Through The Years

What Is In A Name?

By PETER A. BRANNON

ISAAC TICHENOR is a name which has always had a fascinating appeal to me. I have never known any one of the name, though I have known something about several of the name and two men of that name have had an interesting association with Montgomery. Both have been written about and both seem to have left somewhat of an impress on the history of this town, so when I see the name I am naturally interested to see something more about it.

A day or two ago I had quoted to me an early Vermont document. It is an original commission on Vellum, with the seal of that State, signed by Governor Isaac Tichenor who was the chief executive of that commonwealth from 1797 to 1809, appointing a chief judge and two assistant judges of the Supreme Court of Vermont. The document was signed at Danville in 1805, and the price is fifteen dollars. I didn't buy it, in fact I have no particularly embracing collection of documents, but I was impressed with the comment on the paper. It was:

"It would be hard to get a more interesting group of Vermonters together on one document. Isaac Tichenor, who signs the commission, was Governor, 1797-1809. As commissary assistant to General Cuyler, he collected the supplies at Bennington which so sorely tempted the British. Jonathan Robinson came from a family famous in early Vermont annals. His brother, Moses was a governor and first chief judge, a position which Jonathan himself held as well as serving a number of years in the U. S. Senate. Royal Tyler will live forever as author of "The Contrast," first American play to be presented by American actors. Finally, it was Theophilus Harrington, while sitting as judge, who issued the verdict requiring "A bill of sale from God Almighty" before he would return a fugitive slave to his master—very popular and often quoted decision in anti-slavery circles.

Another Isaac Tichenor

In the annals in the city of Montgomery, rather I will say town of Montgomery, is a reference to a man of the same name as the governor, who was a member of a group attending a meeting here in Montgomery on Nov. 30, 1835. The purpose of it was to express sympathy for, and to give aid to, the Texas Revolution. Isaac Tichenor, S. D. Green, John McGowan, S. W. Flournoy, W. P. Dubose, John M. Powers, L. Eubanks, John Lanier, David Johnston, Samuel C. Pittman, Charles Aber-

was sometime president of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute as now is, they called it the Agricultural and Mechanical College then and he left lots of kinspeople here in the Southland. Doctor Tichenor was pastor of our First church from 1852 to 1858. He was chaplain of the 17th Alabama Infantry Regiment, C. S. Army for a little more than two years of the war and was preaching in Memphis in 1871, when he was made president of the Agricultural College at Auburn, which position he held for ten years. The doctor had the distinction and his grandchildren likewise share that distinction, of being able to say that their descendants "came over on the Mayflower." John Alden, who New England history suggests, was Doctor Tichenor's great - great - great-great-great-grandfather. John is said by some at least to have been the first European to put foot on Plymouth Rock. Martin Tichenor, according to a genealogy before me here, came out of France and took the oath of allegiance to America at New Haven, Conn., in 1644. After he married Mary Charles he went to Newark and these New Jersey members of the family then went to Kentucky.

Early Days At Auburn

The Agricultural and Mechanical College created, or authorized March 22, 1872, under the Morrill Act of July, 1862, continued the old East Alabama Male College of the Methodist Church. Owen's History says that "at first there was much prejudice against the new education, so called, and much adverse criticism of its aims and methods. Yet under the wise and conservative administration of its first president Doctor I. T. Tichenor, the college made substantial advancement along the line of work indicated by the act of Congress establishing it." Rev. Tichenor was made a doctor of divinity by Howard College and a doctor of laws by the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. He entered the ministry at Taylorsville, Ky., and was for some years on the Indian mission board of the Baptist Church, representing the state of Mississippi. During this time he served as pastor of the Baptist Church at Columbus, Miss. For two years before coming to Montgomery in 1852, he was pastor at Henderson, Ky. It is a coincident fact that after several pastorates as a Baptist minister and quite a reputation made in a denominational way, he should have been chosen the head of the new State institution which actually perpetuated that old and well established Methodist School at Auburn. Doctor Tichenor's administration at the A. and M. College was an eminently successful one and the college enjoyed then years of good work even though, as said by Doctor Owen above, there was criticism of the new theory of technical education as contrasted with the old methods of a classical foundation.

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Accepting historical statements made in Columbus, Ga., together with sundry items in Montgomery's past, it is evident that a group of some twenty or twenty-five must have gone from here and a like number from Columbus, Ga., and they formed the company, or two companies of volunteers who were wiped out in the Goliad Massacre. The Montgomery papers say that Colonel Ward, and Colonel Mirabeau Lamar, (the latter became president of Texas, and was a newspaper man in Columbus, until the outbreak of the Texas War), attended the Montgomery mass meeting and while it is not so expressed, we know that they carried their one hundred and fifty volunteers to the meeting as a "gallary" to stimulate enthusiasm. General Lamar founded the Columbus Enquirer in 1828, and the first number was issued during the last week in May. In July, 1830, he sold that paper to James Van Ness. In November of that year Henry W. Hilliard, long time associated with Montgomery, bought an interest in the papar and became editor. General Lamar moved to Texas in the early '30's and was subsequently with Sam Houston, much involved in the politics of the early Republic.

Still Another Isaac Tichenor

The First Baptist Church of the city of Montgomery once had an interesting pastor, Isaac Taylor Tichenor, born in Spencer County, Kentucky, but a descendant of New England ancestry, who I do not hesitate to believe is probably kin to the old Vermonter, Gov. Isaac. Doctor I. T. Tichenor and methods. Yet under the wise and conservative administration of its first president Doctor I. T. Tichenor, the college made substantial advancement along the line of work indicated by the act of Congress establishing it." Rev. Tichenor was made a doctor of divinity by Howard College and a doctor of laws by the Alabama Polytechnic Institute. He entered the ministry at Taylorsville, Ky., and was for some years on the Indian mission board of the Baptist Church, representing the state of Mississippi. During this time he served as pastor of the Baptist Church at Columbus, Miss. For two years before coming to Montgomery in 1852, he was pas-

Through The Years

Out Of The Sepulga Swamps

By PETER A. BRANNON

COLONEL BENJAMIN HAWKINS on Feb. 10, 1797, spoke of the Big Suppalgaws and the Little Suppalgaws. Ludlow, a map maker about 1818 wrote the word "Supalga." Now we have a little stream, which must have been a bigger one in the days gone by for it seems to have left a lasting impression, called Sepulga Creek in its upper waters and the Sepulga River where it enters the Conecuh about the northeast corner of Escambia County.

All of which is preliminary to a desire on my part to gratify the ambitions of several who have wanted a story about the original country around Brooklyn —not Brooklyn in the East where the Dodgers hail from, but a little town in Eastern Conecuh County, on Sepulga River, which is said to have gotten its name when Edwin Robinson moved in there in 1820 and opened a store. Riley's History of Conecuh County, along with quite a bit of other data which can be had if you dig hard enough for it, shows that Mr. Robinson, or as he is sometimes called Roberson, moved south from Brooklyn, Connecticut, not New York. However, this Yankee was not the original settler at that place on the Sepulga for all the traditions of the Southeast corner of Conecuh indicates that a man named Cameron was living there and was putting travelers across the river as early as 1819, and further than this Doctor Riley says that the ferry was run by a Mr. Thompson who came in with Mr. Robinson. Judge Stocks of Georgia who came along that route in the Summer of 1819 crossed the river there on the ferry, but he does not give the name of the ferryman. Anyhow Mr. Robinson was the first store keeper and he named the place and it has retained that name as a post office for all these years. Local tradition says that Doctor Milton Amos for whom the town of Milton, Fla., was named came in shortly after Mr. Robinson and then the Dean and Hart families followed pretty soon afterwards. The Reverend Alexander Travis, a Baptist preacher whose mission fields extended well above Montgomery and down the

Act Number 208, was passed to incorporate the Conecuh Navigation Company. By that Act, T. H. McIver, J. W. Ethridge, the firm of Gunn and McLean, H. L. Sterns, J. H. McCreary, E. M. McCreary, C. Jones, A. B. Miechell, J. G. Barrow, John Smith, John Wald, Benjamin Hart, A. Perryman, and Daniel Saltman "and their asociates," were constituted a body corporate and politic, with a capital stock of 25,000 dollars, the same to be under the name and style of "the Conecuh Navigation Company." The second section of that act authorized that company to operate steamboats on the Sepulga and Conecuh Rivers, from Brooklyn and Montezuma, to the Florida line. At that date, 1850, Montezuma as a town had long since gone out of existence, but of course there was a Montezuma Landing, or crossing place on the Conecuh River, and the location is at the "Falls of the River", so the purpose of this company was to operate boats from the point just below the falls to the market in Florida. Montezuma landing has long since ceased to exist even as a known place to most people of Andalusia of today, but the falls of the river are perpetuated in the town of the River Falls.

Early Settlers

Beside those mentioned above, the Meek family, the Hodges family, the Mannings, the Folks, the Turks, the Bursons, the Hortons, the Lees, the Halsteads, the Slaughters, and the Feagins came in as the years passed to settle there on the Sepulga. Thomas Mendenhall, an "industrialist," established a shop which some called a "hand-factory" and he made chisels, augers, cotton cards, spinning wheels and gin pullies.

Postmasters at Brooklyn

An examination of postal records show James N. Hart, postmaster, with a salary of $12.36 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1829. Other postmasters who served in the early days of that town were: Benjamin H. Halstead, who received $31.18, for the year ending June 30, 1835. On September 30, 1837, Mr. Halstead's name is spelled

well within the Creek country and hardly is likely to be of Choctaw basis. Doctor William A. Reed of Louisiana, who has made extensive study of Southern aboriginal names inclines toward its origin as being from the Creek and thinks it designates "cane brakes," or near the "cane grove," but he says that the derivation as fixed by Doctor William S. Wyman, coming from "kono" and "ika" which means "pole cat's head," is not improbable. Doctor Gannett, a well known American cartographer translated the word as "crooked," but very few students agree with him. Cruickshank's translation "land of cane" is likewise opposed by Doctor Reed. Colonel Hawkins as early as 1796 spelled the word, "Ko-o-ne-cuh." In another place he spelled it "Ko-ne-cau."

Turk's Cave

On the Sanders' plantation (as known today), near Brooklyn, is a cave known quite early in the history of the State as Turk's Cave. Many of the early writers, Colonel Willis Brewer among them, have referred to it as the "resort of Bats." Local tradition, as well as a volume which I have seen in the possession of Ed Leigh McMillian, identifies this place as the resort of a celebrated highwayman, one Joseph T. Hare. I cannot tell you much about Mr. Hare, or how celebrated and renouned were his cut-throats who were led by him, but they bore a bad name and have been ranked by some as having as much reputation for their lawlessness as did the Murrill gang of the early 30s of the past century.

The Brooklyn Male and Female Academy

The Alabama Legislature on February 7, 1852, incorporated the Brooklyn Male and Female Academy and constituted Caleb Johnson, George W. Murke, Asa Johnson, C. W. Snowden, Samuel Feagin, Elijah McCreary and George H. DuBose as trustees. That Act of the Legislature did something a little out of the ordinary for they provided for an election to be held to determine whether "ardent" spirits should be

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Early Boating Operations

The tales told by those of Covington and Conecuh and Escambia Counties about Keel-boats and Flat boats and Rafts operating on the Sepulga and Conecuh Rivers would do credit to one of those famous titles given to a volume which sets out many stirring episodes—"Tall Tales of the Southwest". While many of them are almost too big to believe, the Sepulga River and the Conecuh River must have been rather more considerable streams one day than they are now. Riley in his history says that the original settlers came in here and raised large quantities of cotton which they shipped by boat to Pensacola. Of course there were grist-mills along the stream and I have often wondered how with these known mills along the way, these heavy weighted keel boats and flats could get over or around the mill dams, but in the fact of all this they insist that during the year 1823, three thousand bales of cotton were shipped from Brooklyn to Pensacola. The first boat was built by George Stoneham. Edwin Robinson, the Jones brothers John and James, Starke and Harry Hunter, and Frank Boykin each had a boat on the river and hauled produce down to market. That was too early for the timber business and turpentine production had not started. This effort on the part of the early settlers in that country to utilize the waterways for transportation bears worthy consideration of students interested in the life of the period. All of the local tradition is to the use of these flat boats, which were propelled by poles down stream and by "hook and jam" methods up stream, at a very early date, certainly around 1830, which if this is true must indicate that the Conecuh was used as a navigable stream over quite a period of years. Local records around Brooklyn fix the charge of transportation of a bale of cotton weighing five hundred pounds, at one dollar and fifty cents when delivered into Pensacola. Corn in the shuck was eighteen and three-quarter cents a bushel. Flour was one dollar and twenty-five cents a barrel. Molasses and whisky was one dollar and a half a barrel. Iron for use in the blacksmith shops, was charged for at the rate of fifty cents a hundred pounds. Coffee was hauled for one dollar and a quarter a sack of one hundred pounds (oh, for a sack now).

The above is from the notations of historian Riley. Time passes on and I find in the Acts of the Legislature of Alabama that on February 12, 1850, a bill being

people [illegible] the falls of the river are perpetuated in the town of the River Falls.

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Origins of Some Names

The Indian words Conecuh and Sepulga have created quite some discussion on the part of historians for the reason that some ethnologists have considered that region of the State of Alabama influenced by the Choctaw language, whereas it is positively in the Creek country. Present-day authorities, or rather accepted authorities, incline to the origin of the word "Sepulga" as of Creek derivation and made up as asi, api, and algi. "Asi" is the abbreviation of the word for Yaupon, the small leaf holly of the lower sandy, warm, moist country, and "api," which means "tree," joined by "algi," which means a group, or a grove of trees. This would make the word yaupon grove, or a group of these trees. If the word is of Choctaw origin, then it must be a corruption of the word which would designate "smoky." The Creek Indians more so than the Choctaws, used the Ilex cassene, the yaupon holly, very much in their ceremonials, and in their economic life as well, so it is not unlikely that this is the correct interpretation of the word.

The original of the name Sepulga, which is given by Doctor Riley, is, to say the least of it, an amusing one, as he interprets the word to be "suckapulga," and says it means "hog creek." Of course he got this origin from the natives down there, white natives, not red ones, and these whites were certainly stretching their imagination. I can hardly believe that the Indians were accustomed to driving "great herds" of hogs which had been fattened by the luxuriant masts in the Lowndes and Montgomery County swamps to Pensacola—for the Indians didn't raise that many, but the tradition is that one of the herds was being made to swim across the creek and they were all drowned, thereby getting the name Hog Creek.

Conecuh is probably of the same generic origin as it comes

as well as a volume which [illegible] seen in the possession of Ed Leigh McMillian, identifies this place as the resort of a celebrated highwayman, one Joseph T. Hare. I cannot tell you much about Mr. Hare, or how celebrated and renouned were his cut-throats who were led by him, but they bore a bad name and have been ranked by some as having as much reputation for their lawlessness as did the Murrill gang of the early 30s of the past century.

