

With permission of Violet's son, Mike Noble, I am posting this record here to share.

**A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF JOSEPH BARTLEY STUMP
WRITTEN BY HIS GREAT GRANDDAUGHTER, VIOLET (ADKINS) NOBLE**

Joseph Bartley Stump was born 07 March 1842 in Tazewell County, Virginia. He was the son of Jacob Stump and Polly Crockett, the widow of Michael Stump Jr. Until Joseph Bartley's marriage, he worked on his father's farm, and also learned the trade of blacksmith from his father and uncles.

When the Civil War between the states broke out in 1861, Joseph enlisted in the Confederate Army (South) and fought in all the major battles in Virginia (Manassas, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville etc.) as well as smaller skirmishes in the area. His Commander-in-Chief was General Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson, one of the most brilliant and enigmatic figures, not only of the Civil War but of all military history. Like all the other troops who fought under General Jackson, Joseph loved and revered him all of his life.

When Joseph Bartley and the other troops in his company marched through the small farming community of Rocky Gap, Bland County, Virginia, he and another soldier broke ranks and knocked on the door of one of the houses to ask for a drink of water. A beautiful blue-eyed, dark haired young lady by the name of Martha Ann Stowers answered the door. It was love at first sight. Joseph Bartley and Martha Ann were married 19 Feb 1864, (before the war was over) in Rocky Gap, Bland County, Virginia. Their first two children were born there: Sallie Jane, born 04 Nov. 1866; John Miller born 05 Nov, 1869.

Just before the close of the Civil War, Joseph Bartley sold a tract of land (deed dated 29 Dec. 1865), on the headwaters of Bluestone and Clinch Rivers in Tazewell County, to his half-brother, John Crockett Stump. This land was given to Joseph Bartley by his mother, Polly Crockett, who inherited it from her father, Tilman Crocketts' estate.

After the transaction was finalized, John Crockett paid Joseph Bartley in Confederate money. When the war ended and the South lost, the money was worthless.

Joseph Bartley went to John Crockett and asked him to deed the land back to him. Crockett (as he was called) refused. This resulted in heated arguments and bad feeling between the two brothers. As a result, Joseph left Tazewell County, Virginia and joined his father-in-law, John Larkin Stowers, who was leaving Virginia to join relatives who had moved to Lincoln County, West Virginia. On their arrival in Lincoln County, they bought farms on Big Laurel Creek (Now Hager, W. Va.) and became farmers. Joseph Bartley was also the community blacksmith.

Joseph's grandson, James Bartley Adkins, related that when he and his brothers and sisters visited their grandpa, he would bring out his Confederate money and let them play with it. Grandpa Stump told the children how he got the money. He said he left Virginia because his

brother, Crockett, had cheated him, and he was so angry and bitter that he feared he might end up killing his brother, which he didn't want to do.

Joseph and Martha Stump lived on their farm on Big Laurel Creek the rest of their lives. Here, more children were born and grew up; Charles Crockett, born 12 Jan. 1876, Benjamin Franklin, born 19 May 1879, Minnie Alberts, born 05 May, 1882, and Rachel Elvira, born 23 May 1872, in Tennessee, before their arrival in Lincoln County, West Virginia. Joseph Bartley Stump died 25 May 1920. Martha Jane (Stowers) Stump, died 11 Jan. 1913. Both are buried in a cemetery on William Green Adkins farm on Big Laurel Creek (Hager, W. Va.) in Lincoln County, West Virginia.

Transcriber notes: Not sure when Martha Ann changed to Martha Jane. Not sure if that her name changed or if Violet had a typo. I am looking for further information on this name change.

- Gretchen Noble