

Dec. 28, 1941



Through The Years

#541

The Sabbath Day At Ottossee

By PETER A. BRANNON

WILLIAM BARTRAM, a Philadelphia born Naturalist, collecting herbs for Dr. Fothergill's gardens of London, on the Sunday of the Christmas week of 1777, was at an Indian town on the Tallapoosa River, (in our present Alabama), and he writes into his Journal this statement:

"On the Sabbath Day before I set off from this place, I could not help observing the solemnity of the town, the silence and the retiredness of the red inhabitants; but a very few of them were to be seen, the doors of their dwellings shut, and if a child chanced to stray out, it was quickly drawn indoors again. I asked the meaning of this, and was immediately answered, that it being the white people's beloved day or Sabbath, the Indians kept it religiously sacred to the Great Spirit."

White influence in the Tallapoosa County became evident before the American Revolution if Bartram's observations are accepted. There were perhaps a dozen white families settled in the area no great distance from Otassee and most of them had been residing there for some years, most of them had children, so the influence for the better was evident to the traveler even that early.

Col. Benjamin Hawkins, the U.

S. agent for Indian affairs who resided on the Flint River in Georgia, was still another Christmas visitor to the Tallapoosa Country, he being there in 1796. Coincidentally he spent Christmas week visiting in the area from Mrs. Weatherford's house, in our North Montgomery, to the towns as high up as Kialiadshi. Col. Hawkins was the dinner guest of the family of James Bailey, an Englishman residing on the North (West), side of the Tallapoosa opposite Ottossee, and he enjoyed a dinner of fowls, both white and brown bread (that is he had biscuits and corn bread both), and they served rum with the meals. Culturally speaking these early Alabamians might not have ranked with the Virginia and New England cousins, but history records that at least they lived well and the Bailey children were educated according to the standards of that day, pretty well. Dixon and Richard Bailey, the two older sons, had been educated in Philadelphia, and Elizabeth could read and write, having been taught to do so at a school on Tensaw Lake. This little Indian girl enjoyed an accomplishment which but few of her white neighbors of later years could boast.

A nationally known volume which depicted life a few years ago in Alabama wounded the sensibility of one of our West Alabama prairie country families when the New York author mentioned that he smelled collards cooking in the mansion while a guest there. Col. Hawkins writes into his diary that when he was a Christmas guest of the Bailey's, in 1796, they had colewarts as one of the vegetables at that dinner. Incidentally that name is just another one way of designating collard greens. He says Mrs. Bailey was an excellent cook and that even though she had three servants, she supervised her domestic affairs and on this Christmas occasion prepared the meal herself.

The Ottossee's enjoyed either a great antiquity and with it a wide experience, or they must have been an interesting community for practically all the travelers from the days of DeLuna in 1560, than are mentioned in many journals. The Spanish Chronicler of the 1560 visit to Cosa set down the facts that goods could be transported from

tourist who stays a few days with us. Fort Toulouse, the "Alabama" of Bartram is thus mentioned:

"The trader obliged me with his company on a visit to the Alabama, an Indian town at the confluence of the two fine rivers, the Tallapoosa and Coosa, which here resign their names to the great Alabama, where are to be seen traces of the ancient French fortress, Toulouse; here are yet lying, half buried in the earth, a few pieces of ordnance, four and six pounders. I observed, in a very thriving condition two or three very large apple trees, planted here by the French. This is, perhaps, one of the most eligible situations for a city in the world; a level plain between the conflux of two majestic rivers, which are exactly of equal magnitude in appearance, each navigable for vessels and periaugas at least five hundred miles above it, and spread their numerous branches over the most fertile and delightful regions, many hundred miles before we reach their sources in the Apalachean mountains.

Stayed all night at Alabama, where we had a grand entertainment at the public square, with music and dancing, and returned next day to Mucclaffe; where being informed of a company of traders about setting off from Tuckabatche for Augusta, I made a visit to that town to know the truth of it, but on my arrival there they were gone; but being informed of another caravan who were to start from the Ottossee town in two or three weeks time, I returned to Mucclaffe in order to prepare for my departure."

An early reference to the region of the Chattahoochee River Valley, now embraced in the Fort Benning Military Reservation, is:

"January 2, 1778, the face of the earth was perfectly white with a beautiful sparkling frost. Sat off for Augusta with a company of traders, four men with about thirty horses, twenty of which were loaded with leather and furs, each pack or load supposed to weigh one hundred and fifty pounds upon an average. In three days we arrived at the Apalachuchua or Cheta Uche River; crossed at the point towns Chehaw and Usseta; these towns almost join each other, yet speak

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The Ottassee's enjoyed either a great antiquity and with it a wide experience, or they must have been an interesting community for practically all the travelers from the days of DeLuna in 1560, than are mentioned in many journals. The Spanish Chronicler of the 1560 visit to Cosa set down the facts that goods could be transported from the Gulf Coast to Ottossee in boats and carried thence to Cosa by portage. Those were small boats, obviously, but whether you know it or not, the U. S. dredge boat operating on the Alabama River made trips as late as 1885, up the Tallapoosa River to the mouth of Calebee Creek (just up stream from Ottossee). A paragraph in Bartram's Journal which refers to conditions at the time of his visit is:

"The pillars and walls of the houses of the square are decorated with various painting and sculptures; which I suppose to be hieroglyphic, and as an historic legendary of political and sacerdotal affairs; but they are extremely picturesque or caricature, as men in variety of attitudes, some ludicrous enough, others having the head of some kind of animal, as those of a duck, turkey, bear, fox, wolf, buck, etc., and again those kind of creatures are represented having the human head. These designs are not ill executed; the outlines bold, free and well proportioned. The pillars supporting the front or piazza of the council-house of the square, are ingeniously formed in the likeness of vast speckled serpents, ascending upwards; the Ottassee being of the snake family or tribe. At this time the town was fasting, taking medicine, and I think I may say praying, to avert a grievous calamity of sickness, which had lately afflicted them, and laid in the grave abundance of their citizens. They fast seven or eight days, during which time they eat or drink nothing but a meager gruel, made of a little corn-flour and water; taking at the same time by way of medicine or physic, a strong decoction of the roots of the *Iris versicolor*, which is a powerful cathartic; they hold this root in high estimation, every town cultivates a little plantation of it, having a large artificial pond, just without the town, planted and almost overgrown with it, where they usually dig clay for pottery, and mortar and plaster for their buildings, and I observed where they had lately been digging up this root."

The plant referred to by Bartram, the *Iris*, is that same American variety which is the root stock of all the graft beautiful specimen developed by cross fertilization at the present time.

Fort Toulouse Site

Still another reference which might be interesting in this holiday season is the paragraph in Bartram's Journal wherein he mentions that site near Montgomery of so much interest to the

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Pre-Historic Days of the Town

The archaeology of this point on the Tallapoosa River (Ottassee) indicates that it is of considerable antiquity and it is my purpose to develop a study made of the site by Jim Brame and other members of the Alabama Anthropological Society. This will be embodied in a subsequent story. The mound here has as one of the features of it, even in historic times, the only totem pole referred to in the history of the South. The ancient site of the village, that is the pre-historic one, was washed through at the time of the last break of the power dam on the Tallapoosa River and a large number of earthenware vessels, shell material and many fine pipes were unearthed. Within the historic period the town was the seat of considerable trading influence and obviously many glass beads, bottles and iron trade objects have been plowed out and dug out there. General John Floyd and his Georgia Militia engaged the Indians near there during the campaign of 1813-1814. Jim Boy, one of the most celebrated Creek Indian leaders (and one of those who participated at Fort Mims), was born there and the town had a long contact with the whites. The site is two miles west and north of Shorter in Macon County.

Sales To Set A 11-Year High

Through The Years

Parades

By PETER A. BRANNON



IF WE read the newspapers, particularly the news sections, we might be led to believe that each and every parade staged for the enjoyment and enlightenment and edification of the public, supercedes all others ever put on. Unfortunately most of the comments about parades glorify them and tell all of the good things about them and leave unsaid some things which might be helpful if these references were brought out and exposed.

All of which is an attempt at a polite way of saying that I don't endorse the manner of most parades as staged in Montgomery. Each of them gets worse, so far as the handling of the public is concerned, and only the Lord knows what the end will be before it is over with. If our public must be taken in hand and ruthlessly and brutally be made observe the niceties of such occasions, then I am in favor of doing it that way, even if some clubbing has to be done. I observed the one last Saturday with more than ordinary concern and while it was more or less of a commercial event, even one of that kind should be controlled and regulated rather than allowed to run wild. Personally I am strictly in favor of barring off and segregating all of the avenues of approach to the parade as well as the avenues down which the parade proceeds. That is, I cannot see any reason why if the parade forms on North and South Bainbridge Streets vehicles should be allowed to indiscriminately continue, and without any reserve whatever, be permitted to run pell-mell up and down Washington Avenue and Adams Avenue and Monroe Street while the Parade is being formed. Give the participants at least some place to stand where it is not necessary for them to take their lives in their hands. I think it is rather a ridiculous situation when a Major of the U. S. Army is forced to stand

our earliest American parades.

The current present day spectacle of college boys and girls, generally those in attendance with the Band who form the letters of their schools and make "pictures" for the amusement of the Grand Stand, is a form of parade which makes the most impression on the foreigner who visits us. These are very evidently a modern interpretation of primitive intent to amuse. Prize drills and parades of that character should not be classed as amusement for they execute intricate movements. While some of the movements of the "cheer leaders" and songsters who accompany Football squads are intricately executed, most of them are intended more as pleasurable illustrations than as contests.

That parade of the present day which impresses me most as a reversion to the primitive (and I might even say savage days), is the one which puts several hundred marchers into the isles of the Convention Hall and starts a demonstration for a newly nominated candidate. The conduct of these marchers, as well as the idea that conceived such a thing, both, might be questioned as to the sense of the thing. I have attended several National Conventions of the Democratic faith (though I never attended one of the Republican Conventions), and I find them, like some other parades, getting worse.

Americans are, (were perhaps from the beginning), all alike. One of my prized early prints is a lithograph of a sketch made at the time of the arrival of Lafayette in America in August, 1824. The picture shows him proceeding from the Battery up town, in New York, and shows people craning their necks out of windows, hanging on to the front boards of stores along the way, and on top of buildings, some even getting into the way of vehicles.

Circus Parades

Since childhood down to now.

of many through the past hundred years.

Jefferson Davis' Inauguration

Obviously the Inaugural parade of Jefferson Davis, from the Exchange Hotel to the State Capitol, on February 18, 1861, was Montgomery's outstanding event. Several years will yet pass before even the Blue and Gray Football game will promote a parade which will compare with that one. Even though there were only the five companies in this parade (from Mobile, Eufaula, Columbus, Georgia, Perote, and Montgomery), the crowd who looked on is said to have numbered many more than the entire census population of the town. This is a remarkable fact, if such a statement is true, for Mr. Davis was not elected until a few days before that and the news could not have been very widely disseminated except by telegraph. Even so "Dixie" was played on that occasion and "Red Jacket," the little four-inch piece of artillery of the Columbus Guards, was here to march in the Parade and the news accounts say that there were many carriages-and-four who climbed Market Street Hill that day.

Since that occasion many others of prominence have ridden up that avenue and some have paraded that way. Even in my day Thomas G. Jones, William C. Oates, Joseph F. Johnston, William D. Jelks, B. B. Comer, Emmett O'Neal, Charles Henderson, Thomas E. Kilby and others which seem as but yesterday, have proceeded up that way. I may be mistaken but I think the last carriage which went that way was the one occupied by Emmett O'Neal when he was inducted into office. I know that Governor Henderson rode up in an auto. The Bibbs furnished the carriage in which rode Jefferson Davis, the Haygood Livery Stable furnished the one which carried the last governors to ride that way.

Camp Sheridan Parades

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permitted to run pell-mell up and down Washington Avenue and Adams Avenue and Monroe Street while the Parade is being formed. Give the participants at least some place to stand where it is not necessary for them to take their lives in their hands. I think it is rather a ridiculous situation when a Major of the U. S. Army is forced to stand with outstretched arms in the middle of the street and stop vehicles to keep the men in his Battalion from being run down by lumber trucks, and laundry wagons and speeding drivers with nothing more than curiosity, when they could go two blocks out of the way and not have to run through the line. The extra policemen who serve, (not wearing a uniform and with an ordinary street hat on), when they are placed on duty have their hands so full in handling the crowd that six Boy Scouts and two or three Military officers are needed to keep one policeman from being run over.

I suppose it was ever thus, but at least for the forty years that I have lived in Montgomery, it has gotten worse and worse (and I say this without any compunction), as I have not missed any parade put on here since 1906. During the days of 1917 we used ropes on the side lines and at Inaugurals we now use cordons of Boy Scouts and policemen both, but my observation is that it will take three strands of Barbed Wire to hold the crowds back. A few policemen are powerless. I presume it is a matter of education, but if such is the case, then I am in favor of starting with the young generation, so that before I pass on, some forty years hence, I will have the satisfaction of enjoying the novelty of seeing the floats roll down the avenue without fearing for some side liner getting pushed in the path of one of them. Incidentally I hope I may have the satisfaction of seeing the crowd come to "Attention" when the Flag passes by.

Early Historic Occasions

If my history is correct we have had quite a few parades in Alabama and Montgomery itself has enjoyed no small number of them. Back yonder in 1540 when a Spanish gentleman on a tour through this State sought to impress his importance on his host down Mauvilla way, it is told that he caused his men to prance their horses before him and to (though he does not express it that way), form figures and drill with their lances, but Tastaluca never arose from his cushioned seat. His attendant continued to fan him and the gentlemen in waiting never lowered the umbrella. DeSoto may have impressed the Indian Chief, but he at least never condescended to permit him to think so.

The solemnity of the preparation of savages of antiquity (as well as that same function on the part of our American Indians), for entry into war, called for a strictly formal type of the parade. Readers of early American history will find that the Indians when they returned from wars, bringing scalps, paraded around poles set up in the town square and piled these scalps as trophies at the base. These were of course

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Circus Parades

Since childhood down to now, I have seen Circus parades, and Governor's Inauguration parades, and Homecoming parades, and Soldier parades, and Football parades, and "Opening" parades—and I happened to be present when one of the longest Ku Klux Klan parades was put on in the State of Alabama—and Mardi Gras parades, and State Fair parades, and perhaps smaller and less important ones. Back in the years of a past gone century I watched an old Adam Forepau and Sells Bros., Circus Parade on the streets of a small town where I lived, and to now I remember that incident of the one Elephant and compare it with the present time when we see perhaps fifty or seventy-five in a herd all holding the tails of the forewalker.

Military Musters

I seem to remember that even though original governors of the first twenty-five years of the State did not go in for many spectacles when they were inaugurated, we did have Military musters, where there was a parade ground, and the Manual of Arms and quick and double quick marching made a memorable sight for those who attended. The Wetumpka Argus, a newspaper published at that village in Coosa County, gives a very interesting account of a Military Muster in 1839, at Horse Shoe Bend on the Tallapoosa River, when at the conclusion of the two days encampment the remains of Major Lemuel P. Montgomery were carried on the saddle of an officer's horse, in a parade of all the regiments from three counties, to Dudleyville, and there reinterred to rest in peace. The detailed account of this incident in our history is perhaps the first reference to our Military parades, which have elicited the attention

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Camp Sheridan Parades

Even though it has been only a little more than a generation, many seem to have forgotten the Military parades which featured the stay of Ohio soldiers at Montgomery in 1917-18. They were the most spectacular of all parades of that character ever seen here. Nearly four-fifths of the 30,000 men stationed at Camp Sheridan generally participated on these occasions. The 37th Army Division was fully enlisted during its time here, and when you get a Major General and three or four Brigadier Generals together with a Colonel and two or three Lieutenant-Colonels to each Regiment of about fifteen companies, and the officers of each Company leading one hundred or more men, all in one bunch, you may well compare that parade of February 18, 1861, with its five small companies of about sixty men, to the nine or ten Regiments which tramped Dexter Avenue in later days. When the 167th Regiment of the Rainbow Division returned from Germany in 1919 they made somewhat of a spectacle themselves, however, they were veterans and along by their sides, and in their midst, marched uniformed pretty girls and other characters of Military attendance.

For twenty-three years now we have seen no Military parades but destiny seems to have ruled that we probably will, for we have the soldiers again with us. May I hope that those who march to thrill us of the older generation may have no interference in their duty and that we will be respectful in our admiration of them.

It required approximately 141,000 tons of wrapping paper to do up the products of butchers and grocers last year.



Through The Years

Beauty Hints

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By PETER A. BRANNON

A MAGAZINE before me which calls attention to the establishment of an old time Apothecary Shop in a new Museum just being opened to the public, mentions a list of medical superstitions and I am reminded by them of a collection of clippings and notes which I have made over a period of years which are suggestions on improving the appearance. The maidens of the Ozark Mountains in the days long since gone, (and obviously many years before those who now are forced to hear suggestions made in radio programs), as beauty treatment, washed their faces in dew caught by laying closely woven cloths on the ground the night before. It was always best to catch dew during the month of May. In still another section of the world, notably in Egypt, we are told that Cleopatra to soften her skin and make herself all the more attractive, used olive oil scented with palm leaves. She was playing with the fancies of the Caesars and Mark Anthony, but even so those Western U. S. Indian men were just as attractive to the Ozark girls as were the Romans to this North African woman.

In Rome the beauties used honey, pulverized barley, carrots and eggs mixed, to soften and beautify the skin of their face and limbs. Another skin preparation said to have been used by those Romans was to apply a mask of bean flour and rice said to be good to remove wrinkles. If the skin merely needed a treatment popularly today known as a "cocktail," they dissolved bread crumbs in milk and rubbed their faces with that. We well know that soap is of no great age, that is soap as we now use it, but oil rubbed on and then ashes applied and the oil rubbed out, forms the same chemical as does our present soap, for there you have a mixture of oil and potash. So even though the world has progressed for 2,000 years, or is credited with it, there is very little new under the sun. The bean flour and rice mixture of the Romans is certainly cleaner than the application of mud which is done at the present time when the beauty parlors pretend to wash out the pores of the skin and freshen the outside with these mud face masks which are allowed to remain quite sometime.

History tells us that the Romans who are claimed to have been the greatest bathers of any peoples in the world, anointed themselves with butter and that they used it as well, as a hair dressing. From my earliest days as a pharmaceutical chemist I recall hair ointments, hair oils

and hair treatments have been among the ranking of all body beautifiers. The American Indians used bear's fat in great quantities and one of the earliest patent medicines known to the Americas is a hair remedy, or hair ointment known as "Bear's Oil." The Indians had very little salt, and to them this was a much prized commodity, so I do not know how they kept their greases from getting rancid. I am assuming that even the Romans could not have used butter without some chemical to have preserved it. Sugar in the early days was so costly that it certainly could not have been used other than as a medicine or as a toilet article.

Superstitions

A superstition going back to the sixteen hundreds was that if a person mixed milk with coffee and drank it, the concoction would give them leprosy. In my childhood there was a strong prevalent superstition that coffee drunk by youths would make them dark skinned, and some said it would make you black, so this may be a handed-down tradition from the days of medieval times when leprosy was quite prevalent. Health and beauty most nearly go hand in hand, because one cannot be attractive of face and form, that is beautiful, and at the same time be unhealthy, so many medical superstitions, even remedies for the stomach-ache, have to do with keeping the body in condition and the appearance in order. Whether such was the case or not many of the pictures of early days show men with rounded stomachs and women with curved lines. The employment of gestures to create amusement at meal time, while it ranked as a superstition, is not necessarily so, for it should be remembered that when one keeps in a good humor, free from worry, and always happy, as a rule he does not have indigestion, and his body is fitted for life's activities.

The superstition of fashionable women bathing their faces in water and snow, to make themselves beautiful is nothing more than the use of soft water (with no impurities or chemicals), as a cleansing agent for the skin, for melted snow is the same as rain and before we had distilled water, now universally used in medical solutions, all formulae called for the use of rain water because of its softness. Some old formulas called for cistern water. Present day people do not know of cisterns, but the water in these receptacles was rain water filtered through mixtures of charcoal and sand, making it just about as pure as possible, even

though it does not always taste as well as some chalybeate drinking water.

Witch Balls may even be termed as beauty hints for they were made in the most attractive colors which could be worked out by the glass blowers. These were not only supposed to be capable of scaring away witches through their ability to dart beams of light as the sun hit them, but the hole was left in them and they were suspended in the window with this hole up, so that all the floating germs would collect inside and thus keep the family from having maladies prevalent in those neighborhoods.

No person who was concerned with her looks would want swollen parts where they could be seen and it is well known that onion poultices are much yet used for abscesses, sore throats and other ailments. From the days of the ancients down to now, woman has craved soft, smooth skin and man has gone to many ends to make that craving possible, so it is surprising that we have reached that stage in human development, if we are developing, where there should be such excessive desire to streamline personalities and leave nothing but skin, muscle and bones. Unless there is some meat and a little flesh under the skin it is going to be rather difficult from now on to get this "soft smooth skin" which has been the ambition of woman from the beginning. The cure of Insomnia, in order that the person would look fresh in the morning and not show the effects of the "night before," was done by the Romans with the use of Lettuce. Many writers have attributed this as a superstition whereas it is nothing more than actually a medicinal remedy. Lettuce is an excellent Sedative therefore its use is very beneficial. Likewise in the Middle Ages, as a superstition, they used Celery leaves as a remedy for the Gout. We now know that there are certain vitamins and other modern developed chemicals in Celery which entitle it to this old time credit, therefore the use of it need not be considered a superstition. Even historians in the olden days may be said to have been somewhat "off," and we have not yet learned how Pliny, the eminent Roman historian, got his information, but he recorded the fact that "Catarrh, a disease of the head, may be cured by kissing the nostrils of a Mule." The lady who records these notes reminds me that she would rather have the Catarrh. Still another Roman custom is recorded as a "charm." This was the practice of using



Five times by whitewashing One of the store for sport lights of 1941," p day and Saturday narrated by the highlights of the bama vs. Tennessee; Pittsburgh nessee vs. Boston

young girls to be aged in the hopes their life.

Hot Appli

One of the ear for swellings, for any kind of count the use of hot ap formerly had no r and we are told th have any for some so people used a brick which, wra plied to the affect the same purpose more than an ad the prehistoric us applications of hot tures of corn mea Maderia leaves, or old story of the S who when called sore of long stan red hot coal and all of the diseased announced that "cure a burn" has truth for we kno use of a caustic pe and other more r we are able to flesh and disease the body. "Cuppin vigorous treatm eighty or ninety much in use at ti process was by ap cup onto an affi where one suffer headache, and the part by the use o opening the bliste claimed that the would be relieve not be popular time any more th or forty years ag girls insisted on b above their knee above their elbo dresses have alw lar and street cl yet gotten very than the knee ca

Absorbent

Today there is known as a Mad stone said to have stomach of a

The Years

Hints

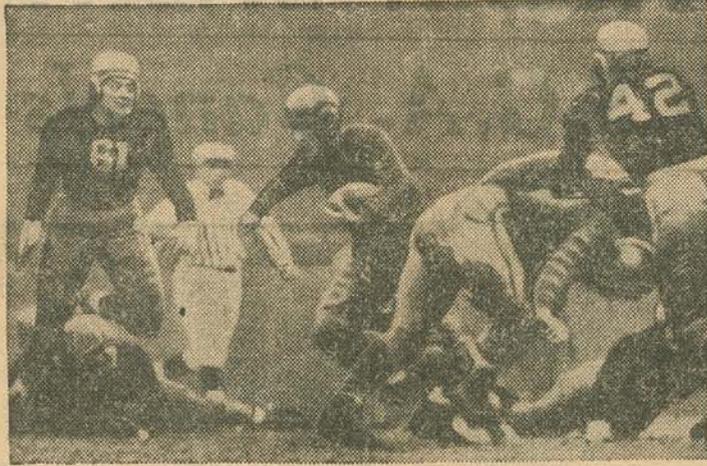
RANNON

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Paramount Games Of Year!



