

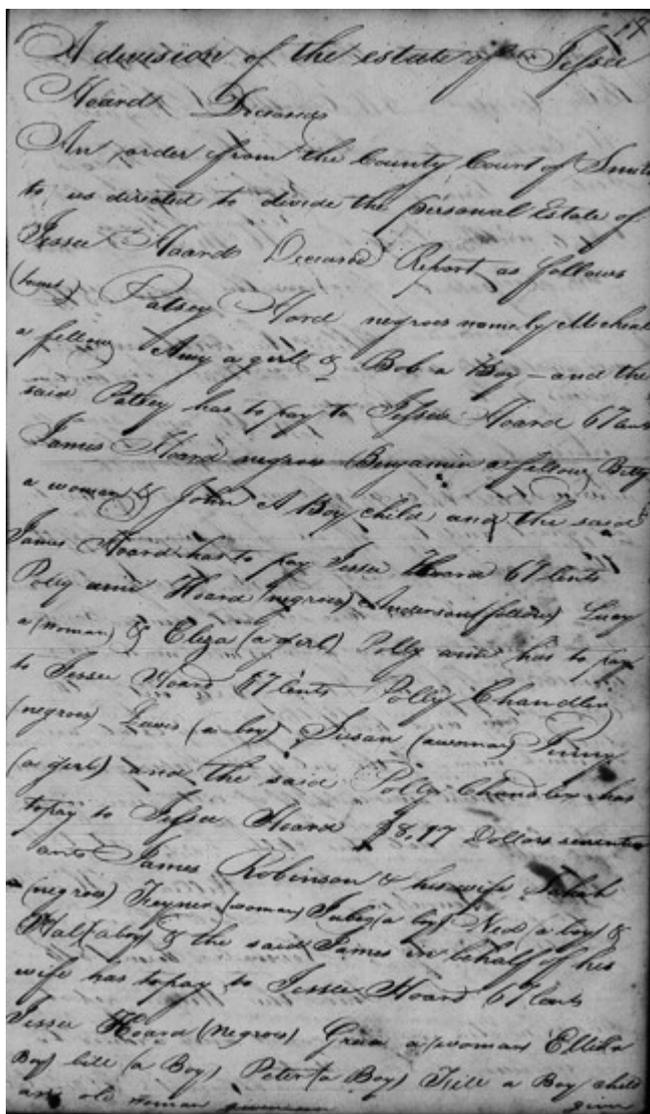
Jessie Hord (1764-1810) was born in Charlotte/Lunenburg and died Smith County, Tennessee. **Jessie** was the son of **Thomas Hord** (1738-1795) and Patty 'Patsey' Terrell. **Jessie** married Mary 'Polly' Erskine Chambers on 12 February 1798 in Mecklenburg.

Jessie and Polly had 6 known children viz:

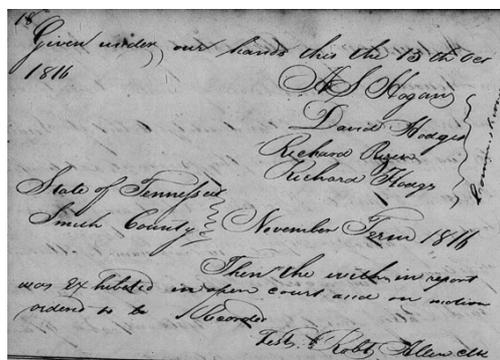
- *Polly Ann Hord
- *Mary 'Polly' Hord
- *Sarah 'Sally' Hord who married James C Robinson
- ***James Hord** (1799)
- *Martha Terrell 'Patsey' Hord married Paulding Anderson
- *Jesse Hord married Mary Bennett Hill

After the death of **Jessie Hord** in 1810 in Smith County, his widow Polly remarried Thomas Chandler, her cousin, also of Smith County, son of Henry Chandler and Elizabeth 'Betsey' Hord. Elizabeth was a daughter of Thomas Hord and Patty 'Patsey' Terrell. Polly had another two children from her marriage to Thomas Chandler viz:

- *Elizabeth Terrell Chandler married Hugh Burton
- *William Henry Chandler married Elizabeth Watkins



In 1816 the division of **Jesse Hord's** estate was finally achieved with Patsey receiving negroes but having to pay **Jesse Hord** 67 cents, **James Hord** the same paying 67 cents, Polly Ann Hord the same again paying 67 cents, Polly Chandler paying 8 dollars 17 cents, James Robinson receiving on behalf of his wife Sarah and paying 67 cents, finally **Jesse Hord** receiving his portion of the negroes but not paying anything.



