

# Bio of Judge Samuel Wade McAtee

**Born:** Sep. 5, 1814  
Scott County, Kentucky, USA

**Died:** Jun. 4, 1877  
Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa, USA

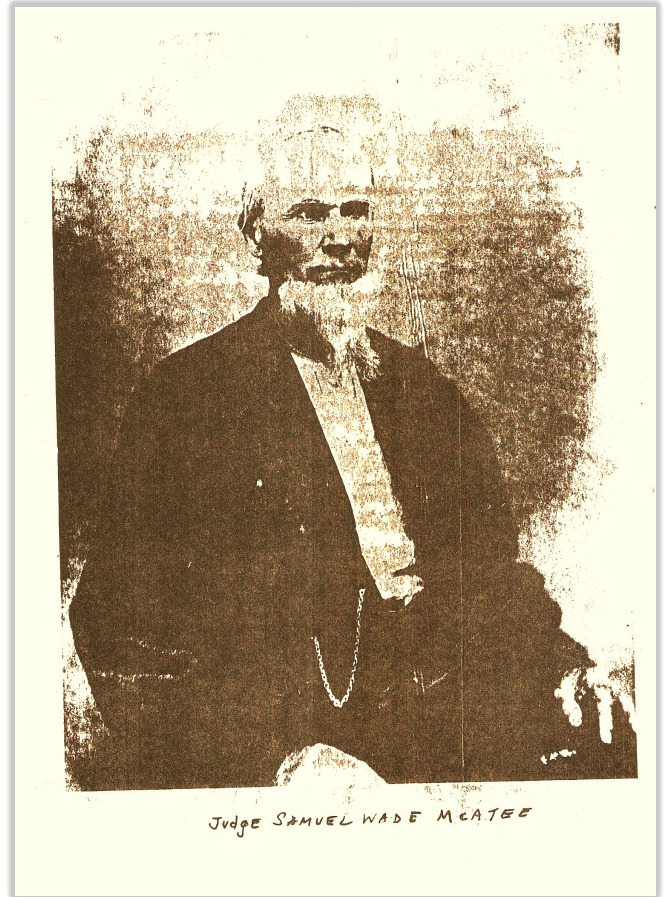
Samuel Wade McAtee was an interesting man in his own right. He was from a prominent family and also married into one. His wife, Elizabeth Ann Mudd, was first cousin once removed to President Abraham Lincoln. (Her mother was first cousin.)

Samuel was born Sept. 5, 1814, in Scott County, Kentucky, where his parents had moved in about 1811 – forging westward from Maryland.

He was the son of George M. McAtee (born in 1767) and Mary Ann Hardy (born in 1770).

When he was about 16, in about 1830, the family moved farther west to Ralls County, Missouri, near Hannibal. He immediately pursued an early career in lead mining with relatives in the Illinois-Iowa-Wisconsin lead mining region, when most of it still was open territory.

At the age of 29, Samuel married Elizabeth Ann Mudd (born in 1825) on June 13, 1844, in Scotland County, Missouri - north of Ralls County, near the Iowa border.



Judge SAMUEL WADE MCATEE

**Judge Samuel Wade McAtee**

(MORE)

*by Chas. Henry D. W.*

*W. McAtee State of Missouri }  
to County of Scotland } I John Tifer a Justice of the Peace in & for the County  
of Scotland aforesaid do certify that I find in Marriage Samuel W.  
McAtee & Elizabeth A. Mudd on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 1844. Given under my  
hand this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1844. John Tifer J.P.  
July June 28<sup>th</sup> 1844 H. McGinnis*

*W. McAtee State of Missouri }  
to County of Scotland } I Thomas Gunn one of the acting Justices of the Peace*

**Marriage license of Samuel W. McAtee & Elizabeth A. Mudd**

He began his work as a miner for two years in Galena, Ill. and later in Wisconsin, alongside his McAtee and Hardy relatives, including an unnamed brother and his 2-years-older nephew Joseph Arnold Hardy (born 1812). Hardy operated the first lead furnace (smelter) in the region near Galena by negotiating with Native Americans to mine on their lands. (Joseph Arnold Hardy also was a friend of Abraham Lincoln's, before he was president; they met in 1832 when both were fighting in the Black Hawk War in that region. That was a dozen years before Samuel married Lincoln's second cousin.)

The book, "Pioneer History of Davis County, Iowa" (published 1924-7) has some errors, but it notes: "Samuel W. McAtee and his brother whose name is not given, came to the Strip, which was in the Wisconsin Territory, in 1839, and took up adjoining claims. When the Iowa State line was located in 1844, Samuel's claim was in Iowa and his brother's was in Mo. Samuel's house was found to be on the state line.

After marriage in 1844, Samuel and Elizabeth settled in Davis County, Iowa, living there four years before moving to nearby Bloomfield, Iowa, in a house next to his wife's parents (Benjamin Mudd and Elizabeth Lincoln Mudd, who was the future President Lincoln's first cousin).

Samuel and wife Elizabeth were early pioneers in the region and Samuel was one of the first officials of Davis County, and helped establish its name the county seat. They remained in Bloomfield throughout their married life, census, obit and other records show. He made a name for himself as Assessor, Sheriff and County Judge.

They had 10 children.

Samuel's father, George M. McAtee, died in 1850. His mother (George's 2nd wife, Mary Ann Hardy) died in a 1849 in St. Louis, Mo., where she had gone to tend to those sick with cholera; she died of cholera herself and apparently was buried in St. Louis in a mass grave for victims of the epidemic.

The McAtees and Hardys were allied for multiple generations and moved en masse from Maryland to Kentucky, then to Missouri.

It frequently is said in historical books about this McAtee family: The McAtees "were among the old Maryland emigrants, who came to this country with Lord Baltimore, (first) settling in St. Mary's, Md."

This Hardy line immigrated from England to Maryland in the late 1600s.

Samuel Wade McAtee died June 4, 1877, in Bloomfield, Davis County, Iowa. He was buried in Bloomfield IOOF Cemetery.



Bio by Leslie@FindFamilyTrees.com

**Grave of Samuel W. & Elizabeth A. McAtee**