Five times whipped Pittsburgh startled the football world by whitewashing formidable, unbeaten Fordham by a 13-0 score. One of the greatest thrills in all time football history is in store for sport lovers in Paramount Picture's "Football Highlights of 1941," playing at the Paramount Theater Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. This thrilling short subject, narrated by the noted sports announcer, Bill Slater, gives all the highlights of the following games: Duke vs. Tennessee; Alabama vs. Tennessee; Alabama vs. Tulane; Minnesota vs. Michigan; Pittsburgh vs. Fordham; Notre Dame vs. Navy and Tennessee vs. Boston College.

young girls to breathe on the aged in the hopes of prolonging their life.

Hot Applications

One of the earliest remedies for swellings, for pains and as any kind of counter-irritant, was the use of hot applications. We formerly had no rubber bottles—and we are told that we may not have any for some time to come—so people used a hot rock, or a brick which, wrapped and applied to the affected part, served the same purpose. This was no more than an advanced step in the prehistoric use of poultices, applications of hot cloths, or mixtures of corn meal, peach leaves, Maderia leaves, or what not. The old story of the Southern Indian who when called in to cure a sore of long standing applied a red hot coal and burned away all of the diseased flesh and then announced that "anybody could cure a burn" has some base of truth for we know that by the use of a caustic pencil, the X-Ray and other more modern devices, we are able to treat cancerous flesh and diseased conditions of the body. "Cupping" was a rather vigorous treatment of some eighty or ninety years ago and much in use at that time. That process was by applying a heated cup onto an affected forehead where one suffered with the headache, and then blistering the part by the use of this cup. By opening the blister formed it was claimed that the pain or ailment would be relieved. This would not be popular at the present time any more than it was thirty or forty years ago when pretty girls insisted on being vaccinated above their knees rather than above their elbows. Decollette dresses have always been popular and street clothes have not yet gotten very much shorter than the knee cap.

Absorbent Stones

Today there is a popular item known as a Mad Stone, being a stone said to have come from the stomach of a mad Deer and

which is used by some intelligent people in the case of Rattlesnake bites. The ancients had a "bezoar" stone for use against all poisons, be they the Bee sting, a snake bite, or an infected wild animal bite. Undoubtedly the tradition of our Mad stone from the Deer's stomach, which is a local American tradition, derives its origin from that bezoar stone which came from the intestine of goats. These ancient ones were very valuable and were presented to the Royalty when they were found.

Negro folklore, popularly termed in the South at least, "negro superstitions," these same being very little other than handed-down traditions from old world white folks, are in a great measure continually practiced folk traditions which carry out many of the so-called aimed at determinations to improve habits, customs and usages to make associations with one another all the more pleasant and happy. Much has been written on traditions of the South, the negro of the South, the superstitions of the South, and we are a rather maligned section of the country because much of the world has been "pickin on us" for the last seventy years. During the last thirty years, I might say forty years, perhaps more has been written on this subject than any other phase of Southern life. There has been during most of the history of the world a tendency to alleviate maladies and cure conditions without the aid of professional people, therefore these traditional folk customs which everyone wants to call "superstitions," by far outweigh the use of scientific modes than should be the case. We are told to hold the face up in the rain for one trouble and put sand in the eyes of an Owl for another, and we are told what happens when flowers bloom out of season and we are told what will happen when we tie dimes around the ankle, and when we are bumpy faced that we can rub dish rags over these skin boils and cure them, and thousands and thousands of other things to do.

Hair

Hair which is that most beautiful of feminine attractions has played a part in the life of the world second to no part of the anatomy. Early all pictures of which you have ever seen

woven with the determination to get better and more successful conditions of health and the pursuit of happiness.

for the Gout. We now know that there are certain vitamins and other modern developed chemicals in Celery which entitle it to this old time credit, therefore the use of it need not be considered a superstition. Even historians in the olden days may be said to have been somewhat "off," and we have not yet learned how Pliny, the eminent Roman historian, got his information, but he recorded the fact that "Catarrh, a disease of the head, may be cured by kissing the nostrils of a Mule." The lady who records these notes reminds me that she would rather have the Catarrh. Still another Roman custom is recorded as a "charm." This was the practice of using

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Hair

Hair which is that most beautiful of feminine attractions has played a part in the life of the world second to no part of the anatomy. Early all pictures of Eve which you have ever seen showed her with long flowing tresses and we are reminded that hair combings must be never thrown away. Some who read these lines may remember when there were ornaments, pictures and framed shadow-box decorations made of our ancestor's discarded locks. All of these "sayings" form for us a voodoo, or they bring great wealth, prosperity and endless happiness. At the present time beauticians, a late day scientific name which Beauty Shop operators have adopted, are not following the old traditions though many of their customers do not want their hair cut, or dressed during the wane of the moon. It is a known fact that short hair, curled hair and beautifully dressed hair add to the appearance, that is this is the present day acceptance. We are told that if it is cut on the New Moon it will grow with the Moon and beautify itself as the Moon reaches its full.

One of the oldest of the traditions is that if gray hair appears at an early age, this is indicative of future riches, but modern women, and some men, do not seem to accept this for the hair dressers and the barbers make a good livelihood in changing the color. During my lifetime I have seen blondes changed into red heads and dark brown haired ones, and vice versa, according to the inclinations of the wearer. Hair dye is one of the oldest of remedies.

Taboo superstitions outweigh those things which are permitted. Happiness is necessarily always sought for. You do not have to be old fashioned to believe that spirited people, those who are jolly, full of life and optimistic of the future, are those who make the best appearances in their social contacts. The mirror has served more toward the undoing of ambitions than perhaps any other domestic implement if it may be called such. Looking glasses, though they have not always been made of glass, all of them down to about four hundred years ago being of bronze, or copper, made possible the improvement of personal appearance in no small way and the breaking of one apparently has been from time immemorial a calamitous occurrence.

The adornment of women with skirts began early in the history of the world and the "swish" of skirts plays a great part in feminine superstition through the years of the world's history.

I heard only recently that if a man passed over the threshold first on New Year's Day it was a good omen for the marriageable girls in the house. An English tradition is that if a dark man is the first to visit on New Year's Day it is much to be preferred. Always and ever, a good looking woman should not be the first to pass through the door as a visitor.

One might go on and on and on with local superstitions all of which are dovetailed and inter-

Selling And Cotton Closes Irregularly



Through The Years

Russell And The War

By PETER A. BRANNON

IT IS NOT my purpose to make any unjustified claims, or stir up any animosity on the part of any other local community, but rather than that to give credit where it is due, to call attention to just one of those local spots in Alabama which has furnished rather distinguished men who have participated in the military life of the State. I recently attended a conference of learned gentlemen and the subject of one of the papers to which I listened was a severe criticism of a historian who devoted most of his book to military characters and did not say enough about industry and business in that State. The purpose of this story is to devote all of my concern to the military activities of these men and give no concern whatever to the economic, social, or political contributions which they have made, for very few of these men of which I intend to write have done anything but contribute to the military history of the nation. Robert Lee Bullard, lieutenant general, U. S. A., John B. McDonald, major general, U. S. A., Holland M. Smith, major general, U. S. A., Americus Mitchell, colonel, U. S. A., William A. Mitchell, colonel, U. S. A., and many of the others who will figure in this story, were some of them born in Russell County, a political subdivision of the State bordering the Chattahoochee River and named for Gilbert Christian Russell, a Virginian, sometime commander of the 3rd Infantry Regiment, U. S. A.

It so happens that Russell County itself somewhat perpetuates the military life of the State for the first county seat was "Crawford," named for an officer in Gen. Floyd's army in the conflicts with the Indians in 1813-14, and the second county seat was "Seale," named for Capt. Arnold Seale who served with Floyd's Georgia troops, and later served as the engineer who built the Mobile and Girard Railroad. In the history of the county, Fort Mitchell, Fort Bainbridge and Sand Fort were stockaded earth works, defense posts and rendezvous points. That section of the State was visited by Spanish military men long prior to 1700. In 1739 Gov. James Oglethorpe came with a military retinue, and Georgia as a colony of Great Britain vied with the Spanish West Florida settlements until near 1800 for control of the Chattahoochee Valley. Most of the stirring activities of these contacts took place at the head-town

the Frenchman, have been others of more or less degrees of military prominence to trod these historic sands.

James Cantey, captain in the Palmetto Regiment from South Carolina, who served in the War with Mexico, came immediately after the cessation of hostilities to live the rest of his days in Russell County. He went into the Confederate Army as colonel of the 15th Alabama Infantry. With him was Col. Lowther and other equally as illustrious names in the Confederate annals of Russell's history.

The present day reader will perhaps be more able to vision those of a later period connected with the county's story.

Robert Lee Bullard

Robert Lee Bullard was born at Youngsborough January 15, 1861. That locality was in Russell County, for as said above, Russell included all of what is now Lee as well as a little more territory, and General Bullard, came on the scene some six or seven years before Lee County was created. True it is that he was a student at the Agricultural and Mechanical College (Auburn), in 1880-81, and entered the U. S. Military Academy by competitive examination in 1881, to graduate in 1885, twenty-seven in a class of thirty-nine. General Bullard has had somewhat of a worldwide service record. Beginning his Army life in the Geronimo Campaign of 1885-86, he had ten years of stirring Southwest service record, and went into the Spanish-American War as Major, subsequently Colonel of the 3rd Alabama Volunteers, a negro outfit. This regiment served in Cuba. President McKinley appointed him Colonel of the 39th U. S. Volunteer Infantry and this Command had service in the Philippines. He was subsequently a Major in the U. S. Army Subsistence Department, served in Mindanao, (where the fighting is thickest now), and his outfit cut the Military road through that region. He was the first Civil Governor among the Moros. He subsequently served in Cuba, both in Military positions and on detail with the Civil Government, being Secretary of Public Instruction for two years. He served in Mexico and in 1911 was an instructor of the Fort Leavenworth School of the Line of which he is a graduate. He has attended other Army schools, commanded outfits, was with the American Expeditionary Force in France, commanded various officers' training schools and has seen much other service. The General has written among other things on Psychology of Military Leadership.

He was Assistant Indian Agent among the Apaches in Arizona, 1885 to 1887. He served as second Lieutenant of Infantry and subsequently transferred to the Cavalry. McDonald served as Lieutenant-Colonel of the First Alabama Volunteer Infantry from 14th of May, 1898, to the 14th of November, 1898. This was a Spanish-American War Volunteer outfit.

I have a pleasant personal memory of John McDonald who was a particular favorite of my grandfather John and my mother and we were childhood good friends. One of my earliest recollections is Lieutenant McDonald's blue uniform which he wore on a visit to Seale during my childhood days. A clipping before me shows that Captain McDonald who distinguished himself and was commended for bravery in the Philippine Insurrection in 1901, was born in Chambers County. Sergeant Jackael copyrights a story in which he says in that the General who has received several distinguished Military honors, was appointed from Athens, Alabama. Even so, I know he went to school at Seale and he says in his own biographical references that his father, an Attorney, once lived at Seale as well as Dadeville and Tuskegee, and I know that he is the brother of Mrs. Ben Russell at Alexander City. His Military record is quite well enough established to give all of these localities an interest in him.

General Smith

Holland McTyeire Smith was born at Seale and went a few months before he entered the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, in 1898, to reside in Opelika. Of course Lee County will thereby claim him and dispute the claim of Russell, but I happen to know that the family was living in Montgomery at the time Mr. Smith was appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt, as an officer in the U. S. Army. Much of General Smith's military service has been in the Marine Corps. Young Smith and myself grew up as boyhood friends and I am happy to say we enjoy that warm and cordial relationship today. He received his training in the Seale High School under B. J. Conyers, W. E. Dawson, Walter Priest, Marion Letcher, and a few others. I am told that his men with whom he has always served, as well as they serving with him, consider him as a "hell moving" officer as well as being General "Holland M." While he has not lived in Russell County, nor had any family connection with it since 1898, I think I can very truthfully say that he has a warm spot for that section of the State. Most of the

were the sons of Captain James B. Mitchell of the Confederate Army whose family was our neighbor in the little village in Russell County. The younger sister, Mary, was my childhood sweetheart and of that family I have most cordial recollections. Colonel Americus Mitchell died several months ago and Colonel William who had been retired with the rank of Brigadier General, was at the time of his recent visit to my office on his way to Florence in some connection with the settlement of his brother's estate. He left my desk in the Department of Archives and History building one day at noon and died the next day in Florence.

Colonel William had served for years on the Staff of the Military Academy at West Point and having been one of the very few men from the South to graduate at the head of his class, enjoyed an unique prestige there. He was in the Engineer Corps of the Army and had served in the Field at various and sundry times.

I clipped from The New York Sun two or three days ago a very interesting account of the death of Colonel Harold Chamberlayne Fiske, who died at his home on Long Island, January 8th. Colonel Fiske was a New Yorker, born sixty-one years ago. He graduated the third man in the class of 1903 when General Douglas MacArthur, now trying to hold the Philippines, graduated at the head of his class. Colonel Fiske you might say had no direct connection with Russell County, but even so he married Mary Mitchell, sister of Colonel William and Colonel Americus, and their marriage was the first formal ceremony in the new Chapel at the U. S. Military Academy on the Hudson. Mary and Miss Fannie the older sister of the family, have been in the years gone by, at times, and on several occasions residents of Montgomery. They often lived in the home here of Colonel Mike Woods. There was some relation by consanguinity to the Lomaxs. Mary was born at Seale. She survives Colonel Fiske.

Other Associations

I might write into this many other connections with this local subdivision of the State where names prominent in the Military life of the people are equally as brilliant. In addition to those above mentioned there are others for that locality. The Mexican War furnished some interesting names from that section, the War Between the States furnished a brilliant array of characters from Russell. Marion Letcher sometime Consul at Chihuahau, Mexico, sometimes Diplomatic Representative in the extreme Northern Europe countries, and now retired from the U. S. service, took some twenty-five or thirty men from the town of Seale alone, into the Spanish-American War. I do not recall the exact number, but one of these Frank Howard Perry who had a Staff connection with the 5th Immune Regiment, is at the present time a U. S. Internal Revenue Attache and resident of Montgomery. No doubt there are several others of Lieutenant Letcher's Command yet alive, though I know that several of them have passed on.

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Russell County as created in 1832 out of the Creek Indian land session included the territory from about the present Bartlett's Ferry Dam of the Georgia Power Company, south along the river to the present Glennville (to include the mouth of the Hatchachubbee Creek at the river), and west to a line running north and south some 30 miles west of the falls of the Chattahoochee. Within this territory lived the largest number of the Lower Creek Indians and this country was settled after the land session of 1832 by Virginians, Carolinians, and Georgians. Fort Mitchell was established in 1813, and a garrison was maintained there until 1873. The place enjoyed and still holds an individuality of considerable importance. The U. S. Indian factory, that is the trading store for the benefit of the Creeks, was moved from Coleraine in Southwest Georgia, to this point on the old Federal road in 1816 and maintained for about two years when the contract for the trade with the Indians was leased to Thomas Crowell. A short time later his brother, John, was elected territorial delegate and was later first congressman from the State of Alabama.

Fort Mitchell was founded by John Floyd, commander-in-chief of the Georgia troops in the War with the Indians. He was the first of the military celebrities who had any considerable contact there. Gen. Thomas S. Jessup, quartermaster general of the army, sometime commander of the Southern division of the army; Winfield Scott, long in command of the U. S. Army; Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaines who had some several years prior to that time presumed to arrest Aaron Burr, and the old revolutionary patriot Gen. Lafayette,

service record. Beginning his Army life in the Geronimo Campaign of 1885-86, he had ten years of stirring Southwest service record, and went into the Spanish-American War as Major, subsequently Colonel of the 3rd Alabama Volunteers, a negro outfit. This regiment served in Cuba. President McKinley appointed him Colonel of the 39th U. S. Volunteer Infantry and this Command had service in the Philippines. He was subsequently a Major in the U. S. Army Subsistence Department, served in Mindanao, (where the fighting is thickest now), and his outfit cut the Military road through that region. He was the first Civil Governor among the Moros. He subsequently served in Cuba, both in Military positions and on detail with the Civil Government, being Secretary of Public Instruction for two years. He served in Mexico and in 1911 was an instructor of the Fort Leavenworth School of the Line of which he is a graduate. He has attended other Army schools, commanded outfits, was with the American Expeditionary Force in France, commanded various officers' training schools and has seen much other service. The General has written among other things on Psychology of Military Leadership. Lee County claims him as one of her distinguished citizens. Oak Bowery, a little village out from Opelika, is particularly enthusiastic about him and the Bullard home still stands in that long since distintegrated village. Robert L.'s father, Daniel Bullard, came to Russell County shortly after that section of the State was pre-empted of the Indians. Daniel's uncle John, came to Montgomery County, in the Mississippi Territory, in 1816. John's tombstone stands a few feet from the highway, thirteen miles north of Montgomery, on the road to Wetumpka. Among other things it says that he "came to this country in 1816 and lived here and died among his friends."

John B. McDonald

Although biographical memoranda referable to John B. McDonald show that he was born in some three or four different counties in the State and Tallapoosa County vigorously claims him, he says himself he was born February 8, 1859, near Athens in Limestone County and his father's middle name was Bibb, so there must be some sentimental relation between the second Governor of the State, Thomas Bibb, whose plantation was near Mooresville, and the plantation of Doctor Jonathan McDonalds, John Bacon's grandfather, which was six miles south of Athens. Russell County claims John McDonald because he lived near Seale and went to school to John M. Brannon, my grandfather, and there is a tradition in that county that young John was appointed to the U. S. Military Academy in 1876 from the Congressional district. Certain it is that Mr. Joseph B. McDonald was living at Seale at the time. Old Professor Jerry Slade of Columbus, Georgia, prepared John (tutored him), to enter the Military Academy where he went on April 15th of that year. He graduated at the Academy in 1881 and has seen over a period of years, many interesting Military associations.

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Colonel William A. Mitchell

I had the very pleasing experience a few months since of a most happy visit of an hour at my desk with Colonel "Will" Mitchell. Passing through Montgomery he had to make a few minutes business contact with the Veteran's Administration here and called to see me awaiting this engagement. I had not seen him for several years and we renewed the old days with most pleasing experiences. Will Mitchell was appointed to the Military Academy a few weeks after the family moved from Seale to Columbus and while he was a student at the A. and M. College at Auburn. His older brother, Colonel Americus Mitchell, had a few years prior to that time been appointed to the Military Academy from the Alabama Congressional District on the West side of the river. Both of these men had interesting Military service careers. They

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Other Associations

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My interest in the locality is largely a sentimental one and this would in itself prejudice me. As I grew to manhood I was brought up with Colonels and Captains, though I never saw any Corporals or Privates. I did, however, acquire the universal habit of addressing all Confederate veterans with the title of "colonel and General." I knew in childhood Captain Jim Mitchell and Captain Perry, of Glennville, and Captain Sankey had commanded a Company and Colonel Scott and many others had served in the army. I never called Lieutenant James H. Bickerstaff "Lieutenant." He was just "Mr." Colonel Lyman W. Martin was addressed as such, and Colonel John B. Brannon was addressed as such, and Captain Richard Bellamy was addressed as such, and my grandfather, Captain Peter Greene, (who was not a Russell County citizen at the time of the War, but was in a Georgia outfit), had all seen Military service. All in all, I had a rather intimate contact and association with many Military men, but strange to say I do not think I ever had any desire to be an Army officer.



Through The Years

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Don't Worry

By PETER A. BRANNON

IT WAS EVER thus, providing you go back into the records and note the evidences of excitement which military disturbances prompted through all the ages of history. People have gotten excited, and propaganda of one sort or the other has been used, but through the times gone we have called this attempt at the stimulation of sufficient enthusiasm to awake the ordinary citizen from his lethargy by different names. At the present time I myself feel that we are getting started rather slowly in our efforts to awake the American public to a sufficient realization of the seriousness of our present condition of unpreparedness. It occurs to me that back in 1916-17 we made a little more haste in getting ready than we are now, certainly more than we should make now, considering that we are some 25 or 30 years better prepared to get started.

Spanish-American Days

While I was not much more than a youth at the beginning of the Spanish-American War I do recall that there was considerable nervous tension when it was reported in the newspapers that Dewey had entered Manila Bay, a follow-up to the sinking of the battleship Maine in Havana Harbor. Then we did not know that Dewey had destroyed the Spanish fleet until nearly a day after it happened, whereby through radio now, we know that a thing has happened on the other side of the world before those people on that other side of the world over there hear of the incident. Sound waves travel thousands of times faster than sound itself.

Newspaper scare head type lines have been, at least since 1860, one spectacular way of enthusing the interest of the public. That "Extra" of The Charleston Courier of 1861 which announced that the "Union is Dissolved," is one of the rare collector's items of Confederate interest. This along with other such material is among the rare Confederate things in the State Historical Museum. Most Southerners know of the Vicksburg Daily Citizen which was issued on wall paper by Union soldiers when they went in on the 4th of July, 1863. The notice which appeared on the Thursday, July 2, issue is:

"Two days bring about great changes. The banner of the Union floats over Vicksburg. Gen. Grant has 'caught the rabbit,' he has dined in Vicksburg, and he did bring his dinner with him. The 'Citizen' lives to see it. For the last time it appears on 'wall paper.' No more will it eulogize the luxury of mule meat

when he said, at the Battle of Buena Vista, "give them a little more grape Capt. Bragg," as well as using other militant incidents to stir the fire and enthusiasm of Americans. Even in 1898 dishes and platters and bric-a-brac were made in imitation of the Maine, and canteens, cannon, bottles, etc., were likewise cast.

Wartime Psychology

Dr. Irving J. Lee of Northwestern University has just written: "Many civilians dissipate their energies worrying about conditions they cannot control and thus lose their effectiveness for necessary duties." Among the suggestions he offered were these:

Center your attention on the task at hand, seek new ways of helping. Do something however small.

Don't expect too much. Prepare for bad news.

Question all rumors and don't let them affect you emotionally.

An editorial writer in the Glens Falls, N. Y., Times says:

"Complaints of 'cases of nerves,' as a result of worrying about the war in which progress is not in accordance with the desire of the individuals, are common these days and it might be timely to advise these people that worry never prevented misadventure while it frequently spells disaster for those who permit their minds to dwell too long on affairs which thinking cannot change. No mental process of ours can alter the tide of events in Europe, and brooding over a triumph for autocracy will neither bring comfort to the vanquished nor build our own defenses.

