

nals, notably one on "Trichina spiralis, and its origin and development in muscle, and the disease trichinosis" in *St. Louis Medical Reporter*, I (1866-67), 97-109. Dr. Wadgymer came to Texas in the early 'seventies—probably in 1873—and is believed to have lived first at Myerville, De Witt County, and then at Cuero, Castroville, and San Antonio, before going to Carrizo Springs. Dr. Wadgymer died in 1899.

WALKER, Dr. Elijah Millington (1824-68).—Walker, at that time registered from Yorktown, Texas, took the M.D. degree from the University of Louisiana in 1854. On June 9, 1854, he read a paper on the agricultural ant of Texas before the New Orleans Academy of Science. Walker came to Texas to practice and was elected a corresponding member of the New Orleans Academy of Science. Dr. Walker was born in Middle, Tennessee, on November 17, 1824. He moved with his parents to Marshall County, Mississippi, attended school in Oxford, Mississippi, and also studied medicine as an apprentice. He attended Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia (1849-50) and practiced medicine in Oxford without a degree. In the fall of 1852, he went with his wife to Helena, Karnes County, Texas. In 1853-54, he studied at the medical school of the University of Louisiana and obtained his degree. He moved from Helena to Gonzales, gained a large practice, and remained there until after the Civil War. He then moved twelve miles west of Gonzales and bought an estate, "Ashwood," and kept up his practice there. He died in 1868 of malaria. Besides his ant paper, printed in the early proceedings of the New Orleans Academy of Science, Dr. Walker published several meritorious agricultural papers in the *Southern Cultivator*, XXV and XXVI (1867-68).

Greenleaf Cilley Nealley (1846-1896), Texan Botanist

S. W. Geiser

In the July, 1946, issue of *FIELD & LABORATORY*, Dr. Rogers McVaugh¹ has published an account of the travels and plant-collecting activities of G. C. Nealley, little-known botanist of Texas. While McVaugh's paper was in its final revision, and passing through the press, I endeavored to bring into shape for publication a biographical footnote of him from my accumulated notes of several years. The task offered difficulties; many gaps of information could not be filled without wide correspondence; the result was that the note had to be deferred to the present.

In his paper, McVaugh pointed out that Nealley came from Burlington, Iowa, to Texas A. & M. College in April,

¹Rogers McVaugh, "The Southwestern travels and plant-collections of G. C. Nealley, 1887-1879." (*Field & Laboratory*, vol. XIV, 1946, pp. 70-88.)

1882, to collect grasses and other plants in Brazos County (with, as compensation, board and room at the college); that his connection with the College was broken sometime in 1883; that subsequently he moved to Houston, where he lived from about 1886 to 1891; that from 1887 to 1893 he was agent, under Dr. George Vasey of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, to collect grasses and other plants in the more arid parts of Texas. When and where he was born, and died, was not stated, nor were the circumstances of his upbringing and education touched. The excellent reason for these omissions was the complete lack of information on these points, owing to the fact that Nealley was an inconspicuous student whose antecedents were unknown to residents of the State . . .

Many parallels can be found in the lives of Nealley and the famous Swedish-Texan entomological collector, Gustaf Wilhelm Belfrage². Like Belfrage, Nealley was far better known in old centers of culture than in Texas. Like Belfrage, Nealley came from a family of intellectual strength and great respectability. But Nealley's disposition could not harmonize with the cultured environment of his New England home. He therefore left this home at an early age, came West (to Iowa) during the Civil War, and there found conditions of living more accordant with his temperament. Always possessed of a wanderlust, he never married. The years from 1863 to 1882 he spent at Burlington, Iowa, with his uncle, a prominent horticulturist; he came thence to Texas where from 1882 to 1896 he lived as a botanical collector, and died obscurely in his fiftieth year.

GREENLEAF CILLEY NEALLEY, JR. was born in Bath, Maine, on September 4, 1846. He was the son of Edward St. John Nealley (originally of Lee, N. H.) and his wife, Lucy Prince. His family was an old New England one of high culture. Greenleaf's father was a graduate of Bowdoin College in the Class of 1835, and from 1837 until his death in 1881, was successively inspector, deputy-collector, and collector of customs of the port of Bath. Greenleaf's two brothers were also graduates of Bowdoin College. He was a grandson of General Joseph Cilley of the Revolutionary

²Cf. S. W. Geiser, "Naturalists of the Frontier, III." (*Southwest Review*, vol. XIV, 1929, pp. 381-98.)

Army; his great-uncle Bradbury Cilley had been a member of Congress from New Hampshire; and two first-cousins, once-removed—Jonathan and Joseph Cilley—had been members of Congress from Maine and New Hampshire, respectively. His uncle by marriage was James Wilson Grimes, early governor of Iowa, later, United States senator. Two uncles of the Nealley name—Greenleaf C. Nealley and Joseph B. Nealley—were prominent pioneer horticulturists, still remembered, at Burlington, Iowa; and another uncle, Edward M. Nealley, was for many years a prominent attorney there³.



G. C. Nealley (1846-96)

Of Greenleaf's early upbringing and education we know little. He probably studied in his early years at the excellent Bath Academy, located within a short distance from his home⁴. He seems never to have studied at Bowdoin College, and thus broke a family tradition. His mother had died in 1853 when he was seven years old; six years later his father

³For data on the antecedents and family of G. C. Nealley, Jr., see: Henry W. Owen, *The Edward Clarence Plummer History of Bath, Maine*, 1936, *passim*; [Acme Publ. Co., Chicago], *Portrait and Biographical Album of Des Moines County, Iowa*, 1888, pp. 367f., *et passim*; Edward B. Neally, *Genealogical Tree of the Nealley-True Family of Nottingham, N. H.*, 1878, *passim*; Geiser Papers, file "Nealley" for genealogical and historical correspondence; *Dictionary of American Biography*, s.v. "Cilley," "Grimes"; William Saltz, *The Life of James W. Grimes . . . 1876, passim*; *Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1927*, 1928, s.v. "Cilley," "Grimes."

