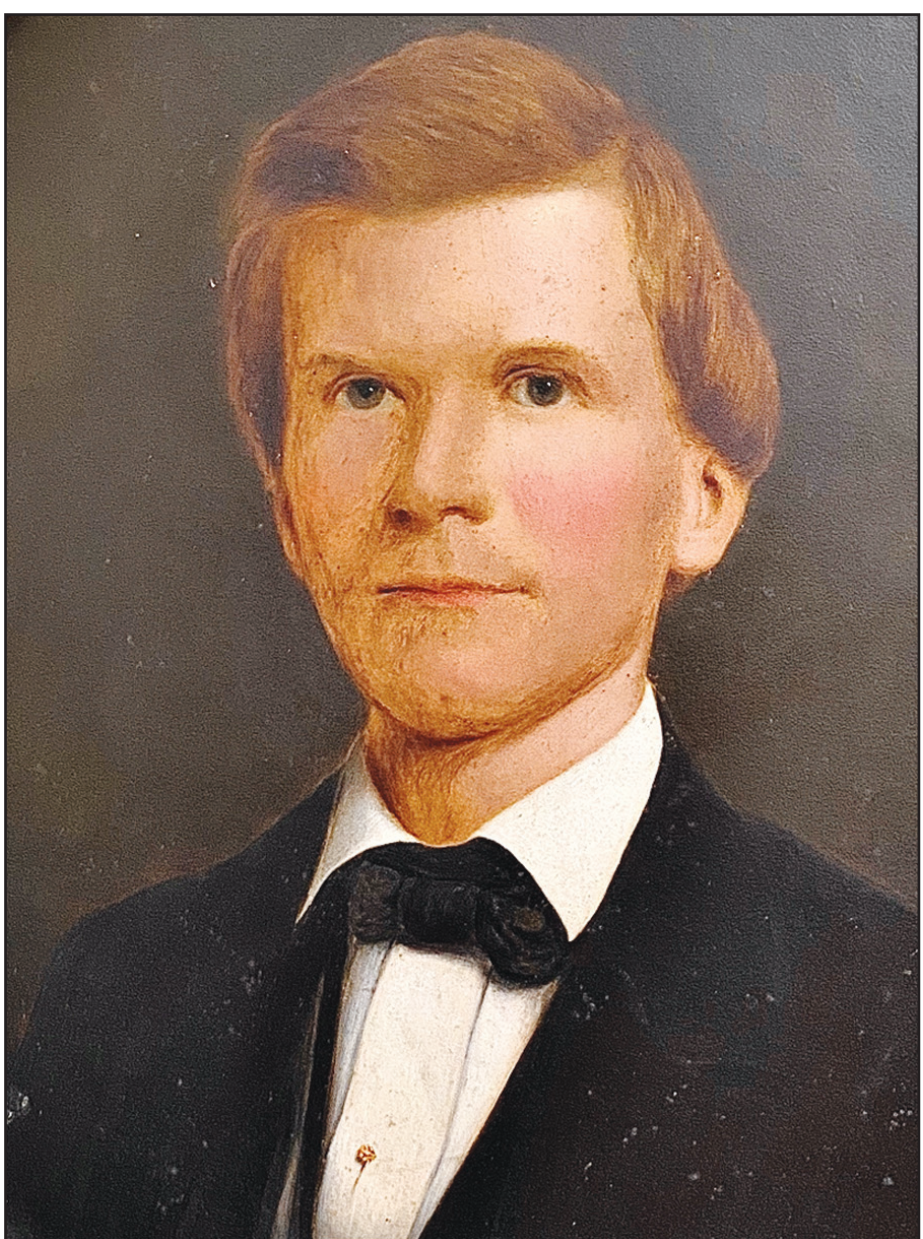


Captain John Williams Graves, Esq. is "Gone but not Forgotten"

Captain John Williams Graves, Esq. departed this life on Saturday, the 28th day of April, 1872 in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory, after a battle with Leukemia. John was born in 1833 in the Saint David's District of Caswell County, North Carolina to the Honorable Senator Calvin Graves and Elizabeth "Betsey" Lea Graves. John was reared to fear God and to apply his mind in acquiring a well-rounded education, attending the regions best institutions of learning before entering the University of North Carolina in 1851.

At the University, John excelled in his studies and was esteemed by his colleagues as a leader of their generation. An exceptional orator, John was a member of the Dialectic Society at the University. Achieving both a Bachelor of Arts with First Distinction in 1854 and a Master of Arts in 1857, John set out to study law under the finest of jurists.

