



- During the winter of 1856 there was a whiskey scandal. Jefferson at that time had an anti-saloon sentiment For 50 years Jefferson people wouldn't stand for any saloons in town. But a local lawyer named Jones was a real businessman and thought he'd make a good profit by shipping in a wagon load of whiskey. Townsfolk soon found out that whiskey was being sold out of Eli Rivers' house rented to Washington Allen. Mr. Mills was asked to visit the home of Allen and read him the liquor laws and tell him that if he wanted to keep his house, he'd better keep the whiskey business out of it. This got people right stirred up. A couple of local men happened upon a lot of barrels of whiskey near lawyer Jones' home one night. They quietly drilled holes in the barrels; enough so that quite a large amount leaked out and soaked into the ground before Jones discovered it. Jokers said that the grass wouldn't grow for years on that spot, because two old codgers had gnawed at the ground so much it didn't have a chance!
- The county was mostly just cabins then. He helped R.M. Rippey build one of the first framed homes taking all summer to cut all the boards down at the mouth of Hardin Creek. He remembered the work was hard, the days were hot and the "lusty mosquito was uncivilized."
- When marching off to war before a crowd in Jefferson on July 4 , some of the men had no boots, so they rubbed their feet with coal tar so folks would think they were wearing shoes.
- Fought in civil war battles in Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina and Virginia for the Union. However when he was wounded it was a Confederate officer that saved his life. He was lying on the ground helpless when a renegade rebel cocked his gun to shoot him dead. The Confederate officer drew his sword and demanded that he stop and let him go seeing how bad his wound was.
- Married to Miranda Doyle from Jefferson and the was the father to nine daughters. Only five of whom lived to be adults.