smith (1760-1799) and Elizabeth Fisher Nash (1762-1843). Elizabeth’s mother, Elizabeth Fisher Blair Smith (1762-1843), was a daughter of General Nash, a leader in the American Revolution from Virginia.

Marriage of Francis Nash and Judith Bland

Francis Nash married Judith Bland in 1812 in Nottaway, Virginia, and they had a daughter, Mary Virginia.

1803

Birth of Mary Virginia Nash
(1803-1901)

In 1803, Mary Virginia Nash was born in Richmond, Virginia, the daughter of Francis Nash and Judith Bland Nash.

1811

Death of John Nash Jr.
(1762-1811)

John Nash Jr. died in 1811 in Prince Edward, Virginia.

1813

Death of John Nash Sr.
(1732-1813)

John Nash Sr. died in 1813 in Prince Edward, Virginia.

Marriage of John Todd and Elizabeth Fisher Blair Smith

Dr. John Todd, age 26, was married on July 1, 1813, in Lexington, Kentucky, to Elizabeth Fisher Blair Smith, age 20, who was born on April 18, 1793, in Philadelphia.

John and Elizabeth’s seven children were:
1. John Blair Smith (1814-1872)
2. Francis Walton “Walter” (1816-1898)
3. William L. (1818-1887)

Tuesday, February 18, 2020
4. Elizabeth Jane (1825-1895)
5. Lockwood M. (1826-1876)
6. Frances Stuart (1832 - died in childbirth 1851)
7. Laura (1828-1832-age 4)\textsuperscript{416}

1837

Marriage of John Todd Stuart and Mary Virginia Nash

John Todd Stuart married Mary Virginia Nash on October 25, 1837. Their seven children were:

John Stuart, m. Emma Huntington; Frank N. Stuart. (1847-1896); Robert Lockwood Todd Stuart. (1852-1924); Edward Stuart; Bettie Stuart, (1838-1869) m. C. C. Brown, Springfield Il.; Virginia L. Stuart. (1845-1893); Hannah L. Owen Stuart. (1854-1909)

Elizabeth Fisher Nash

(1762-1843)

Elizabeth Fisher Nash married John Blair Smith, the son of Robert Smith (1723-1793) and Elizabeth Blair (1725-1777). They had 4 children: Robert F Smith (Unknown-1824), Samuel Smith (Unknown-1834), John Blair Smith (1780-1819), Elizabeth Smith (1800-1865)

\textsuperscript{416} 1881 History, p. 522.
Appendix B

Grimsley Divorce

Summons Served on Harrison J. Grimsley in Brown County, Illinois

Elizabeth Todd Grimsley’s Divorce Decree

TRANSCRIBE THIS
Appendix D

Estate of Dr. John Todd
Affidavit of Heirship

State of Illinois,

Sauk County,

Elizabeth Todd Grimsley Brown, being duly sworn, declares and says that John Todd, deceased, is a married man of the County of Sauk and State of Illinois, deceased, and that he died on the 1st day of January, A.D. 1861, after having married and resided in said county for one year, and that said late husband was a farmer and lived on the farm of 80 acres, and that he was at the time of his death, the father and head of the family, and that the late husband was at the time of his death, the sole owner of said premises, and that said late husband was at the time of his death, the father and head of the family.

Elizabeth Todd Grimsley Brown, his wife, and Elizabeth Todd Grimsley Brown, his daughter, being duly sworn, say that they have been supported and maintained by the late husband, and that they are now in want of support.

Affidavit made on the 18th day of February, A.D. 1861.

Elizabeth Todd Grimsley Brown, his wife, and Elizabeth Todd Grimsley Brown, his daughter.

[Signature]

[Seal]
Love of Freedom: Servant Dies Upon Being Given Freedom

Journal, July 18, 1850

There is an instinctive love of freedom in the human heart which no bondage can obliterate and no misfortune destroy. When it come to be a leading trait in the human mind, then although such man may bear the outward lineaments of humanity, he has lost its distinguishing characteristic—That which Discerns God’s image from the brute;--
The noble from the baser clay.

A striking evidence of the powerful influence of the love of liberty was exhibited in the case of a female slave in this State, some years since,--and which will not be forgotten by those who had a knowledge of it.

In early times in Illinois slaves were often apprenticed to the early emigrants, and generally with the understanding that after they had served for a certain length of time they should have their liberty. Old and faithful servants in this manner came with families from Kentucky—families they did not desire to part from—having been brought up with them and enjoying all the pleasures and advantages which could be imparted to servants in their peculiar condition.

It was a case of this kind that we are about to speak of. Our friend, we think, will pardon us for using his name, in connection with it. We see no impropriety in doing so. Dr. Todd came to this State at an early day. He resided sometime at Edwardsville,—then the northermost town in the state, and a place of very considerable business. He brought with him a negro woman, a slave, with the agreement, that at a certain period, not far distant, she should be free. When she came to Illinois she was advanced in years—perhaps fifty—but although she was happy in her condition—at light service—and possessed every thing she required for her comfort and limited desires for happiness—she looked forward with an all absorbing interest to the time when she should be free—when she should enjoy in fruition the sweets of liberty.