"As to the effect upon the individual, one has only to visit one of the government hospitals for the treatment of veterans afflicted with mental disorders to obtain proof. Hundreds of men who were never engaged in battle, some of whom never left the shores of the United States, are there and many of them can never hope for a degree of recovery which will permit them to live normal lives. Speaking before a Seventh District American Legion conference at the Batavia Facility of the Veteran's Administration last Summer, the superintendent, a world authority on mental disorders, declared that all of the cases were due to the last war and said that they should be classed as service-connected, just as if the men had been shot down in battle." He pointed out that the ratio of mental cases to the number of men in service is several times that of persons in civilian life and declared that it can be attributed to no other cause than the effect of the war upon the men who were most concerned

that certainly will help prevent us worrying and anticipating what next calamity may befall us. I notice that some institutions have, on account of the present emergency, determined to keep open at night to give the worried public, who have to work in the daytime, an opportunity to have somewhere to go. Of course this decision is perhaps contrary to the theory of daylight savings, but not one-third of the American public is in favor of daylight savings, anyhow, so why worry about that. It has come to the attention of many thinkers that the great public should not, for the morale of all the people, give up every pleasure, relaxation, and all the fun of living, and neither should they quit spending anything but enough to keep alive, for the normal businesses must go along. Of course we must pay higher taxes. The more income we make the more we can give the government anyhow. I am not in favor of going around in sack cloth and ashes. Buy enough clothes to look decent, eat enough to nourish your body, go to the picture shows, don't store your auto, the clothing merchant, the groceryman, the theater man, the garage man, the auto dealer, all, are citizens and tax payers just like you and they need your support and generally merit it. Keep your face to the front, and help carry on. We will win in the long run.

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Newspaper scare head type lines have been, at least since 1860, one spectacular way of en- thusing the interest of the public. That "Extra" of The Charleston Courier of 1861 which announced that the "Union is Dissolved," is one of the rare collector's items of Confederate interest. This along with other such material is among the rare Confederate things in the State Historical Museum. Most Southerners know of the Vicksburg Daily Citizen which was issued on wall paper by Union soldiers when they went in on the 4th of July, 1863. The notice which appeared on the Thursday, July 2, issue is:

"Two days bring about great changes. The banner of the Union floats over Vicksburg. Gen. Grant has 'caught the rabbit,' he has dined in Vicksburg, and he did bring his dinner with him. The 'Citizen' lives to see it. For the last time it appears on 'wall paper.' No more will it eulogize the luxury of mule meat and fricassed kitten—urge Southern warriors to such diet nevermore. This is the last wall-paper edition, and is, excepting this note, from the types as we found them. It will be valuable hereafter as a curiosity."

There are perhaps a few originals of these. Like The Ulster County Gazette of January, 1800, which announced the death of George Washington, there are so many reprints, copies and fakes that nobody except an expert would ever recognize one. In Confederate days, Memphis papers were issued in Meridian and Selma and one edition of that Memphis paper was even issued at Montgomery, and one at Atlanta. All this to show that while there were no blackouts in those days, when the town fell into the hands of the enemy some of the institutions of that town moved on to function at another place.

Profiteers

Even as far back as the Mexican War days incidents of a patriotic, military or like nature so impressed the public that business men profited by these experiences. There have been war profiteers from the beginning for we have been told in recent years of the contractors who furnished material and supplies for the colonies in Revolutionary Days, 1775 to 1783, and were later accused of excessive profit in the doing of it. Either about the time (of Mexican War days), certainly immediately after the time, illustrators issued Chromos, lithographed pictures of characters and incidents and distributed them to their business advantages. Glass houses produced flasks carrying the portraits of Washington and Taylor and quoting Gen. Taylor's order to Bragg

tionally.

An editorial writer in the Glens Falls, N. Y., Times says:

"Complaints of 'cases of nerves,' as a result of worrying about the war in which progress is not in accordance with the desire of the individuals, are common these days and it might be timely to advise these people that worry never prevented misadventure while it frequently spells disaster for those who permit their minds to dwell too long on affairs which thinking cannot change. No mental process of ours can alter the tide of events in Europe, and brooding over a triumph for autocracy will neither bring comfort to the vanquished nor build our own defenses.

"As to the effect upon the individual, one has only to visit one of the government hospitals for the treatment of veterans afflicted with mental disorders to obtain proof. Hundreds of men who were never engaged in battle, some of whom never left the shores of the United States, are there and many of them can never hope for a degree of recovery which will permit them to live normal lives. Speaking before a Seventh District American Legion conference at the Batavia Facility of the Veteran's Administration last Summer, the superintendent, a world authority on mental disorders, declared that all of the cases were due to the last war and said that they should be classed as service-connected, just as if the men had been shot down in battle." He pointed out that the ratio of mental cases to the number of men in service is several times that of persons in civilian life and declared that it can be attributed to no other cause than the effect of the war upon the men who were most concerned with its outcome.

"Keep abreast of the times, know what is going on in Europe—and in America—but don't keep your ears glued to a radio receiver for a rehash of unfavorable news or expecting each time to learn the worst. Get a hobby and ride it hard. That may be just the tonic you need to avoid a case of jitters.

"But above all, don't worry about affairs over which you have no control."

Propaganda

Many of us who can remember as far back as 1917, will recall that at the beginning of our first European war experiences everybody wore buttons and we had a drive every week, and while we a little later on had a draft, they were recruiting volunteers in the beginning, and everybody got excited, and there were rumors and a great many more dire calamities "happened" than materialized, so the advice, to keep your head and not get excited is perhaps quite good. In the South during the war of 1861-65, they were issuing warnings to the coast towns inhabitants to leave the city and get out of the anticipated bombardment. Today we are preparing shelters and sending the children to the country and getting out of the localities most likely to have the first raids, but with it all, it is perhaps just as well to carry on in our normal way (as well as we are able to), to set a good example to those who will be most excited. Before me is a reference to the meeting of the board of trustees of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, which indicates that such great institutions as that will function in their normal way, at least until they are blasted off the face of the earth. It is perhaps quite advisable to not forget that if you have a hobby you should not put all of those things which please and interest you and your friends away in iron boxes and bury them "for the duration," for if we can have a hobby and enjoy the relaxation and pastime,

must pay higher taxes. The more income we make the more we can give the government anyhow. I am not in favor of going around in sack cloth and ashes. Buy enough clothes to look decent, eat enough to nourish your body, go to the picture shows, don't store your auto, the clothing merchant, the groceryman, the theater man, the garage man, the auto dealer, all, are citizens and tax payers just like you and they need your support and generally merit it. Keep your face to the front, and help carry on. We will win in the long run.

on Prices Tumbling Down



Through The Years

Save Your Money

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE CURRENT DRIVE to drive everybody to buy bonds, and buy more bonds, and buy bonds again, is merely a repetition of what we have had in this country on many former occasions. With the exception of those who bought Confederate States bonds nobody ever lost anything through the transaction, so it is just as well that we get busy and begin and continue to buy until we see the end.

Confederate Bonds

While Confederate States of America bonds which were payable, after a certain number of years subsequent to the Treaty of Peace between the United States and the Confederate States of America, were never redeemed, even they are interesting manuscripts and through the story of an episode in American history, well worth remembering. Confederate bonds, and Confederate treasury notes as well, are mementoes of a stirring occasion in the history of America which affected international relations of which we should know. There were four treasury notes issued here at Montgomery in May, 1861. The fifty-dollar note bears date of May 14, the one hundred-dollar and the five-hundred-dollar ones bear date of May 16, and the one thousand-dollar note bears date of June 24. They were signed by Alex B. Clitherall, register of the treasury, and E. C. Elmore, treasurer of the Confederate States. The fifty dollars bear interest at a half a cent a day from day of issue, the one hundred-dollar bears interest at one cent per day, the five hundred bears interest at five cents per day. State of Alabama "shin plasters," fractional currency, that is small denominations, receivable in payment of all public dues, were intended to pay "face" to the bearer, in Confederate State treasury notes when presented at the Alabama State treasury in sums of twenty dollars and upwards. That is you could not take ten dollars

tions of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000. The old Saving Bonds, the present Defense Saving Bonds Series "E", are issued at a price which when the interest is added will mature in 10 years to the maturity value. That is a \$25 bond may be had for \$18.75 and a \$1,000 bond may be had for \$750. Many corporations and institutions as well as the American State governments have pay-roll allotment plans and you may buy on the installment program. Those good Americans who can do so and who are able to allow a small amount of cash, regularly deducted, by this form of saving are at the same time participating in a great opportunity, and investing in America. Buying bonds in this way is actually loaning money to your country. You get it back with interest and the output is always transferable, or usable, as an obligation.

The Wrong Bucket

We Americans are not the only ones who are spending our money in that way. A clipping at hand tells of a British farmer and his wife who wanted to invest their savings, in this manner:

"Saving certificates and war bonds are the sources from which Old Lady Britain is getting a lot of what it takes to carry on the schmozzle. The other day a farmer who had no use for banks heard about such things as saving certificates and bonds. He then asked a banker about them—knowing no other way of getting the dope—and eventually decided to buy 10,000 pounds worth (about \$40,000 nowadays). The following day the farmer and his wife called at the bank to pay for the bonds. Walking into the manager's office the man put a large bucket filled with paper bills and large silver coins on the desk. The manager smiled to himself and started to count it. After a while, he looked up at the farmer and said, "There isn't ten thousand pounds here: there's

sylvania, Buffalo, New York, and in one or two other places in New England, turned out these mechanical devices. They were actually toys with a practical purpose and quite many of them have lasted until today. We probably never had as many in the South as there were in the Middle West and the East, for I do not see but a few. The Monkey and the Organ Grinder, Punch and Judy, Little Red Riding Hood, Uncle Sam, Jonah and the Whale, the Hunter and the Bear, are some, but you may find girls who skipped ropes, baseball players who bat the coin into the box, soldiers, and many others and they are quite much sought at the present time.

As cheaper ones they were made of pottery, china, wood and other metals than iron and are what is known as "still banks," that is those which had just a slot in them and were not worked mechanically. After 1900 many of the Saving Banks gave away souvenirs of these Still Banks, though never a mechanical device of the kind much in vogue in the last quarter of the 1800's.

The Tammany Bank was an excellent likeness of William Marcy Tweed, New York's most notorious political spoilsman, who sits in an easy chair. The design was suggested from the fact that before he got into politics he ran a chair shop. Obviously the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876 gave the opportunity for not only Mechanical, but Still Banks and we date all of them in 1875-76. The Freedman's Bank, was a product of Reconstruction Days when the North was doing much to "aid" the "poor" recently freed slaves in the South. It was made in Bridgeport, Connecticut by Jerome B. Secor. The manufacture of it was a failure. It was made of wood and controlled by clock work. It was not very practical and the maker tried to

history, well worth remembering. Confederate bonds, and Confederate treasury notes as well, are mementoes of a stirring occasion in the history of America which affected international relations of which we should know. There were four treasury notes issued here at Montgomery in May, 1861. The fifty-dollar note bears date of May 14, the one hundred-dollar and the five-hundred-dollar ones bear date of May 16, and the one thousand-dollar note bears date of June 24. They were signed by Alex. B. Clitherall, register of the treasury, and E. C. Elmore, treasurer of the Confederate States. The fifty dollars bear interest at a half a cent a day from day of issue, the one hundred-dollar bears interest at one cent per day, the five hundred bears interest at five cents per day. State of Alabama "shin plasters," fractional currency, that is small denominations, receivable in payment of all public dues, were intended to pay "face" to the bearer, in Confederate State treasury notes when presented at the Alabama State treasury in sums of twenty dollars and upwards. That is you could not take ten dollars worth of five-cent ones to the treasury and cash them for Confederate money. Confederate treasury notes, issued by authority of Congress, were redeemable "six months after the ratification of the Treaty of Peace."

There was only one Confederate coin, a half-a-dollar struck at New Orleans in 1861, when the Confederate government used some bullion captured there when the United States mint fell into the hands of the Confederacy. The obverse of the coin is a shield showing seven stars in two lines and seven bars in horizontal position. The wreath on which it rests is made up of a branch of cotton and one of wheat. Surmounting this is "Confederate States of America."

Confederate States loans pattern after other government loans, and whether they have any value or not are interesting bits of paper and rare illustrations of engravers and lithographers art. An eight per cent "bond," as they are generally called, for five hundred dollars is before me, signed by Robert Tyler, register of the treasury. It was issued on the 2nd day of March, 1863, was a five-year bond due to mature on July 1, 1868. The coupon paid "to the bearer" was for twenty dollars. These six months interest coupons were numbered and each signed "for the register of the treasury."

Depository office receipts, certificates issued to purchasers of registered bonds, are in themselves unique pieces of paper. They bear four per cent interest on the amount entered on the blank as paid in money anticipating the new issue of notes and bonds. Three of these four per cent certificates in hand were issued to Thomas H. Herndon, of Greene County, and the depository agent certified to them before W. P. Webb, a notary public in Greene County, even though one of them was sold in Mobile, two in Demopolis. Neither of the three originating in the county of the notary public.

Current Bonds

Back in 1917-18, we bought Liberty Bonds, a little later we bought Thrift Stamps, then we bought Saving Bonds and now we are privileged to buy U. S. Defense Bonds. These are truly obligations of the government. U. S. Saving Bonds went on sale March 1, 1935, and more than two and one-half million Americans have bought about four billion dollars worth of these whose maturity value exceeds five and one-quarter billion dollars. Unlike the old time bonds, (but even the Confederate government issued 50 dollar bonds), these are for sale in denomina-

tion and the output is always transferable, or usable, as an obligation.

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Coins of the Realm

Bond collecting is a little more expensive than coin collecting, but bonds are paying interest at least until maturity, and they are always cashable. The hobby of collecting coins is of great antiquity for numismatists have been the bankers of the world over a long period. No one can be a genuine student of coins without a knowledge of the history of the past and few can enjoy buying bonds unless you have some faith in the issuer of that bond and believe that you will get the return on your investment.

The first U. S. "Green Backs" were for one and two dollars each and were issued in 1862. These were undoubtedly the result of War raging at that time. Gold and Silver coins disappeared from circulation about 1863.

About 1865 an epidemic of Thrift swept over this country and metal Mechanical Banks began to be widely manufactured. One commentator has said that they were made to encourage the children to save by making it fun for them to put a coin in the bank, when the bank would do a trick for them and it would be far more interesting to watch this than it would be to spend the coin for candy. The J. and E. Stephens Company at Cromwell, Connecticut, the Enterprise Manufacturing Company at Philadelphia, the Kenton Hardware Company, of Kenton, Ohio, and manufacturers at Bethlehem, Penn-

sylvania, and other metals than iron and are what is known as "still banks," that is those which had just a slot in them and were not worked mechanically. After 1900 many of the Saving Banks gave away souvenirs of these Still Banks, though never a mechanical device of the kind much in vogue in the last quarter of the 1800's.

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Even Mechanical banks are old (as is the hobby of coin collecting), for during the Han Dynasty in China, 206 B. C. to 220 A. D., there was perfected a Pottery Alms box. This was a contrivance wherein a little bear bowed when a coin was deposited. One of these may be seen in the Metropolitan Museum in New York and the mechanism still works. Truly this is an inspiration to do something well when it is done.

Moral.

Save your money, buy Bonds—or something else that will last and be good for tomorrow.



Through The Years

The Romance Of Being Educated

By PETER A. BRANNON

BACK in the Fifties, that means some ninety years ago, the girls over at Marion who were attending Judson at that time were not allowed to go to town (town is only one block from the business section and two squares from the College gate), and with their fifty cents a month which they were allowed as pocket money, they must make all purchases after the approval of the Governess. It is not written whether they drank it up from Pop bottles, or ate it up of candy bars. They were not allowed to wear ear rings, bracelets, or gold watches. No lady was permitted to have money in her own hands. Allowances from home were deposited with the Steward. All of her dresses were to be perfectly plain, without insertion, and there were to be no edgings. She was required to have at least one pair of "India Rubbers." That means Overshoes. If she had been indulged at home and had slept during her young life on a feather bed and gotten into the habit of it, then when she got to school they would furnish her with a feather bed, but there was an additional charge for this service. Their bonnets in the wintertime, was a plain straw trimmed with green, in the summertime it was made of the same material, but it was trimmed with pink. They wore blue checked aprons, or she could wear white muslin ones. Each girl was required to have two dark dresses, four pink ones and four white ones. The Steward's Department (at Marion, in 1854), was under William Hornbuckle, Esq., and Lady. The girls who boarded in that home enjoyed the care, kindness, conveniences and comforts of a plentiful, peaceful and pleasant home. The governess at the College "formed" the manners and habits of the girls.

The University of Alabama

Now, look over to Tuscaloosa and note what Alabama boys enjoyed at that time. An economical student must procure from the Quartermaster:

Mattress for single bed ..	\$ 4.00
1 pair heavy blankets	7.50
1 comfort	2.50
2 pairs of sheets	2.50
3 pillow cases50
1 pillow	2.00
1 military overcoat	20.00
1 military dress cap	4.00
1 roll webbing (white) ..	1.50

come adequate with its ambitions. They had a two hundred dollar a year appropriation for the Library and a two hundred dollar a year appropriation for the Laboratory, and they were allowed one hundred and fifty dollars a year for printing. The Secretary of the College was paid four dollars and fifty cents a month. The Librarian however did get twenty-five dollars a month. That official had seven thousand volumes to take care of. At the University were three servants to "wait on" the faculty and the boys. These were not slaves. The hire, board and clothing of these three men cost the State seven hundred dollars. Just why those boys should be charged Five dollars for "music" is not stated. The University was a Military school in 1861, so perhaps it was to provide a band. May be that accounts for them needing six pairs of shoes in nine months.

"Private" Schools

Of course there were other institutions of learning during these Fifties and in North Alabama we find the Mountain Home Institute whose curriculum is interesting from the modern day viewpoint:

1st Class—Written arithmetic, English grammar, history of U. S., natural philosophy, ancient geography composition.

2nd Class—Geometry, botany, ancient history, chemistry, astronomy, rhetoric and composition.

3rd Class—Uranography, mental philosophy, political economy, geology, moral science, Roman antiquities and ancient mythology, European history and composition.

4th Class—Elements of criticism, natural theology, American manual, ecclesiastical history, evidences of Christianity, history of civilization, review of the whole course.

Miss Minnie Clare Boyd who made a study of social life in the Fifties and wrote very interestingly on the subject several years ago, says that the Institute had three teachers for its Senior Class. Two of them, in addition to other subjects, taught painting, drawing and music. I am totally unqualified to interpret for the present day reader how well a hundred year ago Freshman student in an institute could interpret Natural Philosophy and I further would not attempt to say how much the Junior student (in

er Mathematics, one or two Sciences and Language if you paid fifty dollars for that course. Board, including lodging and washing, was ten dollars a month, but you must furnish your own lights. Down at Cahaba where they "put on some airs" themselves, the editor of the Dallas Gazette, in 1859 said: "Some parents think their daughters can never learn at home, but must be sent to some school with a big name where they learn but little save to dress fine, dip snuff and think of sweethearts. A finely educated and literary woman is apt to become a 'blue stocking,' and consequently scarcely fit to be a wife."

My grandmother attended the Glennville Collegiate Institute, a little College in the extreme Southern section of the present Russell County, and she took her maid with her. This little negro who was younger than she, slept in her room at the foot of her bed subject to her every call. Knowing my grandmother as I did, I am satisfied that she was rather often called.

Obviously in the days of the Fifties there was little co-education certainly after the Elementary period, so you may interpret for your own self whether "acquiring culture" at that time was very romantic.

and pleasant home. The governess at the College "formed" the manners and habits of the girls.

The University of Alabama

Now, look over to Tuscaloosa and note what Alabama boys enjoyed at that time. An economical student must procure from the Quartermaster:

Mattress for single bed ..	\$ 4.00
1 pair heavy blankets	7.50
1 comfort	2.50
2 pairs of sheets	2.50
3 pillow cases50
1 pillow	2.00
1 military overcoat	20.00
1 military dress cap	4.00
1 roll webbing (white) ..	1.50
1 hair brush75
2 combs (1 fine, 1 coarse) .	.75
1 clothes broom25
Shaving apparatus	2.50
1 dozen towels	3.00
2 clothes bags50

Outfit

\$52.50

The fixed expenses of the University in 1860 were:

Tuition	\$ 52.00
Room rent and furniture	
rent	8.00
Washing	24.00
Fuel and light	20.00
Medical fee	5.00
Music fee	5.00
Servants' hire	4.00

\$118.00

Other suggested items which would be needed by an economical student were:

Board, \$13 per month ..	\$130.00
Clothing (2 uniform	
coats)	30.00
2 pairs of white pants ..	15.00
8 pairs of summer pants .	32.00
1 winter jacket	5.00
2 summer jackets	6.00
2 vests	6.00
2 caps (undress)	5.00
2 dozen collars	4.00
6 pairs drawers	4.50
1 dozen pairs of socks ..	3.50
8 pairs of Berlin gloves ..	2.80
6 pairs of shoes	24.00
Repairing shoes	4.00
6 pocket handkerchiefs ..	2.00
1 pair of suspenders75
1 neck tie50
Books and stationery	12.00

The University of Alabama in the Fifties did not enjoy an in-

civilization, review of the whole course.

Miss Minnie Clare Boyd who made a study of social life in the Fifties and wrote very interestingly on the subject several years ago, says that the Institute had three teachers for its Senior Class. Two of them, in addition to other subjects, taught painting, drawing and music. I am totally unqualified to interpret for the present day reader how well a hundred year ago Freshman student in an institute could interpret Natural Philosophy and I further would not attempt to say how much the Junior student (in one of these high schools of that day), could get from a Text book on Moral Science. College students of my day would have a hard time analyzing "Evidences of Christianity in the History of Civilization," even if they were Seniors. I hope the teachers were able to interpret it for them. The Montgomery Advertiser in October 1854 says, obviously in an advertisement of Mears English and French Institute for Young Ladies, "the passion should be restrained, obedience to parents, because they are parents must be enforced, deference to the old, subjugation of the will, reason and religion must control all in everything." Miss E. C. Mears, head of the English Department taught French and Italian as well. Music was taught here in Montgomery as a Science, as well as an art.

The Canebrake Female Institute, over at Uniontown, taught Intellectual Philosophy, Oswald's Etymological Dictionary, how to do embroidery and raised work, how to make tissue paper flowers, and also instructed in calisthenics. When you got out of the Canebrake Region, that aristocratic, highbrow section, and got into Southern Wilcox County, at Lower Peachtree, expenses in that "Institute" were not so great. Neither did they teach any such deep subjects. You could go to school there and by paying twenty dollars a year for Spelling, thirty dollars a year for Primary English, and you could get high-



Through The Years

Congressional Compensation

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE RECENT agitation for, and the criticism of the U. S. Congress for having "given itself a pension," reminds me that the beginning of Alabama History, after Statehood, would have been different if it had not been that Congress in the Spring of 1816 passed a "Compensation Law". The Congress of the United States wanted to pay its members, both Senators and Representatives, fifteen hundred dollars a year. Prior to that time they had been paid a mileage and an allowance which by no means amounted to that figure. The destiny of two men from the State of Georgia, the two Senators was materially effected and Alabama history materially changed by this Act. By a peculiar revolution of the Wheel of Fortune the Gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Ramspeck, is the author of the now much criticized Appropriation Bill, which supplement takes care of a contemplated pension for Congressmen and Senators when they get in the class which was formerly termed "lame ducks."