He passed the bar of the County Courts in 1857 and the bar of the Superior Courts in 1858, establishing his practice in his home county of Caswell. From the county seat of Yanceyville, John W. Graves, Esq. grew to be an able attorney and counsellor. He also engaged himself in the social and political affairs of his county and state, a Jacksonian Southern Democrat- John no doubt held firmer Democratic convictions than that of his famed father. He served as a Delegate to county, district and state conventions throughout the years and positively possessed future



John Williams Graves, Esq.

political aspirations. The year 1860 proved difficult to these ends as the nation divided. War was inevitable and John was one of the first to answer the call of his state as a volunteer of Company G of the 22nd North Carolina Infantry Regiment of the Confederate States of America, known as the "Caswell Rifles." John entered as a private in June of 1861 and rose to the rank of Full Captain of Company G by October

of that year. On several occasions, he served as Judge Advocate of Court Martials and provided service to the Ordinance Department. Called to duty in his ancestral home of Virginia, John played a vital role in the early defenses of the capitol city of Richmond, Virginia during the Peninsula Campaign. His war service ended in June of 1862, having been a volunteer. Little is known of John's life prior to 1866. We can

assume he returned to his legal profession and served his home county of Caswell in whatever ways he could. He then for only two years lived on a farm in the Locust Hill Township, before deciding to leave for California in August of 1868. He set sail from New York City the following month and by Atlantic and Pacific oceans by way of crossing the country of Panama by rail, John arrived in California in

1869, very soon moving to Carson City, Nevada. Out west John continued his legal practice and by 1870, also owned a silver mine in Hamilton, Nevada. This area of White Pine County Nevada was the largest and shortest-lived silver rush in United States history.

He continued to be active in the social and political affairs of wherever place he took up residence- running unsuccessfully for City Attorney of Treasure City, Nevada in 1869 and in 1871 befriended the newly elected Governor of Nevada, Lewis Bradley, a native of Virginia, who appointed him Commissioner of Deeds for the State of Nevada in April of 1871 to carry out his duties in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory. His legal profession also proved successful in the Utah Territory, as he was well admired by the leaders of the city. Only one year into his service there, John's health took a rapid decline due to what was then called "White Blood" nowadays known as Leukemia.

Surrounded by many friends and able nurses, John slipped away at the age of 39 years- in the prime of his life. The courts of Salt Lake City closed to honor him upon hearing of his death. He left behind a father, stepmother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, numerous nieces and nephews and many more family relations too many to name.

Funeral and Military Honors were not afforded to John for reasons unknown and the final years of his life majorly remain a mystery to us. No estate was ever recovered, and he had remained a bachelor.

Buried in the Pauper Section of the Salt Lake City Cemetery without a marker, to most in this life, John has become forgotten.

After years of research, John's story is being told and he is finally returning home to receive the last rites that his life deserves. Generations later, the family home place will serve as that peaceful abode of the end of life's journey.

A living history day along with the Funeral and burial services will be hosted at the Graves Family Homeplace located at 7501 NC-150, Reidsville, NC 27320 on Saturday, April 4th, 2020. Living history and tours of the home will begin at 10am with the Funeral service beginning at 11am. The funeral party, led by a horse drawn hearse and military accompaniment will process to the family cemetery located at 10551 NC-150, Reidsville, NC 27320. All are welcome to follow the procession to the cemetery for the graveside last rites and military honors.

The home will remain open to the public throughout the rest of the day for tours. Black attire is respectfully requested to honor the customs of the era in which John lived but is not required to attend any of the services or activities. There is no cost associated with attending, but in respect to the maintenance and preservation of the historic home and cemetery, donations are kindly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Sterling Carter at 336-694-3670.

Submitted by Sterling Carter, Milton.

Morganti charged with breaking/entering, larceny

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the Caswell County Sheriff's Office served a 25 year old Mebane Township resident, named John Robert Morganti, with the following McDowell County, NC FELONY WARRANTS FOR ARREST; (1) count of BREAKING AND OR ENTERING and (1) count of LARCENY AFTER BREAK/ENTER. In addition, he was served



John Robert Morganti with an Alamance County, NC MISDEMEANOR

WARRANT FOR ARREST for (1) count of FAILURE TO APPEAR. Morganti was placed in the Caswell County Detention Center under a \$5,350 SECURED BOND.

His first court appearance is scheduled for Thursday March 12, at 9:30 am at Alamance County District Court Graham, North Carolina.

Fugitive from Justice warrant served on Latta

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the Caswell County Sheriff's Office served a Cherokee County, South Carolina FELONY FUGITIVE ARREST WARRANT on a 19 year old Yanceyville Township resident, named Cameron Sincere Latta.

He was also served with a Granville County, North Carolina WARRANT




Cameron Sincere Latta

FOR ARREST for (1) count of FELONIOUS PROBATION VIOLATION

Latta was placed in the Caswell County Detention Center under a \$35,000 SECURED BOND.

His first appearance in court is scheduled for Wednesday February 12, at 9:30 am at Caswell County District Court.



The Caswell Messenger

Questions?
Concerns?
Suggestions?
Story Ideas?

May We Help You?

Chad B. Harrison - 434-432-1654, ext. 37
Richard Ingram - 434-432-1654, ext. 15
or email: feedback@womackpublishing.com



Debra Ferrell/Caswell Messenger

Extension Agents want community input

An Ag Extension Open House was held in Yanceyville Tuesday night at the Caswell County Agriculture Building, 126 Court Square, Yanceyville to gather input from the community about what type of information would be beneficial to them. Additional meetings will be held Wednesday, Feb. 12, 6:30-8 p.m., at the Prospect Hill Fire Department and on Monday, Feb. 17, 6:30-8 p.m., at the Pelham Community Center. The public is encouraged to attend. From left, Clint Carty, Livestock Extension Agent; Daniel Ostrowski, Agriculture & Horticulture Agent; and Travis Hoesli, Caswell County Extension Director.