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Some years ago I made a trip to Conecuh County and wrote a story about old Beulah Church. To those who may not know, Beulah had long since ceased to exist at that immediate place, but the cemetery is there and is one of the most interesting which has ever been my good fortune to visit. There in that desolate and abandoned section of the woods you will find beautiful Italian marble monuments. Many of the early families lay resting to await the day of Judgment. I saw these stones marked with the names "Hunter" and "Boykin" and "Jay" and "Ashley" and "Miller," and that great old Baptist, Alexander Travis, was laid away there when he passed on in 1852.

A few years ago a bit of publicity was circulated by the official agency which calls the attention of the world to Alabama and there was this reference to Brooklyn.

Brooklyn's Beauty Trail

"Five days in the week the benches of Brooklyn at the corner of Conecuh near where Escambia and Covington Counties meet, are occupied, except at meal time, by the male inhabitants of the town who whittle, chew, smoke and talk politics, but on Saturday afternoons, the women take charge of the seats in front of the stores and make it a social occasion for the discussion of the things that occupy the feminine mind. The custom started with war-work for soldiers in the World War period and has been kept up since as a community custom.

Brooklyn never had a railroad nor a paved highway, but it has good schools, churches and homes that reflect the high character of its citizens, and when the flower of the community adorns those benches in gala attire, the one street of the town becomes more beautiful and attractive to the worshipful males than a dozen Azalea Trails. Men are not excluded, but the women dominate the picture and the subjects of conversation undergo a change for the better."

D. Immediate Possession. Class 43

Through The Years

Local Sentiment

By PETER A. BRANNON

I PUBLISHED in this column three or four weeks ago, a reprint of the recollections of old Judge Richards of Chambers County. Either the old Judge had very many loyal friends, or those Chambers County born, scattered over the United States, people were glad to hear from home and to see something written about their forbears. I have had many references to this story. The granddaughter of old Dr. Bledsoe, herself born in Chambers County, and the wife of an old Auburn man now a professor in the University of Texas, writes me and refreshed memories of her younger days in East Alabama. Mrs. Hollingsworth and Judge William Thomas and others of old Chambers had their recollections of younger days brought to mind by these memories of those old days of Judge Richards.

Judge Thomas (of the Alabama Supreme Court), is anxious that the story told him in his boyhood of the Mr. Harper mentioned by Judge Richards, be put on record. He wants those who may come after us to hear it.

The Judge's Story

Judge Thomas' subconscious mind is revisioned in the reading of Judge Richard's Recollections and he puts the incidents together and releases the complete story. The facts as told him many years ago by his mother's brother was why the Indians did not molest the family of Mr. Harper at the time they killed him at the beginning of this "incipient" uprising in the Spring of 1836. It seems that one of the natives (Indian), borrowed a pony from one of his friends up near the headwaters of Sandy Creek and rode him down the trail which led to the mouth of Oseligee, which trail went by the home of Mr. Harper, and when he reached the old Indian town near the mouth of Oseligee, turned him loose that he might through natural intuition return to his owner up on Sandy Creek. In returning up the trail the pony perhaps wanting a drink or some food, strolled into the yard of Mr. Harper who needed a plow animal to prepare his ground for Spring planting and the settler determined to just keep him and use him in the emergency. Mr. Harper's neighbors warned him about keeping the Indian pony, telling him that he should beware as it might lead to trouble for the Indians would resent his not per-

and discontinued on August 27, 1838.

On December 10, 1835, a post office was established under the name of Pittsborough, Tallapoosa County, Alabama, with Murphy V. Jones as postmaster. The name of that office was changed to Dudleyville on December 4, 1837. That office was discontinued on July 8, 1867; reestablished on March 20, 1872; and finally discontinued on December 31, 1907.

The post office of Popular Valley, Chambers County, Alabama, was established on December 24, 1840, with Hiram McKnight as postmaster. That office was discontinued on November 25, 1842.

Henry M. Gay was appointed postmaster at the post office of Beaver Dam, Randolph County, Alabama, when that office was established on August 24, 1839. That office was discontinued on July 30, 1842.

The post office of Wedowee, Randolph County, Alabama, was established on April 12, 1837, with William H. Cunningham, Jr., as postmaster. The name of that office was changed to McDonald on April 10, 1840, and back to Wedowee on March 13, 1844.

On July 31, 1833, the post office of Laurel Hill, Carroll County, Georgia, was established with H. P. Mabry as postmaster. That office was discontinued on June 27, 1866, reestablished on October 7, 1867; discontinued August 9, 1869; reestablished on April 10, 1871; discontinued on May 12, 1871; and reestablished on November 24, 1876. The name of that office was changed to Lairdsborough on May 23, 1878; and to Mabry on November 24, 1884. That office was finally discontinued on January 14, 1905.

The post office of Carrollton, Carroll County, Georgia, was established on September 10, 1827, with William O. Wagnon as postmaster.

The papers pertaining to the establishment of these offices have long since been destroyed. Therefore, the Department is unable to furnish any information regarding the exact location of these offices when they were established."

Chambers Court House Site

Chambers County House apparently was established as the Post Office about September 1833, with James Thompson as the first Postmaster. A record of his pay shows first in 1835. John A. Hurst was the original Postmaster at Fredonia. N. W.

Archives and History. Doctor Riley published his history before I was born and I never had the honor to know the old gentleman. Some comments have been made that certain of the families referred to by me never lived at Brooklyn. They must have, or they would not have been so pertinently and prominently mentioned in connection with the Postoffice there. Obviously people from miles around got their mail there. The Postoffice when Mr. Hart was Postmaster was probably in his house, or store, and the same may apply in other cases. Doctor Riley says that "Brooklyn became the most conspicuous point in the county." Some of the later day settlers in Covington County don't agree with him and some of those people over in the neighbrohood of Bellville don't agree with him, but it is probably all according to the viewpoint. For example Doctor Riley says that the only two families residing at Brooklyn when Doctor Amos went there in 1820, were those of Mr. Edwin Robinson, a merchant, and Mr. Thompson, the owner of the ferry on Conecuh River. I do not know where the ferry on Conecuh River was exactly "at," but even so, it would have to be six or seven miles from Brooklyn which is on Sepulga River. At the same time these early writers refer to both of these men "as of Brooklyn." Doctor Amos first settled at Cotton's Bluff, twenty miles "below" Brooklyn. He changed his residence after one year's stay at his first settlement, going to Brooklyn in 1820, and about 1835 went to Bellville. This "about 1835" should probably be 1836-37, for he was a Justice of Peace, as the Commission records in the Alabama achives show, as of January, 1834. There is another Commission for him in 1835 or 1836, so he might have moved in the meantime and been recommissioned in his new Beat as of the later date. I do not just exactly locate Cotton's Bluff (for I do not know those land marks there well enough), but I do know that this place is not the same as the original settlement in the first community which seems to have been between Ards and Bottles Creeks. A man named McConnel and George Feagin, who were storekeepers, and a blacksmith named John Brantley, and a school teacher named Graham, the latter from Georgia, were the original ones at the first settled place some six miles Northwest of the center of Brooklyn of today. Asa and Caleb Johnston, spelled with a "t" in the name, who married daughters of Aaron Feagin, were out of Georgia to this place. The U. S. Land Office records show most of these entries as of 1823 and the early 30s. Just why I do not know, but quite a few of the early ones moved to the Western edge of the county. The settlements on the Conecuh near the site of that first North Carolinian, must not be confused with those up around Brooklyn.

Obviously in developing the early settlement of a locality one must not be too constricted in the interpretation of those who originally settled thereabouts. Any consideration of the early days of Brooklyn must take in perhaps ten or twelve miles of Western Covington County (as of the present time), and most everything East from Old Sparta site in the present Conecuh.

At least these local write ups stir up sufficient interest in the locality to warrant the fun that I have in going into the records to look up the data.

Harper, and when he reached the old Indian town near the mouth of Oseligee, turned him loose that he might through natural intuition return to his owner up on Sandy Creek. In returning up the trail the pony perhaps wanting a drink or some food, strolled into the yard of Mr. Harper who needed a plow animal to prepare his ground for Spring planting and the settler determined to just keep him and use him in the emergency. Mr. Harper's neighbors warned him about keeping the Indian pony, telling him that he should beware as it might lead to trouble for the Indians would resent his not permitting the pony to go on to his rightful owner on Big Sandy. To these warnings Mr. Harper did not give heed. In a few days the Indians appeared on the scene and some words passed between them and Mr. Harper who they killed and then taking the pony, proceeded on to the native settlement. As was often the case in those times where the scales of justice might weigh a little heavier on the side of the Indian, in order that peace might be the result, the laws of the Indians were permitted to decide the case. Anyhow those guilty of Mr. Harper's murder were not brought to trial.

Judge Thomas has enjoyed the recollections of old Judge Richards because he knew him in his old age and greatly respected him. Mrs. Payne (she is the Texas lady) recalls the old home place of the Richards family as well as the old settlement site of the Bledsoe's from whom she is descended.

Those Bledsoes

William Bledsoe of Fluvanna County, Virginia, moved to Chambers County sometime shortly after 1835. William Carey Bledsoe, born at LaFayette in 1847, grandson of that William Bledsoe, was secretary of the Alabama Baptist Mission Board for some time and is best known by his volume, "The History of the East Liberty Baptist Association." John Francis Bledsoe, father of William Carey, was president of the Lafayette Female College.

Lafayette College chartered by the Act of Legislature in 1886 and founded three years earlier, was under control of William C. Bledsoe, James C. Griffin, Albert Frederick, George Chatfield, Charles Schuessler, S. J. Meadows, and David G. Allen.

Lafayette, the home of that well known institution, is a reasonably old town, according to some having been organized as Fayetteville. The settlement dates from about 1833 when Judge Thompson, the first county official, and the commission appointed to select the county seat, chose the northeast corner of Section 13 of Township 22, Range 26, for the seat of justice. The Postoffice Department, several years ago, furnished to Walter B. Wood of Lafayette an interesting reference to nearby postoffices and I quote from the letter of Aug. 5, 1939, to him.

"Your letter of July 6, 1939, addressed to the postmaster general, requesting information regarding certain postoffices in the State of Alabama and Georgia, has been referred to this bureau for appropriate attention. In reply thereto, you are advised that route No. 3737 as of Jan. 1, 1840, extended from Dudleyville, Popular Balley, Beaver Dam, Wedowee (changed to McDonald), all in Alabama; and Laurel Hill to Carrolton, both in Georgia; 73 miles and back once a week. The contractor was David E. Gresham.

The records indicate further that the office of Montreal, Alabama, was on that route prior to its discontinuance on August 27, 1838.

The post office of Montreal, Tallapoosa County, Alabama, was established on May 27, 1835, with Willis Whatley as postmaster; established on September 10, 1827, with William O. Wagnon as postmaster.

The papers pertaining to the establishment of these offices have long since been destroyed. Therefore, the Department is unable to furnish any information regarding the exact location of these offices when they were established."

Chambers Court House Site

Chambers County House apparently was established as the Post Office about September 1833, with James Thompson as the first Postmaster. A record of his pay shows first in 1835. John A. Hurst was the original Postmaster at Fredonia. N. W. Kidd was appointed Postmaster at Oak Bowery on July 1, 1837.

The above data may not only interest the older citizens, but I hope will receive the enthusiasm of some of those old Chambers County natives in the same way that Judge Richards' Reminiscences published a few weeks ago did. In this connection, Judge Richards mentions this statement:

"The first physicians that settled at said county-site (meaning LaFayette), were Thomas R. Russell, Augustus Owen, Cuthbert G. Hudson, P. T. Richardson, Jesse Boring, Ed Bacon, Samuel Thompson, P. M. Shapard, Lanier Bankston. These did a good practice while they remained in LaFayette. The attorneys who were early settlers at LaFayette are as follows: This Scribe was admitted to the practice of the law by the Superior Court in LaGrange, Troup County, Ga., in the month of September, 1833, and on the first day of October, 1833, engaged board with John Atkins and claimed what is now LaFayette as his place of residence, and has lived in or near said town ever since. Being the first attorney that ever settled in Chambers County. But in a few weeks thereafter came L. B. Robertson, then George D. Hooper, Mathew Phillips, Robert Baugh, James E. Reese, and a little later G. W. Gunn, James F. Harris and J. J. Steiner."

My recent correspondence with those who have been interested in the revival of East Alabama history has brought me a most inspiring letter from Judge William B. Bowling of the Circuit Court, who was interested in my story of Choccolocco because he was born within three miles of that old settlement, which by the way was out of Chambers County, and in it the Judge gives me quite a bit of data about the old country North of this immediate Chambers County now under discussion. My contacts with LaFayette and those environs in recent years have been most pleasant. Those Torberts of the present generation have shown the same graciousness to me as did their people who settled on the road from Montgomery to Columbus in the early days of old Macon and Russell County. Long may they enjoy life and prosperity.

I seem to recollect that the Dowdells and the Samfords and the Densons and many of my East Alabama friends have relatives and parts of their families yet at Lafayette. When I was last that way Honorable Thomas Heflin still called it home. In the Western section of the county at Oak Bowery and Gold Hill, there were those with whom I have had pleasant contacts and I hope that my opportunities to renew these associations will, in the no distant future, be made again available.

Brooklyn Comment

In this connection I have had some inquiring comment on "just where I got my Brooklyn information." My readers must accept the fact that much of it was compiled from data included in Riley's History of Conecuh County, from U. S. Postal Records, from records of the U. S. Land Office and from correspondence which came to the Department of

Through The Years

More Weather

By PETER A. BRANNON

ON JANUARY 28th, 1940, just following a very cold spell, I published in this series, a story titled "The Weather." I have been asked to republish that statement. The quoted parts of this story are those which appeared at that time. Among other things I said:

"Previous Alabama Weather

Cabeza de Vaca, who visited the Gulf Coast of this State, stayed twenty-five days in July in the vicinity of the town of Apalachi —which was about the mouth of the Appalachicola River — the Chattahoochee River as we generally think of it, in his narrative makes the significant statement: "The country is very cold." Compiled weather reports, particularly a lot of material brought together by Doctor P. H. Mell, at Auburn, published in 1890, shows the year 1779-1780 as cold, the year of 1783 cold during July and August, and 1807, 1816 and 1823 quite noticeably cold. The Winter months of 1748, 1768, 1772, 1780, 1793, 1794, and 1799, were cold, though there is no indication that the Summer was any other than normal. On February 16, 1807, the weather was so cold in Mobile that sap in the trees froze and in some cases the bark exploded. Frost is reported in South Alabama on May 7, 1827. In many parts of the State the Winter Freezes of that year lasted well into March. The ground was hard frozen in 1828 and during that year there was no thaw until sometime after the climatological end of Winter. There are records to show that it was possible to skate on streams at Mobile during the Winter of 1855-1856. On April 13, 1857, there was a heavy snow storm in most parts of the State. On December 30, 1857, the most perceptible snow fall ever known in Alabama occurred and extended well below the middle part of the State. The Tombigbee River is stated to have frozen all the way across in January 1877, as high up as Columbus, Mississippi. The thermometer is said to have reached five degrees above zero in 1823 and in 1877 it was zero in Columbus, Mississippi. On December 5, 1886, there is a record of twenty inches of snow in the northern part of the State and a twelve-inch fall in middle and more southern Alabama country. February 13, 1899, is the lowest record in the State in my memory. I was at school in Auburn and I recall that snow balls with a diameter greater than I was tall, were common on the campus there. The temperature was below zero in many parts of the State.