Because **James Hord** was still a minor, Thomas Chandler took on his guardianship, but this was short lived as Thomas Chandler died in 1814, James C Robinson (husband of Sarah 'Sally' Hord) next took on the guardianship of **James**, and then an Arthur S Hogan in 1817 presented accounts to the court for the upkeep of **James Hord**.

On 14 August 1821 **James Hord** received four hundred and ninety six dollars in full for his guardianship from James Robinson, recorded at Smith County, 22 January 1824.

154 Merchandise purchased by me for James Hord for the present year, whose names of Merchants are here within named, also the amount of his Board & Schooling - Basil and Josiah Shaw.

To 1 English Reader	5/3	---	\$. 87½	
To 1 pair of books	4/6	---	" 75	
1 Blank Book	7/6	---	" 25	
2 Shears with 25 cuts 1 knife	3/9	---	" 87½	
2 Nines @ 3/4	1 Substand 1/8	2 pens @ 1/8	58½	5. 31½
Robert J. Hunter & Co.				
1 Small Geography	5/3	---	" 87½	
1 N. Cotton books	3/4	---	" 56½	
1 Tent & Trimmings	9/-	---	1. 12½	4. 8½
William Porter To 1 hat				
4 yds Calico @ 2/3			1. 50	
1 Dog molar			" 6½	6. 56½
David Campbell & Co.				
4 yds Cord	@ 6/4		4. "	
6 yds home made at 3/			3. "	
1 Dog Buttons			" 12½	
1 Steak hunt			" 12½	
1 Shear with			" 12½	
1 pair books	3/9		" 62½	8. 12½
Robert Allen December 1816				
To sundry articles			9. 75	
April 1817 To sundry articles			5. "	14. 75
Andrew Allison Sundry articles			2. "	
To Mr. Hagan, James Hord				
to half coat & shoe maker			" 37½	
To 1 pair shoes			2. "	
To 1 pair shoe leather & making			1. 6½	
To 5 yards of James @ 62½			3. 6½	
2 Dog Buttons & quill paper			" 87½	9. 37½

The amount brought up \$ 49. 50½
 To going to school to Mr. Colfield }
 one year at English } 12. "
 To washing patching, hedging and victualing }
 James Hord 11 months } 55. "
 \$ 116. 50½

State of Tennessee } November Term 1817
 Smith County }
 The above account was exhibited in court by Arthur S. Hagan Guardian for James Hord and was allowed to him and on motion ordered to be recorded
 Robert Allen Clerk of

A supplementary list of notes taken by to the Estate of Joseph Jenkins Dec'd

one note on William Hunt	\$ 8. "	one ditto on Saml. Pritchard	38. 50
one ditto on James Jenkins	5. 87½	one ditto on Isaac Moon	1. 50
one ditto on Thos. Hooker	5. 12½	one ditto on Jos. H. How.	19. 50
one ditto on Thos. Porter	30. "	one ditto on Mr. Porter	1. "
one ditto on James Mills	30. "	one ditto on Robert Hunter	1. 87½
one ditto on Smith & Pritchard	39. 50	one ditto on Robert Hunter	1. 87½
one ditto on Thos. Porter	32. 50	also received from the	
one ditto on Mathew Allen	6. "	State of Georgia by the	
one ditto on Samuel Pritchard	10. "	hands of Arthur Davis	1817
one ditto on Jesse Gill	8. 50	ditto Henry on Davis	1816
one ditto on John English	4. 50	Elizabeth H. Jenkins Dec'd	

State of Tennessee } November Term 1817
 Smith County }
 Then the within supplementary return of the Estate of Joseph Jenkins Dec'd was exhibited in open court and ordered to be recorded
 Robert Allen Clerk
 Smith County

Listed above merchandise and goods purchased for the upkeep of James Hord presented to Smith County Court 1817.

*I think that it stands a good chance that **James Hord** was the father of William David Munday, both **James Hord** and **Patsey Munday** were about the same age, and when you take into account the life that **James** led afterwards, it would not surprise me if he fathered some children before leaving Smith County. (A descendant of Patsey Munday born about 1801 in Tennessee has matching Y-DNA to our group).

