

Tennessee Civil War Veterans' Questionnaire

Provided by Peggy Scott Holley

1. **Name:** James Taylor, Buena Vista, TN
2. **Age:** 77 this Dec 6 1921 (He must have answered these questions in about 1921)
3. **Birth state and county:** Carroll
4. **Where you were living when enlisted:** Obyon Co, TN. I enlisted in Federal Army
5. **Occupation before war:** assistant blacksmith and farmed some of the time.
6. **Father's occupation:** carpenter
7. **Property owned before war:** none
8. **You or parents own slaves?** No
9. **If parents owned land, how many acres?** Town property
10. **Value parents property?** \$1,000
11. **Describe property.** Framed house, 3 rooms one being up stairs.
12. **Work you did:** when worked on farm, did actual work my self using plows and hoes.
13. **Work done in family:** father carpenter, mother cooked, spun, hand wove. She made the clothing for the family.
14. **Parents have an servants?** None
15. **Was honest work respectable?** Yes with the poor class of people but not with the rich
16. **Did white men work?** The poor class did but the wealthy did not.
17. **Did white men live lives of idleness?** The rich whites had the poor whites to do the work.
18. **Did rich mingle with poor or did they feel better than men without slaves?** Slave owners did not mix with the poor very much. They proved by their actions that they felt their selves above the honorable men who did not own slaves.
19. **At churches, schools, etc did slaveholders and non-slaveholders mingle on a footing of equality?** No
20. **Was there friendly feeling slaveholders/non-slaveholders?** They were rather distant, not very friendly.
21. **Did owning slaves help men win political contests?** Yes
22. **Where there opportunities for hones industrious poor young man to save up enough to buy a small farm or business?** No

23. **Were these young men encouraged or discouraged by slaveholders?** Discouraged
24. **What kind of school did you attend?** Subscription school, about 30 days is my full attendance. My parents were not able to school me.
25. **How long did you go to school.** 30 days
26. **Nearest school?** 5 or 6 miles.
27. **What kinds of schools were in your neighborhood?** subscription
28. **Public or private schools in your community?** Private
29. **How many months did schools run?** About 3 months
30. **Did boys and girls attend regularly?** Attendance was small among the poor class
31. **Was teacher a man or woman?** Man
32. **When did you enlist?** 1/10/1864 in Federal Army
33. **Regiment and any men you remember?** 7th Tennessee Cavalry Voluntary. Joe McCrackin, Bill Smith, G D Taylor, Jimm Huffman, Hugh Colwell, Marion Hodge, J H Green, Rich Green, Bill Grooms, Ike Grooms, John Edwards, Ruth Bloodworth, James Taylor, Josh Green, Shoat Moore, Jim Doighty, Nelse Moore, Will Right, Jessie Neighbors, Jake Barnheart, Dud Mizell, Goat Butler, Can't thank of the rest.
34. **First station after enlistment:** Union City, TN
35. **How long before you were in battle?** Christmasville, TN. Just my company on scout duty. The fight was in February 1864
36. **Name of first battle:** Scrumish fight near Christmasville
37. **State you own war experience:** I went to Union City, TN with my regiment next fight was in March 24 1864, lasted about day and surrendered about 11 am all our regiment being captured except one company that was out on scout duty, lived in tents on ground with blankets, food and clothing was good in camp. Good treatment in hospital, federal. I was a prisoner of war about 13 months and treatment was verry bad. One man food supply for 24 hours was about ½ what a man ordinarily has for one meal.38. **When/where discharged?** Nashville TN Aug 9th 1865
39. **Trip home?** Nashville to Johnsonville TN by train from Johnsonville to Buena Vista TN on a mule. From Buena Vista TN to old Malbrough Carroll Co TN still on the mule. This was my home.
40. **Occupation after war.** Farming

41. **Experience after war:** farmed every year up until two years past. Primitave Baptist.

42. **Full name father, etc.** Jarrett Taylor, born NC. He volunteered in Mexican and the Civil War also.

43. **Mother's maiden name, family:** Emily Elizabeth Smith, dau Levy Smith, wife ?, born NC44.

44. **Other:** father was born in 1814. My mother was born in 1810. I have had a hard time all of my life.