A diary in the Department of Archives and History shows the [illegible] the house. We seldom have such a thing today. In the 1899 cold spell, the weather continued severely cold and the snow did not melt for over a week and we had another snowstorm ten days after the first one. The reference to "we" is not intended to convey the weather indications at Clanton, or Montgomery, or Birmingham, or Decatur, for it is a quite well known fact it frequently snows at Clanton when it does not at Montgomery or Birmingham. I have often seen it colder in Troy than in Montgomery, the climatologist has a scientific reason for this, but the ordinary layman, to which class I belong, must accept the weather as he gets it, and should not make any complaint. Of course traveling in bad weather was more disagreeable forty years ago than at the present time. Then we had no pavement, or roads so improved that the ice froze on them and made them risky. At the same time unless one took a hot brick in the carriage or buggy, the feet suffered much. Ear protectors were far more common two generations ago than they are at the present time, even in the South. Those of us who are interested in antiques are amused and are educated by the several contrivances of an early period antedating electric heaters for use in vehicles to make traveling more comfortable. The small square tin sided box into which was placed a heated stone, the original warmer, or stove designed for vehicle, is quite interesting in comparison with the earthenware glazed bottle designed to show two foot prints, which when filled with boiling water served as a bed warmer. Likewise these two items are strikingly in contrast with the long handled copper mellon-like box intended to rub between the blankets to warm the bel before getting into it.

Those things were possible before the modern craze of sleeping on the open air porch, getting up in the cold and taking an ice water shower bath, and I hardly believe that there was more illness from the manner in which people slept than there is at the present time. It is historically recorded that the Indians even in this Southern country, were sleeping in hot houses in the Winter, and that these houses were igloo-like with the smoke outlet in the center at the top of the building. It is a well known fact that few country negroes of the old regime could be prevailed on to have much fresh air in their sleeping quarters at night. Physical warmth rather than theoretical health was the prevailing desire of those who sought to have more [illegible] from the bay was too subject to overflow to permit a permanent establishment. These high waters probably caused those malarial conditions and resulted in the breeding of those mosquitoes which caused that very disastrous epidemic of 1704 when the romantic character, Henri de Toni, died of yellow fever, the first record of the disease in the history of the gulf country. High water at the mouth of the Cahaba River in 1825, during the Winter session of the Legislature, prompted the removal of the State capital from Cahaba to Tuscaloosa. On one occasion there the members rowed out to their seats in bateau, entering through the upstairs windows. Historical records show Alabama streams reached a flood stage in 1833. The U. S. Army records show a heavy rainfall at Mount Vernon Arsenal during the year 1853 when more than 106 inches were measured. During the Gulf of Mexico storm in 1877, a record of 14 inches of rain falling at Tuscaloosa was made.

The Flood of 1886

The most popular and most lasting of all of Alabama traditions is the "flood of 1886." Although I had but recently appeared on the scene of action at that time, I have vivid memories of this incident, (even if my parents have told me that I was exaggerating in the thought that I did), and I recall that the streams looked to me that they were miles wide. Picturesque incidents connected with the 1886 flood are the many most interesting tales told of the great quantities of aboriginal remains which were washed out. There were undoubtedly thousands of Indian burial places uncovered. Beads, bottles and trade objects came out in great quantities and many of them have been preserved. Stone relics have gotten into the museums of the State and pottery and other native-made things have come to light as the results of the overflow of the streams and of flood conditions generally. Even in recent years, notably in 1916, 1919 and 1926, the Indian town sites along the Tallapoosa River were disastrously effected. When the Tallassee dam broke some years ago the site of the old Autosse was washed away and many of those great earthenware "calabash-like' vessels mentioned in the De Soto chronicles, were washed out and distributed over the face of the corn field below there.

The Stars Fell

That one incident in the history of Alabama which is possibly the very most outstanding [illegible] connected with our [illegible] Pike County that the Chestnut trees in that locality were all killed in one night by a freeze in May, said to have been in the 1830's. Doctor Harper tells me that there is a South Georgia tradition which fixes that date about 1840. There was a "cold Saturday" in Georgia, February 8, 1835, and if it was so cold over there we must have had some of it this far West. There are no newspapers, at least Montgomery ones, in the Department of Archives and History, for the early days of 1830, but I find that there is one volume of the Montgomery Republican (or it might have been called the Journal at that time), for January to April 1830, in The Montgomery Advertiser files, and as soon as I have the opportunity I am going to see what I can find therein.

In North Alabama the Chestnut trees were killed in 1854. Whether the cold weather had destroyed them I did not know, but I am positive that there are only scattered ones today in those sections of the State where I formerly saw them in sufficient numbers to warrant anticipating the opportunity to get Chestnuts in the Fall of the year.

I talked to a young woman from Connecticut recently who is now residing in Montgomery with her husband who is stationed at one of our local Fields, and she spoke of Montgomery weather during the entire Winter having been so "Spring-like," but of course our feelings are all governed by how we are reared, or where we come from. The middle of the month of February produced some right breezy winds out of the North here in Montgomery and a good overcoat felt right comfortable.

It perhaps has always been true that of all things discussed by man, the weather will rank first. I suppose Noah and his family, even though they had a previous warning on the subject, must have had a good deal to say when the rain started back in those days when the Ark began to get surrounded by water. My collection of folk-sayings and traditions and superstitions has many referable to the weather. The man, or woman either, who is not charmed by the weather forecast in the almanac, is to be pitied. He has lost half the fun of life. Sometime ago Mark Twain said that "everybody discusses the weather, but nobody does anything about it." The Government weather man who is paid to warn the farmers when to get their cattle out of the swamps to protect them from floods, and to phone the shippers when to protect produce and their fruit against the cold, and to suggest to the business man whether to take his umbrella with him in the morning, is, even in this day of scientific research and theoretical protection, not always accepted for what his statements are worth. Generally when the Weather Man says that the temperature is going down to sixteen, most auto owners rush around and have Anti-freeze put in the motor, and then [illegible] drops only

the way across in January 1877, as high up as Columbus, Mississippi. The thermometer is said to have reached five degrees above zero in 1823 and in 1877 it was zero in Columbus, Mississippi. On December 5, 1886, there is a record of twenty inches of snow in the northern part of the State and a twelve-inch fall in middle and more southern Alabama country. February 13, 1899, is the lowest record in the State in my memory. I was at school in Auburn and I recall that snow balls with a diameter greater than I was tall, were common on the campus there. The temperature was below zero in many parts of the State.

A diary in the Department of Archives and History shows the statement that on January 19, 1852, the thermometer stood at 10 degrees above zero and did not rise higher than 16 degrees during the day. Entered in the same paragraph is the state that "twenty years ago on this same date", (that is, January, 1852), "the thermometer was 6 degrees at breakfast time." On January 20 (1852), at the early morning reading the thermometer was 7 degrees above zero. These entries of course have no official standing, but observation made by me for three different sections of the State, using diaries in the Department of Archives and History, show that there were no great differences in the thermometer readings for the section between the Tombigbee and Warrior Rivers, the lower part of Lowndes County and the eastern edge of Macon County. I have before me here Bates' Alabama Journal, published at Montgomery, Wednesday, January 21, 1852, and an editorial is:

"Weather—We do not mention for information, because most persons are doubtless most sensibly aware of the fact, that this recent Northern aggression in the shape of old Boreas is a matter not to be tolerated, if it could be helped. We hear of the Mississippi frozen about Memphis, of six inches snow in New Orleans and we know that good sound ice, two inches thick, exists on divers ponds in this section. Several skating parties, we learn were out yesterday experimenting, some of whom of course met with the various accidents incident to ice and flood. Some with craniums in sudden contact with the frozen surface had their powers of vision multiplied, and saw more stars than the Creator ever made, and others by the failure of their "understanding" on the smooth, slippery and treacherous surface, received admonitory lessons on other portions of their bodies, calculated to make them most sensibly reflect on their "latter end." Vive Jack Frost! The thermometer stood yesterday morning at 11 degrees, the lowest point ever known in this section. A change of forty-five degrees occurred in the course of eight hours on Sunday night."

Old Diary Reports

A Diary of Lowndes County for 1834 to 1844 shows January 4th, 1834, very cold, and sleet all day: January 5th, sleet and the ground frozen, January 1835 clear and cold; February 1836 clear and cold. January 1837 was cold and freezing. It snowed all the morning of January 21, 1838. Late in March 1843 therew as heavy sleet and snow and the ground froze.

An Eighteen fifty-four diary kept by a family of Eastern Macon County, which I saw last year, shows January 21st, 1854, was the coldest day of the Winter. March 27th brought a big frost and the new corn was killed. There was a frost and ice on April 2.

Some Opinions of My Own

I am convinced that my belief about the weather is correct, but I am often reminded that I am no longer a child and my memory isn't good and that I exaggerate my impressions when I say that the weather today, or at least in these late years, is different from what it was when I was a child. I believe I can recall that I have seen whole days of rain when they did not let me out of before the modern craze of sleeping on the open air porch, getting up in the cold and taking an ice water shower bath, and I hardly believe that there was more illness from the manner in which people slept than there is at the present time. It is historically recorded that the Indians even in this Southern country, were sleeping in hot houses in the Winter, and that these houses were igloo-like with the smoke outlet in the center at the top of the building. It is a well known fact that few country negroes of the old regime could be prevailed on to have much fresh air in their sleeping quarters at night. Physical warmth rather than theoretical health was the prevailing desire of those who sought to have more physical comfort than could be the case had they left the cabin window open. At the same time most of my readers should be outside of the larger cities, will recall that even today in the country you may enter a home and find a great log fire burning and most of the doors open. Scientifically if you produce heat it should be confined, or at least not allowed to dissumulate to the four quarters of space if this heat is to give comfort.

Early Alabama Weather Stations

The Alabama Experiment Station Bulletin No. 18, dated August, 1890, which is Doctor Mell's paper, Climatology of Alabama, shows that a meteorological station was established at Auburn by the A. and M. College in February, 1881. Weather reporting was originally under the Signal Service of the U. S. Army and the chief signal officer made Auburn the central station of the Alabama Weather Bureau Service in 1884. In March of that same year a bulletin being a compilation of the reports of 22 observers, was issued by Captain W. H. Gardner. Not long after the organization of the service in this State the number of observers was doubled. The Alabama Department of Agriculture published the original bulletins, but later these publications were issued monthly except during the cotton seasons and then weekly, on Saturdays, by the college. Today the section director of the State is located at Montgomery, but there are several weather stations throughout the territory of Alabama.

Early Rain References

The Spanish expedition of De Soto was forced to stop for nearly a week at a point just northwest of Rockford in Coosa County in August, 1540, in order that the swollen waters of Hatchet Creek could sufficiently subside to permit the fording of that stream. Floods in the Alabama River in 1711 caused the removal of the town of Mobile from 27-Mile Bluff down to its present site. The French established Fort Louis de la Mobile in 1702, but found nine years later that the point 27 miles up into the museums of the State and pottery and other native-made things have come to light as the results of the overflow of the streams and of flood conditions generally. Even in recent years, notably in 1916, 1919 and 1926, the Indian town sites along the Tallapoosa River were disastrously effected. When the Tallassee dam broke some years ago the site of the old Autosse was washed away and many of those great earthenware "calabash-like' vessels mentioned in the De Soto chronicles, were washed out and distributed over the face of the corn field below there.

The Stars Fell

That one incident in the history of Alabama which is possibly the very most outstanding incident connected with our weather was the "falling of the stars" on Nov. 13, 1833. The phenomena occurred during the early part of the night and lasted for some time. In my childhood I discussed this question with a number of old people. Like the accounts of most other things which have transpired most of the people who experienced it saw it from a different angle, told a different story. Our large slavery population of that period received the most romantic impression. Earthquakes, notably the Charleston earthquake of the 1880's, have been noted in the State, but no great damage was ever done here from that cause. The stars falling left an impression which only time will efface."

Recent References to Cold Effect on Trees

Doctor Rolan M. Harper who is the leading authority on trees now living in the Southern States tells me that he has recently developed in his study for his forthcoming volume, quite much on the subject of trees being killed by cold. Particularly has he found that the cold weather affected Chestnut trees more so than the proverbial blight and worms. There is a tradition in

Twain said that "everybody discusses the weather, but nobody does anything about it." The Government weather man who is paid to warn the farmers when to get their cattle out of the swamps to protect them from floods, and to phone the shippers when to protect produce and their fruit against the cold, and to suggest to the business man whether to take his umbrella with him in the morning, is, even in this day of scientific research and theoretical protection, not always accepted for what his statements are worth. Generally when the Weather Man says that the temperature is going down to sixteen, most auto owners rush around and have Anti-freeze put in the motor, and then when the temperature drops only down to twenty-four, even though it is cold and disagreeable, cusses the Weather Man because he fooled them and made them spend one dollar and fifty cents, or two dollars when they could have possibly done without it—and had the radiator freeze.

All of which sums up to be that down in Alabama if we can get by the 25th of February without any extreme cold, we can begin to talk about putting fur coats in storage and try to make the coal stretch until the necessity for fires is over.

However, only a few years ago I sat by a fire very comfortably, on the 4th day of July, right here in Montgomery.

Through The Years

Doctor Palmer Of Wilcox

By PETER A. BRANNON

ON MONDAY the 1st day of this month, just as he had rounded out seventy-five eventful years, there passed over to the "other side" an oldtime doctor, a rare gentleman of the old school, a man who enjoyed throughout life the respect, confidence and faith of a large number of his fellow citizens, and one whose neighbors loved him. One who knew him well has said, "he possessed a wonderful, magnetic power, his patients were unwavering in their faith in him and they came from every direction to consult him. His office hours began before dawn and he was always available to aid the sick and the ailing and to administer to those who needed his services." Doctor W. B. Palmer, a unique character, one of those men of the other days, a "general practitioner," died at home in Furman in Wilcox County, on March 1st.

The Tuscaloosa News published a few days ago, a fine editorial on Doctor Pierce who had just died in that county, picturing him as the typical old time "Country Doctor." I did not know Doctor Pierce, but I did have a pleasant relationship with Doctor Palmer. I like to think of him as giving to all with whom he came in contact, the inspiration and invigoration which one gets from the "Doctor" of boyhood memory who we thought could relieve, and who could without any doubt, save, if we could just get him in time.

