

# W.M. Paxton in: The Paxtons: We Are One!

By W.M. Paxton (of Platte City, Mo.), Landmark Printing, Platte City Missouri, 1903



## William McClung Paxton

Born: Washington, Ky., March 2, 1819

Married: Oct. 1, 1840 to Mary Forman (Born in Mason County, Ky., Sept. 6, 1819)

“By reason of our strength,” our years are four score and four, and not without “labor and sorrow.” Left an orphan, I had no home until my marriage. I received a good classical and scientific education, at various schools, and from 1834 to 1838, I received my finishing course at Center College, Danville, Ky. I then read law at Washington, Ky., under the tutelage of Dr. John A. McClung. In 1839, I came West, and settled in the forest where I have since lived. After practicing a few years, I settled on a large farm, sold it in 1850 and tried the mercantile and milling pursuits. The war came on, and I was ruined by my friend, for whom I had indorsed. I resumed the practice of law, and succeeded. But in the midst of a successful practice, I became hard of hearing. I had to retire; but I had made an abstract of titles of Platte County lands, which supported my family comfortably.

My business left me leisure, which I improved by literary pursuits. In 1884, I started, with a daughter (Phoebe), and visited as many of the Marshall family as we could find. From house to house, I gathered the material that forms my “Marshall Family,” a volume of 425 pages, with a chart, showing at one view, every member numbered and indexed.

My next attention was to poetry. After publishing two volumes, I entered upon a vast and new field of research, which resulted in my 1898 “Annals of Platte County,” in one large volume of 1,200 pages. Not only the history of the County, in chronological order is given, but sketches and genealogies of 2,000 families.

And now I am at work on my father’s family; and am even looking forward to a record of my wife’s family - The Formans. She comes from New Jersey families, who settled in Mason County, Ky., more than a century ago. She is a sister of Dr. Charles W. Forman, the sainted misionary of the Himalayas, who left a large family, who are now entering into his labors. Another brother was Rev. Ezekiel Forman, D.D., who found rest a few months ago.

Plant evergreens above my grave,  
And let the rose and violet bloom; -  
Let native grass above me wave,  
and vine and myrtle form my tomb.

I want the children, when I’m dead,  
To gather roses where I like -  
And garlands on my breast to spread,  
White cheerful heart and tearless eye.

-W.M. Paxton, *1887 Book of Poems:  
Rambles in Platte City Cemetery*

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## Children of William and Mary Paxton

### ■ Annie Maria Paxton

Born: Feb 12, 1847

Died: July 22, 1901

Her life was a precious offering to her beloved Master. Her only pleasure was to bless others. She never left her home except on some mission of love. My pen trembles with emotion as I think of the sacrifices made by her for me, for the family, for the Church, the Sunday School, and for humanity. I would like to dwell on her virtues, her labors and her reward. But I must desist. Her Epitaph: *"A pilgrim on Earth - A Saint in Heaven. Prayer was her vital breath, the Word her daily food. She lived not for herself, but for others. Like her Savior, she went about doing good."*

### ■ Tillie Paxton

Born: June 11, 1849

Died: Oct. 26, 1900

Married: May 7, 1868 to Dr. A. Sidney Tebbs

Beautiful in their lives, my two daughters were not in death divided. Tillie was spirited and lively. She found pleasure in society, and delighted in flowers. Handsome, gay and lovely, she was untiring in her labors for the Church. The infant class in Sunday School was hers, and she will be long remembered. Her Epitaph: *"Beautiful in person, lovely in disposition, pure in heart, diligent in Christian service, an heir of Heaven"*

#### Children of Sidney and Tillie:

##### Laura G. Tebbs

Born: 1870

Married: May 11, 1893 to Charles B. Miller

He is a farmer of intelligence. Laura is tall and handsome, a graduate of the Daughters' College. Since Anna's death, she has become the mistress of our household. She has three daughters: 1. Bethene Miller, b. Jan. 24, 1894; 2. Mildred, b. Sept 25, 1900; 3. Matilda, b. Dec. 9, 1901.

##### Mary (Mamie) Paxton Tebbs

Born: August 23, 1872

Married: April 14, 1897 to Dr. Henry Meniffee Clark

Educated at Daughters' College and at Missouri University. They live within a stone's throw of our house. Dr. Clark was a prof. in the Med. School at St. Joseph. He now practices medicine in Platte City.

### ■ Phoebe Marshall Paxton

Born: Jan. 16, 1853

Though intelligent, accomplished and self-reliant, she feels the emptiness of the earth, since her two sisters have gone to their eternal home. She realizes that she is alone. Yet her aged parents call for her love and care. She feels that the duties at her home, at church and at Sunday School, are augmented threefold, and call for unremitting attention. She is all that is left to us. **I lost two sons in their childhood, and have none to bear down my name to future time.**



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