

835 South College Street
Smithville, TN 37166
December 13, 2014

Dear Researcher,

I just read your interesting article on Emily Shackelford, grandmother of Minnie Pearl. I am related to that family — Emily's mother was Mary L. Weedon of Culpeper County, Virginia, a sister of my ancestor Martha Weedon Brewer Miller. I have considerable information on the Weedon (and Shackelford) family in my 2002 book Webb Families of DeKalb County, Tennessee. I believe you have a copy of it in your library, and you will find the Weedons on pages 516 - 547, the Shackelfords beginning on page 536.

I find it quite likely that Emma Shackelford taught school in White County in 1848. They were a well-educated family, and Emily's aunt Harriet Weedon Colvert, with her husband William J. Colvert had moved about 1848 to Sigo Ferry on the Carey Fork River in DeKalb County. They were living there in 1850, and listed with them in the 1850 census is Frank V. Shackelford, steamer clerk, who was Emily's brother. (He is also listed in 1850 with his parents in Van Buren County.) This connection makes it seem very likely that Emma taught school in White County in 1848. The book will also give you farther information on these families.

Sincerely,

Thomas G. Webb
(Tommy) DeKalb County Historian