Doctor Palmer was born there in Wilcox in 1868. He was a graduate of the University of Alabama, holding two degrees therefrom, (he took a course in law), and studied medicine at the University of Maryland. He received a degree in medicine at Tulane. He took a graduate course in New Orleans, still another one in New York, still another one in Chicago, and from time to time, took "refresher" studies (as we now call them), at special schools, but from 1899 he practiced medicine in the village of Furman. While he was for a short time Health Officer of the County, his happiest contacts were those which he had with his fellow citizens who came to see him. A neighbor has said that even in the days of auto luxuriance you might see saddle horses tied to swinging limbs of the trees near his house, poorly groomed mules (sometimes saddleless), tied to the fences, ox carts standing just off the roadside, buggies, mudbespattered country autos, and those twelve cylinder ones which under ordinary circumstances would not leave the city streets, all and every one, interspersed among each other, having brought their patients that they might consult him and he advise them. His own remedies, and gives calomel, and treats chills, wouldn't be recognized today if he was seen, because "there ain't no such." I haven't seen a Drug Store in many years, sometimes I see a sign on the outside to that effect, but they don't smell like Asafoetida and Iodoform and Carbon Disulphide or even Myrrh, and I doubt whether very many of the modern ones have rolled any pills in years. The atmosphere of the air-conditioned, present day one is too charged with the seductive odors of "Evening In Paris" perfume, and pictures of shapely ladies in foamy baths for out number the almanacs hanging by the string on the strip between the shelves. The traditional Way of Life, so happily experienced in the days that are fast being shoved behind us, was demonstrated in no uncertain way by that type embodied in Doctor William Palmer, (or Doctor Price), who could treat country negroes by the administration of Compound Carthartic pills, or give a dose of Calomel to a lady who needed it, (but was too modest to think so), and as well, know something about the symptoms of a malady which could be best relieved by the administration of one of the new sulfa chemicals now generally used. That gentleman who took his pocket knife and scooped up on the point of the little blade, sufficient of a chemical to prescribe as a dose never had a "rating" with the practitioner of the present day who has a clerk who registers you as you enter the door, another one to call you in when your time in rotation has arrived, another who hands you the prescription and collects the bill as you go out another door.

My acquaintance with Doctor Palmer was almost entirely through correspondence, but indeed it was an interesting one. With the many duties which a large practice envolved, he obtained enthusiasm from the outside by his correspondence which he seems to have enjoyed rather widely. I recall years ago that he often contributed to the newspapers. He wrote some to the magazines. He and I were interested in some of the same things and he wrote to me about these things when the inspiration spurred him. The Doctor's cultural background, together with those opportunities which he took advantage of in pursuing his medical studies fitted him in a rare way to make that interesting character which every one found him to be.

I went down to Furman the other day that I might have a chance to view the literary remains of this rather unique character. I say without hesitation the law as it applies to Escheates, and to all appearances, everything else in the world that you could think about. Literally thousands and thousands of things seem to have come under his eye and to have appealed to him to the extent that he either saved for a future generation, or anticipated that he was going to use them in a coming day. He was the old time collector who saved and preserved because he had not convenient library to run into, to get there what he wanted for immediate use.

William Bradley Palmer, was the son of William Palmer and Rachael Bradley. His father was born at Alton, in Halifax County, Virginia, and came first to Ackerville in Wilcox County. Ely and Allie Simpson Bradley were pioneer settlers in Conecuh County. They were natives of South Carolina. He was akin to the Presswoods who were of Welsh descent, and of the Bradleys who were Huguenots, but I suspect the Parmers were English. Doctor William B. was never married.

Doctor Palmer had been a member of the Alabama Anthropological Society for many years. He had the reputation of being "sort of a natural born historian." He was interested in my interest in old bottles and drug store "things" and he was gracious in his references to my contributions and compilations when I wrote on antiques and out of the ordinary contacts of everyday life. A few months ago the Doctor wrote me that he had about retired, (which he recently tried to do), and that if I wanted anything of his old material I should come down and get it. Unfortunately, like most of us, my procrastination was disastrous and that "colorful old character," to quote one of his friends, has now gone and I won't have the opportunity to get these things from his hands, though Mr. Watson the administrator of his estate has turned them over to go into the Department of Archives and History Collections.

The Doctor embodied that figure in American history which is practically gone, the General Practitioner. He may have specialized in certain ailments, but he was willing to treat them all and he did it rather effectively. The rich and the poor alike found him sympathetic, and cordial, and patient, and helpful, and those neighbors of his will miss the encouraging words which he gave the low-spirited. My good old friend has gone on. I am happy to have known him even though it was a long distance friendship rather than an intimate one, and I am all the better for having known him.

he took a graduate course in New Orleans, still another one in New York, still another one in Chicago, and from time to time, took "refresher" studies (as we now call them), at special schools, but from 1899 he practiced medicine in the village of Furman. While he was for a short time Health Officer of the County, his happiest contacts were those which he had with his fellow citizens who came to see him. A neighbor has said that even in the days of auto luxuriance you might see saddle horses tied to swinging limbs of the trees near his house, poorly groomed mules (sometimes saddleless), tied to the fences, ox carts standing just off the roadside, buggies, mudbespattered country autos, and those twelve cylinder ones which under ordinary circumstances would not leave the city streets, all and every one, interspersed among each other, having brought their patients that they might consult him and he advise them. His reputation extended far and wide, he gave minute and meticulous directions and expected you to follow them if you, the patient, expected to profit. An often quoted "Directions" by him was, "this is to be taken three minutes before twelve o'clock tonight." Some considered him a cranky, eccentric man, but stop will you and just think, how many successful people do you know who are not, those kind do things, the ordinary kind do not.

Doctor Palmer, so the people insist, "practiced in his home." That is, in Wilcox, the people went to see the Doctor more so than the Doctor went to see them. Of course in the earlier days it is not unlikely that he, as a general practitioner, went into the highways, and byways, and off the beaten paths, to administer to the sick, but, in more recent years at least, they hunted him out and his practice up to a few years ago was so extensive that he had difficulty in getting away from home. Only a day or two ago a man told me that if you had the money all right, of if you didn't have but part of the fee, then he accepted that. No one was ever turned away and no one ever said that they did not go to see him because they were not able to. Of course I did not know his financial circumstances and I asked if he had made money in his practice. I was told that he had not. He was not interested in the amount of money which his practice would bring him. He enjoyed practicing medicine in its truest sense.

I like to think of these old time guardians as missionaries of mercy and charity, rather than in connection with the commercial possibilities of their professions. Sometime a city practitioner who maintains an office and has great crowds to come to him, reaps good fees and enjoys the evening of life as the result of this earlier initiative. Sometime his reputation brings him big fees. It was never that the Country Doctor ever got any big fees, and I never knew one to die rich. I have often thought of the Doctor in the same manner as the preacher, one to whom you could tell your troubles, even your secrets, and believe that you would be sympathized with as well as professionly relieved, mentally and physically. In this day of specialists we have few who practice medicine and we have no longer any Apothecary Shops, for unfortunately there are very few medicines sold, though there are many concoctions passed out. That old time Doctor who compounds his

My acquaintance with Doctor Palmer was almost entirely through correspondence, but indeed it was an interesting one. With the many duties which a large practice envolved, he obtained enthusiasm from the outside by his correspondence which he seems to have enjoyed rather widely. I recall years ago that he often contributed to the newspapers. He wrote some to the magazines. He and I were interested in some of the same things and he wrote to me about these things when the inspiration spurred him. The Doctor's cultural background, together with those opportunities which he took advantage of in pursuing his medical studies fitted him in a rare way to make that interesting character which every one found him to be.

I went down to Furman the other day that I might have a chance to view the literary remains of this rather unique character. I say without hesitation that I never saw anything comparable insofar as the collection of material which he had brought together is to be considered. Doctor Palmer had made a really very fine collection of material for a contemplated genealogy of the Palmer family. There are hundreds of letters and many folders of material which include notes, records, references and all kinds of things which have developed the stories of the several families into which have been tied that of his own. There are twenty-five or thirty finished chapters of his proposed History of Wilcox County and many papers yet to be organized. Each of these separately discussed phases, or chapters, is separately bound and labeled. The Doctor had been at work for some years on a catalogue of his material. Several thousand items have been entered in this catalogue, but apparently it is by no means complete.

There are thousands of items included in his bound reports of his medical activities. He seems to have taken his cases and written the history of them and bound these for reference purposes. In one room alone I counted fifteen book stacks of bound medical items alone. There would be several hundred of these bindings in each stack, so you may well see a vast quantity of material. Apparently the Doctor had saved all of his professional journals, day. I saw shelf after shelf of magazines and journals in which he was interested from the time he left school down to the present day. I saw shelf afater shelf of journals of the American and Alabama Medical Associations and other documents of that kind and I was astonished to see the wide variance of his permeating and radiating interest which seemed to include almost anything one could wish. He took an excerpt, or a clipping and bound it by stripping tape to protect, then perforating this and sewing it into a binding, he had when finished a filable item. He had a few scrap books, apparently of an earlier day, but he seems to have soon learned that pasted up items in a scrap book are worth little to a man who wants to hastily refer again to something which he may need. The extreme care to which he seems to have gone in the handling of everything, from the articles on butterflies, the natives of the Aleutian Islands, the Kangaroos of Australia, the mosquitoes on Guadalcanal, Saint Paul's Cathedral, the aboriginal remains of Wilcox County, genealogy,

[illegible] by procrastination was disastrous and that "colorful old character," to quote one of his friends, has now gone and I won't have the opportunity to get these things from his hands, though Mr. Watson the administrator of his estate has turned them over to go into the Department of Archives and History Collections.

The Doctor embodied that figure in American history which is

The rich and [illegible] him sympathetic, and cordial, and patient, and helpful, and those neighbors of his will miss the encouraging words which he gave the low-spirited. My good old friend has gone on. I am happy to have known him even though it was a long distance friendship rather than an intimate one, and I am all the better for having known him.

Through The Years

Lotteries

By PETER A. BRANNON

ON DECEMBER 13, 1819, one day before Alabama was admitted into the American Union (but after the people of the State had drawn up a constitution, ratified it and submitted it to Congress for approval), the Legislature of the State, in session at Huntsville, authorized a certain group of men to raise by lottery, in one or more classes as "to them may seem most convenient and necessary," any sum not exceeding $15,000. This authorized lottery was for the purpose of enabling them to get sufficient money to erect and furnish a Masonic hall for the use and benefit of Madison Lodge and Alabama Lodge, both in the town of Huntsville. These men, the first ones legally authorized to raise money for any purpose after Alabama became a State, through the means of a lottery, were: Elias Bayles, Edward G. Kyle, David Moore, Alexander Erskine, Edwin Hickman, William Atwood and Edwin Jones.

The Legislature then sitting at Cahaba, on December 11, 1820, authorized a lottery for the benefit of Alabama Lodge Number 51 (the one at Claiborne), Hale Lodge at Cahaba, and the Rising Sun Lodge at Tuscaloosa. $15,000 was authorized for the one at Claiborne, $20,000 for the one at Cahaba and $15,000 for the one a Tuscaloosa. If you are interested to know who these other men were who were raising money in that way, they were John Murphy and John Gayle, both destined to become governors of Alabama. James Dellet, later congressman; William Patton, Gurdon Robinson, Henry W. Taylor and Charles Foster.

Prior to the close of 1822, the Legislature had authorized the raising of money through lotteries for bridging Prairie Creek in Greene County, for keeping in repair the road from Mobile to Chickasaw Bogue Creek, for the benefit of the academy in the town of Elyton in Jefferson County, for the improvement of navigation on the Buttahatchee River, and the authorizing of the raising of a sum of money to put a bridge over Clear Creek within the limits of the town of Cahaba. At the same time that the Legislature was authorizing that money could be raised by that form of gambling schemes, laws were passed prohibiting the operation of a lottery except as specifically provided for by law and the fixing of punishment for the robbery or larceny of tickets, it passed a special act, the one of December, 1821, to prevent the game called "three ticket lottery." at the same time many other schools, lodge houses, bridges and other forms of building operations were financed in the early days of the State's history through the sale of tickets which gave chances on subsequent "drawings." The penal code, very early in the State's history, listed the raising of money by lottery "without the special permission of the Legislature," as an "offense against the public morals." A law directed that any one convicted of doing so should be fined not less than $100, or not more than $2,000, for each conviction.

Gallop Polls

The American Institute of Public Opinion, popularly known as the Gallop Poll, has issued a statement that forty-nine per cent of the American people have voted in favor of lotteries run by the government, to help pay the cost of the war. Forty-two per cent of the American people voted against a lottery. Nine per cent had no opinion on the subject. Last year, the vote was fifty-four per cent in favor and thirty-seven per cent opposed. In 1941 America went fifty-one per cent in favor and thirty-eight per cent opposed. According to George Gallup, the attitude of those in favor of a lottery was that "gambling was going on any way and the government may as well reap the rewards." The objections at the present time to a government lottery are largely on moral grounds. One woman thought that we should not legalize vice no matter how badly we needed the money.

Alabama Laws

An examination of the advertisements in the Alabama newspapers from 1815 to 1850 will [illegible] playing at gaming in the background of a store house, or in the upstairs of a barber shop, and betting in the boarding house, or the doctor's office, or in the blacksmith shop, and in the tavern, or in private bedrooms, etc., etc., etc., etc.

Lottery Advertisements

The Southern Era, a newspaper published at Opelika in 1859, ran three-quarter column length advertisements of the Georgia State Lottery and of Wood Eddy and Company, a Delaware Corporation (both chartered in Georgia), both of whom were advertising drawings for the benefit of the Union Academy of Jasper County, Georgia, and Sparta Academy. Wood Eddy and Company, who had a Georgia office at Augusta, proposed to sell fifty thousand tickets which were to bring "5,485 prizes!" "nearly one prize to every nine tickets!" The Georgia State Lottery was selling tickets for the Monticello Union Academy of Jasper County and there were to be 25,828 prizes, the capital prize to be $60,000. Tickets cost $10.00 each, "halves, quarters and eights, in proportion". W. R. Symons and J. M. Prentice were the Georgia commissioners and the drawing was to be held in the city of Savannah. Class 48 was drawn on Saturday, December 3rd, and each succeeding Saturday, for the five in the month, there was to be a drawing. The 25,828 prizes amounted to $366,040. All communication concerning the matter of these tickets was guaranteed to be "strictly confidential." They guarantee that all prizes of $1,000 and under would be paid immediately after the drawing. Other prizes (that is those higher and winning more money), were paid at the "usual time"—at the end of thirty days.

In the case of Wood, Eddy and Company they advertised the fact that the list of numbers that are drawn from the wheel and the amount of the prize that each one is entitled to, will be published after every drawing. The Mobile Register in Alabama was the newspaper which carried the list of these winners.

You may consult the Southern Era all along until late in 1860 ment, of the Georgia State Lottery was continued. The Opelika Southern Era resumed publication as the Southern Republic on the 22nd of December, but there are no Georgia advertisements therein, so I infer that the business in Georgia had in compliance with the 1858 Act, ceased to function.