Our First Territorial Governor

William Wyatt Bibb, son of Captain William Bibb of the Revolutionary Army, and Sally Wyatt of New Kent County, Virginia, was born in Amelia County, Virginia, on October 2, 1781. If you

will review your American History you will see that this date was 13 days before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to George Washington at Yorktown. In 1789 Captain Bibb moved with his family to Elbert County, Georgia, and died there in 1796. Shortly after his death Mrs. Bibb sent her son to an Academy which was administered by the Reverend Hope Hull and in that institution he was prepared for William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia, to which he went for two years. He subsequently attended the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, and graduated there in 1801.

Before we pass too far along this story you should remember that young Bibb's tutor was no other than the celebrated Methodist preacher for whom Abner McGee named a community a short distance West of Montgomery when he called it Hope Hull.

Doctor Bibb began the practice of medicine at Petersburg in Elbert County. I passed that way a few years ago and in my imagination recalled the country physician who subsequently became so much a part of the early history of my State. This young Doctor, only twenty-three years of age, only two years out of Philadelphia, became a member of the Georgia House of Representatives and served therein for two terms. In 1807 he was elected by the Georgia House of Representatives as a member of the U. S. House of Representatives. Old George Gilmer, that eminent writer who enjected his personality so much into what he said about folk, commented that young Doctor Bibb was only rivaled in the love of the people of Georgia by George M. Troop. Doctor Bibb, it is said, demonstrated his ability to handle President Thomas Jefferson's weighty matters for him, and was as well, one of James Madison's confidential advisers. William H. Crawford resigned his Seat in the U. S. Senate to accept the ministry to France in the Fall of 1813 and the Georgia Legislature elected Doctor Bibb as a successor. In the Spring of 1816, ac-

about marking the site of the last residence of this very interesting young fellow who had contributed much to the history of Georgia and to that of Alabama, and yet died before he was 40 years of age. The families of the name at Montgomery today are not closely related, though they are blood-kin. Both the State of Georgia and the State of Alabama have honored his name by calling a county for him.

Doctor Bibb's mother after the death of Captain Bibb married William Barnett of Wilkes County, Georgia. Mr. Barnett and his wife died on their plantation in what was then Montgomery County. The location is some miles east of Montgomery City, in the present Bullock County, and so far as I know there are no direct descendants of Bibbs in Montgomery.

George M. Troop

Gov. George Michael Troop, born George McIntosh Troop, was a native of Alabama, and because of his association with the period of political uneasiness on account of this new "compensation," he may be said to have a part in this same discussion of the affairs of Gov. Bibb. Gov. Troop was of the family of Scotch McIntoshs, early settlers on the upper Mobile River who furnished several interesting officers during the American Revolution. He was the first cousin of William McIntosh, the half breed Indian born at Coweta Town in the present Russell County. Mr. Troop was rather a tempestuous and arbitrary character and in more than one way influenced Alabama affairs, even though he never lived in this State after early childhood. His mother at the time of his birth was on a visit to her father at his Bluff plantation. She was the wife of Capt. Troop, the British officer in the American Revolution. Gov. Troop and John Crowell, Alabama's first congressman, elected shortly after Gov. Bibb called his Territorial Legislature into session at Saint Stephens, were bitter factional enemies. Col. Crowell served as Indian agent after his retirement from Congress in 1821 and

Judge Tait did not loose his leg in a duel, but rather by accident. The fact of him being a wooden legged man seems to have kept him out of one or two duels, certainly out of one with Judge John M. Dooly. Judge Dooly refused to fight a duel unless the second would permit him to place one of his legs in a hollow log beech gum and therefore have the same chance with Judge Tait. Rather than to do that they called off the fight. The judge left the Senate, spending a time in Philadelphia studying Natural History at the Academy of Sciences where he made the acquaintances of many of the Savants and then came to Alabama to make his home at Claiborne. He was shortly thereafter appointed Federal judge for this district. William Crawford was made U. S. district attorney. Not the William H. Crawford of Georgia, but a Virginian who was an early settler at Saint Stephens. Judge Tait and his son, James A. Tait, had large land interest in Monroe and Wilcox Counties. In 1826 the judge retired to the life of a country gentleman. While he never held a State office it is not recorded that he did not influence politics in Alabama to a considerable extent. Certain correspondence would indicate that he would have chosen to be Alabama's first U. S. senator, but it was not so decreed.

The last years of Judge Tait's life was spent in the promotion of his interest in Science. He befriended Timothy Conrad, a young Naturalist in Philadelphia who came South and spent nearly two years as his guest. The reputation of Claiborne as the center of a very large fossil group is altogether due to the interest of Judge Tait who made possible throughout the world a study of these crustacean formations. The judge's descendants have had prominent association with Alabama history. John A. Campbell, formerly justice of the U. S. Supreme Court and Lucius Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi, still another justice, were his grandsons. Robert Tait Ervin of the Federal District Court of the Southern Division of Alabama, is likewise his grandson. Members of the family yet reside in Wilcox County.

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Our First Territorial Governor

William Wyatt Bibb, son of Captain William Bibb of the Revolutionary Army, and Sally Wyatt of New Kent County, Virginia, was born in Amelia County, Virginia, on October 2, 1781. If you

odist preacher for whom Abner McGee named a community a short distance West of Montgomery when he called it Hope Hull.

Doctor Bibb began the practice of medicine at Petersburg in Elbert County. I passed that way a few years ago and in my imagination recalled the country physician who subsequently became so much a part of the early history of my State. This young Doctor, only twenty-three years of age, only two years out of Philadelphia, became a member of the Georgia House of Representatives and served therein for two terms. In 1807 he was elected by the Georgia House of Representatives as a member of the U. S. House of Representatives. Old George Gilmer, that eminent writer who enjected his personality so much into what he said about folk, commented that young Doctor Bibb was only rivaled in the love of the people of Georgia by George M. Troop. Doctor Bibb, it is said, demonstrated his ability to handle President Thomas Jefferson's weighty matters for him, and was as well, one of James Madison's confidential advisers. William H. Crawford resigned his Seat in the U. S. Senate to accept the ministry to France in the Fall of 1813 and the Georgia Legislature elected Doctor Bibb as a successor. In the Spring of 1816, according to Doctor Charles Edgeworth Jones of Augusta, one of William Bibb's enthusiastic biographers, "the kindly relations subsisting between himself and his constituents were,—rudely disrupted". That is to say, the constituents so positively objected that they elected George M. Troop to succeed him. It is written that the indignation of the people of Georgia was aroused to such an extent that all of the House members, those at Washington, whether they had or had not supported the objectionable measure, were, with one or two exceptions, compelled to resign, or were summarily ejected from office. Doctor Bibb was not ejected but he was mortified and he immediately resigned, not serving out his term. A biographer has said that President Madison, seeking to soothe his wounded feelings had the graciousness to tender to him the appointment as Governor of Alabama territory. This "graciousness" is not exactly in order for the appointment was not made until after Monroe went into office and it was made by him. Doctor Bibb during the Winter of 1816-17, "repaired" to the scene of his new activities and established himself a home at the new town of Coosada where he lived until his death in the Summer of 1820. He never resided at Saint Stephens except during the Session of Territorial Legislature and it is not probable that he was ever very long at Cahaba. Doctor Bibb while horseback riding on his plantation, was in the midst of a thundershower when the lightning struck a nearby tree frightening the animal, causing him to rear and throw him onto the Pommel of his saddle, from which injury he died the following day. He was buried in a little plot adjacent to his home and there is a tombstone on the place, but no patriotic organization in the State, nor anybody else, has ever done much

dants of Bibbs in Montgomery.

George M. Troop

Gov. George Michael Troop, born George McIntosh Troop, was a native of Alabama, and because of his association with the period of political uneasiness on account of this new "compensation," he may be said to have a part in this same discussion of the affairs of Gov. Bibb. Gov. Troop was of the family of Scotch McIntoshs, early settlers on the upper Mobile River who furnished several interesting officers during the American Revolution. He was the first cousin of William McIntosh, the half breed Indian born at Coweta Town in the present Russell County. Mr. Troop was rather a tempestuous and arbitrary character and in more than one way influenced Alabama affairs, even though he never lived in this State after early childhood. His mother at the time of his birth was on a visit to her father at his Bluff plantation. She was the wife of Capt. Troop, the British officer in the American Revolution. Gov. Troop and John Crowell, Alabama's first congressman, elected shortly after Gov. Bibb called his Territorial Legislature into session at Saint Stephens, were bitter factional enemies. Col. Crowell served as Indian agent after his retirement from Congress in 1821 and Gov. Troop sought to have him removed in 1824. He was acquitted after a congressional investigation conducted by the War Department, but even so, they never became good friends afterward.

Alabama's First Federal Judge

That other Georgia senator serving at the same time with Dr. Bibb was Charles Tait, born in Louisa County, Virginia. He came to Elbert County, Georgia, during childhood and attended the Wilkes Academy, at Washington, Ga., and later graduated at Cokesbury College, Abbingdon, Md., in which college he taught for a time until he was admitted to the practice of law at Elbertson in 1795. He was a Superior Court judge for the Western Circuit from 1803-09, when he was elected to succeed Hon. John Milledge as U. S. senator. He was re-elected shortly before the disastrous vote on the subject of compensation in the U. S. Congress, but unlike Dr. Bibb, instead of resigning to satisfy his constituents he served on to the end of the term. It was largely through the influence of Senator Tait that the admission of Alabama as a territory in the geographical form that now exists, was due. Judge Tait argued in the halls of Congress for the dividing line to run from the mouth of the Big Bear Creek to the gulf rather than straight across along the line of thirty-two degrees and twenty-eight minutes.

Judge Tait was a strong partisan in politics and belonged to the Crawford party in Georgia. Few except students of the early political days of Alabama know that the "Georgia Faction" dominated Alabama politics in the beginning. Mr. Tait had the enmity of the Clark party in Georgia. That political faction was led by old Gen. John Clark. William H. Crawford, who was secretary of the treasury in Monroe's cabinet, dominated the other faction. While it is often sad so,

creed. The last years of Judge Tait's life was spent in the promotion of his interest in Science. He befriended Timothy Conrad, a young Naturalist in Philadelphia who came South and spent nearly two years as his guest. The reputation of Claiborne as the center of a very large fossil group is altogether due to the interest of Judge Tait who made possible throughout the world a study of these crustacean formations. The judge's descendents have had prominent association with Alabama history. John A. Campbell, formerly justice of the U. S. Supreme Court and Lucius Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi, still another justice, were his grandsons. Robert Tait Ervin of the Federal District Court of the Southern Division of Alabama, is likewise his grandson. Members of the family yet reside in Wilcox County.



Through The Years

Montgomery's Wistaria

By PETER A. BRANNON

IN THE COURSE of the next two or three weeks I think we may begin to anticipate that the Springtime beauty of Montgomery will manifest itself in our beautiful drooping Wistaria blossoms. Please note the spelling of this word. You hardly ever see it spelled "taria," nearly always being written "teria." It is quite well known that the American variety—and most of the Southern species belong to the American variety—was named for Dr. Casper Wistar, a physician and scientist of Philadelphia. Dr. Wistar was of that celebrated group, the American Philosophical Society, founded by Benjamin Franklin, and a few others who sought to have in America, something akin to the Royal Society at London and that character of Old World organizations. Andre Michaux, the French botanist sent here by the Crown to study American plants, gave the name to our variety and so called it for that Dr. Wistar, the direct descendant of the man of the same name who was the original successful glass maker in North America.

At least, the above is what the Philadelphia people claim and what the present day Encyclopedias record, though they set out that Thomas Nuttall was the first one to call it *Wisteria speciosa*. He set it down as such in 1818. It was given the name "frutescens" in 1823. It has been generally referred to in the last 50 years as "*Kraunhia frutescens*." As early as 1752 the specific name was "*Glycine frutescens*." By a peculiar coincident the original Casper Wistar, grandfather of the man for whom the plant was named, died in 1752, the same year in which we have the original reference to the botanically identified plant.

The Wisteria City

Many people of Montgomery want to think of it as "the Wisteria City," though there is much of the same vine in several Georgia cities. The main route of trav-

today), Benjamin West, Marquis LaFayette, John and William Bartram; Francis Hopkinson, William Rawle, John Vaughn, Henry C. Carey, Dr. John Fothergill of London, and many others of that old school of naturalists and savants of the period from about 1750 to until about 1820.

Wistar Dinners, (obviously they were not so called until they had been designated as such after the passing of Doctor Wistar), were Philosophical Society meetings until then. Old Judge Peters, whose nose and chin as he grew older approached each other closely, was told that soon they would be at loggerheads, replied that "they very likely would as hard words often passed between them." Again, the Judge is quoted as correcting Mayor Wharton, of Philadelphia, when he asked the waiter, "John more wine?" saying that "what the Mayor needed was a Demijohn." When I look through the records of that old Philosophical Society I find names that remind me of things closer to home for I find Edward Tilghman, Doctor William Furnace, the Reverend Mr. Ware, and many whose sir names are borne in the South today. Guests on those occasions, as recorded, included Sir Charles Lell who was a visitor there just three or four weeks before he visited Alabama in the Forties. Again, I find the Rev. Joseph Priestly, of Birmingham, counted in France too devout for a Scientist and in England too broad for the Clergy. It was at the home of Mr. Vaughn, Treasurer of the Society, that George Washington sat for the well known portrait by the elder Peale. Mr. Vaughn was a Federalist. On one occasion he rode with Mr. Jefferson and his horse became unmanageable causing him to loose his temper and threaten him with the statement that "this horse is as bad as a Democrat." Mr. Jefferson replied that "if he were a Democrat, he would have thrown you long ago." A story is told of one of the pleasantries at one of these Dinners when Doc-

of a rather good quality of Glass in 1739 and the furnace operated until about the end of the American Revolution. Richard Casper carried on after the death of his father, but never made a successful go of it. One must consider, however, that the effect of the American Revolution slowed down industry in this country. Nothing remains of that old Glass Factory site in Salem County, New Jersey, but there are bottles in the Museum of the Historical Society there which are identical with those found here on the Tallapoosa River and there is no reason why we may not conclude

that these found here, which may be seen in the Museums in Montgomery, were not made by these same Wistars who gave the name to our beautiful climbing vines. The well known—to glass collectors—"lily pad" ornamentations on early glass are attributable to this factory. The muddy olive green glass bottles—the old "black" wine bottles—of early convivial days, are the characteristic types of the Wisterberg furnace.

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The Wisteria City

Many people of Montgomery want to think of it as "the Wisteria City," though there is much of the same vine in several Georgia cities. The main route of travel through Montgomery gives an opportunity to that visitor, now in this day and time fortunate enough to be able to travel, an opportunity to see it growing to the very heights of our tall trees. William Bartram, a native of Philadelphia and no doubt a friend of these Wistars, found this American glycine growing in the Tensaw country, north of Mobile, in 1776, and he says that it ascended these trees to their loftiest heights. He found dense shrubbery beneath them entangled by the Trumpet vine, Bulbace Grape and Yellow Jassimine. Early writers in describing Wisteria speak of it with Compound racems and Sky Blue flowers. Generally speaking we think of it as Lavender colored.

Other Alabama References

Our old friend Dr. Andrew Denny, of Suggsville, in Clarke County, that same man who attempted to perfect an aeroplane here in Alabama in 1851, was writing about this American Wisteria in the Fifties and he referred to the flowers as did Dr. Charles Mohr in late years, as deep Blue. Whether all of our local plants are native, or whether some may have come from the Carolinian area, need not be considered for the local ones belong to one or the other kinds even though they may be a little differently colored.

The Original Plant

A very interesting volume before me is one titled the Independence Square Neighborhood, being sketches of that locality of old Philadelphia rich in traditions connected with the Revolution.

A paragraph is, in part; "at the Southwest corner of Fourth and Locust Streets still stands the Wistar House, wherein lived Dr. Casper Wistar, physician and scientist, in whose honor after his death a group of his friends of the American Philosophical Society originated the Wistar Parties, distinctively a Philadelphia social institution, something in the nature of a salon.

In the beginning a membership in the Society was a requirement by the Parties—in the Garden is the original of the Wistaria Vine named for Dr. Wistar by Michaux, the great botanist. On the Northwest corner of the street once was a house where lived Louis Phillippe, later King of the French."

Lively Raconteurs and Bons vivants, as lively as the world has ever seen, frequented these old Wistar Parties in the Springtime made brilliant with decorations from this Wisteria Vine. They included Judge Peters, George Ord, Dr. James Abercrombie, William White, Dr. Robert Walsh, Peter S. de Poncaeu, the Old Abbe Correa de Serra, Nicholas Biddle (ancestor of Mr. Roosevelt's friend of

counted in France too devout for a Scientist and in England too broad for the Clergy. It was at the home of Mr. Vaughn, Treasurer of the Society, that George Washington sat for the well known portrait by the elder Peale. Mr. Vaughn was a Federalist. On one occasion he rode with Mr. Jefferson and his horse became unmanageable causing him to loose his temper and threaten him with the statement that "this horse is as bad as a Democrat." Mr. Jefferson replied that "if he were a Democrat, he would have thrown you long ago." A story is told of one of the pleasantries at one of these Dinners when Doctor James Abercrombie, sometime Rector of Christ and Saint Peter's churches, "who despised not the good things of the Lower World while engaged in preparation of those of the Higher," seems on an occasion to have paid a pastoral visit to a small rural place in New Jersey where they regaled him with some very fine old Madeira Wine. He was agreeably surprised at finding anything so choice in that region. On the next day, Sunday, the good man chose for his text that most appropriate verse, "and the barbarous people showed us no little kindness."

Doctor Wistar was a Friend, perhaps because his grandmother was of that Sect, even though Hans, the ancestor, was a German. This grandson attended school in Edingburgh, was a Professor in the College of Philadelphia, later in the University of Pennsylvania, and was the author of the First American treatise on Anatomy. It is said that even though he was a Physician, and at the same time studied Science, and though a busy man he found life incomplete without the cultivation of the social side.

It should interest us Alabamians to know that as well as being concerned with medicine and Philosophical societies, and good dinners, and the social side of life, he was also concerned with humanitarian and Educational projects. Government records show that the Society in Philadelphia, influenced by the feelings of Doctor Wistar, was instrumental in the training of one of James Bailey's boys, born about twenty-five miles East of the city of Montgomery, on the Tallapoosa River, sometime about the days of the American Revolution. This Philadelphia group took young Bailey, son of an Englishman and a woman from Ottassee, Indian town, two miles West of Shorter in our Macon County, to Philadelphia, at the same time that the U. S. Government took the other son and through these agencies these two boys, Richard and Dixon, were given at least a start in cultural development. Major Dixon Bailey led the Territorial Militia of the Tensas Country in the fight at Fort Mims, August 30, 1813, and was killed in that engagement. The other boy lived, married and reared a family, and descendants yet live in North Baldwin County.

Early American Glass

Casper Wistar, the Senior, reached America in 1717, and shortly thereafter married into the family of a rich Quaker. Perhaps with this financial opportunity he was able to branch out from his brass button business which was his original venture, into that of Glass making. With four imported Dutch Glass blowers that institution known in American History as the Wisterberg Factory, began production

January Parity Price Advances



Through The Years

Burr The Adventurer

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE RECENT volume, *The Man Who Would Not Wait*, a story of Aaron Burr, by Mary Tarver Carroll, of Ozark, reminds me that Colonel Burr had a more than passing influence on Alabama history. As well, he has been the subject for numbers of Alabamians who have written on the stirring period of pioneer days. Colonel Albert J. Pickett devoted considerable attention to Burr and his capture near McIntosh Bluff. Jere Clemens when he wrote that volume, *The Rivals*, developed an interesting story of Burr and Hamilton, and in the succeeding years there have been many who were interested in the theory of Burr's Southwestern Empire as it promised to influence the development of this Lower Gulf Country. Mrs. Carroll's book weaves an interesting story of that impetuous personality who had driving energy, perseverance, who craved a place of leadership and might have won it, but for such wreckless impatience. She developed him as the man who would not wait. Alabama has not paid as much attention to Theodosia as have those of South Carolina, but Allstons of the Carolinas have in later years come to Alabama, so we likewise have an interest in this charming young woman as well as in her father.

Burr In Alabama

I was recently at Port Gibson on the Mississippi and at Old Washington near Natchez, and I stood under those same Oak trees, in that old College Yard which is so much associated with the period of 1807 when Burr was here. One of the most romantic of all Alabama historic associations, is the story of the "Federal Road from Georgia to the Tombigbee Settlements." It was over this route that Burr traveled on his way from Richmond to Fort Stoddert. The conversations which the story tells put into the mouths of those who participated in Burr's arrest, on the tongues of Perkins and the Guard to Richmond, Chief Justice John Marshall, and those who participated in this episode in American history, clearly interest me. I am so matter of fact, and perhaps not enough given to romance, but with it all I enjoy the

had been connected an effect of undue significance.

Manac's House

The stopping place at Manac's in the lower part of Montgomery County seems to have been an accredited Tavern over a long period of years and like many other stops on frequented highways it has its critics. Sam Manac married into the family of Sehoy Marchand, was a kinsman of William Weatherford and by marriage of Alexander McGillivray, was also a figure in pioneer history who received much attention from Colonel Pickett, and was well known to Thomas Woodward. He was the son of a Dutchman who early settled in the Creek Country. He had his first public contact when Alexander McGillivray carried him to New York in 1790 as an interpreter of the Creek delegation who went for a conference with President Washington. His plantation home was at the point where the road crossed Pinchona Creek just before the influx into Pintlala. The place is some sixteen miles west of Montgomery. Manac was living there as late as 1815. David Manac, appointed to the West Point Military Academy by the president as a compliment to his father for his loyalty in the War with the Indians in 1813-14, was born at this place, but before he graduated in 1821 the family had moved to Little River. Inasmuch as David Tate, his uncle, seems to have been concerned with his welfare at that time it is assumed that Sam Manac must have been dead. General Woodward says that he is buried at Pass Christian on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. One of the Washington Eagle Metals presented at the Conference in New York in 1790, was given to Manac and General Woodward says, "It was buried with him."

Evans' Tavern

Colonel Pickett refers to the fact that Colonel Burr's party passed Evans' place in Montgomery County. Local people will remember this as Milly's Tavern site east of Mount Meigs. Milly, the former British soldier's widow who settled on Bear Range Creek about 1783-84, was at that time, 1807, Mrs. Evans. There are several different opinions as to the color of her husband, but there is no question about the character of Milly who seems to

the subject which might be developed, but with it all, such volumes as the recent one gives new and interesting sidelights on this very interesting figure in our history.

Some local Montgomery association would do quite well to mark on this main artery of travel through the State of Alabama, that point where Milly resided and where Colonel Burr one time stopped. It is true that General LaFayette and many others of lesser importance went that way, but a half dozen of these names could likewise be inscribed on that board to call attention to an incident in the ongoing of the Gulf Country through which we may preserve for posterity the part played by such characters as those whose ambitions, like Burr's, were to advance American domain westward.

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Milly's Creek Crossing

If the Colonel's entourage crossed where later was Fort Mims, then he must have proceeded up by Burnt Corn to hit the main line of the road to Georgia some twenty or thirty miles east of the crossing at Weatherford's Bluff on the Alabama. We know he spent the night at Manac's and Pickett says that he was entertained, though he could not have stopped longer than just to get a drink of water, at Evans on Noocooce Creek in our present Montgomery County. The river crossing on the Chattahoochee was South of the town of Coweta and below the present headquarters at Fort Benning, in fact it was even then the Federal Road, the original Indian trail, as fixed in 1803, a route which destiny marked with many associations.

