

The following "biography" of Ann Eliza Gary Hardie (m.1) was excerpted from

John Hardie of Thornhill and His Family by Lillian Galt Martin

John T. Hardie may have already had matrimony in mind when he moved from Talladega County to New Orleans in 1853. He was married the following year on 8 November 1854 in Tuskegee, Alabama, to Ann Eliza (sometimes called Annie Eliza) Gary, born on 12 December 1836 in Lowndes County, Alabama. She was the daughter of William Leonidas Gary (born 17 February 1804, Newberry, S.C.; died 27 August 1852, Tuskegee) and Frances Elizabeth Satterwhite Gary (born 1 October 1806, Newberry, S.C.; died 4 August 1888, Tuskegee). From South Carolina (where Ann Eliza Gary was born) they moved to Alabama, first to a plantation in Lowndes County, then to Tuskegee.

[The Gary and Satterwhite lines have been established from the first of their names in America to Ann Eliza Gary Hardie. (See material in the Hardie Family Memorabilia Collection, on extended loan at The Historic New Orleans Collection.) Ann Eliza Gary's father William Leonidas Gary was the son of Thomas Gary (born 11 August 1764, Buckingham County, Virginia; died 23 April 1818, Butler County, Alabama) and Rebecca Jones Gary (died 16 May 1826, Butler County, Alabama). Thomas Gary's descent has been traced from William Gary Sr. (born in England, 1610, came to America circa 1648-50),

through William Gary Jr., William Gary III, and Charles Gary (Thomas' father). Frances Elizabeth Satterwhite (mother of Ann Eliza Gary, who married John T. Hardie) was descended from Michael Satterwhite (born in England about 1615, to America before 1645) through Thomas Satterwhite (Sr.), Thomas Satterwhite (Jr.), John Satterwhite (Sr.), and Drury Satterwhite, Frances Satterwhite's father. See Gary and Satterwhite family material among the Hardie Familia Memorabilis at THNOC.]

John T. Hardie quickly became a respected member of the New Orleans business community. In 1853, the year of his arrival in New Orleans, he established the cotton factoring company, John T. Hardie & Co., in which he was actively engaged (except for the four years of the Civil War) until his death. In 1857 his brother Willie (William Tipton Hardie), then only seventeen, came to New Orleans and became a clerk, later a partner, in the company.

The business prospered. John T. and Ann Eliza made a place for themselves in the life of New Orleans. The family was growing. In the years 1855 through 1860 four children were born (but the third died at fifteen months). In 1860 John T. was again chosen a ruling elder in a

Presbyterian Church, this time in Dr. Benjamin Palmer's First Presbyterian Church on Lafayette Square in New Orleans. Two of his brothers and one sister had married, and his mother was capably handling the business of the family plantation at Thornhill.

Ann Eliza Hardie and her children spent the Civil War years in Tuskegee, probably living with her mother (her father had died before Ann Eliza's marriage). The substantial Gary home in Tuskegee still stands (1986).



Ann Eliza Gary Hardie (1836-1916),
wife of John T. Hardie.

John T. apparently wanted to put the War behind him and to take up his family and commercial life anew. John T. Hardie & Co. was soon again well established in New Orleans.

John T. and Ann Eliza Hardie took up residence in the new "American" section of the city. They lived on Jackson Avenue, in what is now known as the "Garden District" in uptown New Orleans. In about 1870 they bought a "mansion" [so described in an old clipping from a local newspaper] at Philip and Chestnut streets (1238 Philip Street). In this house John T. Hardie died in 1895, and the house was sold the following year [according to the same newspaper story].

Most of the "first families" of old New Orleans, those descended from the early French and Spanish settlers (the "Creoles"), still in the mid-nineteenth century lived "downtown" (below Canal Street), in the French Quarter (Vieux Carre) or on Esplanade Ridge. The business section then, as now, centered around Canal Street. After the 1803 transfer of Louisiana from Spain to France and from France to the United States (in the Louisiana Purchase Agreement), there was increased movement of "Americans," mostly from the northeastern part of the United States, into New Orleans. Fine houses began to be built "uptown" (upriver from Canal Street), and this was called the "American" section. It was here in the "Garden District," or nearby, that the various Hardie families lived.

Among the most respected members of the new "American" community in New Orleans, who became in the second half of the nineteenth century leaders of the business, civic, and social activities of the city, were the Hardie families, newly arrived from Alabama, those of John T. and of his brother William and of their sister Ann Eliza. (Her husband J.M. Lewis, also formerly from Alabama, was so successful in business in New Orleans that he was able to retire at the age of about forty.) For four or five years, in about 1871 to 1875, another brother, Alva Hardie, and his family were also living in New Orleans, before moving to Texas.

John T. Hardie died at his home in New Orleans on 10 April 1895, aged 65, and was buried in Metairie Cemetery. His death was mourned by family, friends, and business associates, and by the church of which he had been such a devoted member. A leather-bound volume, entitled *In Memoriam, John T. Hardie. Resolutions, Memorial Sketch and Funeral Services, Upon the Death of John T. Hardie, 1895*, inscribed on the flyleaf in Ann Eliza Gary Hardie's handwriting, "Helen H. Baldwin, from Mother, May 9th 1895," is among the Hardie Family Memorabilia at The Historic New Orleans Collection.

After John T. Hardie's death in 1895, his widow Ann Eliza bought a house on St. Charles Avenue and Second Street (downtown Lake corner), and lived there with her unmarried daughter Mary Frances (Fanny) until her death, 21 years later, on 16 November 1916 in New Orleans. Funeral services were held from the house of her daughter Mrs. Henderson Barkley (1.12) at 5518 Pitt Street, and she was buried in Metairie Cemetery.

There are many photographs of Ann Eliza ("Dearest") surrounded by children and grandchildren. Thirteen children:

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|------|-----------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| 1.1 | Mary Frances Hardie (Fanny) | 1.7 | Helen Hardie |
| 1.2 | William Hardie | 1.8 | Samuel Jamison Hardie |
| 1.3 | John Newton Hardie | 1.9 | Lewis Hall Hardie |
| 1.4 | Thomas Gary Hardie | 1.10 | Henry Mellon Hardie |
| 1.5 | Ann Eliza Hardie | 1.11 | Leila Hardie |
| 1.5b | Daughter (name unknown) | 1.12 | Isabella Hardie |
| 1.6 | Joseph Hardie | | |