As this is probably the last of the Southern lotteries to function, you might be interested in some of the details of the "magnificent schemes." They were advertised A Gold Mine ! ! ! All prizes and no blanks. The direction about ordering tickets, or certificates was that each one enclose the money, when on receipt of it they would be (that is the tickets), would be forwarded by fast mail. Purchasers could have tickets "ending in any figure" that might designate. I never patronized any lotteries, so I can't tell whether that is the customary manner at the present time. The prizes of that day were guaranteed to vary from $2.50 to $100,000 and tickets costs you from $2.50 to $20.00.

The Montgomery Advertiser of May 15, 1855, carried the following advertisement:

Southern Military Academy Lottery!

(By authority of the State of Alabama).

(Picture of cannon with flag on each side).

Conducted on the Havanna Plan.

Class P.

To be drawn 2nd of June

1—Prize of	$15,000.00
1—Prize of	5,000.00
1—Prize of	4,000.00
1—Prize of	3,000.00
1—Prize of	1,500.00
1—Prize of	1,100.00
5—Prize of	$ 1,000.00
10—Prize of	500.00
10—Prize of	200.00
10—Prize of	129.00
25—Prize of	100.00
	$60,000.00

(hand) Every prize drawed at each drawing, and paid when due, without deduction!

Tickets $10—Halves and Quarters in proportion.

Bills on all solvent banks at par.

All communications strictly confidential.

Sam Swan, Agent and Manager,

Sign of the Bronze Lion.

Montgomery, May 15, 1855.

The Alabama Legislature, by the Act approved February 7, 1854, provided aid for the Southern Military Academy, and by Section 1, authorized Gibson Hill of Chambers County to set up a Lottery to raise funds to enable him to increase the Staff of instructors in his Military Academy to enlarge the apparatus, to

terested to know who these other men were who were raising money in that way, they were John Murphy and John Gayle, both destined to become governors of Alabama. James Dellet, later congressman; William Patton, Gurdon Robinson, Henry W. Taylor and Charles Foster.

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voted in favor of lotteries run by the government, to help pay the cost of the war. Forty-two per cent of the American people voted against a lottery. Nine per cent had no opinion on the subject. Last year, the vote was fifty-four per cent in favor and thirty-seven per cent opposed. In 1941 America went fifty-one per cent in favor and thirty-eight per cent opposed. According to George Gallup, the attitude of those in favor of a lottery was that "gambling was going on any way and the government may as well reap the rewards." The objections at the present time to a government lottery are largely on moral grounds. One woman thought that we should not legalize vice no matter how badly we needed the money.

Alabama Laws

An examination of the advertisements in the Alabama newspapers from 1815 to 1850 will show that many things were legalized when the question of raising the money with which to accomplish results was needed to be taken in consideration.

The Code of 1923 goes into some historical detail with reference to Lotteries in Alabama. The Legislatures from the beginning of Statehood have been called on to pass laws against Gaming and Lotteries, and Chapter 147 of this 1923 Code is fuller and more descriptive than anyone of the previous Codes have been. Therein may be had a rather comprehensive and inclusive historical record of what constitutes a gambling place and who gamblers are and the entire environment of schemes which were held to corrupt the public morals. One could almost write a volume on the subject, but this paper is not intended to be by volume, but rather by paragraphs, so I cannot go that far. Note is made in that Chapter that "during the early history of the State it seems to have been a fad to raise money for educational, charitable, and religious purposes by lotteries, during which time the Legislature was flooded either to provide for carrying on these schemes for these purposes, which was checked by a constitutional provision prohibiting such schemes and such legislation." A Lottery was defined, 62 Alabama, 334 (to the uninitiated that means in the 62nd volume of the reports of Alabama decisions), as "a machine operating by wheel which revolved around a stationary arrow containing slots, held to be a device for carrying on a Lottery." Issuing trading stamps was held not to be a lottery. The game of Keno was not a Lottery. Many other things though were held to be Lotteries, Wheels of Fortune, and such other schemes and various laws enacted to stop the offense.

Gaming and gambling and betting have always been differentiated from pure Lottery schemes, but the control of them is included within the laws which affect the old and early form of selling chances. Shooting Craps and playing cards in the pasture and such innocent pastimes as that have had to be separated from the Lottery laws over the period of years as all such games as these have come into the courts through indictments. Engaging in a raffle where the winner is determined by throwing dice, has been held to be against the law and there have been many decisions about back room gambling and playing dominoes for money, and about

Saturday, December 3rd, and each succeeding Saturday, for the five in the month, there was to be a drawing. The 25,828 prizes amounted to $366,040. All communication concerning the matter of these tickets was guaranteed to be "strictly confidential." They guarantee that all prizes of $1,000 and under would be paid immediately after the drawing. Other prizes (that is those higher and winning more money), were paid at the "usual time"—at the end of thirty days.

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You may consult the Southern Era all along until late in 1860 and find that these lotteries are continuing to carry on, but as time passed, the beneficiary, if there was any other than the operators, McKinney and Company (for the Georgia State Lottery), is not shown. They advertised that a "splendid drawing," on the three numbers plan, would take place on every Wednesday and every Saturday during the year 1860. You will recall that those "three numbers," were the ones that were outlawed in Alabama quite early after the formation of the State.

The Georgia Act of Prohibition

On August 25, 1860, Wood, Eddy and Company advertised that on the 1st day of June, 1860, they would remove the entire business to Wilmington, Delaware, in compliance with the Act of the General Assembly of Georgia, approved by the Governor, December 11, 1858, which said that "from and after the first day of June, 1860, all laws and parts of laws authorizing lotteries in the State of Georgia, or the vending of lottery tickets in said State, be and the same are hereby repealed." Note that this advertisement appeared as of August 25th, when they should have withdrawn on the first day of June. That concern was authorized in Delaware, Missouri and Kentucky, but apparently nowhere else as of that date. They did continue to run an advertisement though in the Alabama newspapers. As long as the Opelika paper continued in 1860, (it's plant burned to the ground at Opelika on the 25th of October), the large advertisement in display arrange-

10—Prize of	129.00
25—Prize of	100.00
	$60,000.00

(hand) Every prize drawed at each drawing, and paid when due, without deduction!

Tickets $10—Halves and Quarters in proportion.

Bills on all solvent banks at par.

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Sam Swan, Agent and Manager,

Sign of the Bronze Lion.

Montgomery, May 15, 1855.

The Alabama Legislature, by the Act approved February 7, 1854, provided aid for the Southern Military Academy, and by Section 1, authorized Gibson Hill of Chambers County to set up a Lottery to raise funds to enable him to increase the Staff of instructors in his Military Academy, to enlarge the apparatus, to reduce the tuition and to aid generally that Academy. Samuel Swan was the Agent and Manager of the Lottery, but a ticket on that Lottery, being a one-fourth of Number 962, Class W, shows that it was printed by Murphy and Company in Baltimore.

However, in the face of this Legislative Act of 1854, the Legislature had prohibited the raising of money by Lottery, by an Act approved the 12th of January, 1843, the first section of which is "that all privileges and permissions heretofore granted by the Legislature of this State to raise and collect money by Lottery be and the same are hereby withdrawn and abolished." That Act was made effective from and after the 1st day of May, 1843, so these special Acts were obviously after thoughts and were apparently not discontinued until the period of the War Between the States. I have not found any provisions under the new Constitution, or rather Constitutions subsequent to the hostilities in 1865. In fact this Military Academy incorporation is the only one I can find that authorized a Lottery plan of raising money after 1843.

Modeled quite much after the Act of 1843, and making the sale of Lottery tickets in Alabama a criminal offense, is a provision of February 21, 1860, which sought to stop the trading and operation of Lotteries in Alabama, but even so that Act said that "it must not be done except by Lotteries authorized by the Legislature."

[April 4, 1943]

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Through The Years

From Camp Martin To Orizaba

By PETER A. BRANNON

SEVERAL days ago Judge Irby Pope, of Perry County, brought to the Department of Archives and History at Montgomery, the order book of his grandfather's command, Captain Thomas E. Irby's, in Major J. J. Seibels's battalion of Alabama Foot Volunteers, who served in the Mexican war. A perusal of this volume is most interesting and the names entered on those pages carry one in retrospection back to nearly fifteen years prior to the War Between the States and they link the Florida campaign of 1836 and 1837, the Mexican war and the War Between the States rather pleasantly for one interested in delving into the history of that period. For example, a general order, number 164, issued at the office of the acting assistant adjutant general of the United States Army, at New Orleans, by order of General Brooke, to the officer commanding the Alabama Volunteers (that is, to Major Seibels), and signed by James Monroe, acting assistant adjutant general (and none other than the grandson of President James Monroe), directs the battalion of Foot Volunteers from Alabama rendezvoused at Mobile, to immediately after being paid, take transportation provided and proceed to join General Scott's army in the City of Mexico, via Vera Cruz. Captain Monroe says that rations, water and wood for at least twenty days from day of sailing, will be put on board the boat. At the present time we would think that twenty days from New Orleans to Vera Cruz was quite a long time to cross the Gulf of Mexico.

General Brooke was the officer so much in the records in the Florida campaign which influenced Alabama history in the period of 1836-1837. Major Dade, for whom Dadeville in Tallapoosa County is named, and Major David Moniac, killed at the Wahoo engagement, were with the troops under General Brooke. George N. Brooke was born in Virginia, was appointed to the Army from Virginia, was a captain and major in the war of 1812-1815, was commissioned a colonel in 1814 a brigadier general in 1824, and a major general in 1848.

Order number 1 of the Alabama battalion, and signed at Camp Martin, which I am going to make bold to venture was at Mobile, directs that five roll calls daily must be held, the first immediately after revilee, the second at morning "perade," third Morrow" (that is December 31st, the last day of the year), but that order took occasion to express to the officers and men of the battalion his high estimation of their soldier-like conduct during the brief period he had had the honor of their command. He hinted that there had been exceptions to this generally excellent conduct, but these had been few and trusted that the exemplary conduct of the great majority would soon obliterate all insubordination and misconduct in the battalion.

San Juan in Mexico

Order Number 11, signed by John G. Barr, Captain commanding and making Captain Irby officer of the day, indicates that the Battalion had then arrived at San Juan. The date is January 12, 1848. This is to me, a most interesting Order in that it sets out the provisions under which the men should govern themselves and tells two or three other things which are most different from present day conditions. For example the first section of the Order makes each Lieutenant in direct Command of a squad of his Company, "the better to promote the cleanliness and Order of the same," that is, the cleanliness of this bunch of men under their Command. The second provision was that the Captains should inspect their men, that is the full companies, every Sunday morning and the Lieutenants should hold inspection of their squads every Wednesday morning. The Third Provision of the Order sets out that Saturday will be wash day for the men. At Camp San Juan they directed a Roll call immediately after revilee, another Roll call immediately after breakfast, a third one immediately before dinner, and a fifth one immediately after "tattoo," which was to be beat at eight o'clock at night and all lights were directed to be out by the time of the third tap in the tattoo. Inasmuch as the battalion had not had an opportunity to get a bath since arrival it directed that January 12th was to be "wash day." Officers while on duty were directed to appear in uniform and with side arms.

Order Number 37, Major Seibels then in Command, dated February 3, 1848, makes Captain Gibbs officer of the Day "to Morrow," and states that "the transportation from Vera Cruz having arrived for the battalion, the line of March will be taken up for Vera Cruz for "to Morrow" morning at 3 o'clock, rations for

William L. Rivers, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; James L. R. Whitfield, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; William W. Wiggins, private, discharged March 28, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; R. Malone James, third sergeant, transferred by promotion to Company "E," Feb. 23, 1848; T. Hawthorne Alexander, third sergeant, transferred by promotion to Company "E," Feb. 23, 1848; R. Martin Charles, third corporal, transferred by promotion to regimental staff, December, 1847; Owen Dalley, private, died at sea June 12, 1848, of chronic diarrhaea; William R. Robert, private, died at Orizaba, Mexico, March 18, 1848, of remittent fever; Andrew J. West, private, died at Orizaba, Mexico, April 28, 1848, of chronic diarrhaea; Daniel F. Crucius, private, deserted from Mobile, Ala., December 20, 1847.

The United States officer who mustered these men into service at Mobile on November 10, 1847, (a few of them were not mustered in on this date, but the majority were), was John Carlton Wellborn, born in Georgia, but appointed to the United States Military Academy from Alabama, where he entered on the 1st day of July, 1842. He was serving as a Lieutenant in the 13th Infantry at this date.

Malachi F. Bonham, 3rd Sergeant of this outfit was of that family living in Montgomery County (he was living in Wilcox at the time), and which had been settled at what we now know as the Pintlala community since before 1820. Captain Irby was born December 17, 1723, in Marborough District, South Carolina. At the outbreak of the Mexican War he lived as a planter in Wilcox County. He represented Wilcox County in the Legislature in 1849, and was in the Legislature from Dallas County in 1857 and again in 1859. He carried a Company into the Confederate Army in 1861, was soon made Major of the 8th Alabama Infantry Regiment, was elected Lieutenant-Colonel and killed at the battle of Williamsburg, May 5, 1862.

James H. Files, the 4th Corporal of the outfit was a farmer, born in Clarke County, Alabama, and was thirty years of age. He was of that early family which lived in Clarke at the time of the Indian War of 1813. The Files Crenshaws of Montgomery, bear the name and are related to him. Of the enlisted personnel, Monroe, Marengo, Mobile, Wilcox, Lowndes, Dallas, Montgomery, Benton and Coosa Counties furnished men. Many of them were born in Alabama. South Carolina apparently was the native place of most of those born out of Alabama. A few of them came from Georgia and a few of these men were foreigners. Daniel Crucious, enlisted from Montgomery. He

so much in the records in the Florida campaign which influenced Alabama history in the period of 1836-1837. Major Dade, for whom Dadeville in Tallapoosa County is named, and Major David Moniac, killed at the Wahoo engagement, were with the troops under General Brooke. George N. Brooke was born in Virginia, was appointed to the Army from Virginia, was a captain and major in the war of 1812-1815, was commissioned a colonel in 1814 a brigadier general in 1824, and a major general in 1848.

Order number 1 of the Alabama battalion, and signed at Camp Martin, which I am going to make bold to venture was at Mobile, directs that five roll calls daily must be held, the first immediately after revilee, the second at morning "perade," third immediately before dinner, fourth at "evening perade" and fifth at "tattoo," or 8 p.m. The second provision of order number one directs how parades or drills in each and every day shall be held. A company, or squad drill was to be held at 9:30 o'clock in the morning, a company, or squad drill, at 12 noon, and "dress perade" at 4 p.m. Assistant Adjutant M. M. Copeland writes a very attractive hand and the orthography is quite legible, but he saw no use for punctuation. When Robert A. Hardaway, the adjutant, who writes up the letter book after Christmas Day, took over the record keeping he saw less necessity for punctuation than did Assistant Adjutant Copeland. They both write a good hand but they stop and start again without any hesitancy, no spacing, or any pre-notice of stopping one thought to start another one.