*When William David Munday was born in 1819, Patsey Munday would have been about 18 years old and **James Hord** about 20. Patsey had 2 other known children Larkin Munday who was born about 1824 and Harriet Munday born about 1828, although there is no proof that **James Hord** may also have been their father. (It would be interesting to confirm whether a male descendant of Larkin Munday matches our Hore/Hord/Munday group).

In 1819 there is a court case recorded in Smith County in which **Thomas Hord** vs Thomas J. Young, apparently when they went to court they reported that the case had been settled out of court. (**Thomas Hord** uncle of **James Hord**).

There is now a bit of a gap before **James Hord** reappears, I think that he may have joined his brother **Jesse Hord** who at the age of 17 converted and trained to be a Methodist preacher and was stationed in various places in Tennessee, including Murfreesboro and Memphis before settling in Goliad, Texas.

The trail then leads to Claiborne Parish in Louisiana and Vicksburg, Mississippi.

In 1831 **James Hord** was indicted by the Vicksburg Court for **Faro dealing**, and again for **Faro dealing** in 1834. In later court records he was charged with "**keeping a tippling house**" and "**indecent and fornication**".

James Hord had fell in with some rather unsavoury characters, and was part of the '**Alphabet Gang**' in Louisiana, he was also one of the main chiefs of '**The Clan of the Mystic Confederacy**' a clandestine organisation. He seems to have been good friends with **Francis Cabler** and John A. Murrell, who were well known as murderers, robbers, slave stealers, and for passing counterfeit money. (The Alphabet Gang helped slaves and outlaws on the run to escape).

FIVE HIGHLY STRUNG GAMBLERS VICKSBURG, 1835

Vicksburg, formerly a pleasant if anonymous town on the banks of the Mississippi in the state of that name, became notorious for its increasing population of gamblers during the 1820s.

Vicksburg was the capital of the gamblers' empire. There they not only controlled the colony of ruffians and prostitutes at the Landing, but by the late 1820's had invaded the pleasant city in the hills with crooked gambling games and their concomitant crime and disorder. John O'Connor described Vicksburg as "the liveliest gambling place in the whole South-west," and said that "gambling banks existed of various kinds, both on the hill under the hill; in log-cabins, houses, canvas tents and in flatboats. Vicksburg was a great place in those days...". Jonathan H. Green wrote that he had "no doubt but that as many as three-fourths of all the citizens of Vicksburg were more or less addicted to gambling," and that "gambling so prevailed in Vicksburg that those citizens who did not encourage the gamblers, were continually exposed to the insults of those desperadoes; and those did encourage them by playing with them, were constantly exposed to their villainous frauds and cheats.

This class of men had become entirely regardless of all order and decency, that they cared nothing for law, nor had they any respect for any person; and would, for the slightest offence, as soon spit in the face of the most respected citizen as they would kick at a snarling dog. A letter from Vicksburg published in Niles' Weekly Register August 1, 1835, further described the situation there:

"For years past, professional gamblers, destitute of all sense of moral obligations - unconnected with society by any of its ordinary ties, and intent only on the gratification of their avarice—have made Vicksburg their place of rendezvous - and in the very bosom of our society, boldly plotted their vile lawless machinations. Here as everywhere else laws of the country were found wholly ineffectual for punishment of these individuals, and emboldened by impunity, their numbers their crimes have daily continued to multiply. Every species of transgression followed in their train. They supported a large number of tippling houses, to which they would decoy the youthful and unsuspecting, and, after stripping them of their possessions, send them forth into the world the ready and desperate instruments of vice.

Our streets everywhere resounded with the echoes of their drunken and obscene mirth, and no citizen was secure from their villainy. Frequently in armed bodies, they have disturbed the good order of public assemblages, insulted our citizens, defied our civil authorities. Thus had they continued to grow bolder in their wickedness, and more formidable in their numbers."

On July 4, 1835, the Vicksburg Volunteers, the local military company, celebrated Independence Day with a barbecue and speech-making in a grove in the eastern part of the town.