Why Not Mark The Route

Burr's trip through Alabama so far as I know has never been commemorated with any Marker which calls attention to it. There have been others like me who have written about it and who have talked about it, but like Mark Twain said about the weather, "that's all that ever has been done about it." Colonel Pickett stresses the fact that the guard was admonished to say nothing to their prisoner during this trip. Mr. Nicholas Perkins, who commanded the guard is said to have told Colonel Burr that he gave those orders to prevent him from using his influence on the men. He undoubtedly knew that his prisoner had exerted on most of the company with which he

president as a compliment to his father for his loyalty in the War with the Indians in 1813-14, was born at this place, but before he graduated in 1821 the family had moved to Little River. Inasmuch as David Tate, his uncle, seems to have been concerned with his welfare at that time it is assumed that Sam Manac must have been dead. General Woodward says that he is buried at Pass Christian on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. One of the Washington Eagle Metals presented at the Conference in New York in 1790, was given to Manac and General Woodward says, "It was buried with him."

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Peter J. Hamilton, in his Chapter in Colonial Mobile, titled the Mississippi Territory, devotes quite a story to the "escape" of Burr from Washington (Mississippi Territory), and credits his information to George S. Gaines' Reminiscences and to facts which he obtained from Monette's Valley of the Mississippi. Doctor Hamilton being much interested in the development of that Tombigbee Country, and being by far the most deeply informed of its pioneer history, gives certain details not brought out by Pickett and even by the letters of Perkins which were published some years ago in a Nashville magazine. Colonel Pickett had the rare opportunity to talk with Thomas Malone, who was a member of Burr's guard. He also visited Mrs. Sturdivant, formerly Mrs. Hinson, at whose home Burr spent the night, and likewise he had discussed the Burr episode with Colonel George Gaines himself. When Colonel Pickett began to assemble his notes Edmund P. Gaines was a Major General in the Army and he gave to Colonel Pickett his views. It would seem that with all of these testimonies available to us there would hardly be anything left on



Through The Years

Make Haste Slowly

By PETER A. BRANNON

THIS VERY recent spurt to save waste paper reminds me of the old Latin adage, Festina Lente, which is "Hasten Slowly", and I would caution that we should judge what is waste with some degree of concern. All old paper and all old papers should not be carted off to the baling machine. Most men know, and women librarians will nearly all admit, that it is dangerous to do too

much housecleaning. Some things should never be thrown away, certainly not until someone who could appreciate what might be found, has looked them over. In my many years with the Department of Archives I have been often called in to look over the "junk" which was going out to the garbage man, and more often than not I was willing that most of it should go, but not so with

some of it, and that's why this statement.

All over this State there are old plantation ledgers, old store ledgers and account books, piles, stacks, files, racks, shelves full of bills, letters, invoices, correspondence, receipts, and such, which accompany old newspapers, magazines, pictures, advertisements, old sheet music, out of date calendars, almanacs, et cetera, et cetera, and nearly anybody would enjoy being turned loose in them. Now that we have an emergency and are told to bundle old paper and cardboard, tin foil, rags, paper boxes, and everything we don't especially want, we are in a fair way to lose something good and to let something get chewed up by machinery which might bring great pleasure (and perhaps a little money), if saved. Many of our rare old prints, lithographs, some old paintings and old time pictures find their way to the attic. Most of them were either in a frame when they were put there, which is unique, out of ordinary, or different from a current one, so they are an "Antique" and if so, strictly desirable to some people. Others may be rolled up in a copy of the Ulster County Gazette or The New York Herald, or one of the Vicksburg Wallpaper issues of the 1862's. Or you may find an old map which is far more valuable to the local library (provided you are not a collector yourself), than it is as one-fourth ounce weight as pulp mass paper. In the river towns, and in old country homes near the rivers, there are yet, contrary to the belief that the old book dealers have gotten them all, many valuable things in the estimation of students who are interested in social life and economics of a period now long changed. Some of the most valuable, not from the standpoint of money, but of historical interest, papers it has been my good fortune to see in recent years came from the loft, I will not call it an attic, of a very unprepossessing farm house on the Tombigbee River. Not all the good things are to be found in the mansions of rich plantations.

complete detail the story of the visit of President James Monroe to Huntsville, is of intense interest and much valued because it is practically a diary account of all that took place from the time of arrival of the President and his military aide and his personal secretary, the three making the entire company, through the two nights' stay and the intervening day when that celebrated banquet lasted from mid-morning to sunset, and at which 33 toasts were drunk. Any banquet where the company is forced to listen to 33 speeches should have been then, and certainly should be now, either graced by such a distinguished company as the President of the United States, or should be with that item used when we most often drink toasts. In that same connection I saw a few days ago a most interesting Georgia newspaper wherein just such an incident took place when George Washington was a guest on his visit South at the time he was President. They spoke of the "large number of toasts drunk", on the most enjoyable occasion.

Thomas Eastin State Printer

On the wall overlooking me in my everyday business activities is a rather charming old gentleman (on canvas and framed), Thomas Eastin, who has written that when he returned from his experiences at New Orleans when Andrew Jackson had settled the controversy between Great Britain and the United States, he pulled out of its place under a shed at old Saint Stephen, the press and the old type which had been used to issue Alabama's first newspaper and he himself ran off the first issue of the Halcyon. Mr. Eastin, destined to be Alabama's Territorial printer and to later reside at Cahaba and to print the first Laws and Reports of the State Government after Alabama was admitted into the Union, says that he set up the type and printed for the information of those Tombigbee settlements in Southwest Alabama, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, which Treaty was not known of at the date of the Battle of New Orleans. Certainly it will be interesting today if someone will find copies of this old Halcyon in one of these piles of old letters, newspapers, clippings, etc., which do from time to time come out. I recently saw at Saint Stephen, in the hands of Thomas Smith there, a copy of Thomas Eastin's old paper which later bore the name "The Halcyon and Tombigbee Advertiser".

Scrap Books

In this same connection, in our regard for old newspapers as sources of current information, I am reminded that from the beginning of time scrap books of

Dixon Commends Fight Waged Against Cancer

Gov. Dixon in a proclamation Saturday called on Alabamians to cooperate with the Alabama Division, Women's Field Army of the American Society for the Control of Cancer.

The organization will conduct in this State as part of a coordinated plan in effect throughout

most of them do not. Let your own conscience be your guide in this manner.

book dealers have gotten them all, many valuable things in the estimation of students who are interested in social life and economics of a period now long changed. Some of the most valuable, not from the standpoint of money, but of historical interest, papers it has been my good fortune to see in recent years came from the loft, I will not call it an attic, of a very unprepossessing farm house on the Tombigbee River. Not all the good things are to be found in the mansions of rich plantations.

Some Of My Things

One of the rarest of my library's collections is a volume of an early newspaper, dating 1818, which I bought from a garbage collector. One of my rarest prints came from a garbage pile, by the side of the can. Many of my good bottles came from dump heaps. I pulled the "wall paper" off the closet walls in an unoccupied house once and got a rare sample of "printed" cambric-like goods. The paper (cloth), was put there in the early forties and proved to be quite interesting, certainly as it was mounted on a cheese cloth and intended as a wall covering when originally placed.

Special Issues Of Newspapers

A most interesting newspaper is The New York Herald, which announced the death of President Abraham Lincoln. With full detail, all of which was of telegraphic intelligence, every incidental reference to the shooting of Mr. Lincoln by John Wilkes Booth, to his removal from the Ford Theater and the minutest of the details leading up to his death, is brought out in the account. Hundreds of copies of this paper maybe found, the majority of which are reprints, though there are some originals, and the issue is, to the historian, one of the leading items of bibliography of that period. While everything which appears in the newspapers now is by far from correct, and such was the case then, it at least gives a current view of the appraisal of it and is a word picture to be handed down for the benefit of those who come after and want to know the details of this incident.

That copy of the old Huntsville newspaper of 1819 which I recovered from a scrap paper collector a few years ago which gives in

find copies of this old Halcyon in one of these piles of old letters, newspapers, clippings, etc., which do from time to time come out. I recently saw at Saint Stephen, in the hands of Thomas Smith there, a copy of Thomas Eastin's old paper which later bore the name "The Halcyon and Tombigbee Advertiser".

Scrap Books

In this same connection, in our regard for old newspapers as sources of current information, I am reminded that from the beginning of time scrap books of newspaper clippings (most of which have not been pasted into these scrap books, but have been glued to them), are found. One very interesting form of these scrap books is that one where an old account book has been taken and these clippings glued over these entries. In nine cases out of ten, I will say that in practically every case, no date is given to the clipping which renders it of minor importance, particularly when in nearly every case there is no indication to show whence this clipping came. I was in receipt a few days ago of a clipping dated "October 21st". No year is given, and this reminds me that the present day newspaper could add greatly to its effectiveness and value by using one more quarter of an inch space in putting the year onto its date line. The majority of the clippings immediately before me have the initials "A. P." or "U. P.", or "I. N. S.", meaning Associated Press, or United Press, or International News Service, and there is quite enough space on the line to put the year which would make for future historians and students a very valuable contribution. The Washington, D. C. Star published a statement on October 21, 1940, that the Virginia State Library had sent 2,000,000 manuscripts, some dating as far back as 1782, to the cleaner to have them renovated prior to filing them in the new Library Building at Richmond. This reminds me that even though much of that trash, junk, scrap, and other things which we from time to time find and more often throw away, could be with a little art gum and some transparent tape quite effectively saved in a manner which would be helpful to the many institutions who would like to have them.

Reverting again to those above mentioned scrap books, those old volumes contain couplets of poetry, pen sketches of violets, roses, and other intimately sentimental personal items, Valentines in many cases, obituaries, accounts of political meetings, references to militia musters, accounts of murders, and every kind of incident that concerns the welfare of people. Even though they include many very intimately personal references, all are desired by those public institutions who seek to preserve the more intimate history of the period than would be found in published historical accounts. Many of these scrap books include small handbills, leaflets, reprints, and such as are now referred to as pamphlets. At the present time where we have the opportunity to publish speeches, addresses, toasts, and such things in the journals of our societies, associations and fraternities many do not reprint their remarks as they formerly did years ago. While some librarians do not agree with me, these original reprints, that is these original printed pamphlets, are valued at many times more than will be the re-edited and subsequent published material which appears perhaps as a volume on that subject, as a part of the proceedings of an institution.

In conclusion may I insist that in seeking to do your patriotic duty and send off all the waste material that it may serve the purpose again, save out such things that the local library might want or that those collectors who are interested in pictures, prints, invoices, manifest bills, accounts, old letters, diaries and any and everything of a manuscript character, for they weigh very little and they may be of great value to posterity, whereas they do not bring more than the money's worth in few cents if sold by the pound. In this day where there are literally thousands of different magazines, some have enough value to serve them for posterity. Unfortunately

Appropriations Fails To Bo



Through The Years

Alabama Lodge Number 51

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE Alabama Legislature on December 11, 1820, authorized a Lottery through which sums of money might be raised to erect Masonic Lodge buildings at Claiborne, at Cahaba and at Tuscaloosa. John Murphy and John Gayle, both of whom subsequently became governors of the State, James Dillet who afterwards was Congressman; Henry W. Taylor, William B. Patton, Gurdon Robinson, and Charles O. Foster were named in the Act to conduct the Lottery which was to raise fifteen thousand dollars with which to erect the building at Claiborne. Certain local records, made at the time, say "an elegant building was erected, second to none in the State in point of size and equipment." At that time the Alabama Lodge was Number 51. "Halo" was the name of the one at Cahaba and "Rising Virtue" was the name of the one at Tuscaloosa. In subsequent years Alabama Lodge became Number 3. As such it existed to comparatively recent times and my impression is that the Charter was transferred from Claiborne to Monroeville sometimes about the time when the old building, that "elegant one of 1820," was moved from Claiborne to Perdue Hill.

Today if you would travel west from Monroeville to Grove Hill, you pass through a village known as Perdue Hill (and so-called in honor of the Perdue family), which overlooks the Alabama River valley and occupies a plateau just East of Alabama Heights, later Fort Claiborne and Claiborne Town, which was one time Weatherford's Bluff, on the Alabama. Here in Alabama Territorial days was started a town which had a very interesting association with the development of the State. About the beginning of the War of 1813-14 (in November, 1813), after the massacre at Fort Mims which took place on August 30, 1813, General Claiborne proceeded from Mount Vernon up to Alabama Heights and at the plantation of John Weatherford, brother of William and who himself was born in the present Montgomery, proceeded to construct a defense against Indians. This Fort was called by the Quartermaster to honor the Mississippian, General Ferdinand L. Claiborne.

Major Howell Tatum, an engineer connected with Andrew Jackson's Army, who made the first Survey of the Alabama River in August 1814, describes it in this manner: "Fort Claiborne is a strong built stockade fort nearly a square on the center of three squares are built block houses which have the effect of salient angles, the outer ends of which are shaped so as to have the effect of fixed bastions in defense, there was one of them in the line of irregular off-set in the work, made to avoid including part of a ravine." Major Tatum is the first writer to describe the

that one can take the present day view and see without the least effort a picture as it existed then.

The Lodge Building

The box-like, two story white building with green blinds, which you will see today at Perdue Hill, authorized by that Lottery of 1820, is probably a characteristic one visioned at that time. It was removed from its position which was on the Bluff at the end of the main street of Claiborne Town, to its present location out on the hill, sometimes in the early 80's (one historian says 82, another one says 84, and another one says 86), and during its long years of existence seems to have been used for sundry purposes. Mr. Agee who contributed a historical reference to the churches of Claiborne, to The Montgomery Advertiser, in October 1909, says the Presbyterians in Claiborne used the lower floor of the Masonic Hall for a house of worship from the date of the removal of the County-Seat to Monroeville, until 1840. He is authority for the statement that the lower floor of this building had been used as a courthouse up to 1833 when the courthouse was moved over to Monroeville. I have never seen any statement to conflict with that one, so it is possible that it is correct.

The historical reference and Minutes of the Lafayette reception at Claiborne in April 1825 state that the general was to be honored with a "collation," that a Ball be given in his honor, and that the Court House be prepared for that purpose. Practically everybody South of Selma seems to believe that the Ball was given in the lower floor of the Masonic Hall, so if the historical references to this Ball in the Court House can be reconciled with local tradition, then it was being used at the time as the Court House. Mr. Agee in his references to the churches of the town says that the building was used as a reception place for General Lafayette and "that thousands assembled to greet him, children strewed flowers and women sang songs of greetings." I have before me a reference to the Taits, the Woods, the Gaillards, Allens, Coopers, being members of the Presbyterian Church who worshiped in that building. Mr. Witherspoon was Pastor. There are also references to Doctor W. L. Hamilton of Mobile and Doctor Robert Nall, both celebrated Presbyterians, but whether they preached in the building I would not say. The Tait above mentioned is our old friend Judge Charles Tait whose wooden leg has endeared him to the romantic and whose long political career and sagacious business ability, as well as his scientific inclinations made him outstanding in the history of the South. Judge Tait lived at Claiborne for many years. He came into the Alabama Territory, perhaps influenced

largely an agricultural center, though it has a silk mill and lumbering industries, and as well it enjoys the unique possession of many beautiful flowering shrubs. It is the home of the men who has the largest collection of early American bottles South of New York City, and all in all, is on the way to Claiborne than which there is no more attractive historically speaking, a place in the State. Perdue Hill was one time a celebrated little village which like many others, has suffered from the effect of good roads. Unless you look for the old Masonic Temple by the roadside, and unless you had previous knowledge of the well known antique dealer at that place, you would perhaps get through the village and on into Claiborne and through it, without knowing that you had arrived. However, at Claiborne you will find a rough stone as you approach the Claiborne-Murphy Bridge over the Alabama, which will tell you in a measure what that locality has seen in the passing years. That road that way, should you go from Greenville to Mobile by Grove Hill and Jackson rather, than by Brewton and Flomaton, traverses the old settled section of the State and one rich in traditions if not now at the present time rich in the material things of life. DeSoto went by Claiborne in September, 1540, and the Spaniards attempted the original settlement on the main continent of America there in the Summer of 1560. Since that time many celebrities have trod those white sands there. Even in 1540 the place was an old settlement. The outstanding evidences of geological formations known in North America, crop out of the Bluff there now. Sir Charles Lyell came from London to Claiborne more than a hundred years ago just to look at them for Timothy Conrad and Judge Charles Tait had prior to that time made them so well known that many interested in prehistoric life were wanting to see these evidences. Obviously tourists of the present day (or rather those of six months ago and which we hope may perhaps before very long become again more evident), are too anxious to ride comfortably along and enjoy the beauties through and by which they pass, to want to descend that nearly two hundred foot perpendicular Bluff to hunt fossil worms and snails from the river water's edge, but if you want to see where they are, pause a moment on the bridge overlooking down stream when below the highest point of the Bluff, at the water's edge, you may visualize these creatures congregated in the mud at that place a million or two years ago.

As you pass that way and note the old white building at Perdue Hill get the inspiration and go home with the determination to want to save some of the

of William and who himself was born in the present Montgomery, proceeded to construct a defense against Indians. This Fort was called by the Quartermaster to honor the Mississippian, General Ferdinand L. Claiborne.

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strewed flowers and women sang songs of greetings." I have before me a reference to the Taits, the Woods, the Gaillards, Allens, Coopers, being members of the Presbyterian Church who worshiped in that building. Mr. Witherspoon was Pastor. There are also references to Doctor W. L. Hamilton of Mobile and Doctor Robert Nall, both celebrated Presbyterians, but whether they preached in the building I would not say. The Tait above mentioned is our old friend Judge Charles Tait whose wooden leg has endeared him to the romantic and whose long political career and sagacious business ability, as well as his scientific inclinations made him outstanding in the history of the South. Judge Tait lived at Claiborne for many years. He came into the Alabama Territory perhaps influenced by the favorable impression of this new country on the part of his son, James, but more directly on account of the fact that the President made him the first Federal Judge of the State. Those Gaillards are today at Perdue Hill having merely moved out a short distance from the river.

That Presbyterian Allen above mentioned, was, I presume, H. N. Allen who was living in Claiborne when Lafayette was there. Charles O. Foster who was one of the group authorized to raise the Lottery money to build the Masonic Temple, was long time a resident at that place. Mr. Foster was the Intendant of the town in 1825. Arthur P. Bagby, sometimes later Governor of the State, resided at Claiborne at the date of General Lafayette's visit. The McConnicos now more prominently associated with Wilcox County than Monroe, though they seem to have originated down there in Monroe, were there in 1825. Mr. Agee says that they were Baptists and that W. W. McConnico (he does not give his name, but those were his initials), donated a small piece of land two miles from town where the original Baptist Church was constructed. One William Henderson whose grandchildren are there yet, lived at Claiborne in 1825. I have seen references to James Sampson, N. E. Chandler, John M. Burke, John B. Hover, H. H. B. Hayes, Edward Smith, J. W. Moore, George W. Owens, Thomas Wiggins, one Godbold, a man named Goodman, one named Farrior and numerous references to J. H. Draughan, but I do not know of the whereabouts of their descendents. There was in the early days of Claiborne a family of Betheas, one Cooledge lived there, John Bonner lived there, John Parks lived there, one Thomas Wiggins lived there, one Samuel McColl lived there, as well as the Wades and William C. Cook, Jr. In that section of Monroe County was a family of Abneys and another one named Caldwell. Last, but not least, Sam Dale resided there.

In recent years the Masonic Temple now affectionately known as the "Hall," has been used as a Community Center. I have been honored on more than one occasion by being invited to address the local gatherings in that building and it was my privilege to dedicate two of the Memorials therein. The women of that section of the County, forming a local cultural group, have maintained it as a show place for several years and many people throughout the State, certainly from the Southern section of the State, have had the privilege of paying a visit to the building. It is not off the beaten paths and if your financial situation will permit the possibility of your indulgence to the extent of auto traveling you should by all means go that way on some occasion when you are in that section of the State. Monroeville is a typical South Alabama County Seat,

day (or rather those of six months ago and which we hope may perhaps before very long become again more evident), are too anxious to ride comfortably along and enjoy the beauties through and by which they pass, to want to descend that nearly two hundred foot perpendicular Bluff to hunt fossil worms and snails from the river water's edge, but if you want to see where they are, pause a moment on the bridge overlooking down stream when below the highest point of the Bluff, at the water's edge, you may visualize these creatures congregated in the mud at that place a million or two years ago.

As you pass that way and note the old white building at Perdue Hill get the inspiration and go home with the determination to want to save some of the State's old architectural treasures, rather than to pull them down because they have a few rotten planks in them to make a place for something which may be new and finer looking and which will serve better as a temporary commercial structure.



Through The Years

Old Letters

By PETER A. BRANNON

TWO WEEKS AGO I asked my readers to make haste slowly when they desired to clean out the attic, throw away the old family correspondence, or burn grandma's love letters, or destroy the left overs of some old estate. That has had an early response. Four or five days after it was made a lady left a box at my house with the message that, complying with my suggestion, she was leaving these old papers that I might look them over. She had decided to burn most of the contents of her boxes and bags and parcels and thought maybe these might interest me. You may be assured that they did. The man who brought them together had a discerning intellect. He gathered them from the four corners and even so, he gathered well. To one who is willing to handle old musty things, these old letters, and manuscripts, and documents and legal papers and "what-not," make a rich and interesting find.

I have only begun to look them over, but I see correspondence with our old friend Edward Hanrick, the "Horse Shoe Ned" of General Woodward, and that old Montgomerian along time involved in the development of the city. Some of this correspondence is with old Daniel McDougal, the land speculator who lived in Columbus, Ga., and owned much property in the Chattahoochee Valley and who never lost that very pertinent opportunity which the transfer of Indian lands in 1833-37 gave to those who could raise sufficient cash to make a down payment. I find letters from about 1820 to 1870 and there are depositions, bonds, deeds and transfers and legal papers galore. The correspondence of that period is from Manaflia, Washington City in the District of Columbia, Washington Town in Autauga County, Alabama, Demopolis, West Wetumpka, and many towns then evidently prominent enough to have a Lawyer and now not even prominent enough to be on the map. Francis Strother Lyon, named for George Strother Gaines (or they both were named for the same family), perhaps Alabama's biggest business man—for he wound up the affairs for the State Bank—was sometime in the Congress of the United States, and if he had a Secretary, that official or assistant didn't write his letters for him, for I find one that covers six pages, on both sides, of our currently termed legal size sheet which is in that familiar handwriting and which details to one of his friends back home something which he has found out

quently if he lived in a big town like Mobile or Montgomery he had the postage "charged to his box." Postmasters at that time trusted people and kept an account against them and collected these accounts every six months. Some few of these are marked "steam," occasionally one indicates that it was sent by steamboat, sometimes it is marked "mail," sometimes "politeness of Mr. J.," and the old time entry "Express" is frequently inserted on the blank left by the peculiar way it is folded.

It is possible to assemble a very nice little collection of blanks and forms showing the instructions and directions and the miscellaneous orders from time to time issued by the several government officials and promulgated through the postmasters. Legal forms, some of which I think perhaps found their way out of the Court House rather mysteriously, are evident in this batch of papers. It does illustrate, however, that sometimes when we try persistently we can accumulate by not throwing away some rather interesting data. Our ancestors were more given to filing away in boxes, their business papers than are we who destroy our receipts as soon as they are a few months old on the assumption that we are not going to pay the bill again any how.