Departure from Mobile

According to this book the Alabama battalion had not left Mobile on December 29th, for special order number 1, dated at Camp Martin, and signed by Major Seibels commanding, directed to General T. L. Toulmin, agent of the Quartermaster Department at Mobile, said that "the agent of the Quartermaster's Department will detain the transportation destined for the conveyance of this battalion to Vera Cruz until further orders." Major Seibels on December 30th, by special order number 3, placed Captain John G. Barr, senior captain in command of the Alabama battalion, to carry it to Vera Cruz. He directed him to exhibit the order to the quartermaster at Vera Cruz and ask that transportation be provided to the City of Mexico and that Captain Barr report his arrival either to him, Major Seibels, or to the governor of Vera Cruz. Just why Major Seibels put Captain Barr in command of the battalion on the trip over, is not evident for order number 10 (I presume it is general order number 10), dated on board ship Sariah, December 20, 1847, makes Captain Tennent Lomax officer of the day "to [illegible] another roll call immediately after breakfast, a third one immediately before dinner, and a fifth one immediately after "tattoo," which was to be beat at eight o'clock at night and all lights were directed to be out by the time of the third tap in the tattoo. Inasmuch as the battalion had not had an opportunity to get a bath since arrival it directed that January 12th was to be "wash day." Officers while on duty were directed to appear in uniform and with side arms.

Order Number 37, Major Seibels then in Command, dated February 3, 1848, makes Captain Gibbs officer of the Day "to Morrow," and states that "the transportation from Vera Cruz having arrived for the battalion, the line of March will be taken up for Vera Cruz for "to Morrow" morning at 3 o'clock, rations for twenty-four hours will be cooked tonight, and tents will be struck at two o'clock in the morning precisely." The Third Section of this Order reads, "orders in other respects as yesterday." That Third Section "in other respects as yesterday," was sort of a stock phrase by Adjutant R. A. Hardaway as we find it quite often in the records.

On January 16, 1848, Major Seibels directed Adjutant Hardaway to issue an Order putting Captain Lomax officer of the day and Lieutenant Caddell officer of the Guard, and directed that, "no person will be permitted to shoot a Carrion Crow, or Buzzard by leave of any person whatever these birds keep the camp clean of all putrid flesh and must not be frightened off or destroyed."

The Alabama Battalion arrived at Camp Pass Ancho about February 9, 1848 (order No. 38 is dated there), and the men were ordered to mend their clothes and put their arms and accoutrements in shape while encamped there. On the 15th while the Battalion was at Cordova, an order was issued that clothes were to be washed for "the line of march for Orizaba will be taken up at daylight to Morrow morning." They were in Camp at Orizaba on February 19, and orders were then being issued about wearing clean shirts while on the streets of the city and about not throwing orange peelings in and about the quarters.

Roll of Captain Irby's Company

The official roll of Captain Irby's Company was:

Thomas E. Irby, captain; James H. Bogle, first lieutenant; Andrew Bogle, second lieutenant; George Lynch, second lieutenant; James E. Thompson, first sergeant; Joseph R. Mason, second sergeant; Malachi F. Bonham, third sergeant; Zoraster S. Cook, fourth sergeant; James H. Files, first corporal; Benjamin D. Dunnan, second corporal; William J. Wells, third corporal; George W. Miller, fourth corporal; William H. Allen, private; Ephraim D. Alford, private; Amos M. Atwill, private; Josiah J. Brown, private; William Butler, private; Lewis K. Borland, private; Jacob G. Bilberry, private; Leroy M. Bethea, private; Henry M. Bolling, private; Samuel Budlong, private; William Butler Crumpton, private; David R. Colson, private; Francis J. Dumas, private; Gaston J. Dumas, private; Benjamin F. Dumas, private; Robert Davis, private; William R. Etheredge, private; Joseph W. Ervin, private; John Ewing, private; David Franklin, private; Enos Finklea, private; Robert Flinn, private; James M. Felts, private; John F. Gwynn, private; Nicholas H. Gurley, private; George Gamble, private; John F. Glover, private; William R. Green, private; Edward W. High, private; William Hays, private; Legrand G. Hanks, private; James A. Harrell, private; Mark Hays, private; Samuel Harding, private; Franklin Hambrick, private; John H. Hall, private; William H. Hanks, private; Thomas Johnson, private; Emanuel B. King, private; James Luckey, private; Lewis F. Lenoir, private; Peter C. Melton, private; Thomas F. Miller, private; John Moored, private; Barney Majors, private; Baron Nusbaum, private; John H. Noble, private; Benjamin Orear, private; Jefferson M. Penton, private; Henry J. Penton, private; John R. Pauling, private; Lewis W. Rodgers, private; James W. Reese, private; Otis Rush, private; John Sheffield, private; Jesse Skinner, private; Thomas W. Shields, private; John Q. Stattsworth, private; James K. Stephens, private; William T. Thradgill, private; Thomas K. Taylor, private; Jacob H. Thrash, private William H. Tyrus, private, absent sick at Vera Cruz since Feb. 4, 1848; Patrick Vaughn, private, absent; sick at Vera Cruz since Feb. 4, 1848; John H. Woodward, private; David Wilson, private; Christopher West, private; James A. Watson, private; William C. Banks, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; Green L. Dunnam, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; David Flowers, private, discharged March 28, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; Hezekiah M. Banks, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; John A. Moore, private, discharged March 28, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; George M. Pearson, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; Warren Quartermas, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; Absolom E. Rivers, private, discharged April 25, 1848, at Orizaba, Mexico; [illegible] fantry Regiment, was elected Lieutenant-Colonel and killed at the battle of Williamsburg, May 5, 1862.

James H. Files, the 4th Corporal of the outfit was a farmer, born in Clarke County, Alabama, and was thirty years of age. He was of that early family which lived in Clarke at the time of the Indian War of 1813. The Files Crenshaws of Montgomery, bear the name and are related to him. Of the enlisted personnel, Monroe, Marengo, Mobile, Wilcox, Lowndes, Dallas, Montgomery, Benton and Coosa Counties furnished men. Many of them were born in Alabama. South Carolina apparently was the native place of most of those born out of Alabama. A few of them came from Georgia and a few of these men were foreigners. Daniel Crucious, enlisted from Montgomery. He was born in Germany and was forty-one years old. Incidentally he was red headed. Budlong was a New Yorker. George Gamble was a Frenchman. William Green was a Virginian, Joseph W. Erwin was a Tennessean, Thomas Johnston was born in Wales. Baron Nusbaum was born at Huntingdon in England. He as well as several others of this outfit was a mechanic. Two of these men, were printers, one from Lowndes County and the other one from Coosa. William H. Tyrus was born in "Connachae" (which is Conecuh), County, Alabama.

A study of these many names and their origin gives an unlimited opportunity to the historian.

Through The Years

Silently They Pass

By PETER A. BRANNON

I HAD an occasion a few months ago to note the consolidation of the old Russell Register long published at Seale, with the Press, a newspaper published for a short time at Hurtsboro, the continuation, as a weekly paper, to bear the date line of Phenix City "with office and plant at Hurtsboro." A request for certain information a few days ago necessitated my trying to determine the date of an incident which happened at Seale, said to be "about 1875." I sought out the first volume of the Russell Register. This little paper which through the vicissitudes of the years carried the Russell County legal advertisements, and published some few other notes, was founded August 5, 1875, by E. Herndon Glenn and M. C. Hammonds. Judge Glenn was the editor. The Salutatory is a full column and makes many promises. They asked that all the leading people in the county, at least, become subscribers and stated that they intended to make county affairs and county data "our special concern and margin."

The new paper was perhaps, about as good as the ordinary one of the period immediately following the Reconstruction Days. Like most county sheets even down to almost the present day, the insides carry the local items and the outsides, the "patent" features.

Local Items

Under Local News I notice that L. R. Edge has just received a large lot of fans. Further "for the largest watermellon delivered to this office by the 1st of September, we will send the Register free for six months." Again, "Mr. Falkner our Circuit Clerk, has had his office scoured out. This is a fact worthy of notice as it is the first instance of the kind that has come within the scope of our observation. Public offices would generally make first class Turnip patches." The Constitutional Convention of 1875 was at that time just over and comments pro and con are to be seen.

The advertisements which this early paper carries are particularly interesting when one considers that the town probably did not have as many as three hundred and fifty people, but even so, large display of ads of sea-

lished on good quality rag paper. Under local news he makes the statement that "our this week's issue is only gotten out to save the legal advertising." There are only two advertisements, however, both of which have to do with the County Court, and they show that the sales to which they refer had both occurred one week before the issue of the paper, so you still do not know why it was necessary "to save legal advertising."

While these local papers of that period did carry something interesting, sometimes, for I find much to interest me, having been reared in that vicinity, there is much of the character of this: "A young scapegrace threw a ball at his sister and hit her on the back of the head so hard that the bawl came out of her mouth." Or such as this: "One John H. Hell presented the Board of Education of Cincinnati with a bill of five dollars. It was the general sentiment that Hell was to pay, so they paid him," or such a one as this: "Tom Hood speaks of a bird building its nest upon a ledge of the door over a doctor's office, as an attempt to rear its young in the very jaws of death." The Extra has an article detailing the trial of a man for stealing a few hands full of coffee from the store of Messrs. Hirsch Bros. He was convicted and fined five dollars. The cost in the case was thirteen dollars, so you may see that even in 1875 coffee was a right valuable item.

The Old Court House

I notice under date of Nov. 13, 1879, that the Methodists in the town of Crawford, one time county seat, had purchased the old court house and were speedily converting it into a church. In recent years, perhaps thirty back, I recall that the old court house was torn down and that the brick were reused in the construction of a more modern church.

Still another interesting reference which falls under my eye is to a play which took place at Hatchechubbee in the old Antioch Building when Miss Corrie McTyeire was the "star" of the evening. These amateur theatricals were given a prominent place in those early sheets. Accounts of them as well as many other hap-

kin withdrew on December 9, 1893, and Will Tucker and Whit Chadwick took charge on June 4, 1898. William H. Tucker sold his interest to W. H. Chadwick, December 21, 1928. Grady F. Johnson started The Hurtsboro Press in 1937 and Johnson and Simms took over The Russell Register and Press in September, 1941. The publication office was at Phenix City, the editorial office was Hurtsboro. That paper changed hands on January 22, 1943, when the plant was moved to Phenix City and E. G. Johnston became proprietor.

Major William Wallace Screws, who wrote a "History of Journalism in Alabama" some years ago, says that "there was a newspaper in Girard between 1845-1860." I have not learned much of it. The Phenix Girard Journal had been running in Phenix City since sometime about 1909, and I. I. Moses has controlled that paper during its existence. W. H. Gray was a co-partner with Mr. Moses in 1915, but has not been since. Isabel A. Moses is shown as the publisher of the last copy I have noted.

There was a newspaper in Hurtsboro from 1913 to 1919. William J. Baldwin was the original owner and editor. N. R. Hamer and R. C. Williams were the proprietors in 1917. R. C. Williams bought out Hamer in 1918. Williams and Fred T. Manning bought out Hamer in 1918. Williams and Fred T. Manning were in partnership on the paper on May 10, 1918. Seth W. Vining bought the paper on March 21, 1919. According to a notice in The Russell Register of February 20, 1920, The Tribune suspended business on February 14, 1920.

And so they go.

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Under Local News I notice that L. R. Edge has just received a large lot of fans. Further "for the largest watermellon delivered to this office by the 1st of September, we will send the Register free for six months." Again, "Mr. Falkner our Circuit Clerk, has had his office scoured out. This is a fact worthy of notice as it is the first instance of the kind that has come within the scope of our observation. Public offices would generally make first class Turnip patches." The Constitutional Convention of 1875 was at that time just over and comments pro and con are to be seen.

The advertisements which this early paper carries are particularly interesting when one considers that the town probably did not have as many as three hundred and fifty people, but even so, large display of ads of seasonable dry goods and choice family groceries, hardware, boots and shoes, Bar rooms and billiard parlors, Ayer's Chill Tonic, Doctor's business cards, and the Mobile and Girard Railroad schedule and time table are interspersed with the two-fold purpose of enlightening the public as well as bulging the bank account of the publishers. Concerning the time table, the trains on the old Mobile and Girard took a long time to cover a short distance. It carried freight and you should take into consideration that this had to be unloaded along with the passengers. In that day the train left Troy at 1:15 in the afternoon and arrived at Columbus at 8:32 that night. The distance between Seale and Columbus is about twenty miles, and the time was nearly two hours. There were three or four stops within the twenty miles.

Local Phraseology

The titles used by this as "headings" for the several articles interest me much. For example when they wish to note a recent marriage it was always titled "hymeneal." For example on the 14th of November 1875, Mr. M. C. Hammonds, one of the owners of the Register, was married to Miss Josephine C. O'Neal, daughter of Judge Simeon O'Neal, by Judge Jefferson Falkner of Montgomery. In my boyhood I knew a child of this union, then the widow had married again. Quoting the Eufaula Times, and using perhaps a title to an article by them, "Tweed," is the story of the Sheriff of that county having received photographs and descriptions, with the offer of a $10,000 reward for the arrest of old "Boss Tweed" of New York, and in writing up the case, the statement is made that "as the old cuss never stole anything from us, we do not care much whether he is recaptured or not."

Confederate Records

Quoting from a report of the Secretary of War is a reference to his recommendation for the bringing of Confederate bonds into the hands of that office. He sets out the fact that of course they are properly the property of the government, but they would be hard to get from the late Confederates and some provision should be made to acquire them. He says they are obviously incomplete. Before seeing this I did not know that the U. S. Government had interested itself that early in what subsequently was published as the official War Records.

Judge Herndon Glenn withdrew from the partnership of the Register in 1877, and M. C. Hammons became the proprietor. W. A. Farley became the editor. The paper rocked along until Aug. 14, 1879, when Mr. Hammons severed his connection and Mr. Farley took over the publication of it. Just why there should be an "Extra" on Dec. 20, 1875, is not evident, but there is a two column sheet, four and one-half inches by fourteen inches, publishing of a man for stealing a few hands full of coffee from the store of Messrs. Hirsch Bros. He was convicted and fined five dollars. The cost in the case was thirteen dollars, so you may see that even in 1875 coffee was a right valuable item.

The Old Court House

I notice under date of Nov. 13, 1879, that the Methodists in the town of Crawford, one time county seat, had purchased the old court house and were speedily converting it into a church. In recent years, perhaps thirty back, I recall that the old court house was torn down and that the brick were reused in the construction of a more modern church.

Still another interesting reference which falls under my eye is to a play which took place at Hatchechubbee in the old Antioch Building when Miss Corrie McTyeire was the "star" of the evening. These amateur theatricals were given a prominent place in those early sheets. Accounts of them as well as many other happenings in the neighborhood were run right along in juxtaposition to, as well as interspersed with, most any and everything which came to mind. In another "write up," in this same connection a little later along, I find a very interesting account of the marriage of Mr. John V. Smith and Miss Corrie McTyeire, which is worded in the flowery style of that period.