While the oratory was in progress half a dozen well-known gamblers, all of whom had obviously been drinking, appeared on the outskirts of the crowd, where they began talking and laughing in a loud and boisterous manner. One of them, **Francis Cabler**, a former blacksmith had acquired a considerable reputation as a pugilist in Natchez before joining the gamblers' colony at Vicksburg, attempted to make his way to the speakers' stand, jostling ladies overturning two or three tables in his blundering progress. An officer of the Volunteers, named Fisher, assisted by several citizens, tried to quiet him, and he "insulted the officer and struck one of the citizens." **Cabler** was immediately seized by Fisher's comrades, but Captain Baumgard, commander of the Volunteers, intervened, and the gambler was released upon his promise to leave the grove.

At the close of the day's festivities the Volunteers, parading through the town before disbanding, were met in the public Square with the information that **Cabler** was coming up the hill to kill Fisher and anyone else who dared interfere with him. In a few minutes the gambler appeared in the Square, cursing and yelling and flourishing a pistol and a knife, while the hilt of a dirk peeped from his pocket. He staggered toward the waiting Volunteers, but was disarmed and placed under arrest before he could use his weapons. Then arose the question of what to do with him. "To liberate him, would have been to devote several of the most respectable members of the company to his vengeance, and to proceed against him at law would be mere mockery inasmuch, as, not having had the opportunity of consummating his designs, no adequate punishment could have been inflicted on him. Consequently it was determined to take him into the woods and Lynch him - which is a mode of punishment provided for such as become obnoxious in a manner which the law cannot reach."

Followed by a large number of approving citizens, the Volunteers marched **Cabler** to the grove where the original trouble had occurred. There the gambler was tied to a tree, given thirty-two lashes with a whip, tarred and feathered, and ordered to leave Vicksburg within forty-eight hours.

The underworld forces of the Clan of the Mystic Confederacy at Vicksburg, larger in numbers and more efficiently organized than elsewhere on the Mississippi, were under the command of **James Hoard**, keeper of a gambling house and "the Lucifer of the gang," and Henry Wyatt, a Faro dealer and bartender who when he was hanged ten years later had committed seven murders. It is very doubtful if **Hoard** and Wyatt had anything to do with **Cabler's** crazy outbreak, but they quickly attempted to take advantage of the fury which the seizure of the gambler had aroused among the denizens of the Landing. They sent word to Captain Baumgard that if **Cabler** was whipped they would burn Vicksburg, and when the Volunteers ignored the ultimatum and proceeded with the lynching, **Hoard** and Wyatt summoned their followers and started up the hill to carry out the threat. The column set out from the Landing with much cursing and boasting, but men began to drop out before it had gone a hundred feet, and when **Hoard** and Wyatt reached the top of the hill not more than a dozen men straggled after them. So they perforce marched down again.

Although this sortie had failed to rescue **Cabler**, it had implanted in the minds of the people of Vicksburg the conviction that they would not be safe until the colony of gamblers was destroyed. That night a great mass meeting, attended by virtually every respectable adult male in the town, was held at the Court House, and these resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. "Resolved. That a notice be given all professional gamblers that the citizens of Vicksburg are resolved to exclude them from this place and its vicinity: and that twenty-four hours notice be given them to leave the place."
2. "Resolved. That all Persons permitting Faro dealing in their houses, be also notified that they will be prosecuted therefor."
3. "Resolved. That one hundred copies of the foregoing resolutions be printed stuck up at the corners of the streets - and that this publication be deemed notice."



HENRY WYATT



"CANADA BILL" DISGUISED AS A RUSTIC

By eight o'clock in the morning of Sunday, July 5th copies of the notice had been posted at every street corner in Vicksburg. During the day many gamblers, and a large number of prostitutes and other inhabitants of the Landing, "terrified by the threats of the citizens," fled the town in wagons and on horseback. But some of the principal gamblers, convinced that the storm would blow over, elected to remain and await developments, and if necessary defend themselves against attack.

Among them were **Hoard**, Wyatt, Dutch Bill, McCall, Sam Smith; Hulum, the son of the Rev. Duke W. Hulum of Cincinnati; and John North, "one of the most profligate of the gang," who ran a hotel and gambling place which was the rendezvous of ruffians and thieves.

Some were made of sterner stuff **and toughs like gambling-house keeper James Hoard**, and Wyatt concealed themselves in **Hoard's** house, behind drawn blinds and locked doors; and others garrisoned North's tavern, where they barricaded the doors and windows and laid in a store of arms and ammunition. The defiant gamblers were not molested on July 5th, although great excitement prevailed throughout Vicksburg.

