

## Kentucky: A History of the State

Battle, Perrin, & Kniffin, 3rd ed., 1886. Monroe County.

**THOMAS C. GILLENWATERS** was born November 11, 1839, in Hawkins County, Tenn., and is the youngest of six sons and seven daughters (eleven lived to be grown), born to **David and Keziah (Wilson) Gillenwaters**.

**David** was born and reared in Hawkins County, Tenn.; was a farmer; immigrated to Monroe County, Ky., about 1856; purchased a farm of 200 acres, on which he remained until his death, in April, 1867, aged about eighty years. He was a son of **Joel Gillenwaters**, who was born and reared in Tennessee; was also a slave owner. **Mrs. Keziah Gillenwaters** was born and reared in Hawkins County, Tenn.; daughter of **Samuel Wilson**, who was a soldier in the war of 1812. Mr. **Wilson** was sheriff of his county for several terms; was a slave owner and farmer; immigrated to Arkansas at an early day, where he died about 1855, at quite an advanced age; was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**Thomas C. Gillenwaters** was reared on a farm and received a fair English education. At the age of seventeen he lost his mother and for six or seven years after made his home with his cousin; in the meantime he attended school, and at twenty years commenced teaching, at which he has been engaged ever since. He served as deputy county clerk several terms in Monroe County.

In 1867 he moved to Barren County; ten years later returned to Monroe County and settled near Flippin, where he has been engaged in teaching; carries on farming during summer. He owns 104 acres just east of Fountain Run, and a house and lot in Flippin, also the schoolhouse and lot. He and **Prof. Taylor** erected the schoolhouse in 1882 and established a good school. Mr. Gillenwaters married, August 10, 1865, **Helen M. Watson**, of Barren County, a daughter of **Levin and Sarah (Morrison) Watson**. Mr. Watson, a son of **William Watson**, was born in Virginia and reared in Perry County, Tenn.; moved to Barren County, where he married his wife, who was born and reared in that county. To Mr. and Mrs. G. were born eight children, five living: **Levie E., Bettie Cora, Thomas Marian, Mollie Boll, and Ettie Agnes**. He and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, was also a member of the Grange. Mr. G. is a self-made man and is a persevering student. In politics he is a Democrat, and cast his first presidential vote for Bell and Everett.

Gillenwaters Morrison Taylor Wilson

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<http://www.rootsweb.com/~kygenweb/kybiog/monroe/gillenwaters.tc.txt>