Election Inspectors

The 1880 presidential election inspectors, published just prior to the general election scheduled for November, show a rather unique list, particularly for the date. In each beat named along with the two white inspectors was one colored man. Reconstruction was then five years behind us and the white regime had taken over, but even so there seems to have been a willingness even in this dominantly white county to permit the negro to participate. I see in the list some names familiar to my childhood, but so far as I know only one or two of them are left. Colbert Dawson, Bat Ingram, Captain Thomas W. Perry, Rufe Strong, Capers Perry, Captain G. A. Ferrell, Captain Sam Pitts, Dick Lindsay, John Thigpen and Thomas Burch, among others of the early influential Democrats after the war, served as inspectors.

Late Years of the Paper

For the benefit of those who might want to review a little of the history of journalism in Russell County, The Union Springs Herald and Times, after the county began to function again (when government was restored following the War Between the States) had a contract to publish certain Russell County items. The third page of that Union Springs paper was titled "The Russell Examiner" and dated at Seale. On July 31, 1872, this Union Springs paper renewed the contract. Benjamin Robinson was editor of the paper with James F. Waddell and E. Herndon Glenn as editors and proprietors of the Russell County section of the Bullock County paper. Later, that is on August 5, 1875, Glenn and Hammons founded The Russell Register at Seale. As brought out in the above notes, Hammons and Farley were the next men who handled the paper. Mr. Farley was in charge for sometime when on July 28, 1881, Will C. Guerry and E. Herndon Glenn became proprietors of the paper. Under date of May 15, 1886, Guerry and Mr. Waddell took it over. John V. Smith and C. O. Brinson were the proprietors on December 1, 1888. Mr. Brinson bought out Mr. Smith on March 16, 1889, and on December 6, 1890, William H. Tucker bought an interest from Mr. Brinson. Henry Tillman Benton, William H. Tucker, W. J. Boykin became proprietors on November 26, 1892. Mr. Boyproprietors in 1917. R. C. Williams bought out Hamer in 1918. Williams and Fred T. Manning bought out Hamer in 1918. Williams and Fred T. Manning were in partnership on the paper on May 10, 1918. Seth W. Vining bought the paper on March 21, 1919. According to a notice in The Russell Register of February 20, 1920, The Tribune suspended business on February 14, 1920.

And so they go.

1/8/43

rrent Week's Film Lineup

Through The Years

Battleship Silver Pieces

By PETER A. BRANNON

ON FEB. 4, 1943, the Georgia Legislature passed a Resolution to pay for the Silver pieces which the State presented to the U. S. Battleship Georgia while it was in the "Roads" at the Jamestown Exposition, in 1907. Incidentally it was ordered in October, 1907, but it has not yet been paid for, that is three pieces of it had not, those pieces which the State agreed then to pay for. Probabilities are now that the Estate of Charles W. Crankshaw, an Atlanta jeweler who had a business at 16 White Hall Street (the poor man died waiting for his money), will now get the balance, $1300, and the interest, even if it is only two and one-half per cent from that time.

All of which reminds me that a similar Silver Service was presented to the Battleship Alabama in 1902. Ours, that is the Battleship Alabama's silver, is on display in the Museum of the Department of Archives and History. The State of Georgia, it seems, ordered, as a gift of the State, three pieces, the Punch Bowl, the Platteau and the Ladle. Incidentally if you don't know, and I admit that I did not, the Platteau is the base on which the Punch Bowl rests.

The Alabama Silver consists of a Punch Bowl, the Ladle, twin Candelabra, a Centerpiece and twenty-four cups. (The crew of the Battleship Alabama won five cups and a tall Vase. The latter was at times won by several other ships of the Navy, the Alabama having been the last one, thereby enabling them to keep this souvenir cup (or vase, whatever you may call it), and these things are with our collection.)

In the case of the Georgia silver I note that the Candelabra presented by the cities of Atlanta and Savannah, the Centerpiece was presented by the city of Columbus, the Compotes presented by the cities of Brunswick, Athens, Macon and Augusta, and the Punch cups were paid for by the towns of Gainesville, Rome, Sparta, Bainbridge, Greenville, Roswell, Lindale and Albany. The large vase (these things are in shape of Loving Cups), in the case of the Battleship Georgia was paid for by the sponsor of the Ship, Miss Stella Tate.

The Alabama Service was presented by the "citizens of Alabama" and it was paid for at the time. It was made by the Whiting Manufacturing Company, at the order of E. O. Zadek Jewelry Company, of Mobile, and designed by Charles Osborne of New York City. The official description of the service is; "One Centerpiece with German silver mesh, one Punch Tray, one Punch Ladle, twenty-four Punch Cups, two five light Candelabra and one flower receptacle the larger pieces of flower and scroll design, the Bowl, Ladle and Cups to be gold lined, and in the ornamentation, the State and Navy Seals to be used."

The Punch Tray of the Alabama service, the most spectacular piece in the group, is attractively inscribed: "From the Loyal Hearts of the People of Alabama to the U. S. Battleship Alabama should have long since paid for it. They propose now over there to charge the silver against the funds provided for the purchase of equipment for the Mansion and Governor Arnall, who long ago went on record as emphatically believing that it ought to be paid for, is hoping that there will be no hitch. The silver is a part of the furnishings, at the present time, of the Governor's Mansion and it will so continue.

The Trophies of the Alabama

One of the larger trophies won by the men of the Battleship Alabama, and now displayed in the Department of Archives and History Building, is an Urn-shaped piece inscribed "U. S. Army and Navy Championship, offered by William Randolph Hearst, San Francisco, California, May 18, 1908, won by U. S. Ship Nebraska; U. S. Ship Arkansas, 1914; U. S. Ship Arkansas 1915; U. S. Ship Wyoming 1916; U. S. Ship Alabama 1917." Probably if the World War hadn't come along when it did the baseball team of the Alabama would have won it again because I seem to remember that the crew of the Alabama was pretty good at sports as well as at target practice.

In addition to the large piece won by the baseball team, are five smaller cups. One was presented by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Still another was presented by the citizens of Los Angeles and is inscribed with these words: "This trophy presented by the citizens of Los Angeles to the Battleship Alabama Championship Contests Featherweight and Middleweight, April, 1908." Still another one, a Gunner's Contest Cup, three handles, was given by the Meadowbrook Club. The inscription on it is: "Middlebrook Club Cup of the John Wanamaker's store of Philadelphia to be competed for annually by the Marines and Reserve Navies at League Island, Navy Yard, 1913." A large three handled silver cup

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The Punch Tray of the Alabama service, the most spectacular piece in the group, is attractively inscribed: "From the Loyal Hearts of the People of Alabama to the U. S. Battleship Alabama, whose officers and men protect the honor of our country in Peace and War." The etching of the Battleship in the center of the "waiter" (I like to use this word instead of "tray"), shows the Alabama on a calm sea and is an excellent picture setting out every detail. It is twelve inches long and correct in every phaze.

The "donation" inscription shown on the tray, is engraved on to all the larger pieces, encircling the Punch Bowl and Centerpiece, or flower holder, and use of the Alabama Seal and the Seal of the Navy has been made. I have seen a half a dozen of these "services" (though I never attended a function on board a battleship where they were used), and the majority of them were of the same design, or intent, insofar as decoration goes.

Story of Georgia Silver

Wylly Saint John, writing for The Atlanta Journal, a few days ago, gives an interesting picture, both in words and with six illustrations, of the Georgia Service and tells of the presentation, at Jamestown, on June 10, 1907, when it was received on behalf of the Ship, by President Theodore Roosevelt. The Alabama service was presented at Mobile in 1902 and I told the story of that "presentation" in one of these contributions several months ago. Mrs. Saint John has made a good story and she proves beyond any question of a doubt that the State

[illegible] as well as at target practice.

In addition to the large piece won by the baseball team, are five smaller cups. One was presented by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Still another was presented by the citizens of Los Angeles and is inscribed with these words: "This trophy presented by the citizens of Los Angeles to the Battleship Alabama Championship Contests Featherweight and Middleweight, April, 1908." Still another one, a Gunner's Contest Cup, three handles, was given by the Meadowbrook Club. The inscription on it is: "Middlebrook Club Cup of the John Wanamaker's store of Philadelphia to be competed for annually by the Marines and Reserve Navies at League Island, Navy Yard, 1913." A large three handled silver cup is one which seems to have been given to the different gun crews and held by them after each competition, that is until won by another crew. It has half a dozen or more inscriptions. The last date in these contest inscriptions is on the cup presented by the A. J. Reach Company who gave the baseball team a trophy, September 11, 1913.

As the old battleship went out of commission the services used by them were put in storage and in later years they have been returned by the Navy Department to the several States. Of course these things would have no useful purpose in time of war and they might take up space needed by something more necessary. Battleships in peace time need such things for receptions and social functions must be staged on sea as well as on land.

Through The Years

Letters From Home

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE PRESENT DAY agitation to encourage the home folks to let the boys overseas hear from them, and to make it easy as possible for these men in the service to hear from home, is just another case of history repeating itself. If one goes into the biographical files and records of many of the old Alabama families, you will find that soldiers who were with Andrew Jackson in 1813-14 wrote back home and sent their messages by returning "on leave" comrades and in that day letters from home were just as encouraging and morale building as they are today. The boys who went to Florida in 1817 and those who went in 1836-37, and those who served in the Mexican War made touching appeals to their loved ones to remember that they were away from home and would like to know what was going on there.

A volume recently published by Professor Wiley of the University of Mississippi telling the story of the ordinary private soldier in the Confederate Army, gives many of those letters written home then and in many of them we may read appeals for information which they doubtless did not get.

I have just recently had the opportunity to see two of Captain Tennent Lomax's letters which he wrote home from Mexico in 1848. They are set out below. The reader should note that he dates one in February, 1847, and the other in March, 1848. The Captain was still thinking of "1847" and still writing that year not having realized a new year yet. His Company did not get there until late in 1847, so the date is obviously in error. These letters are:

Orizaba, Mexico,
Feb. 20th 1847

Dear Sister

I am not quietly seated in an upper room in one of the finest houses in the far famed city of Orizaba—a lovely place—in a beautiful valley—but yet in the land of clouds. So far it is elevated above the level of the Gulph. You will see in the Southern Shield a letter published which will give you a full history of our march to Cordova. On the 4th morning after our arrival in the Town just mentioned the Ala. Battalion and the portion of the Army commanded by Capt. [illegible] of white clouds seem continually to rest. The land in this valley is exceedingly rich, and here lives a very wealthy gentleman who is said to be the only poet in Mexico. He has beside 10 lovely daughters who are represented to be beautiful and accomplished, but the ascent from this little paradise is more imposing than the descent. By standing on the top of the mountain up which the road winds you have at one view the whole valley below at your command and also every turn in the road which first forms this figure. We none entered upon the valley of Orizaba. I shall only say at this time that the city is situated in a level plain which closed in on three sides with sumptuous mountains. There are 20,000 inhabitants. I have seen three fountains of cold water in the streets and others in lots belonging to individuals. There are any number of churches and, oh me they are magnificent. I attended mass today I suppose I saw a thousand people kneeling at the same time before the altar of the most high God. It was a solemn & imposing scene. The women wear no bonnets but cover their heads with a kind of checked cloth 3-4 of a yard wide & 2 long. This they throw over the head & lap over the breast and make it answer for sleeves & bodies to their dresses. The bustle is worn here in great perfection. They are a little larger than that worn by Miss B—? The people generally are of the color of mulattos, though there are some exceptions. I had the pleasure today of seeing two of the prettiest girls I ever laid my eyes upon, one of them was a delicate little creature with rosy cheeks, fair skin, cold black eyes & hair who dressed in black and actually stood in her window from morning till night. I passed through the street 6 or 8 times & always found her in the same place, and yet she gave me no token of recognition, except occasionally to throw her burning black eyes upon me. I invariably touched my hat to her as I passed and looked as love struck as possible. The men of the better class nearly all wear round coats and are exceedingly well dressed & tidy & extremely polite & well bred. The women have the prettiest little hands & feet imaginable.

As for myself I am getting along very comfortably. My health is moderately good & there [illegible] all nature is shut up from view except the bare side of the mountain. The lower side of the road is protected by a rampart six feet high which seems to be a part of the rock itself—far, far below a noble stream roars along out of sight, but the old mountains roar with its melody. This is the Chiceoweta pass. It protects Cordova—a nice little town through every street of which streams of water run—it has a population of 5,000 people and is in the neighborhood of the mountains which guard Orizaba. The passes between the two places are very beautiful and magnificent but I have no power to describe them so as to give you any intelligible idea of them. Suffice it to say a brave people would never have allowed us (800 strong—we left part of our force at Orizaba) to pass through them without a battle—and yet no war cry was heard—the people were at work and hardly turned their heads to look at us as we passed by them.

"Orizaba is in a beautiful valley 20 or 30 miles in circumference and is surrounded on all sides by mountains—over all of which the snowy top of Orizaba towers—the clouds seem to rise from the ground and as they roll up the sides of the mountains or rest upon their tops our souls are transported to classic land—and one wishes to make his home here.

The ladies of this city are very beautiful—though they seem to shun intercourse with us. All of them play the harp—all love to show themselves at their windows and as we pass along the streets our eyes are ravished with beauty and our ears with melody.

There is one or two peculiarities about the people here—the boys all have a smattering of latin & the men no tails to their coats—nevertheless they are communicative polite elegant people & I don't know if I would not bring one of the Rebosa-covered—no brunettes—harp playing but perfectly lovely senoritias home with me if she would consent.

"Our troops are fed on fresh beef & many of them are sick —Three men have died in my company, Jackson Vickers of Henry—Stephen D.' Wiggins of Dale and Robert Bradley of Barbour. Ah! it is a sad thing to bury a comrade on foreign land—to [illegible]

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Dear Sister

I am not quietly seated in an upper room in one of the finest houses in the far famed city of Orizaba—a lovely place—in a beautiful valley—but yet in the land of clouds. So far it is elevated above the level of the Gulph. You will see in the Southern Shield a letter published which will give you a full history of our march to Cordova. On the 4th morning after our arrival in the Town just mentioned the Ala. Battalion and the portion of the Army commanded by Capt. Henry took up the line of march for this city which was supposed to be headquarters of the Guerillos, and before the sun went down we had the pleasure of gazing upon the lofty steeples of the many churches which are scattered all over the place. Language is too poor to convey any thing like an adequate idea of the beauty and sublimity of the scenery through which we passed on this ever memorable day. Early in the morning we set our faces toward the mountains, and in a few hours were in the midst of them. Here was presented to us one of the grandest scenes in nature & one of the most stupendous national works of old Spain, tall craggy mountains were all round us, mountain torrents "raging along—all foam," which were "seen, not heard" were on either side of us, and yet the road made but a gentle descent to reach the valley below. On either side of the road there were walls 4 or 5 feet high & almost the whole of the road there was paved with round stone. The valley below seemed to be 2 or three miles long & 1-2 to 3-4 wide hemmed in on all sides with mountains on which large masses creature with rosy cheeks, fair skin, cold black eyes & hair who dressed in black and actually stood in her window from morning till night. I passed through the street 6 or 8 times & always found her in the same place, and yet she gave me no token of recognition, except occasionally to throw her burning black eyes upon me. I invariably touched my hat to her as I passed and looked as love struck as possible. The men of the better class nearly all wear round coats and are exceedingly well dressed & tidy & extremely polite & well bred. The women have the prettiest little hands & feet imaginable.

