

## **Henrietta Fitzhugh's Diary**

### **Notes by Merle Kimball**

Henrietta Sarah Fitzhugh was the daughter of Judge Nicholas Fitzhugh and Sarah Ashton. She was born 14 November 1789, at Bedford, Virginia. Her brothers and sisters were: Augustine, Edmund, Burditt, Henry William, Charles, Lawrence, Lucy, Anne, Mary, and Sophie.

Henrietta married her first cousin, Henry Fitzhugh, the son of George Fitzhugh and Mary Digges. Henry was born 12 February 1783, at Bunker Hill, Fauquier County, Virginia. His brother and sisters were: Sarah, Ann, Henry, and Mary.

Henry and Henrietta lived on their plantation, Fenton, a few miles from Warrenton, Virginia. They later moved to Ravenswood, Jackson County, on the Ohio River, in what is now West Virginia. They had eleven children: Bushrod Washington, George Nicholas, Mary Henry, Burditt, Theodorick Bland, Sarah Ashton, Ann, Nicholas, Henrietta, Edmonia, and Henry.

Henry died 17 March 1855 and Henrietta died 8 December 1879. Both are buried in the Ravenswood cemetery, Ravenswood, West Virginia.

Henrietta and Henry accompanied her brother Edmund and his family when they moved to Bolivar, Tennessee in the fall of 1827. The diary was written on this journey to Tennessee and back to their plantation, Fenton.

Edmund was married to Eliza Ann Roberts and they had five children, Logan W., Ellen Matilda, Rudolph R., Mary Burdett, and Ann Evans. The children and their mammy, Hannah, were with them. Both Edmund and Eliza died in 1832.

Henrietta's and Edmund's brother, Charles, had already moved to Bolivar, Tennessee, when Edmund decided to move to Bolivar.

Henrietta referred to her husband as "Mr. F" throughout the diary.

Henrietta or a daughter kept another diary during the Civil War which is at the Roane County Public Library, Spencer, West Virginia.