

Hosea Bright Breazeal Family Bible Transcription

Hosea Bright Breazeal (5 Apr 1813–19 Oct 1891) and his wife, Sarah Elizabeth Mayfield (17 Jun 1819–9 Jan 1888), married in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, on 18 February 1836. Their families had longstanding kinship ties in Pendleton District, South Carolina, where Bright's aunt married Sarah's uncle in 1815. The Breazeals and Mayfields also belonged to the same Baptist church and lived on nearby farms. About 1824, both families migrated from South Carolina to Alabama and settled on farms along Bear Creek in southeastern Tuscaloosa County.

Bright and Sarah spent twenty-two years in Tuscaloosa County, farming and raising their children. Bright served as clerk of Liberty Baptist Church from 1846 to 1848 and as a Tuscaloosa County justice of the peace in the 1840s. Following the death of their eldest daughter in late 1857, they sold their farm and followed relatives west to the Ouachita Valley of south Arkansas and north Louisiana. They lived near Caledonia, in Union County, Arkansas, between 1859 and 1866, when they moved a few miles south across the state line to Spearsville, Union Parish, Louisiana. They spent the remainder of their lives cultivating their farm just north of Spearsville.

The following is a precise transcript of the information recorded on the family pages of Hosea Bright Breazeal and Sarah Elizabeth Mayfield's family Bible. The publication date of the Bible is unknown. The Bible is owned by Mr. Gene Barron of West Monroe, Louisiana.

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Literate family members used a variety of spellings of Bright's surname prior to the 1880s, with "*Brazeal*," "*Breazeale*," and "*Breazeal*" being the most common spellings. Although sufficiently educated to serve as church clerk and justice of the peace, Bright Breazeal used all three spellings when recording the births and deaths of his children in his family Bible. Bright and Sarah's original tombstones in the Spearsville Cemetery bore the spelling "*Brazzeal*."

As bureaucratic systems expanded between 1880 and 1930, government officials increasingly favored standardized surname spellings. After 1900, most of Bright's descendants adopted "*Breazeal*" as their preferred spelling, although even close cousins—such as the descendants of his uncle, Joel Marshall Breazeale—have retained alternate spellings.

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Page 1 – Marriages

Column 1:

- *H. B. Breazeale and Sarah Eliza Brazeale his Wife Was Married the 18 Day of Febuary [sic] 1836th and was [sic]*
- *H. B. Breazeale was Born the 5th Day of April 1813*
- *Sarah E. Mayfield his wife was Born June 17th 1819th*

Column 2:

- *T. A. Breazeale was married [sic] June the 12: 1856*
- *Arrena E. Breazeale was married [sic] January 6th 1859*
- *J. K. P. Brazeal Was married [sic] May the 27 1866*
- *R. S. Brazeal Was married [sic] July the 19th 1866*
- *K. A. Brazeal Was married [sic] August the 9th 1866*

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Column 1 – Births

- *T. A. Breazeale Was Born January the 10th 1837*
- *A. J. Breazeale Was Born the 21th [sic] Day December 1838th*
- *Arrena E. Breazeale Was Born the the [sic] 19 Day of March 1841*
- *Reuben S. Breazeale Was Born the 25 of Febuary [sic] 1843*
- *James K. P. Breazeale Was Born the 2 Day December 1844*

Column 2 – Deaths

- *Nancy Permelia Breazeale Was Born the May [sic] 14th 1847 and Died the June 18*
- *Tabitha A. Breazeale was Born January 10 1837 and Died October 8 1857*
- *Andrew J. Breazeale Was Born December 21th [sic] 1838 and Died April 25th 1862
age 24 years 4 month [sic] and 3 days*

Note: At the top of this page, one can see the calculations Bright Breazeal must have used to determine the precise age of Andrew J. Breazeal at his death.

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Column 1 – Births

- *Keturah A. Brazeal Was Born the 22 of October 1848*
- *Martha R. E. Breazeale Was Born the 29th of September 1851*
- *Sarah Ann Eliza Breazeale was Born June 7th 1854*
- *Hosea W. Breazeale was Born August 29th 1857*
- *Hosea Woodford Breazeale was Bor [sic] August 29th 1857*

Note: It is unclear why this entry was made twice.

Column 2 - Deaths

- *Nancy Lawless was Born March 11th 1791 and Died June 17th 1841*

Page 4**Column 1 - Births**

- *Laury Lawless was Born the 24th of August 1822*
- *Elijah W. Breazeal was Born June 23 1860*
- *Laura Agnes Brazeal Born December 29th 1863*

Column 2 - Deaths

Note: This column is blank.

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