

Calloway Manes Killed by Bushwhackers

Calloway H. Manes, at the age of 30 years, immigrated to Pulaski County in 1839, in time to appear in the 1840 Census. The path began in his birth state of Tennessee with a stay of at least six years in Indiana. He settled his family, which included his wife Sarah and five children, on a tract of land in northwest Pulaski County. The gentle hills of government land looked ideal for farming. There were few settlers in the area. The railroad was three decades in the future, as was the establishment of the nearby town of Richland. Calloway would see neither.

Following the same immigration path was Calloway's brother Seth. The junior brother by five years, Seth brought his wife Rebecca (called Rebecky) and two daughters. He bought two tracts of land next to Calloway.

The Manes brothers were both farmers and preachers. They helped organize at least three early churches: Friendship Baptist Church, near present Fort Leonard Wood; Missionary Baptist Church, near present Swedeborg; and Eureka Baptist Church.

The Manes brothers prospered for two decades. They had married sisters and were raising large families on their respective farms. In the 1850 Census, it was reported that each brother had nine children.

Their church work continued even as war swept the country and Pulaski County was occupied by Union troops. The brothers' loyalty was to the Union. Their father had fought to establish that Union in the Revolutionary War. Calloway was 52 years old when the war started in 1861, past his prime and the age of most enlistees. Seth's son, Marion, enlisted in Waynesville with the 48th Regiment in August of 1864, was appointed a corporal in September, and was posted at Rolla.

Calloway was still voicing his pro-Union sentiments in his sermons in Au-

gust of 1864. He was warned by avowed "pro-southern" bushwhackers to desist. The following Sunday in Waynesville, he preached a Unionist sermon. What happened on Monday is best described by his great-niece, Mabel Manes Mottaz, late local historian, as the story was retold in the family:

"On Monday night a band of outlaws rode up to his gate and hallowed the house. Calloway opened the door and said, 'Good evening, gentlemen, come in.' Immediately the outlaws fired and Calloway fell back into the room. The Bushwhackers dismounted, came in and seeing he was still alive, they forced his daughter to hold a light while they shot him again. Then they mounted their horses and the wife and daughter heard one of them shout, 'Now, let's go over and get Old Seth.'

One of Calloway's daughters left the house by the back door, cut across a corn field, and warned her uncle that the bushwhackers were coming on the road. Seth escaped."

Seth's wife, Rebecky, helped her sister prepare Calloway for burial and he was interred in the graveyard on the Martin Gillespie farm, a family that he stayed with when he first came to Pulaski County, which was several miles to the south on the Gasconade River. Rebecky died within a week from "bloody flux" (dysentery) and is buried in the same cemetery. The remainder of the Manes clan relocated to Illinois until safer times.

There are other strands to this story which may have been added over time, such as Calloway burying gold bars in the yard and Marion bringing a detachment of troops from Rolla. Neither of these yarns seem credible now but Calloway's murder was real.

Some of the content of this story appeared in the first issue of the Old Settlers Gazette in 1983.



Calloway Manes and brother Seth Manes II were both preachers and farmers. They married sisters and settled land northeast of present Richland. Calloway purchased forty acres of public land in 1849 and added another 120 acres in 1860. Seth followed the same pattern, buying 40 acres in 1853 and 120 acres in 1859 adjacent to his brother. Calloway built a house, which is still standing as a private residence. The original configuration did not include the three-sided addition, which gives a bay window look to the southwest section of the house. The original porch was one-story. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places.



When Calloway immigrated to Pulaski County, he stayed for a time with Martin Gillespie and family. When he was killed, his wife and sister-in-law buried him in the Mays Gillespie cemetery. The graveyard is located on what was the Gillespie farm, near Mays Ford and the Cave Restaurant on the Gasconade river. Calloway's grave is unidentified but may be one of the rock markers above, near the Manes family cluster. There is a marble marker for Rebecky Manes, wife of Seth, who helped prepare Calloway for burial and died soon thereafter of the "bloody flux" (dysentery). Her marker is broken and lying on the ground. Seth's gravestone is a small marker near Rebecky's. Seth died in 1866. Photos by Terry Primas.

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