But at 9 am. on July 6 the members of the Volunteers, fully armed, assembled in the Public Square under the command of Captain Baumgard. Preceded by a Negro fife and drum corps playing Yankee Doodle under the direction of the cashier of Planters' Bank, the Volunteers "marched to each suspected house, and, sending in an examining committee, dragged out every Faro table and other gambling apparatus that could be found." At length they reached North's tavern, surrounded the building, and with axes smashed the back door. Captain Baumgard called up the gamblers to surrender, "when four or five shots were fired from the interior, one of which instantly killed Dr. Hugh S. Bodley, a citizen universally beloved and respected." The Volunteers returned the fire, wounding Hulum, and "a crowd of citizens, their indignation overcoming all feelings," burst open every door of the building. They overwhelmed the gamblers and dragged into the street McCall, Smith, Dutch Bill, and Hulum, who had not been seriously hurt. North escaped, but was caught by a pursuing posse a mile down the river and brought back to Vicksburg. With their hands tied behind them and ropes about their necks, the five gamblers were marched to the barbecue grove, presenting, the Louisiana Advertiser of New Orleans said, "such a horrible appearance that the passers-by were moved even to tears." But as another account says, "all sympathy for the wretches was completely merged in detestation and horror of their crime," and so they were hanged in the presence of virtually the entire respectable population of Vicksburg.

At 11 am after the bodies of the gamblers had been dangling for about an hour. they were cut down, stacked like cord wood in a big box, and dumped into a hole which had been dug near the gallows. Then the Volunteers and the mob of citizens returned to the Public Square, where the gambling apparatus which had been seized was piled up and burned. All of the money found in the gambling houses was spread out upon a table and paid out to citizens who could prove that they had been fleeced by the sharpers. During these ceremonies word was brought to Captain Baumgard that **Hoard** and Wyatt were still in town and threatening reprisals. A posse was dispatched to search for them but both men escaped, Wyatt by boat and **Hoard** on a horse.

That night **James Hoard** found himself seated astride a log in the midst of a swamp five miles below the city, where he remained all night, listening, as he expressed it, "to an orchestra composed of shrieking owls and growling frogs." By dint of swimming and wading across the Big Black at Baldwins Ferry, after daylight again visited him, he managed to reach "terra firma;" and soon discovered, to his great joy, that he was but a very short distance from the river. In a few hours a steamer on her way to New Orleans was hailed by him, and at his request he was taken on board. Anxious to know what sort of an appearance he presented after his forced vigil, he walked up to one of the handsome mirrors with which the cabin was adorned. It was sometime before he could convince himself that the image there reflected was that of the "bona-fide" **Jimmy Hoard**. The raven locks which had yesterday adorned his cranium were turned to an iron gray.

" - grew it white in a single night.
As men's have grown through sudden fear."

PLAY THE DEVIL

And thus I clothe my villainy
With old odd ends stol'n out of holy writ
And seem a saint when most I play the devil.
Shakespeare, KING RICHARD III, Act I, Scene 3

The townspeople of Vicksburg particularly regretted that **Hoard** had slipped out of their clutches, "as his whole course of life...had exhibited the most shameless profligacy, and been a continual series of transgressions against the laws of God and man. " **Hoard** reached New Orleans in safety, and is said

to have changed his name, and renounced gambling and conspiracy in favor of less dangerous pursuits. Jonathan H. Green says that Wyatt was captured by the Volunteers, bound hand and foot and set adrift on the Mississippi in a canoe; but this is probably untrue, for if he had been caught he certainly would have been hanged. In any event Wyatt made his way to Cincinnati, and lived there and in other Ohio towns for several years, committing two murders and serving a term in the Ohio State Penitentiary.¹²

In 1837 **James R Hord** was a passenger on the ship Brig Lane, bound for New Orleans, Louisiana from Galveston, Texas, age 36, occupation given as a merchant. From the report of passengers on board the Brig Lane, whereof Henry William is Master from Galveston.³

In the 1840 census for Claiborne Parish, Louisiana **James Hoard** is listed. There are 2 males under 5, 2 males 30-39, 1 female 40-49, 1 male slave under 10, 1 male slave 36-54, 1 female slave under 10.

In December 1841, a Louisiana newspaper published a letter at the request of thirty-six citizens of Claiborne Parish, who claimed that the letter had been found on a street in Minden, Louisiana, and wanted its contents revealed.

