



MAJOR WILLIAM WALLACE MCDOWELL

Born: 2/13/1823

Died: 6/22/1893

During the Civil War, William Wallace McDowell organized the “Buncombe Riflemen,” the first company to leave Asheville for Confederate service. He was Captain in the Beth Regiment, C.S., then Major of the 16th NC Regiment. McDowell Street in Asheville NC is named for him.

Sarah Lucinda Smith (5/24/1826-11/1/1905) is the daughter of James McDonnell Smith and Mary (Polly) Patton. She married William Wallace on July 21, 1846. They had nine children: William Gaston, James Alberto, Jesse Hamilton, John Hardy, Ann Eliza, Edward Erwin, George Moffitt, Sarah Caroline, Mary Cordelia and Arthur Gedding.

Sarah Lucinda Smith and her husband, William Wallace McDowell purchased the Smith McDowell House in Asheville. They lived in the brick house for twenty-five years. It was a highly productive plantation while they lived there. About one hundred slaves worked and lived on the farm.

Economic reversals forced McDowell to sell the house in 1881 to Alexander Garrett.