Abner Deatherage was born January 3, 1810 in Greene County, Tennessee, and was, according to family historians, a son of Abner Deatherage and his wife, Rebecca (Davis) Deatherage.

Before his marriage, Abner served in one of the Cherokee Wars. He enlisted on July 8, 1836 at Fort Wood (or Wool), Tennessee and served in Captain Peak’s Company [Co. A] of Tennessee [First Cavalry] Volunteers until July 12, 1837, when he was discharged at Fort Butler, North Carolina.

This action, called by various names including the “Cherokee Disturbance,” took place as the Indians were being forcibly removed from their mountain homes in the Appalachians. At the time of his enlistment, he was twenty-six years old, and 5’ 10” tall, had blue eyes, dark hair, and a reddish complexion. In recognition of his service, he received a bounty land warrant for 160 acres of land from the federal government in 1852.

Abner was married to Mary Almeady Marney in Roane County, Tennessee on May 24, 1839. She was born April 10, 1822. In 1850, Abner and Mary were living in the 20th Subdivision of Roane County, Tennessee.

About 1857, the family moved to Tarrant County, Texas. During the Civil War, Abner served the Confederacy as a member of the Tarrant County Hussars. In 1880, he owned 40 acres of the Stephen Richardson survey, a long irregularly-shaped tract which sits generally north and northeast of the center of old Smithfield, in the broad general area where Green Valley Elementary School is located today.

A great deal of genealogical research has been done on Abner’s ancestors. He died November 28, 1886, and lies buried in Smithfield Cemetery. After Abner’s death Mary returned to Tennessee. In 1892, while living at Surprise, Tennessee, she applied to the federal government for a pension
based upon her husband’s Indian War service, and it was soon granted at the rate of eight dollars per month.

When the 1900 census was taken, she was living there in Meigs County, Tennessee with one of her brothers, Samuel Marney. Mary died in Meigs County, Tennessee on July 6, 1905, and lies buried in the Edgemon Cemetery.

Abner and Mary had a number of children, including Parmelia Deatherage, John L. Deatherage, and Angeline Deatherage, who was first married to a Mr. Burnett and later married a Union veteran of the war, Ozias Rumfield. There were probably more Deatherage children, but the loss of the 1860 Tarrant County, Texas census removes one source of learning their names.

From: Sharon Fowler
Email: owls_nest_too@yahoo.com

I just read the above bio on Abner Deatherage which contains a major error. It states that Abner Deatherage, born 1810, m. Almeady Marney in 1839, was the son of the Abner Deatherage who married Rebecca Davis. This is not possible. That Abner was no more than 10 years older and was married in 1823.

From my research, it looks like the second Abner was the son of Byrd/Bird Deatherage, b. 1770-1780. The compiler's Abner was probably the son of yet another Abner, b. 1770-1780 and his first wife, name unknown. This eldest Abner remarried to an Elizabeth.