The long letter, signed by a John M. Bradley and addressed to a Col. John Davidson of Claiborne Parish seemingly gave detailed instructions to members of a clandestine gang called "The Alphabet". The letter referred to specific plans for robbery, slave stealing, passing counterfeit money, and murder.

Bradley purportedly wrote, "If you should get into difficulties and want a safe conselor [sic] apply to old Fleetwood Herndon, of Long Prairie, who has made half his fortune by the alphabit [sic] without the slitest [sic] suspicion. He has saved my life five times and my liberty at least a dozen". The attached written instructions directed the courier Litefoot to:

see **F Cabler** pay him and let him have 1,000 dollars new tipe for the use of B see **James Hoard** let him have 2,000 dollars of the new tipe also for the use of B see Colonel Davidson pay him and leave with him 1,200 dollars of the new tipe for the same see Nick Trammell gave him 20,000 dollars of the new tipe for the use of B. and other purposes ask Dr. Walker what success in disposing of the new tipe that I let him have last spring return without delay.

While Texas newspapers jumped to the conclusion that the letter had been written by John M. Bradley, sheriff Of Shelby County, Texas, who was then embroiled in a struggle between "regulator" and "moderator" factions, the names mentioned call attention to a different John M. Bradley. Arkansas governor James Sevier Conway resided in Lafayette County and had married Mary Jane "Polly" Bradley Polly's first cousin, Martha Bradley, married Fleetwood Herndon, and Martha's brother was John M. Bradley. Thus, John M. Bradley and Fleetwood Herndon were brothers-in-law. The Arkansas legislature appointed both Herndon, a wealthy and respectable planter, and Bradley as justices Of the peace in 1835. As noted, back in 1828, Nick Trammell had been sued by John M. Bradley in Lafayette County for failing to pay for the kidnapped man sold to Trammell in Texas. The names **F. Cabler** and **James Hoard**, mentioned in the same paragraph with "Nick Trammell." are of interest because a **Francis (or Frank) Cabler** and a **James Hoard** were professional gamblers run out of Vicksburg, Mississippi, during the Murrell hysteria. Vicksburg court records show that **Hoard** had been charged with "keeping a tippling house," and both **Hoard** and **Cabler** had been charged with **faro dealing** and "**indecenty and fornication.**" **Cabler's** drunken antics had precipitated the 1835 Independence Day backlash in Vicksburg where he was whipped, tarred, and feathered before being ordered to leave town."⁴⁵

1 Play the Devil - A History of Gambling in the United States from 1492 to 1955 by Henry Chafetz

2 Wanderings of a Vagabond. An Autobiography. Edited by John Morris.

3 Passenger List: "Louisiana, New Orleans Passenger Lists, 1820-1945" citing Ship Brig Lane, affiliate film #015, NARA microfilm publications M259 and T905 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 200,143. FamilySearch Record: QKNG-YZJ2 (accessed 5 September 2023) FamilySearch Image: 33S7-95NR-141 Image number 00065. Name: J R Hord; Immigration Date: 1837; Immigration Place: New Orleans, Orleans, Louisiana, United States; Birth Date: 1801; Birth Place: U S A; Age: 36; Ship Name: Brig Lane; Source Film Nbr Date Range: 015 - 2 Mar 1837 - 30 Dec 1837.

4 Nick Trammell: The Making of an Old Southwest Legend. By Robert Myers. Published in The Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. 74, No. 4, (Winter 2015), pp. 352-378. 27 pages.

5 Daily Bulletin, (Austin, TX) 23 December 1841

By the 1850 census **James Hord** is living in Goliad, Texas next to his brother the **Rev. Jesse Hord**, and **James** seems to have acquired some children:

*Eudeel (Euclid) Hord age 14 born Louisiana

*James R. Hord age 12 born Louisiana m. Victoria Virginia Cooner

*Sarah Hord age 10 born Louisiana m. James Sheedy

*Ethelbert Hord age 6 born Texas m. Sarah F. Tatum

also *Napoleon Vegery age 15 born New York

*Joseph A. Leaton age 14 born Mexico

This is the last I can find of **James Hord**.

I think that there is a good chance that **James Hord** has a number of children spread around Tennessee, Louisiana, Vicksburg, Texas and Arkansas that may come to light in the future.