THE ANNALS OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY

by John C. Spence

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Reburying Confederate Dead

Among other things going on, an effort was making by the friends, collecting and reburying the Confederate soldiers, lying scattered over the country, killed in battle and otherwise. It being a laudable undertaking and proper to be done, yet, the people were little able to stand the expense necessary so soon after the war. However, the ladies taking the matter in hand, unwilling the object should fail, paying proper respect to the Confederate dead, forming a society, naming it "The Memorial Society of Murfreesboro." Electing officers for the proper management of the society, after which they commenced collecting contributions. In the course of time, a sufficient amoung of means being raised to purchase a piece of land, on which a Confederate Cemetery was established. The grounds well enclosed, and handsomely laid off in squares, with graded and graveled walks, ornamented with evergreen shrubbery. The graves laid in regular order in each square, well painted head and foot boards, names of such as are known, the others marked "unknown."

Through the energy of Capt. Arnold, who was employed in the service of collecting remains of Confederate soldiers, he succeeded recovering and reintering several hundred from the battle and other points in these grounds.

And much credit was due the Ladies of Murfreesboro for their untiring energy and perseverance in raising means to purchase the grounds for the resting place of the bones of the lamented southern soldier, at a time when poverty was swaying the land. The Confederate cemetery one mile south of town, lying between the R.R. and Shelbyville pike.

In connection, the people raised means, assisting a benevolent society known as the orphans assylum for children of Confederate soldiers, who died in service. The childrens home, established in Clarkesville Tenn.

Some Rutherford County, Tennessee CEMETERY RECORDS

Stones River National Battlefield
Rt. 10, Box 495 [illegible] Nashville Hwy.
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

by

JILL K. GARRETT and IRIS H. McCLAIN

CONFEDERATE CEMETERY

This cemetery was located 1½ mile south of Murfreesboro between the railroad and the turnpike. The majority of those buried here were unknown. A single silver case watch no. 56050 was found on one body; a brass locket with two photos (disfigured) found on another body; silver case with watch no. 15628 on a third body. These were found during re-interment of Confederate dead, which began in December 1867. There were 2,000 bodies moved in all. (Murfeesboro Monitor, 7 Dec. 1867.) In 1874 the fence enclosing the cemetery was very much in need of repair and stock got in and destroy the shrubbery there. (18 June 1874.)

Later the remains of these 2,000 soldiers were moved from here to Evergreen Cemetery. A marker "To our unknown dead 1861 - 1865" will be found in that cemetery.