Settlements were being made in the Sangamon country. Emigrants were pushing into the rich and beautiful region. The lands were soon surveyed and brought into market; and Dr. Todd received an appointment in the land office.—The rendered it necessary for him to remove to Springfield, where the land office was located. Before doing so, he informed the woman of his design,—told her that in a few months she would be at liberty; but that he desired her to go with the family, and that he would continue to deal with her as kindly as he always had done; that in her advanced age she would find it difficult to sustain herself by hard labor; but with him she might always have a home. The woman was deeply affected; she loved her master and his family, and could hardly bear the thought of leaving them. She was then further informed that if she chose to stay in Edwardsville, from the moment she made up her mind to do so she should have her freedom, and a day was given her to think of the matter.

Manifestly during that day the mind of this slave was deeply engaged in considering this subject. On the one hand a home and friends were offered, on the other freedom. Reason told her that the offer made here was the best for under all circumstances; but her love of liberty—fanciful it may be in her case—overbalanced this considerations of reason. At the time was called on for her decision, she said slowly, faltering, she would stay. “Then you have now your freedom,” was the reply of the doctor. That moment—long thought of—long contemplated—long wished for—had come, and it came upon her with such influence that it overpowered her—she sunk to the floor and was soon dead—such were the overwhelming emotions with which this poor woman heard the words that made her FREE! She indeed was free—for her spirit had gone where the prince and the peasant, the slave and the master, all meet on the grand level.

It is some time since we heard a recital of this case, but it made a strong impression on our memory. Its incidents serve to illustrate the love of liberty, even in the most uneducated and unrefined of our species.
State of Missouri
Rusk County

The affiant, James McFarland, aged 21 years, being the son of John and Rebecca McFarland, both of the County of Rusk, State of Missouri, do hereby depose and say that they are the parents of the affiant, James McFarland, and that they are also the parents of William A. McFarland, aged 18 years, the affiant’s brother.

Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Appendix F

Elizabeth Todd Grimsley’s Application for a Minor’s Pension
Appendix G

The Unwidowing of the “Widow” Grimsley

Elizabeth Todd Grimsley divorced Harrison J. Grimsley on October 31, 1859. Widow = what was the use of that term in mid nineteenth century America

Here are several examples of Elizabeth being characterized as a “widow” rather than the correct term “divorcee.”

*Journal and Register*

Her husband died in 1865, and she was married a second time in 1867 to Dr. John Howe Brown, for many years pastor of the First Presbyterian church...

Obituary of Elizabeth Jane Todd Grimsley Brown
*Journal*, September 24, 1895  *Register*, September 24, 1895

Jason Emerson

So the young family found the turmoil in their new home almost incessant, and the Lincolns persuaded the sturdy, matronly Mrs. Grimsley to stay on until they found their bearings. It would be six months before that kind lady returned to her husband and teenage son in Springfield.

This is incorrect in two respects. First, Mrs. Grimsley was not married at the time she went to Washington with the Lincolns. She divorced Harrison J. Grimsley on October 13, 1859. Further, she had two sons, and not just a “teenage son.”

*abrahamlincoln.org*

After Dr. Smith’s resignation on October 19, 1856, the church called Dr. John H. Brown. In 1867 Dr. Brown married Mary Lincoln’s widowed cousin, Elizabeth Todd Grimsley.

She was not a widow.

*Justin G. Turner and Linda Levitt Turner*


Elizabeth Todd Grimsley was the daughter of Dr. John Todd and wife of Harrison Grimsley of Springfield.

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418 Register, September 24, 1895, p. 5.
419 Epstein, p. 318.
420 abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/sites/pew.htm

footnote 5, p. 82. The footnote is to a reference to Elizabeth in a letter of Mrs. Lincoln’s dated March 28, 1861, long after Elizabeth was divorced.

Tuesday, February 18, 2020
Elizabeth Todd Grimsley Brown

Mrs. Lincoln’s widowed cousin, Elizabeth Todd Grimsley, who had married the Reverend John H. Brown of Springfield in 1867.\textsuperscript{422}

LA Express 1/11/1878
6/1/2003 p.84

Works v. 8, p, 293  telegraph of E. J. Grimsley

\textsuperscript{422} Turner, footnote 3 p. 499.

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215
1800
Todd, Jane Briggs
death in Kentucky ........................................ 11
1807
Todd, Levi
death in Kentucky-September 7, 1807 ........... 12
1814
Todd, John Blair Smith
birth-April 4, 1814 ...................................... 16
1815
Todd, John, Dr.
moves to Bardstown, Kentucky ...................... 16
1816
Todd, Francis Walton
birth-April 17, 1816 .................................... 17
1818
Grimsley, Harrison J.
birth-1818 ............................................. 18
Todd, Mary Ann
birth-December 13, 1818 ................................ 18
Todd, William L.
birth-April 14, 1818 .................................... 18, 43
1825
Todd, Eliza Parker
death-July 5, 1825 ..................................... 20
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