⁴W. P. Nealley to S. W. G., 25O1946.

married again. Greenleaf left his home in his seventeenth year to live in Iowa with his namesake-uncle and his aunt, Martha (Adams) Nealley. Since they had no children of their own (they had an adopted daughter), Greenleaf became in a sense their son. It was on the farm and in the nursery of his uncles that Greenleaf spent the years from 1863 to 1882.

I cannot discover that Neally was ever a student of the preparatory or college department of the moribund "Burlington University" (a Baptist school, long defunct), or the "Burlington Business College" during these years⁵. They are obscure ones: not even Greenleaf's surviving brother (William Pope Nealley, of Bangor, Maine) can inform me of our botanist's early life and education.

The first dependable information regarding Greenleaf C. Nealley dates from the year 1882, when (*æt.* 36) he was employed (apparently directly by President John Garland James) to make plant collections for Texas A. & M. College. Nealley's namesake-uncle at Burlington had died a few years previously [1878], and his second uncle, Joseph Bowdoin Nealley⁶ was in ill health, necessitating the closing out of the horticultural firm of "Nealley Brothers" in that year. Greenleaf came to College Station in April. He did not register as a student, nor was he listed as an officer, teacher, or other employee of the institution. The pay-rolls of the College do not carry his name, and his compensation (totaling \$130.00 for the four terms of fourteen weeks each) was evidently paid from some unofficial source outside the College. As the early records [before 1886] of the Board of Directors of A. & M. College of Texas were destroyed in a library-fire in 1915, no further information is now obtainable⁷.

Nealley's first paper, "Report of Botany of Brazos County" (published in the *Sixth Annual Catalogue* of the A. & M. College of Texas, 1883, pp. [46] to [49]) gives an account of his work during the first four months of his employment (April to August, 1882.) In this, Nealley put on

⁵Burlington University, Iowa, was organized in 1854 and closed its doors shortly after the Civil War; the Burlington Business College was organized in 1865, and in 1871 had five teachers and 202 students. Burlington was laid out in 1834 (being largely settled by Vermonters, hence the name), and from 1837 to 1840 was the capital of Iowa.

⁶He died on August 28, 1883.

⁷Personal investigation of records in offices of Dean, Registrar, and Library, Texas A. & M. College.

record his obligation to President James, who had "greatly encouraged and assisted" him, and expressed his hope to publish a work on the flora of Texas, "with full descriptions of every species found, both indigenous and naturalized." Like the reports of the officers of the college, this was addressed to President James, to whom apparently Nealley was directly responsible.⁸

John Garland James resigned the presidency of the College in March, 1883, and Nealley's next paper, a "Report on Texas Grasses," was addressed to Colonel J. R. Cole, acting president in June, 1883. It was published at page 46 of the *Seventh Annual Report* of the college (1882-83). In his report, Nealley states that he "has been occupied for a year past" with the collection of grasses at College Station. He lists Julien Reverchon of Dallas, Dr. Valery Havard, U. S. Army, of western Texas, S. B. Buckley of Austin, F. Lamson-Scribner of Philadelphia, and Dr. George Vasey of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as having been of great help to him in his studies. His "List of grasses in the college herbarium" at College Station includes some 162 species, given without abundance- or distributional data.

Nealley seems to have left the Texas A. & M. College in the summer of 1883—apparently his connection with the College was terminated by President James's departure. The next clear information we possess of his whereabouts in Texas is that in 1886 he called Houston his home (McVaugh, 1946, p. 71). The only listing of Nealley in the Houston City Directory that I have been able to find is in that of 1889-90 (where his name is given as "Greenleve C. Neally, botanist, rms 126 LaBranch.") McVaugh believes that Nealley made Houston his home until 1891. In this McVaugh is probably correct, as San Antonio city directories include him, "a botanist," at 113 North Leona Street (near West Houston Street) *only* from 1892 to 1896. It would appear from this that his plans to move from San Antonio to San Diego, in Duval County, in February, 1893 (McVaugh, 1946, p. 83) did not materialize. McVaugh, however, saw several letters written in the last years from San Diego; and I am forced to the conclusion that the San

⁸For information on John Garland James, see: William Couper, *The Virginia Military Institute New Market Corps . . .*, 1933, s.v., "James." See also Clarence Ousley, *History of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas*, 1935, pp. 52-56.

Antonio directory is in error. In passing, no Austin or Galveston directories of 1883 to 1896 include Nealley as a resident.

From the Bath *Independent* of May 30, 1896, we learn that Nealley died in San Diego, Texas. His surviving brother, William P. Nealley⁹ says that "he was travelling in a wagon in Texas, when he died. The men with him found a letter in his pocket, from my wife, thanking him for a wedding present he [had] sent us, so they wired to her. We immediately had arrangements made to have his body sent to Bath, Maine, for burial. All of my brothers and sisters were alive at that time." The date of his death was May 27, 1896.

McVaugh's admirable summary of Nealley's travels and botanical collecting in Texas for the U. S. Department of Agriculture from 1887 to 1893 leaves little to be desired. This account may be supplemented by Nealley's own published papers, and one by Dr. John M. Coulter, printed at pages 29 to 65 of Volume I of the *Contributions of the U. S. National Herbarium* (June 28, 1890.)

Editorial Note:

Copies of Field & Laboratory,
Volume XV, No. 1, January, 1947,
were mailed Dec. 10, 1946.

⁹W. P. Nealley to S.W.G., 11S1946.