All of which reminds me that in this collection I find quite a few "promises to pay." Even here in Montgomery during Reconstruction times and when the Federal soldiers were on duty here, I see that they borrowed money and gave "one day after date" Promissory Notes to cover these indebtednesses. Sometimes they borrowed forty-six hundred

dollars (figuratively speaking), and they paid on their notes over a period of six or eight years, wherein a part of this sum is accounted for, though I do not find that all of it is ever receipted in full.

The graciousness and most courteous expressions which the old time lawyers used in "request" payments for long overdue indebtedness would give much effect to the present day mean tempered collecting agencies, if they would follow suit. Not "suit" by Court to collect their indebtedness, but follow the example of the courteous, dignified and polite manner by which the old time Attorney seems to have accomplished his purpose.

All in all that batch of papers left with me is a most interesting one and when I have had time to more thoroughly enjoy them, I will turn them over to the Manuscript Division of the Department of Archives and History, who will be able to organize and classify them and from this one collection alone, get something really worthwhile, contributing materially not only to the history of the period, but to the example that we cannot be too careful of what we save for the future. Fortunately even though these old papers seem to have been exposed to careless handling, they are yet reasonably well preserved for the character of their content is far superior to this cheap wood pulp stuff which goes into the very best which our legal institutions are willing to furnish on which we must now keep records for the future. Those old timers used good ink, good paper, and anticipated that some one would come after them and perhaps see the evidence.

er Lyon, named for George Strother Gaines (or they both were named for the same family), perhaps Alabama's biggest business man—for he wound up the affairs for the State Bank—was sometime in the Congress of the United States, and if he had a Secretary, that official or assistant didn't write his letters for him, for I find one that covers six pages, on both sides, of our currently termed legal size sheet which is in that familiar handwriting and which details to one of his friends back home something which he has found out about claims of one of his constituents.

Elizabeth Grierson Affairs

A most interesting find to me is a reference to my old friend, and to me unique character, Elizabeth Grierson. This lady and her business affairs have always interested me, even though she was dead perhaps fifty years before I was born. Colonel Benjamin Hawkins, the United States Agent for Indian Affairs, in listing the family of Robert Grierson, a Scotchman living in the Hillabee County in 1796, indicates that Elizabeth was about of age at that time. In 1817 she was written into the records of the newly created Montgomery County and you may find these entries in the books in the Probate Office wherein she gives Power of Attorney to a certain Lawyer who must handle her affairs as she was half Indian and had no civil rights. By a letter which turns up in these above mentioned papers I find that in 1837 she was still having some legal difficulties, but it is brought out that she was a slave owner and she still has possession of her property in what is, I presume, the present Tallapoosa County. I must infer from this last reference that Elizabeth was still a maiden lady, though I see no reason for it as most of the references to her have been of a rather complimentary nature and I cannot but wonder why in the more than sixty years of her life which I can account for, she had not found herself a husband.

Old Postmasters

From the batch of correspondence with perhaps a dozen lawyers which go to make up some of the things in this bunch of papers, I am ready to believe that the lawyer frequently wrote to the Postmaster and had him serve a paper or two or to make a deposition, and the use of these franked envelopes—not envelopes but actually franked covers—makes an interesting feature to one who would pay attention to this phase of early life. Postmasters in those days merely signed their names where the stamps should be and then inserted two letters "P. M." and sent the items along with other postal papers. You must remember that there were no postage stamps prior to 1847, and very few until some years later than that. The gentleman who accumulated this collection of papers never left any old postage stamps for those who came after him to fight over, but even so, he did leave many items of philatelic interest. I believe that I might find twenty-five different postmasters listed in the papers before me. I think I can almost assemble and catalog the lists of Registers of the Land offices and Receivers of Public Monies by handling this correspondence. There are many references to the offices at St. Stephens and Sparta and Cahaba and Huntsville and others of those old centers, Mardisville, for example, and to those who would be Alabamians in the future, who came to purchase government lands and make new homes for themselves.

"Postage Paid"

You should remember that there are no stamps on these letters, but the sender paid 12 1-2c or 20c, or two "bits," or even more, according to the weight of the envelope, and fre-

To Close 35-75 Cents A Bal



Through The Years

The Byler Road

By PETER A. BRANNON

I AM reminded, though I thought to the contrary, that I had never published, in this series, a story of the Byler Road, Alabama's first State Highway.

The Legislature of the embryonic State of Alabama convened in November, 1819, and one of its first concerns was the question of roadways. The Congress of the United States admitted the State into the Federal Union on December 14, 1819, and two days later Governor Bibb approved the act which provided for our first State Road. It began "on the Great Military Road leading from Columbia, in Tennessee, to Madisonville, in Louisiana, at or near the place where Samuel Craig now lives, on the west side of Big-Shoal Creek in Lauderdale County," and it must follow "the nearest and best way to the Tennessee River at the ferry opposite the town of Bainbridge," and go thence generally south to Tus-kaloosa.

This roadway, a toll turnpike for the most or longest distance, known in subsequent history as "Byler's Turnpike Road," is the original one established by State Legislation. The Natchez Trace, the Federal Road, and the Jackson Military Road (that one above referred to as the Great Military Road) were provided by Acts of the U. S. Congress and were kept up until Statehood days by Federal appropriations. The Natchez Trace was authorized by treaties with the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians, dated respectively October 24, and December 17, 1801. Over it went the first post-route in the Gulf country. It crossed at Colbert's Ferry at the head of Muscle Shoals. John Swaney, the Nashville to New Orleans Mail rider, was going the Indian trail (subsequently to be the Natchez Trace) very shortly after this 1801 date. Lorenzo Dow, the South's original itinerant preacher, passed along it as early as 1803. Mr. Dow was on his bridal

shall pay to the said John Byler and his associates the following rates of toll. to wit: on a four-wheeled carriage and team, seventy-five cents; on a two-wheeled carriage, fifty cents; on a man and horse, twelve and a half cents; on each pack horse, six and a fourth cents; for a loose horse, six and a fourth cents; for each head of hogs or sheep, half a cent. And if any person shall break through or round the said turnpike gate, with the intention to avoid payment as required by this act, they shall forfeit and pay for every such offense, triple the amount by them due to the said John Byler and his associates, to be recovered by an action of debt, before any Judge or justice of the peace. And the said John Byler and his associates shall continue to keep said road in good repair, and to receive all the profits arising from the same, for the term of twelve years; at the expiration of which the same shall be held subject to the disposition of the Legislature of this state."

While even to this day the old turnpike, short stretches of which are still in use, is known as the Byler Road, John Byler and his associates were only authorized to build "from the southern boundary of the counties of Lawrence and Franklin to the center of the Township numbered eighteen of Range numbered ten, west." That part in Lauderdale County from Sam Craig's house to Bainbridge, was to be built under the orders of the judge of the inferior court, "by an overseer with a sufficient number of hands to open and keep the same in good repair." From the Tennessee River south, along the line of Franklin and Lawrence counties, the law directed the opening in the words: "All persons liable to work on public road within two miles of said road on either side thereof, shall be found to assist." From the Township eighteen line

sections lower down and roads paralleling the water courses are possible.

Hance M. Cunningham, William Russell and Hanby Files seem to have been shown favors as "commissions to view" Mr. Byler's road—he paying the bill always. Mr. Cunningham is sometime "Vance," and Mr. Russell is sometimes "George," and Mr. Files is once "Manley," but doubtless these three individuals, the former from Lawrence and the two latter thought to be from Franklin, were always associated.

But, changes in population and political centers, or the coming of the railroad, or possibly both, long since wiped from the memories of all but a few of our old people, the recollections of the toll-gate at the branch roads along this old pike. Bainbridge, which honored the Commodore who fought on Lake Erie, is now one hundred feet under the water of the Tennessee River, for Wilson Dam is but a few miles down that stream. LaGrange College on the mountain, by the side of the old highway, that original institution of higher learning in Alabama, burned by Colonel Corwyn's U. S. Cavalry in 1863, is marked now with but a bronze tablet and a few of the old cedars which shaded the roadside. No improved highway today crosses Big Shoal Creek where did the "Military Road" of old, and the forks of "the road to Bainbridge ferry" is obliterated.

Haleyville, which was "Haleysville," when the post boy of 1830 stopped there, Bankston, New Lexington and Samantha are left, but even to few of their citizens is Byler's Turnpike known, though they sometimes refer to the "Boiler road" and ask why the name. John Byler of Lawrence is gone but not forgotten. The little "house by the side of the road"—Nathan Gregg's tavern in Leighton, where John Gregg, Brigadier General in the

referred to as the Great Military Road) were provided by Acts of the U. S. Congress and were kept up until Statehood days by Federal appropriations. The Natchez Trace was authorized by treaties with the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians, dated respectively October 24, and December 17, 1801. Over it went the first post-route in the Gulf country. It crossed at Colbert's Ferry at the head of Muscle Shoals. John Swaney, the Nashville to New Orleans Mail rider, was going the Indian trail (subsequently to be the Natchez Trace) very shortly after this 1801 date. Lorenzo Dow, the South's original itinerant preacher, passed along it as early as 1803. Mr. Dow was on his bridal trip, Peggy and her father being with him, and he says in his Diary that "none but the mail rider would brave the elements to cross the Tennessee River in the storm." The Federal Road, to Alabama the most important in the entire early history of the state, crossed from Fort Mitchell site of later days, then the Indian trading path by Coweta town, and was opened by authority of the treaty of November 14, 1805, to be recognized as "a horsepath through the Creek Country from the Okmulgee to Mobile."

The old military road running directly from Columbia in Tennessee, crossed at Florence and passed through Russellville, old Pikeville, Sulligent, on through Columbus, Mississippi, and southwest. Congress was appropriating money for its repair on April 27, 1816, a few months after the triumphant return of Andrew Jackson over that trail from his New Orleans victory.

The Byler Road was to facilitate travel from Nashville to Tuscaloosa, and after 1826, when the latter became the Alabama capital city, was a much used way, for many of our early settlers in West Alabama were from Tennessee and Virginia and they used this route.

The Act to authorize the road was passed at Huntsville in 1819, amended at Cahaba, June 16, 1821, and the time allowed for completion extended by a resolution passed December 28, 1822—the Legislature worked during Christmas in those days—when November 1, 1823, was fixed as the date. They also authorized the builders of the toll section to collect half-toll (over that part constructed) until November, 1823, when the fixed rate was allowed to become effective, if the road was finished. That toll rate which is somewhat different from the one of later years, is quite interesting. As originally fixed, a four-wheeled carriage and team was allowed to pass over the entire length for 75 cents, but in the Amendment of 1821 this was increased to \$1.00. Horseback riders paid 12 1-2 cents—one bit—and the penalty for intent to evade payment of toll was \$5.00 over and above the amount which "his, her or their toll would have been."

Section 4 of the Act says: And be it further enacted, That John Byler, of the county of Lawrence, and his associates, be, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to continue the said road from the southern boundary of the counties of Lawrence and Franklin, to the centre of the southern boundary of township numbered eighteen, of range numbered ten, west, the most eligible route which they can or may have discovered. And the said John Byler and his associates are hereby authorized, so soon as they have opened said road, to erect a turnpike gate at some convenient place thereon; and persons traveling the road,

to build from the southern boundary of the counties of Lawrence and Franklin to the center of the Township numbered eighteen of Range numbered ten, west." That part in Lauderdale County from Sam Craig's house to Bainbridge, was to be built under the orders of the judge of the inferior court, "by an overseer with a sufficient number of hands to open and keep the same in good repair." From the Tennessee River south, along the line of Franklin and Lawrence counties, the law directed the opening in the words: "All persons liable to work on public road within two miles of said road on either side thereof, shall be found to assist." From the Township eighteen line, to the end of the toll section, the court of Tuscaloosa County was directed to, "cause the residue of the road to the falls of Tuscaloosa River to be viewed by five white male citizens who shall be sworn to mark the same—the nearest and best way to the town of Tuscaloosa." Likewise the court must appoint an overseer and sufficient hands to open the same.

An interesting connection with the legislation affecting the road is that "John Byler and associates" are referred to in a number of places, but in no case are the "associates" named and no one can tell me at this late date who they were. "John Byler" seems to have been the whole corporation. As was usually the case in those days "Commissioners" were duly appointed to examine and report, and their expenses and per diem, of Three dollars each, were charged to Mr. Byler. Further, he was directed to pay the Tuscaloosa County commissioners even though his toll section ran but a short distance into that county.

The road was directed to be twelve feet wide, clear of stumps and roots, and good causeways were planned for all soft places. Tanner's post-route map of 1830 shows the finished route running down the eastern boundary line of Marion County, across "Lafayette" County to Tuscaloosa. Old citizens refer to the road running south from Bainbridge landing as the "Tuscaloosa Road," but this way which ran generally south and southwest through Leighton, old LaGrange, Avoca, Ora, Kinlock, Littleville, Ark., Haleyville, Larissa, Eldridge, Dublin, Bankston, New Lexington, Samantha, and on to Northport, was the original Byler Road, and that one going west from Moulton was only a branch. The Legislature too, authorized this one which was to intersect the main road "at the sixty-six mile tree from Tennessee River" and persons were penalized who felled across it or otherwise obstructed the same.

Today, that improved highway going north toward Fayette P. O., out of Tuscaloosa is known as the Byler Road and, practically speaking is the identical route.

Examine a topographical map and you will see that the survey as fixed by the Act of 1819, followed the high country almost the entire distance. In some stretches it passes through a mountainous country and must bear into the valleys of the numerous streams so prevalent in that section of the State. However, in that region there is no swamp country comparable to the

which shaded the roadside. An improved highway today crosses Big Shoal Creek where did the "Military Road" of old, and the forks of "the road to Bainbridge ferry" is obliterated.

Haleyville, which was "Haleysville," when the post boy of 1830 stopped there, Bankston, New Lexington and Samantha are left, but even to few of their citizens is Byler's Turnpike known, though they sometimes refer to the "Boiler road" and ask why the name. John Byler of Lawrence is gone but not forgotten. The little "house by the side of the road"—Nathan Gregg's tavern in Leighton, where John Gregg, Brigadier General in the Confederate Army once lived, is the one silent reminder of the "stage road to Tuscaloosa," at its upper end at least. At Courtland, the northern terminus of the branch to join at "the 66 mile tree," you will find the old "horse-block" from which the well groomed ladies whose skirts were much longer than those of 1932, mounted their steeds. Mr. James Young who I knew fifteen years ago, he then about ninety years of age, remembered old John Byler, and as well, he remembered Tom Green, one of the stage drivers. Mr. Young told me that Tom was a mail contractor who passed away during the existence of his contract and left his son to carry it out. Like many of those who lived when traveling by stage was in its romantic era, the driver's horn was music to Mr. Young's ears and in his retrospection he loved to record incidents of that old road. Mr. Young's memory went back to the time when the capital was at Tuscaloosa (spelled with a "k" not a "c").



Through The Years

Hats

By PETER A. BRANNON

ONE of the illustrations in an old scrap book which was made by me many years back shows a picture of the Easter "purrade" at Atlantic City in the early days of the 1900's. The gentlemen with their swank costumes and the ladies with their interesting big hats, and parasols, and what appear to us today, startling different dresses, make a striking picture. Incidentally the Devil stands on the side line as a spectator.

The copy of a last Saturday's New York paper which I have before me devote many pages to advertising and the matter to which they give such titles as "gay and various are the bonnets for Easter," and many other catching lines, pictures those creations designed to appeal and to enhance feminine pulchritude. Most of us men are not disposed to agree that the things now called hats add much to the beauty of what would otherwise be a strikingly interesting face. These advertisements, however, do appeal to me to the extent that no two pictured objects are alike and they are in that way more attractive than those worn in my younger days when every woman had the same kind and size. Then all wore exactly the same kind of hat, the same size big sleeves, had the same shape and size of big hips, but the dresses were so long that the public, at least, never knew whether they wore the same kind of shoes and stockings or not.

Head Dresses

Hats are primarily intended, so we were once led to believe, as head coverings. I would assume that this custom of covering up the head must have been an early one, for if we look into the records of antiquity we find that from the earliest times this habiliment served a twofold purpose, that of marking the wearer of some distinction, and at the same time, protecting the head and body from the elements.

Even when the Pilgrims were in Holland before they came to America, Madam Johnson, the minister's wife, caused some uneasiness among the congregation because she wore "whale bones in her petticoat bodice" and "bust coives," with a velvet hood and, worst of all, a "toppish hat." Shortly after the Europeans came to America Roger Williams prohibited the women of Salem Par-

ish from appearing in public without head coverings. At his church he requested them to wear veils. The Reverend John Cotton later preached to the same crowd and proved to these dames that veils over their faces and heads were symbolic of undue subjection to their husbands. It is written that these New England women immediately appeared bare-faced and bare-headed in the meeting house. You can understand why. The Reverend Davenport issued a decree that men should take off their hats when the text was announced, otherwise they wore them in church.

In 1769, the church at Andover put it to a vote as to whether "the Parish Disapproved of the female sex sitting with their hats on in the Meeting House, in time of Divine Service, as being Indecent." It was voted, that it was. In Abington (New England, not Virginia), the town voted, not only members of the church, that it was "an Indecent way that the female sex do sit with their hats and bonnets on to worship God." Other towns of the Colonies voted on the subject and decreed that it was the "Town's Mind" that women should take their bonnets off and "hang them on the pegs." A writer on the subject, the same being a woman, has expressed the opinion that the pretty bonnets worn by these women worshippers continued to grace the heads instead of the pegs.

Oliver Wendell Holmes must have had in mind some of these early Colonial customs when he penned this:

I know it is a sin,
For me to sit and grin,
At him here;
But the old three-cornered hat,
And the Breeches, and all that,
Are so queer.

This same writer (Mr. Holmes), is the author of that phrase "the hat is the ultimum moriens of respectability."

Uses In Antiquity

It is recorded that between 1530 and 1600 women went bare-headed out of doors though in rough weather they wore a gable hood, that is a wire contraption which had two long lappets which went over the shoulders thus protecting them from the weather. Court clothes after 1570 decreed head coverings. Puritan records show that hats for women were considered necessary on the grounds of modesty. They generally wore high crowned hats with lace caps under them and of course the lace caps were forerunners of what we term "veils" at the present time. Small hats, the object similar to what we now

the heat of the sun, they sometimes serve to keep off mosquitoes, insects and other pests. Man as well, protected his face many years before he began to use mosquito nets to protect his body and long before he reached the conclusion that screens prevented malaria and other ailments. The American Indians had native head dresses, a hat of a kind, even though it was little other than a band with a few feathers stuck in it. Undoubtedly the ancients wore skull caps and such contraptions and these tight-fitting skin head coverings may have started that condition which man is heir to, and which most women seem to escape, that is being bald-headed.

My earliest boyhood impressions are of the character, Robinson Crusoe, with his skin cap and I seem to remember those closer to home caps with earflaps which were pulled down and tied under the chin. I saw Buffalo Bill with his wide brim hat shortly after he began his professional career, and the much glamorized Southern planter who wore a black, wide-brimmed, felt is, of course, a tradition among us.

The use of hats and masks as protection against the rays of the sun is most strikingly illustrated in American history in that romantic character Dolly Payne, who destiny fixed as the wife of President James Madison. She wore to school every morning a white linen mask to keep every ray of sunshine from her complexion. Over this her mother sewed each day a sunbonnet onto her head, and she fitted long gloves to cover her hands and arms. Verily Dolly would not have made much of a showing with some of our present-day youths who take sun baths on the hot sands of the beach. That character of hat, as the quilted bonnet of that day was termed, may have prompted the fetching air:

"Put on your old gray bonnet,
With the blue ribbon on it,
While I hitch old dobbin to the shay,

And through the fields of clover,
We'll drive over,
On our golden wedding day."

Modern paraphrazers and editors use lots of time commenting on the "craziness" of hats, generally having reference to women's hats. The Duke of York, the second son of George III, is said to have said, about 1817, when he looked in on the first Reformed Parliament, "I never saw so many shocking bad hats in my life." The Duke of Wellington is also credited with this statement, though historians favor the Duke of York as the author.

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English straw bonnets were being imported into America about the end of the 1700's. The first American straw hat is credited both to Naomi Whippel, wife of Captain Whippel, colonial hatter, and to Betsy Metcalf. Betsy, when she was fourteen years old, in 1798, saw a straw hat in a milliner's shop in Providence, R. I., which had been imported to America from Sunstable, but it was too high priced for her to afford, so she went out into her father's oatfield and gathered some straw which she split with her thumbnail and plaited in imitation of the foreign braid. On the next Sunday she wore her straw bonnet to church. Her friends immediately wished her to patent it, but she was too modest so her process was imitated by others. The afternoon teas, and such women's gatherings, took up the fad of making hats. This custom with the opportunity which it gave for gossip, encouraged a minister of that time to preach on the "Vanity of the Straw Bonnet." He declared that it "fostered dissolution of character, suggested sinful luxury, avarice, extravagance, loss of gentility, negligence of duty, and carelessness as to health and studies." Mrs. Earle E. Andrews, of Boston, has criticized this pious man to the extent of reminding us of the fact that the organ in his church had been purchased by money earned from the making of straw hats by his congregation. Such is life.

Worldwide Kinds

One of the popular brands of hats, sold by a haberdasher in Montgomery, issued a very interesting little publication two or three years ago which shows illustrations of hats from the entire world. You may learn from that publication that as well as the use of hats to protect the bald head of some explorer from

with some of our present-day youths who take sun baths on the hot sands of the beach. That character of hat, as the quilted bonnet of that day was termed, may have prompted the fetching air:

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Modern Nomenclature

Today when one thinks of the Volga Boatman of Song and Story, he pictures a hood-like cap around a bewhiskered faced head. Our present "tam," a short name for the tam-o-shanter, is merely the old Scotch head ornament of the Kilties days. The English Insect Helmet, of the days when the Britisher was going into the four corners of the world to take possession and extend the domain of the Empire to lands where "the sun never sets" and the Spanish Processional Hood, were copied by the Ku Klux Klan when they sought to fix a head dress so as to be unrecognizable. Modern pictures of Zulu Taxi drivers—contrary to the knowledge that there are very few "Taxies" in Zulu Land—illustrate the same character of fellow who as an American Indian, wore horns, and features on his head. I saw illustrated a few days ago a long band of sicken wool which is a modern 1942 hat. This was made into such by wrapping it dexterously around the head in pretty much the same manner that some actresses wrap a small shawl around themselves and make a garment out of it. When we see a "sombbrero" we think of Mexico, when we see Tyrolian shapes we think of the Austrian Alps, when we talk about the "University style" we think of something swagger and rakish "Collegiate" as the slang makes it. When one sees that Turban-bedecked figure of the Ethiopia of the Italians of a few years since, we certainly think of Abyssinia and the handed-down tradition of the Queen of Sheba and of Solomon of old. Turks wear Fezzes. The Dishpan hat of Siam (Thailand if you will) is just exactly like the earthen ware vessels made by the American Indian on the Tallapoosa River in Alabama, so perhaps the world is not so large after all. In Southern Italy the gentleman wears flowers on his hat, and in Switzerland men wear feathers. About two years ago gentlemen right here in Montgomery, wore a little colored feather in the left hand bow of their hats. So under the skin, we are all kin.

