

Mary "Polly" McCall McClellan

From the original Sexton Records:

Not listed

Birth Date: December 20, 1776

Birth Place: York, York, South Carolina

Death Date: September 1847

Cause of Death: Snake bite

Burial Place: Winter Quarters, Grave Unknown

Father's Name: James Thomas McCall

Mother's Maiden Name: Rebecca Kelley

Spouse's Name: Hugh McClellan

Which Winter Quarters Ward or Iowa Branch was the family: Unknown

Where was the family in the 1850 U. S. Census? Both Hugh and Mary were deceased. James, their son, went west.

Which Pioneer wagon train took the family west? Both were deceased

Any interesting facts or stories that might have been submitted.

Mary (Polly) was born 20 December, 1776 in Camden, York, South Carolina.

The Piedmont or hill country that made up the York District had been settled by English, German and Scottish settlers who had moved south from Pennsylvania and Virginia. They were farmers who held small claims and used their farms for subsistence unlike the large plantation owners to the South that raised cotton with the help of African slaves. For the most part they just wanted to be left alone to raise their families and eek out their meager existence. Rebecca Kelley was 15 years old when she married James Thomas McCall who was 17, in 1767 in Mecklenburg, North Carolina (across the state line). They had 5 children before Rebecca's untimely death. Mary (Polly) was 4 years old when her mother passed away in 1780 at 28 years of age. Her husband would live to age 47 when he died in 11 February 1797. Life would have been difficult and precarious no matter which way you leaned in the Revolution. With this background it was not unreasonable then that when Mary "Polly" married Hugh McClellan in 1801 she did not object to moving to the new state of Tennessee in what used to be Indian lands just a few years before. Prior to moving to Bedford County TN marry would give birth to Rebecca McCall McClellan (1803) James Washington McClellan (1807) and Hugh, jr (1807). all born in South Carolina. William (1809) and Robert (1810) were born as the family was making the transition and move to the new frontier. Robert would not survive. Hugh was able to purchase 200 acres of land located in Bedford County at the juncture of Caney Creek and the Duck River. There they built their home and tried to conquer the new land. They built a log cabin, and Hugh would try to

farm growing the essentials of corn, turnips, squash, hogs, cows. In addition he would hunt and fish to supplement their diet. Mary (Polly) would surround herself with friends and family. Her brothers also moved to Bedford County. Their names are found in County records as witnesses to property transactions. She would have 3 more children Samuel (1811), Elizabeth (1813). Mary Ann (1815).

Hugh was not well when the family moved west in July 1846. His grandson Will drove the McClellan wagon to Winter Quarters, near Council Bluffs Iowa. He did not adjust well to the rigors of the exodus and exposure to living in less than adequate quarters. He died in August of 1847. Tragically Polly would die a month later when she was bitten by a snake while gathering eggs. They were spared the hardships of a long wagon journey on the Mormon Trail. They never gave up or denied their testimonies of the truth they found in their new Faith.

([https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/4035313?p=7038658&returnLabel=Mary%20McCall%20\(LTKC-KVV\)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FLTKC-KVV](https://www.familysearch.org/photos/artifacts/4035313?p=7038658&returnLabel=Mary%20McCall%20(LTKC-KVV)&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.familysearch.org%2Ftree%2Fperson%2Fmemories%2FLTKC-KVV))