To those who enjoy the Parade on this Easter Sunday, may I hope that the women's hats may interest you.

tion Breaks Futures Prices



Through The Years

Bicycles

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE "Gospel of Sanitary Science," in 1885, carried an article by a physician to this effect: "To the weary, nervous, dyspeptic brain worker, and to the housed-up woman, with a headache, backache, and what-not, I say, get a bicycle, learn to use it and ride out into God's free sunlight and open air." Before me is E. C. Meacham's Arms Company, wholesale catalogue of bicycles, dated September 24, 1891. It is a picture book of no mean interest for only two years before that time the first pneumatic type appeared and the word "safety" as a descriptive adjective for bicycles dates from about the year 1890. The Pope Manufacturing Company, of Boston, was the earliest making bicycles in America, they having been imported from England prior to 1878.

Early Days of Cycling

The Celeripede, the earliest of the vehicles showing one wheel behind the other one in tandem fashion, was put out, in 1816. The "velocipede," as a two-wheel object, dates from 1867. The three-wheel "carriage" of the name dates earlier. Edward Gilmore perfected that machine originally gotten out in 1816, and 1867, one propelled by riding straddle with the feet flapping the ground is the forerunner of the two wheels of the same size on which we can balance ourselves at the present day. The high wheel machine, that is one that runs about four to five feet in diameter in front, with the small trailer behind, is a product of 1874.

Prior to that time a Scotchman named Dalzell had patented a rear wheeled drive machine having pedals on it. M. Michaux, a carriage repairer in Paris, made the first one of these bicycles with pedals fitted to the front wheel. One Lalament patented the original one of this type in

the United States, on November 20, 1866. This one was propelled with cranks and pedals. Sometimes after 1890 a monument was erected to Michaux as the "father of the bicycle." James Shirley, an Englishman, is known as the "second father of the bicycle," he having perfected it to such an extent to produce the first machine embodying the big and little wheel in tandem fashion, with the driving wheel fitted with rubber tires and cross tension spokes. These machines, which date from 1874, and which were common up to 1890, average about sixty-five pounds in weight.

Some Early Statistics

I find some statistics, records of 1899, which show three hundred and twelve establishments, then making bicycles and during that year one million, one hundred and twelve thousand, one hundred and eighty were turned out. In 1909 after the automobile had become well established, there were only ninety-five establishments in the United States and the output was not more than a quarter of a million. According to figures of the Cycle Trades, Incorporated, of America, there are now more than eleven million bicycles in the United States, one million eight hundred and fifty thousand of them having been made last year. The Government recently issued an order requiring a forty-two per cent cut for this year's production. You will recall that Washington decreed recently that there were to be no more children's bicycles and then changed their minds a few days ago and froze all the adult's bicycles, so we will probably not have more than a half a million as the output of 1942.

The new war-time modern, by order of the Government, will weigh only thirty-one pounds and be stripped of all fancy and unnecessary equipment and will

have small one and one-half inch tires. Likewise it will have no bright medal on it and will be strickly for the use of those in Government service.

Memories of My Boyhood Days

As a very small boy, I recall that on one Sunday afternoon I saw twenty-seven big wheel bicycles rolling into Seale in more or less conditions. The Columbus, Ga., Bicycle Club put on a contest to ride the eighteen miles. Perhaps one-third of them rode the entire distance, one-third walked much of the distance and some broke down entirely and had their machines shipped home by wagon during the subsequent week. The arrival of this large number of riders created somewhat of a sensation and I recall that the hotel keeper gave, without charge, the tired-out riders a good Sunday night supper which in some measure recompensed them for the fatigue of the journey. These machines were of the older "Club," "Ajacks," and "Express" types of the Nineties and I presume they may have averaged about fifty to sixty pounds in weight. At that time bicycles were sold by the diameter of front wheel, length of leg (inside to sole of foot), and the prices run from fifty to ninety dollars. Later after the Columbia bicycles became all the vogue, those of the "safety" type, the price was about one hundred and twenty-five dollars. Modern ones seem to be priced according to the ability to pay.

The Montgomery City Directories of the 90's show the old Montgomery Arms Company featuring the Waverly Bicycle; the Loeb Carriage Company; the firm of Jackkson, O'Connell and Company; Todd's Gun Store and E. E. Forbes, sold bicycles in 1896. At that time there were no big wheel bicycles on the market, the spring saddle type with adjustable seats and handle bars, having become all the vogue. Some early advertisements, those from 1891 for three or four years along, show a kind of machine which had a removable top brass rod which could be attached and then the machine converted from a boy's bicycle to a girl's machine. These old ones all had brakes on them for that was some years before the time when the rider could reverse the pedals and stop the machine in that manner. The small projecting foot rest on the front fork make interesting pictures of the old types. One could take his feet off the pedals and coast down hill. My bicycle, shortly after 1900, was fitted with a Carbide lantern. I never used a kerosene kind of light. Spade handles, hand-holts for the handle bars, were much advertised in the early part of the 90's and the tires were always said to be

the machine converted from a boy's bicycle to a girl's machine. These old ones all had brakes on them for that was some years before the time when the rider could reverse the pedals and stop the machine in that manner. The small projecting foot rest on the front fork make interesting pictures of the old types. One could take his feet off the pedals and coast down hill. My bicycle, shortly after 1900, was fitted with a Carbide lantern. I never used a kerosene kind of light. Spade handles, hand-holts for the handle bars, were much advertised in the early part of the 90's and the tires were always said to be made of "para rubber." It is interesting to me to read the descriptions which show the handle bars of "Cow Horned Pattern, New Ball-Bearing," etc., etc., and the tool bag was always guaranteed to include a wrench and oil can. The highest priced machines advertised "all parts interchangeable." The sprocket wheels which were large, were the ones intended for making most speed. They all advertised they were fitted with mud guards.

There are old Alabamians who will remember the celebrated bicycle path at Auburn which ran from the Southern limits of the town out where the Willises lived, to Wright's Mill. This patch, one of the original country trails for cycling, was a "bridle path" for bicycles and not horses. I can remember the old Auburn Bicycle Club and their very pleasant opportunities—for me—for on many occasions I used Doctor E. R. Miller's tandem bicycle, and with another member of the class, went to the hill sides adjacent to the Wright's Mill Creek where we gathered sanguinaria, xanthoriza, gelsemium and many of those medicinal herbs from which Doctor Miller's class in Pharmacy extracted alkaloids. Moze Wright, of Tuskegee, Gaius Whitfield, of Demopolis, Boozie Baldrige, of North Alabama, Hardie McGehee, of Montgomery, Walter Sistrunk, of Tallassee, Will Rutledge and others who I might name, were the boys of that time who utilized bicycles as transportation and furthered their professional and scientific efforts. Doctor George Petrie, Doctor Arthur Dunstan, the present President L. N. Duncan (then just a sophomore), Colonel Benjamin S. Patrick, the Commandant, and even General Lane, who was perhaps a little beyond an age of vigorous active bicycling days, though he rode a bicycle, were members of that Auburn Bicycle Club.

The Eastern newspapers now facetiously remind us that bicycling is more than a fad. Perhaps so, for those who own one may remind his neighbor that "I told you so." I have already begun to see my neighbors, not very good riders, out airing the dog, him sitting in the basket between the handle bars. I have not seen any of the publicized "culottes," the divided skirts, which are being advertised to meet the problem of women using either kind of bicycle, that is one with the middle bar, or without. No doubt it is going to be, as the exercise experts say, that feminine ankles will present a trimmer, more symmetrical sight now, than ever before, as a result of the increase in leg work. We at least may hope that bicycling will promote a stronger healthier nation.

News items say that the American scenery is swiftly shaping itself to meet the situation. Rows of parking racks are springing up in public places where workers may leave their bicycles. Right here in Montgomery, ten days ago, I counted fifty wheels in front of one picture show.



Through The Years

Sugar

By PETER A. BRANNON

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Sugar's sweet,
So are you

As sure as the vine
Grows 'round the stump,
You are my sugar-lump.

WHICH goes to prove that through the ages that thing which the modern dictionary says is "a crystalline substance refined from the juice of Cane, Beets, Maple trees and other things," and which we call at the present time Sugar, has ever been dear. According to a Museum commentator, in India and China five hundred years before Christ, they called it "sweet salt." Even so, it seems to have been always a much prized and dearly loved commodity. That is, it is dearly loved so far as taste goes.

The article which we are soon to have rationed—(and I insist, contrary to what the radio commentators say about it, that I do not approve of, nor agree with, those moderns who want to "rayshun" it)—up to two hundred years ago was relatively a rarity and apparently, was medicinally used. Honey is the oldest of the sweet stuffs referred to. We know that it was being used before the days of Pharos and before the time of that man who "saw the handwriting on the wall." You will remember you have heard of the Milk and Honey on which certain of the characters mentioned in the Bible lived. Further, recall that God fed certain of His children on Manna, which was a natural juice obviously rather well impregnated with a sweet substance. Man does not seem to have been so dependent on Sugar in ancient times as he is at the present time unless perhaps he got all he wanted by eating fruits like dates and things of that kind. It is assumed that Sugar Cane which grows in hot, moist, low countries always furnished that food value which we at the present time attributed to Sugar. Nature hides these sweet foods in various places. It is in corn, in grass, in fruits, in the products of the insects like honey

shape of syrup. Of course those of us countrymen of the old school are rather shocked to think that the modern generation would accept Sorghum Syrup and Corn or Beet Sugar Syrup as the same value as the genuine Sugar Cane Syrup, but the present generation is so ignorant that they do not know any better, so of course we have to pass it up.

Grapes produce Dextrose. Corn produces Glucose. Milk produces Lactose. Fruits produce Levulose. Even Dahlia bulbs produce this latter and it is among the sweetest of those substances with which nature provides us. Saccharine, which is an intense sweet, but which has no sugar in it, comes from Coal Tar, and is a purely synthetic product. One-fourth of a grain of Saccharine equals one teaspoonful of sugar in sweetness. In the case of those people who cannot take sugar, on account of certain maladies, this of course is a boon.

Beets were discovered to contain sugar in 1820. Most of the European sugar at the present time comes from Beets. Maple trees which grow more prolifically in Northern climates than in the Gulf Country, produce a sap, which the Indians used long before the coming of the white man, from which comes a delicious brown syrup which when crystallized, forms a sugar.

In some foreign countries Palm trees produce much of their sugar supply. In Mexico certain of the intoxicating saps are heavily impregnated with this sweet substance. The shortage of sugar in America today is said to be attributable to the fact that we cannot comfortably import it from the Philippines and Hawaii. One-third of that used in the United States is produced in this country or it comes from Cuba, and we will be able to get most of that. In 1940 we used 5,712,000 tons here.

Sugar Refining

In 1916 the American Sugar Refining Company issued a most attractive illustrated booklet which told the story of a century of sugar refining in the United States. From that volume we

which was kept the brown lump sugar of the earlier day. Sugar cutters, scissors-like contraptions which were used to carve these lumps, or cones, or loaves, as they were often designated into suitable sizes, gave for that day the small piece comparable to that pressed piece of sugar which we at the present time designate as "dominos," or in some other such manner to characterize a lump. Few who may chance to read this will be able to remember back to the days of the Silver Salver which held the loaf sugar which was dropped into the goblet in which the "toddy" was prepared. But I can remember back to the time when I delighted in salvaging the left-over sugar in the bottom of a glass if I could get a long enough spoon with which to scoop it out.

It may not compare with the latest in the glazed paper wrapped style, but that old time lump sugar which we knew as Rock Candy, which crystallized itself around strings put in the bottom of the barrel, is certainly a delectable memory of my younger days. My father made Cane Syrup—better than any I ever saw—and always the last one-eighth of the space of the barrel was Rock Candy. We always took the head of the barrel out and salvaged this rather than to add water and dissolve it and re-boil it to make syrup. That, however, pure Ribbon Cane Syrup was and still is much better than the pharmaceutical product of the present day made from Granulated Sugar.

Sugars and Cookies

To discuss such things though leads one astray and into the field of Apple and Quince sauces and Ginger cakes, and Sugar top sprinkled Tea cakes, and Plum puddings, and Black Berry custards, or baked boiled puddings served with Hard Sauce, and many such things which modern culinary art would taboo. The women members of the family in the present generation are so afraid of having an extra ounce of pretty plumpness that they take vitamins pills and sugar

lived. Further, recall that God fed certain of His children on Manna, which was a natural juice obviously rather well impregnated with a sweet substance. Man does not seem to have been so dependent on Sugar in ancient times as he is at the present time unless perhaps he got all he wanted by eating fruits like dates and things of that kind. It is assumed that Sugar Cane which grows in hot, moist, low countries always furnished that food value which we at the present time attributed to Sugar. Nature hides these sweet foods in various places. It is in corn, in grass, in fruits, in the products of the insects like honey bee, and milk. You find it in grains, in the common grapes, potatoes and even in the roots of Dahlias, the Chickory Bean, and can be made from the Jerusalem artichoke. Men stole honey from the wild bees until they learned how to take it after the bees had been collected into hives and had manufactured it in a more concentrated way. Kalm, an early traveler in America, is our authority that bees are not native in America. Later writers have contradicted that statement and claim that Bumble Bees were originally here even though I cannot prove that. Bumble Bee honey is as equally good as the other kind, though not as easily procured and is of a less attractive color.

In Alabama, Sugar Cane, Sorghum and Corn are the best known sugar producing elements. Obviously the greater proportion is refined or fabricated in the

present day made from Granulated Sugar.

stance. The shortage of sugar in America today is said to be attributable to the fact that we cannot comfortably import it from the Philippines and Hawaii. One-third of that used in the United States is produced in this country or it comes from Cuba, and we will be able to get most of that. In 1940 we used 5,712,000 tons here.

Sugar Refining

In 1916 the American Sugar Refining Company issued a most attractive illustrated booklet which told the story of a century of sugar refining in the United States. From that volume we learn that then, just before the World War, sugar sold at a price less than it cost to make the raw product one hundred years before. An interesting advertisement which appeared in the New York Gazette in October, 1730, is:

"PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that NICHOLAS BAYARD of the City of New York, has erected a Refining House for Refining all sorts of Sugar and Sugar-Candy, and has procured from Europe an experienced artist in that Mystery. At which Refining House all Persons in City and Country may be supplied by Wholesale and retail with both double and single Refined Loaf-Sugar, as also Powder and Shop-Sugars, and Sugar-Candy, at Reasonable Rates."

In 1816 only 9,000,000 pounds was refined in New York City in a year's time. In 1916 that amount was produced in forty-eight hours time. In 1833 the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, Honorable Louis McLane, in the report on the fabrication and refining of sugar said:

"It is thought that the consumption of loaf or refined sugar will not, in the west, keep pace with the progress of population, because of the cheapness of coffee, which, to a considerable extent, is taking the place of tea as well as of ardent spirits; and in coffee, brown sugar is generally preferred. Still, much refined sugar is used to qualify whiskey, which, unhappily, continues to be extensively used in the west by certain classes of persons."

In 1816 the Tariff on raw sugar imported into the United States was three cents a pound, today nearly all that consumed in the United States pay no duty.

Sugar Buckets

Many of our grandmothers had sugar buckets, wooden pails in

the present day made from Granulated Sugar.

Sugars and Cookies

To discuss such things though leads one astray and into the field of Apple and Quince sauces and Ginger cakes, and Sugar top sprinkled Tea cakes, and Plum puddings, and Black Berry custards, or baked boiled puddings served with Hard Sauce, and many such things which modern culinary art would taboo. The women members of the family in the present generation are so afraid of having an extra ounce of pretty plumpness that they take vitamin pills and sugar substitute tablets rather than get the food value and the flesh producing nutrition which a bit of sugar would give. I hope I will never lose the recollection of those brown covered, oven-baked dumplings, served hot, and embellished with a tablespoon or two, preferably two, of Hard Sauce, Brandy flavored, made with Brown Sugar. I am wondering what we poor unfortunates who enjoy life (and admire fat people even though it is not fashionable), are going to do when in the next few weeks we are restricted to conserving our sugar and have to sweeten our Black Berry pies with artificial, prepared Corn Syrup or Glucose, or something which may taste sweet, but at the same time be not the genuine old time sugar. I take my coffee straight, but there are some other foods which I prefer to have "flavored."

It is perhaps just as well, for the present generation could not appreciate an old time Ginger Cake, nor one of those pan baked Tea cakes—the besprinkled ones—but it is saddening to think that Ginger Root that used to taste like Ginger, but which at the present time tastes like a piece of pulp wood dropped into a little Ginger flavored water, will be no longer available from the East Indies. In my day the Ginger cakes which were flavored with Brown Sugar and Black Molasses, and made with the Ginger Root which had not been white-washed, were as common-place as were those old time cooky jars which collectors so zealously compete for. Those days are no more, so perhaps it is best not to think of them.

Mica, mined in the United States, is now available as a medium for starting flower seeds, vegetable seeds and bulbs indoors.



Through The Years

The Confederate Torpedo Boat Hunley

By PETER A. BRANNON

PRESENT day warfare being literally either in the air operations or under the water fighting, for the most part, tempts me to wonder whether very many people in the South ever heard of the use of the Submarine Torpedo Boat by the Confederate States. W. A. Alexander, a member of the crew of a boat built at the machine shops in Mobile and operated with some degree of effect, contributed to the New Orleans Picayune, a story of the boat in June, 1902, and Doctor Thomas M. Owen used his story in the second number of the Gulf States Historical Magazine published nearly forty years ago. Even so, that publication is not available to the general public of the present day and I am herewith quoting much of what he said:

"Shortly before the capture of New Orleans by the United States troops, Captain H. L. Hunley (not Hundley), Captain James McClintock and Baxter Watson were engaged in building a submarine torpedo boat in the New basin of that city. The city falling into the hands of the federals before it was completed, the boat was sunk and these gentlemen came to Mobile. They reported, with their plans, to the Confederate authorities here, who ordered the boat to be built in the machine shops of Park & Lyons, Mobile, Ala.

The writer was a member of Company B, State Artillery, Twenty-first Alabama Regiment, and was detailed to do government work in these shops.

Messrs. Hunley, McClintock and Watson were introduced to me by Park & Lyons, who gave me orders to carry out their plans as far as possible.

We built an iron boat. The cross-section was oblong, about 25 feet long, tapering at each end, 5 feet wide and 6 feet deep. It was towed off Fort Morgan, intending to man it there and attack the blockading fleet outside, but the weather was rough, and with a heavy sea the boat became unmanageable and finally sank, but no lives were lost.

We decided to build another boat, and for this purpose took a cylinder boiler which we had on hand, 48 inches in diameter and twenty-five feet long (all dimensions are from memory). We cut this boiler in two, longitudinally, and inserted two 12-inch boiler-iron strips in her sides; lengthed her by one tapering course fore and aft, to which were attached bow and stern castings, making the boat about 30 feet long, 4 feet wide and 5 feet deep. A longitudinal strip 12 inches wide was riveted the full length on top. At each end a bulkhead was riveted across to form water-ballast tanks (unfortunately these were left open on top); they were

experiments made in the smooth water of Mobile River on some old flatboats these plans operated successfully, but in rough water the torpedo was continually coming too near the wrong boat. We then rigged a yellow pine boom, 22 feet long and tapering; this was attached to the bow, banded and guyed on each side. A socket on the torpedo secured it to the boom.

Two men experienced in handling the boat and seven others composed the crew. The first officer steered and handled the boat forward, and the second attended to the after-tank and pumps and the air supply, all hands turning on the cranks except the first officer. There was just sufficient room for these two to stand in their places with their heads in the hatchways and take observations through the lights in the combings.

All hands aboard and ready, they would fasten the hatch covers down tight, light a candle, then let the water in from the sea into the ballast tanks until the top of the shell was about three inches under water. This could be seen by the water level showing through the glasses in the hatch combings. The sea-cocks were then closed and the boat put under way. The captain would then lower the lever, depress the forward end of the fins very slightly, noting on the mercury gauge the depth of the boat beneath the surface; then bring the fins to a level; the boat would remain and travel at that depth. To rise to a higher level in the water he would raise the lever and elevate the forward end of the fins, and the boat would rise to its original position in the water.

If the boat was not under way, in order to rise to the surface, it was necessary to start the pumps and lighten the boat by ejecting the water from the tanks into the sea. In making a landing the second officer would open his hatch cover, climb out and pass a line to shore. After the experience with the boats in Mobile Bay the authorities decided that Charleston harbor with the monitors and blockaders there, would be a better field for this boat to operate in, and General Maury had her sent by rail to Charleston, S. C. Lieut. John Payne, C. S. N., then on duty at Charleston, S. C., volunteered with either others of the navy to take the boat out. The crew were about ready to make their first attack; eight men had gotten aboard, when a swell swamped the boat, drowning the eight men in her. The boat was raised, Lieut. Payne and eight others again volunteering. She

this time of three different crews, or twenty-three men.

Lieutenant George E. Dixon, like myself, was a mechanical engineer and belonged to the same regiment, the twenty-first Alabama. He had taken great interest in the boats while building, and during their operations in Mobile river, and would have been one of the "Hunley and Parks" crew, had there been a vacancy. As soon as the news that the boat had been lost again was verified, we discussed the matter together and decided to offer our services to General Beauregard, to raise and operate the boat for the defense of Charleston harbor.

Our offer was accepted, and we were ordered to report to General Jordan, chief of staff. The boat was raised, and the bodies were buried in the cemetery at Charleston. A monument with suitable inscription marks the spot. There had been much speculation as to the cause of the loss of the boat, for there could have been no swamping as in the other two cases, but the position in which the boat was found on the bottom of the river, the condition of the apparatus discovered after it was raised and pumped out, and the position of the bodies in the boat, furnished a full explanation for her loss. The boat, when found, was lying on the bottom at an angle of about 35 degrees, the bow deep in the mud. The holding-down bolts of each cover had been removed. When the hatch covers were lifted considerable air and gas escaped. Captain Hunley's body was forward, with his head in the forward hatchway, his right hand on top of his head (he had been trying, it would seem, to raise the hatch cover). In his left hand was a candle that had never been lighted, the sea-cock on the forward end, or Hunley's ballast tank, was wide open, the cock-wrench not on the plug, but lying on the bottom of the boat. Mr. Park's body was found with his head in the after hatchway, his right hand above his head. He also had been trying to raise his hatch cover, but the pressure was too great. The sea-cock to his tank was properly closed and the tank was nearly empty. The other bodies were floating in the water. Hunley and Parks were undoubtedly asphyxiated, the others drowned. The bolts that held the iron keel ballast had been partly turned, but not sufficient to release it.

In the light of these conditions, we can easily depict before our minds, and almost as readily explain, what took place in the boat during the moments immediately following its submergence. Captain Hunley's practice with the boat had made him quite familiar and expert in handling her, and

boat, and for this purpose took a cylinder boiler which we had on hand, 48 inches in diameter and twenty-five feet long (all dimensions are from memory). We cut this boiler in two, longitudinally, and inserted two 12-inch boiler-iron strips in her sides; lengthed her by one tapering course fore and aft, to which were attached bow and stern castings, making the boat about 30 feet long, 4 feet wide and 5 feet deep. A longitudinal strip 12 inches wide was riveted the full length on top. At each end a bulkhead was riveted across to form water-ballast tanks (unfortunately these were left open on top); they were used in raising and sinking the boat. In addition to these water tanks the boat was ballasted by flat castings, made to fit the outside bottom of the shell and fastened thereto by "Tee" headed bolts through stuffing boxes inside the boat, the inside end of bolt squared to fit a wrench, that the bolts might be turned and the ballast dropped, should the necessity arise.

In connection with each of the water tanks there was a sea-cock open to the sea to supply the tank for sinking; also a force pump to eject the water from the tanks into the sea for raising the boat to the surface. There was also a bilge connection to the pump. A mercury gauge, open to the sea, was attached to the shell near the forward tank, to indicate the depth of the boat below the surface. A one and a quarter shaft passed through stuffingboxes on each side of the boat, just forward of the boat, castings, or lateral fins, five feet and eight inches wide, were secured. This shaft was operated by a lever amidship, and by raising, or lowering the ends of these fins, operated as the fins of a fish, changing the depth of the boat below the surface at will, without disturbing the water level in the ballast tanks.

The rudder was operated by a wheel, and levers connected to rods passing through stuffingboxes in the stern castings, and operated by the captain or pilot forward. An adjusted compass was placed in front of the forward tank. The boat was operated by manual power, with an ordinary propeller. On the propelling shaft there were formed eight cranks at different angles; the shaft was supported by brackets on the starboard side, the men sitting on the port side turning on the cranks. The propeller shaft and cranks took up so much room that it was very difficult to pass fore and aft, and when the men were in their places this was next to impossible. In operation, one-half the crew had to pass through the fore hatch; the other through the after hatchway. The propeller revolved in a wrought iron ring or band, to guard against a line being thrown in to foul it. There were two hatchways, one fore and one aft, 16 inches by 12, with a combing 8 inches high. These hatches had hinged covers with rubber gasket, and were bolted from the inside. In the sides and ends of these combings glasses were inserted to sight from. There was an opening made in the top of the boat for an air box, a casting with a close top 12 by 18 by 4 inches, made to carry a hollow shaft. This shaft passed through stuffing boxes. On each end was an elbow with a 4-foot length of 1 1/2-inch pipe, and keyed to the hollow shaft. On the inside was a lever with a stop-cock to admit air.

The torpedo was a copper cylinder holding a charge of 90 pounds of explosive, with percussion and friction primer mechanism, set off by flaring triggers. It was originally intended to float the torpedo on the surface of the water, the boat to dive under the vessel to be attacked, towing the torpedo with a line 200 feet long after her, one of the triggers to touch the vessel and explode the torpedo, and in the

Mobile Bay the authorities decided that Charleston harbor with the monitors and blockaders there, would be a better field for this boat to operate in, and General Maury had her sent by rail to General Beauregard, at Charleston, S. C. Lieut. John Payne, C. S. N., then on duty at Charleston, S. C., volunteered with either others of the navy to take the boat out. The crew were about ready to make their first attack; eight men had gotten aboard, when a swell swamped the boat, drowning the eight men in her. The boat was raised, Lieut. Payne and eight others again volunteering. She was about ready to go out, when she was swamped the second time. Lieut. Payne and two of the crew escaped, but six men were drowned in her.

Gen. Beauregard then turned the boat over to a volunteer crew from Mobile, known as the "Hunley and Parks crew." Capt. Hunley and Thomas Parks (one of the best men), of the firm of Parks and Lyons, in whose shop the boat had been built, were in charge, with Messrs. Brockbank, Patterson, McHugh, Marshall, White, Beard and another, as the crew, and until the day this crew left Mobile it was understood that the writer of this was to be one of them, but on the eve of that day Mr. Parks prevailed on the writer to let him take his place. Nearly all the men had had some experience in the boat before leaving Mobile, and were well qualified to operate her.

After the boat had been made ready again Captain Hunley practiced the crew diving and rising again on many occasions, until one evening, in the presence of a number of people on the wharf, she sank and remained sunk for some days, thus drowning her crew of nine men, or a total up to

but the pressure was too great. The sea-cock to his tank was properly closed and the tank was nearly empty. The other bodies were floating in the water. Hunley and Parks were undoubtedly asphyxiated, the others drowned. The bolts that held the iron keel ballast had been partly turned, but not sufficient to release it.

In the light of these conditions, we can easily depict before our minds, and almost as readily explain, what took place in the boat during the moments immediately following its submergence. Captain Hunley's practice with the boat had made him quite familiar and expert in handling her, and this familiarity produced at this time forgetfulness. It was found in practice to be easier on the crew to come to the surface by giving the pumps a few strokes and ejecting some of the water ballast, than by the momentum of the boat operating on the elevated fins. At this time the boat was underway, lighted through the head-lights in the hatchways. He partly turned the fins to go down, but thought, no doubt, that he needed more ballast and opened his sea-cock. Immediately the boat was in total darkness. He then undertook to light the candle. While trying to do this the tank quietly flooded, and under great pressure the boat sank very fast and soon overflowed, and the first intimation they would have of anything being wrong was the water rising fast, but noiselessly, about their feet in the bottom of the boat. They tried to release the iron keel ballast, but did not turn the keys quite far enough, therefore failed. The water soon forced the air to the top of the boat and into the hatchways, where Captain Hunley and Parks were found. Parks had pumped his ballast tank dry, and no doubt Captain Hunley had exhausted himself on his



Through The Years

Early Post Route Into Mississippi Territory

By PETER A. BRANNON

AS a small boy I do not recall that I ever wanted to be a policeman, nor did I ever want to be a locomotive engineer, but I did have an ambition to be a Mail Rider. That early enthusiasm might have influenced my subsequent interest in Postal matters and my craving to get together things which have to do with early Post offices, stage drivers who complained about the Mail sacks being in their way, contractors who outbid each other to carry the Mail even at a loss, and the early records which show these routes.

The Acts of Congress which fix the authorization for carrying the Mail through the Mississippi Territory, as recorded in those very interesting volumes, the Territorial Papers of the United States, volumes 5 and 6 which apply to the Territory of Mississippi, give me an interesting insight as to the Dispatch routes prior to an officially fixed Postal schedule. For example Gideon Granger, Postmaster General of the United States, on August 14, 1811, addressed a letter to Messrs. Leonard Covington, Edward Bowie and others at Fort Stoddert, Mississippi Territory, in these words: "In answer to yours of the 24th of July, I have to remark, that your letters are transmitted from this city to pass by Milledgeville it is probably they receive a wrong direction at Fredericburg I have therefore this date directed that Office to be careful to send everything for Fort Stoddert and Fort Saint Stevens via Milledgeville, Georgia this I hope will correct the evil."

In November of the same year he addressed a letter to Colonel Leonard Covington then commanding Fort Stoddert, Mississippi Territory, as follows: "Yours postmarked the third Ult. is received, I am resolved to have the Mail going more regularly between this city and Fort Stoddert than it has heretofore done. Many causes exist on that route to destroy the perfect regularity of the Mail—but the greater part of the difficulties can be surmounted if the agents be persevering and faithful.

G. Gr."

Alabama, which I trust on examination will meet your approbation. I also inclose the blank form of an order on the Secretary of the Treasury in my favor for the sum the said Postmaster Genl is to be charged and held accountable.

"I am &c GG"

Early Mail Bags

The Postmaster General of the United States, in 1815, "for the purpose of securing the letter mail," directed Postmasters in the Mississippi Territory to provide Deer skin bags dressed in oil. The Postmaster at Nashville was instructed to "secure" his Mail in Linen bags which had been oiled. He wanted to experiment to see which one was best and which would give the most "security against the water." They were told to place the Letter Mail in these bags closely and strongly tied so that it would offer the least possible friction from the movement of the horse.

In 1815 Colonel George Fisher was the contractor for carrying the Mail from Milledgeville in Georgia, by Saint Stephens, to Madisonville in Louisiana. This mail was carried by Fort Jackson, "at the junction of the Koose & Talipose rivers," said Colonel Fisher had found it impossible to meet his contract agreement on account of the scarcity of provisions and feed as well as the "smallness of the price to which he contracted to do the job." Return Jonathan Meigs, the Postmaster General, in 1815, directed Joseph B. Varnum, of Washington City, to proceed to Georgia and go over the route and determine what would be a fair price to pay and make a contract to handle this Mail. He, the Postmaster General, considered that "from ten to twelve dollars a mile a year counting distance one way is a fair price for this service in ordinary times." Colonel Fisher must have gotten the contract the second time, for on February 6, 1816, the Secretary of War was addressed by Colonel Meigs as follows:

GENERAL POST OFFICE

6 Feb. 1816

W. H. Crawford Secy of War

American jurisdiction at Mobile is provided for by the following letter, even though the Postmaster General says that "this office never gives assurances."

"ADDIN LEWIS FORT STODDERT Miss. Terry

I am duly favored with yours of the 17th Ult. Your application to be P. M. at Mobile is registered—This office never gives assurances, but reserves itself free until it acts. Of our Confidence in & disposition towards you; you can well judge from what has happened. I hope we shall gain quiet possession of Mobile & that the P. O. establishment will be extended there.

G. G."

Mobile had not even then been taken over by the Americans, but this did happen a little while later.

The subject of early Mail delivery in what is now Alabama is one which makes it possible to develop the history of the State in the most fascinating way. The earliest Alabama Territorial Route to follow this Milledgeville to Saint Stephens one was that provided by the Act of Congress on April 20, 1818, to run from Fort Mitchell, by Fort Bainbridge, by Fort Jackson, by Burnt Corn Springs, by Fort Claiborne and the town of Jackson, to Saint Stephens. This one you see touched at Fort Jackson town, the original County Seat of Montgomery, and the Rider would have crossed at Red Warrior's Bluff, later Parker's Ferry, to proceed South through what was later Montgomery (in 1819) and on down to Manac's house on Pinchona, to take the Federal Road Southwest through Fort Dale, Fort Bibb, Burnt Corn Springs and go by Little River and Fort Montgomery, on by Blakeley, across the head of the Bay, into Mobile.

your letters are transmitted from this city to pass by Milledgeville it is probably they receive a wrong direction at Fredericburg I have therefore this date directed that Office to be careful to send everything for Fort Stoddert and Fort Saint Stevens via Milledgeville, Georgia this I hope will correct the evil."

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The printed proposals for Mail contracts show this route, one hundred seventy-six, from Milledgeville by Jones' Court House (that means Jones County, Georgia Court House), Fort Hawkins, the Creek Agency, Coweta, "Tuckabatchy" and Tensaw to Saint Stephens, to be carried once every week. It was intended to leave Milledgeville every Thursday at 2 p.m. and arrive at Saint Stephens the next Wednesday at 6 p.m. The Mail Rider left Saint Stephens every Thursday at 6 o'clock in the morning to arrive at Milledgeville the next Wednesday by 6 p.m. That route would carry one from Milledgeville to Fort Hawkins, which is Macon of today, by the Creek Agency on the Flint River in the present Crawford County, Georgia, thence West through what is now Fort Benning Reservation, to arrive at Coweta Town on the West side of the Chattahoochee in the present Russell County some eight miles South of Phenix City, thence West along what was subsequently the Federal Road and up to Tuckabatchee (two miles south of Tallassee, West of the Tallapoosa River), thence Southwest to Tensaw (sometimes known as Fort Montgomery), near old Fort Mims site, and onto Saint Stephens, which would have to be reached either through the Cut Off, or along Nannahubba Island, on North to Saint Stephens at Hobuckintopa Bluff on the Tombigbee River.

Preparing the Post Road

Mr. Granger, the Postmaster General, on date of July 20, 1809, addressed this letter to the President:

"James Madison, President of the U. S.

"I inclose the copy of a contract made with Mr. Bloomfield for clearing and improving the Post Road from Chatahouchee to

meet his contract agreement on account of the scarcity of provisions and feed as well as the "smallness of the price to which he contracted to do the job." Return Jonathan Meigs, the Postmaster General, in 1815, directed Joseph B. Varnum, of Washington City, to proceed to Georgia and go over the route and determine what would be a fair price to pay and make a contract to handle this Mail. He, the Postmaster General, considered that "from ten to twelve dollars a mile a year counting distance one way is a fair price for this service in ordinary times." Colonel Fisher must have gotten the contract the second time, for on February 6, 1816, the Secretary of War was addressed by Colonel Meigs as follows:

GENERAL POST OFFICE

6 Feb. 1816

W. H. Crawford Secy of War

Sir I send you an extract of a letter from Col. Fisher a mail contractor—I wish that he might with some permission to occupy the stands he has formed in Indian Country—for the purposes of conducting the mails. I suppose a permission from the War Department would be sufficient to authorise Col. Fisher's continuation to occupy those stands.

R. J. MEIGS

Colonel Meigs in 1816 asked Colonel Gilbert C. Russell about having the Infantry, by direction of the Secretary of War, open the road between Milledgeville and Mobile. The Federal Road from Milledgeville, Georgia, to Saint Stephens on the Tombigbee, was a result of an agreement between the Indians and the Government, under dates of 1805 and of 1811. This 1816 effort must have been to improve it.

Sometimes the contractors failed to get the Mail through. A letter of June 21, 1813 would so indicate:

"HON. JAMES BROWN IN CONGRESS.

I return yr letter. The contractor of the route from Milledgeville towards New Orleans if fined to the extent of the law of this he is notified and ordered to proceed immediately to the County and regularly execute his contract on penalty of its being vacated in case of failure. The postmasters at New Orleans, Ft. Stoddert, Creek Agency & Milledgeville by fresh instructions of this date are commanded to send the mail by express at the expense of this office whenever the contractor fails—about a month since James Converse was appointed Postmaster at Batton Rouge.

G. GRANGER"

First Postmaster at Mobile
The original Postmaster under

the town of Jackson, to Saint Stephens. This one you see touched at Fort Jackson town, the original County Seat of Montgomery, and the Rider would have crossed at Red Warrior's Bluff, later Parker's Ferry, to proceed South through what was later Montgomery (in 1819) and on down to Manac's house on Pinchona, to take the Federal Road Southwest through Fort Dale, Fort Bibb, Burnt Corn Springs and go by Little River and Fort Montgomery, on by Blakeley, across the head of the Bay, into Mobile.



Through The Years

Whitman's Sign

By PETER A. BRANNON

SOME years ago,—the one whom I quote says that it was "some twenty-odd years ago," there was here at Montgomery an interesting little lady who went on trips with the Bartram Natural History Society, and who I recall had a collection of miniature Turtles,—real live ones. She wrote me this past week from Providence, Rhode Island. This little lady who to me is still young (because I have not seen her since she was young), wants to know if I can tell her about the Providence, Rhode Island, legend of the "Turk's head." She sent me a clipping from The Providence Journal which is:

"There existed once, in Providence, a group called the Aged Citizen's Association. One Spring night in 1883 it met at the office of the Hon. Elisha Dyer to discuss a moot question such as only Aged Citizens settle. The question: What became of the original Turk's Head?

Of course we all know about the Turk's Head of today. From the cornice of the great prow-shaped building that bears its name it glowers in the general direction of the Great Weybosset Bridge where in 1765 Smith and Sabin opened their new shop . . . "at the sign of Mustapha, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, with a complete assortment of European East and West Indian goods which they will sell at the very Lowest Rate, using their customers in the Most Obliging Manner."

The Aged Citizens knew all about Smith and Sabin. And they knew, also, what a great painted wooden horror was the original Turk's Head, with its splayed nostrils and lolling redtongue—a sight to make drunkards shun the cup. Beside it, the present Turk's Head is practically a basrelief of Shirley Temple.

They knew too, the several theories as to its origin: how it was carved by John Bowen . . . by Artemas Westcott; how it was a figurehead of the Smith and Sabin merchantman Sultan . . . or that of the wrecked Indianman Grand Turk.

low the Great Bridge of Weybosset.

Alas for sentiment! The Alabama chawbacons appreciated neither Yankee notions nor Yankees. Georgie's business stifled in the hot Alabama sun. And one night some prankish planters who had taken too many juleps stole the great Turk's Head from above his door, packed it in sawdust and sent it to the Governor of Alabama.

("Why? Why? chorused the Aged Citizens in voices like the rustling of old ledgers.)

It was a practical joke, a bite. The Governor was having Indian trouble and had offered a bounty for the head of a certain chieftain of the Creek Nation. A tag attached to the Turk's Head bore the chief's name. It cost young Georgie an embarrassing visit to the Capital to get it back. That is all that I know.

("All? All?")
Yes, all. Except for a strange story that the chieftain of the Creeks, deeming the Head a Big Medicine well worth acquiring came to Montgomery clad in swan's feathers and bought it of young Georgie for a Round Sun, confounding the drunken planters and saving the business from Ruin. I do not believe this to be true.

The creaking voice was silent. The aged citizens rustled disapprovingly. "It seems to me," said the Agedest One, "that we are about where we were before. We cannot accept such a fanciful conclusion. But I certainly hope the boy drove a tight bargain:

R. L. W."

The little lady who sent the clipping is none other than Elizabeth Higgins, sister of the tall "Rosalie," both of whom are well remembered in Montgomery. In the letter from Elizabeth she inquires about whether our Whitman Street was named for this George—and it was—and also mentions the fact that they had Dexters in Providence and that they have a Dexter Street. She wants Montgomerians who re-

there were no neon racing, galloping, loping, running, illuminations, to light the way of the weary traveler into these places or business, then (if one had a swinging lantern he did well,) but a century has passed since those days and with the passing years has likewise passed the old-time folk items.

George Whitman is listed as one of the earliest merchants, so is also Jonathan Mayhew, Whitman and Mayhew were in business together, and a plat in the records of the City of Montgomery, that section South of South Street and East of Court Street, was sold by George Whitman, on Feb. 13, 1835, at a fiction. Mr. Mayhew, the business partner, was the third school teacher in the town.

The First Lieutenant of the original Volunteer Military Company in the town, the Montgomery Light Infantry, was this same George Whitman. Edward W. Thompson, who published the original newspaper, and who subsequently owned, published and edited that newspaper, The Planter's Gazette which sometime shortly after 1830 consolidated and changed its name and became The Advertiser, was the Ensign (that in Second Lieutenant). John Goldthwaite, a veteran of the War of 1812, and the first one of the name to come to Montgomery, was the Captain. Sometime later Capt. George Whitman commanded the Montgomery Guards which saw service in the War of 1836 with the Indians. "Georgie," as they called him in Rhode Island, organized a building company in 1832 and commenced the erection of Montgomery Hall, a celebrated hotel, a part of which still stands on the second block of Dexter Avenue on the South side. The Montgomery Hall was built by John Crane, who took three year's time, at a cost of fifty thousand dollars.

As well as being interested in Military life, Mrs. Whitman is shown by a 1834 directory as be-

The Aged Citizens knew all about Smith and Sabin. And they knew, also, what a great painted wooden horror was the original Turk's Head, with its splayed nostrils and lolling redtongue—a sight to make drunkards shun the cup. Beside it, the present Turk's Head is practically a basrelief of Shirley Temple.

They knew too, the several theories as to its origin: how it was carved by John Bowen . . . by Artemas Westcott; how it was a figurehead of the Smith and Sabin merchantman Sultan . . . or that of the wrecked Indiaman Grand Turk.

They knew how it outlasted Smith and Sabin and became the sign of Jacob Whitman's store at Town Street and Market Square.

But they didn't know what became of it. That is what they were met to discuss.

There was no nonsense about the sittings of the Aged Citizens. They met neither to guzzle rum nor at poker to play. They were grave men, come to shuck the golden ear of fact from the husk of legend.

They all rustled slightly as they sat down.

For a time no one spoke. They just sat there and tried to think what became of the Turk's Head. Finally one said in a creaking voice:

"I have been on a far jorney, even unto Montgomery, Alabama. Listen . . ."

And he went to tell, while the gas lights flickered in the office of the Hon. Elisha Dyer and cast shadows on the dim faces of the other Aged Citizens.

You are aware (he creaked) that the Turk's Head was torn from its pedestal above the entrance to Elder Whitman's Store by the Great Gale of 1815. It was recovered from the Cove by little Georgie Whitman while clamming.

("Yes. Yes. We are aware," the Aged Citizens fluttered.)

Georgie brought the Head back to Pa's store, but it never returned to its pedestal. Jacob Whitman carted it to his farmhouse out Olneyville way, and chucked it under a cellar stairs.

In 1824 George Whitman removed to Alabama and opened a store in Montgomery. I do not know (sighed the Aged Citizen) what prompted him to pack the Turk's Head in his tin trunk. No doubt he hoped to found, in the Deep South, a House linked to New England by the selfsame Turk's Head which had looked up on the forest of bowsprits be-

We cannot accept such a fanciful conclusion. But I certainly hope the boy drove a tight bargain:

R. L. W."

The little lady who sent the clipping is none other than Elizabeth Higgins, sister of the tall "Rosalie," both of whom are well remembered in Montgomery. In the letter from Elizabeth she inquires about whether our Whitman Street was named for this George—and it was—and also mentions the fact that they had Dexters in Providence and that they have a Dexter Street. She wants Montgomerians who remember her to know that she still has fond recollection of this old town on the Alabama. Alas! were she to come back now and see the Riverside Housing adjacent to the officer's quarters, she would never recognize the old brickyard site whence came those little "terrapins."

George Whitman

If one will take Blue's History of Montgomery, he will find that George Whitman figured rather prominently in our early day here. Neil Blue and Gen. Thomas Woodward, both, speak of him and the Land records of this town will show that he was "mixed-up" with quite a few transactions. I am not able to say that George sold his Turk's head to the Indians, nor can I give much additional data with reference to the episode of the 1830's which is mentioned by this old "citizen" at Providence. I suspect that the tradition is perhaps founded on Governor Clay's correspondence with reference to the Indian troubles of 1835-36, and that the Chief mentioned in the story was Tuskena, or it might be that they were trying to bring in High Head Jim (not Jim Boy). The Indian War records of 1836 give a very interesting account of some unruly ones who were jailed at Montgomery, and who escaped. It is known that Tuskena who merely sought to collect a debt owed him by Maj. James Johnston, Mail contractor, was the cause of the State Militia being called out and that Capt. Henry and Capt. Abercrombie spent two or three days in the woods trying to capture him. Even so, three outfits of our early militia were unable to round up the young man.

Mr. Whitman no doubt used his Turk's Head sign as effectively as did the other merchants who used a lion, or eagle, or a wooden Indian, or a punch, or a large mortar, or a big gun, or something of that kind. Of course

Montgomery Guards which saw service in the War of 1836 with the Indians. "Georgie," as they called him in Rhode Island, organized a building company in 1832 and commenced the erection of Montgomery Hall, a celebrated hotel, a part of which still stands on the second block of Dexter Avenue on the South side. The Montgomery Hall was built by John Crane, who took three year's time, at a cost of fifty thousand dollars.

As well as being interested in Military life, Mrs. Whitman is shown by a 1834 directory as being a merchant under the name of George Whitman and Company; was in business under the name of Whitman, Brame and Company; was shown as auctioneer, and listed as a warehouseman. The partnership of George Whitman and Jonathan Mayhew was dissolved on July 26, 1827. The marriage records of Montgomery County show George Whitman married to Miss Harris P. Brame, of Rhode Island, and the wedding took place in Washington. It is not so indicated, but I have wondered if this marriage took place in Washington, D. C. or in Washington, County Seat of Autauga. The Whitman descendents are yet at Montgomery. Whitman is more than hundred years later buying cotton here, as did his ancestors before him. Miss Whitman Hood is named for him. Montgomery records say that his house was what we later knew as the old Knox house on South Perry Street, now the Martha Stuart Apartments, he lived once at the Jonas place, later the Vass house, on South McDonough

Street, and the City Directory shows that he lived at the corner of Washington and South Hull.