As for myself I am getting along very comfortably. My health is moderately good & there is about as little chance of winning laurels at the cannons mouth here as there is an Barbour. All I have seen yet were pointed from not on me. So you need not console yourself with the idea of having a Brother a President. I have not recd a single letter or paper from home since I left, so write to me. Kiss all my kin for me.

T. LOMAX.

"Orizaba, Mexico, March 27, 1848.

"Dear Sister—I have been astonished that no letter either from you or Dr. G. has reached me since my arrival in Mexico—but the reception of your message through Mr. Baker has removed in part this state of feeling—I deeply sympathize with you in your afflictions. I know you have had a terrible time. Sick people are very exacting and unreasonable and the Dr. is peculiarly so when very sick—but you are accustomed to trouble and have learned to bear it with patience and need no advice from me. I hope by the time this reaches you, the Dr. will be well.

"I think I have written to you since I reached this place, but as I am not sure of it I will give you some description of our march and of the place we inhabit. We were ordered to Vera Cruz about the first of the month of February and arrived there on the third and received orders to be ready to leave by 3 o'clock in the morning—this was a bitter pill to men who had marched 18 miles over very heavy road the day before—we got ready however and were then informed that the brigade would not take up the line of march till next day. Accordingly we left on the 5th and consumed the entire day in passing the sand hills which environ Vera Cruz—for fifteen days we dragged our slow length along—and at last reached our dentination—we had along with us 150 wagons and 12 hundred infantry—four pieces of artillery and a few dragoons. Our train was generally four miles long—and as we rose the steep acclivities on the way or descended them, it was a beautiful sight to see it wind its slow length along. The accent to the table lands is grand beyond description—the plain continues unbroken until you reach the very foot of the mountain—

"Course stopped by a bold mountain trunk (he refers to a stream), with high perpendicular banks of rock had not old Spain bridged the gulf and thus opened the way for the invader. Now begins the toilsome accent for miles you rise the accent along a circular path which hugs the side of the mountain. On your right our eyes are ravished with beauty and our ears with melody.

There is one or two peculiarities about the people here—the boys all have a smattering of latin & the men no tails to their coats—nevertheless they are communicative polite elegant people & I don't know if I would not bring one of the Rebosa-covered—no brunettes—harp playing but perfectly lovely senoritias home with me if she would consent.

Our troops are fed on fresh beef & many of them are sick—Three men have died in my company, Jackson Vickers of Henry—Stephen D. Wiggins of Dale and Robert Bradley of Barbour. Ah! it is a sad thing to bury a comrade on foreign land—to leave him there to the mercy of our enemies—

I suppose you would like to know something about myself. There is nothing here to disturb my peace—I have everything to make me happy — plenty of friends plenty of homely comfort—plenty of employment—but no prospect of glory—there is no sign of war here—peace is here whether it is in the U. S. or not.

Our men march into large towns & take them without firing a gun—If the U. S. would just take as much territory as they want & station a few troops on it there would be an end of the war—

Give my love to all the family. Keep the little ones—write to me soon—Don't you think it a shame that I have not heard from you in 5 months—So far as I am concerned I would not care if the war was interminable—but I pity my men—a good many of them are sick and are anxious to go home—they look to their officers for everything & pour their complaints all into their ears—It is a place of greater responsibility than I had imagined to command a Co. a man must be as stern as Minas in the enforcement of authority—and as kind as Howard in relieving the sufferings of his men. Give my thanks to Mr. Baker & tell him I will reply to his letter by the next opportunity.

Yours, T. Lomax."

Some Confederate References

A typical Confederate letter, written some fourteen years later, is one a Mississippian sent to his brother. It is from Doctor Wiley's collection embodied in his life of "Johnny Reb"; "I do wish I could say something to provoke a reply. I care not how short it might be, or long my say. I would be tempted to cuss a little if that would produce a desired result, or would breathe words soft as the memory of buried love if that would effect the object—. Leave the all engrossing cotton field for fifteen minutes and write me at least one letter—." Further Doctor Wiley quotes an Alabamian of modest educational background who wrote thusly to his wife; "I haint got nary letter from you for sometime when you fail to Rite—it ceeps mee uneasy all the time." The presently painted picture of the boys who crowd the Mail Sergeant, has counterpart in a description of an incident at Tupelo, Mississippi, in 1862, when an Alabamian wrote that "Boys who will lie upon their backs with hardly energy enough to turn over, will jump up and hurry to the Captain's tent to get it."

All in all, life hasn't changed much.

Through The Years

The Little Colonel

By PETER A. BRANNON

THE PRESS DISPATCHES on Sunday last carried the sad intelligence of the passing of Leon Schwarz, an honored citizen of Mobile. He was my friend and I will miss him. He was the friend of many other Alabamians and they too will miss him. Less than nine months ago I was in his company for much of three or four days in Mobile and as we walked along the street he spoke to nine-tenths of the people who passed him. It was with profound concern that he did not know the other tenth. It was with sincere regret that Mobile had grown so much in the year before that he did not know everybody on the street and that he could not give them a pleasant handshake, or a wave of greetings, or a kind word in passing.

Leon Schwarz, was born in Perry County, in the village of Hamburg, Alabama. He lived in Marengo at Linden, went to school in Tuscaloosa, and became a member of the National Guard of the State at that place several years before he was of age, and from the early 90's down to a few months back he was an active member of the Alabama National Guard. He belonged to the same Command at Tuscaloosa as did William W. Brandon. He was a great admirer of William W. Brandon. He served in the Spanish-American War and knew the facts as well as the traditions of that episode in the history of our State as did few others. From the close of the War in 1898, when he served as Quartermaster Sergeant of the 1st Regiment, through into the beginning of the next one in 1917, he kept an active interest in the Military Affairs of Alabama. He participated in the "Governor Thomas Jones Riot" in Birmingham, in the 90's, and in the Jones-Kolb inauguration, was associated with Colonel Jones, Governor Jones, Judge Jones, in all of his activities and he rather thought that the "sun rose and set" in the old Governor.

Captain Schwarz carried an outfit from Camp Wheeler to France in 1918, and when leaving was responsible for the shipment of the old Quartermaster's records of the 1st Alabama Infantry, A. N. G. back from Macon, Georgia, to be preserved at Mobile until 1942, when they were taken over by me for the Department of Archives and History at the request of General Ben M. Smith, The Adjutant General. The records of that old outfit have enhanced the archives of the Adjutant General's office in no mean way. He was very proud of his association with the Na-

a very attractive home and at the time of his death a good business. In addition he seems to have dabbled a little in politics for at one time he was the Sheriff of Mobile County and another time the President of the City Commission of Mobile. When he passed away he was connected with the City Commission of Mobile and judging from my association with him last Summer, seemed to have his hands pretty full. He was never too busy to stop and do a good deed to help a friend, to give a word of welcome, and with it all, to be courteous and enthusiastic in his response to every request. When I was thrown with him last, (during the Summer of 1942), he told me he had "slowed down a bit under Doctor's orders," but if he had I never noticed it, for he lost no opportunity to be nice and courteous to every one and helpful in every way.

The Colonel, for on his retirement from the National Guard he had been retired with the rank of colonel, had but one request to make of me in recent months and that was that I would speak to the program makers for the inauguration of Governor Sparks, that he might not lose his reputation in the matter of attendance on these formalities. In 1894 when Governor Oates was inaugurated, Leon Schwarz was among those invited. He was proud of the fact that he had enjoyed the distinction of being asked to be present on every occasion since that time (when Alabama got a new governor) with the one exception of Governor Kilby. He hastened to explain that he probably would have been present at Kilby's inauguration in 1919, but he was with Alabama's 31st Division in the Army of Occupation, in Europe, and he could not get leave long enough to get here to attend. Colonel Schwarz and his wife were present in January, 1943, when Chauncey Sparks took the oath of office.

The Colonel told me of an interesting incident of his business

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Between times, the Captain was a business man at Mobile. I do not know how he had time to make a living, but he did not appear to have suffered in the matter of life's comforts for he had invited. He was proud of the fact that he had enjoyed the distinction of being asked to be present on every occasion since that time (when Alabama got a new governor) with the one exception of Governor Kilby. He hastened to explain that he probably would have been present at Kilby's inauguration in 1919, but he was with Alabama's 31st Division in the Army of Occupation, in Europe, and he could not get leave long enough to get here to attend. Colonel Schwarz and his wife were present in January, 1943, when Chauncey Sparks took the oath of office.

The Colonel told me of an interesting incident of his business connected with the recent boom in Mobile. A lady called over the phone one morning to complain that her renovated mattress (Colonel Schwarz was the Mobile Mattress Factory), had not been returned, when he explained that she herself was responsible for non-delivery. The Mobile Mattress Factory, which had enjoyed the distinction for many years of giving a one-day service, could not any longer do so, for there were so many Yankees who had moved into Mobile and so much new business had been made that the physical limitation of the work which could be turned out, precluded the possibility of a twelve-hour service. Inasmuch as the lady to whom he spoke was one of those "Yankees" who had come into Mobile from New England, she appreciated the turn of events and accepted it good naturedly.

Even though Colonel Schwarz was not a native of Mobile, he expressed the Spirit of Mobile. He was of that quiet, dignified, easy-going manner, so characteristic of the city of Mobile. He perhaps had his differences and his arguments, and maybe a few contentions, but I never heard him say an unkind word about any one, or to any one. He was charitable to the utmost in all his contacts. He was a Jew and proud of it. He was a great admirer of old Father Ryan, the Catholic, and he had many Catholic friends in Mobile. The Protestants, Methodists, Baptists and Episcopalians alike, found him always cooperative. He took a great deal of interest in the B'nai B'rith, he was a Mason, and member of half-a-dozen other fraternal organizations. The Colonel was one of these kind of men who take an active interest in whatever they go into.

I am reminded in this reference to Colonel Schwarz of the passing of two other interesting Mobilians, who have gone on in the recent months. During the early Fall William E. Mickle, son of the old adjutant general of Confederate Veterans, passed to his reward. Young Colonel Mickle, celebrated his seventieth birthday during my visit and I had dinner with him. I had left him only a short time, it seemed, about sixty days, when they notified me that he was no longer with them. Captain John Callaghan, long time in the custom house, was resting at his home and I called by to have a visit with him. A few weeks later he, too, joined his friend Mickle on the other side. Now the Little Colonel, the last of that matchless three, joins them.

"None knew him but to love him
None name him but to praise
him."

"The like of him we shall
Never see again."

d In Current Week's Theater Program

Through The Years

DuBose's Yancey

By PETER A. BRANNON

I SAW THE OTHER DAY a review of the reprint of John W. DuBose's "Life and Times of William L. Yancey," which was initialed "C. M. S." I was very much interested in the review by my old friend, Cassius M. Stanley, particularly because I disagreed to some extent with Mr. Stanley's viewpoint, and it interested me greatly because I wondered what old man DuBose would think about it when he noted these remarks on the bulletin board of that other land where he is today laboring.

In the first place I was intrigued with the designation which Mr. Stanley gives to Colonel DuBose as "Doctor." The old Colonel typified the Black Belt traditions of west Alabama as did no other man. He was a former lieutenant colonel of the Confederate army, a gentleman of the Old South, a planter, a former slave holder, and the doctor's degree to him would have been just exactly as the designation is today to my old friend A. S. Sally, of the Historical Commission of South Carolina. Once my secretary thoughtlessly addressed Mr. Sally as "Doctor." I had a hasty reply from him to remind me that "he was no damn doctor." Mr. Sally prefers to be called "Mister" and Colonel DuBose insisted on being called "Colonel."

I do not know that I am very elated that a reprint of "DuBose's Life and Times of Yancey" has been brought out for I am enough of the old school to wish that we might have a few of those rich old-time rare volumes which can be left in their original editions and not be reprinted. Yes I do hope there will be some which will not be, like the rare volumes on furniture and glass and antiques, reprinted into one dollar ninety-eight-cent editions. Let me say right quick that the new edition don't sell for one ninety-eight. It is a well printed good looking two-volume edition well worth having. The new reprint will possibly serve as a reference book and perhaps give the coming generations an opportunity to get a picture of that life and time about which the old Colonel wrote, but I would like to think that those few hundred which were originally printed were all that would ever be. You may think when I tell you what is to follow that I am selfish and that I have this opinion because of a personal reason only. It so happens that I have old Colonel Du-

time stone deaf, necessitating all conversation be carried on with him by the use of a pad which he carried for that purpose. Doctor Thomas M. Owen and I were about the only two people that he had much social contact with except that he had a particular drug store down town to which he went every morning about 9 o'clock for an egg malted milk chocolate ice cream soda. Most of this time he lived in the Morrisette house on Ripley Street. Frequently when the old man was incapacitated I went over from the office to carry him some fruit, or other delicacy. He was not a large eater.

Over a period of several years during which I assisted him in his research in the newspapers and facilitated his references to volumes in the Library, he discussed William L. Yancey with me and always insisted that his volume "The Life and Times of Yancey" was not intended to be a geography of William L. Yancey, but was intended to be a presentation of his interpretation of that period of Alabama's history. In bringing together material for the volume, he made hundreds of notes and frequently discussed phases of the accumulated material which he did not use in his book. I was often told by him of the opinions of men who knew Yancey. I do not think that he professed to know him except casually, certainly not intimately. Colonel DuBose was commissioned a Lieutenant in a Cavalry outfit just prior to the beginning of the War, but even that early his deafness unfitted him for active duty and his Confederate service consisted of staff work. He followed the business of a planter after Reconstruction until 1886, when he took up the necessary work of writing as he was unfitted to direct his plantation interests. At the time of his death his estate was an extremely modest one.

During my association with the Colonel, I several times discussed Yancey with Doctor L. W. Phillips, an old East Alabama practitioner who was going to school in New York in 1860, when Yancey made his celebrated speech in Madison Square Garden. Doctor Phillips had heard Yancey make political speeches at Crawford and had heard him debate with Alpheus Baker, Dowdell, Samford, Judge, Hilliard, and others of that day and it was interesting to me to contrast Doc-

interpretations and gives the reader a rather interesting picture of an old gentleman who I knew very late in his life. I never knew the Colonel at the time he worked on The Age Herald, in Birmingham, when Mr. Stanley and Charlie Fell were associated with him and when he could hear a little and talk all he wanted to. As many have said about Colonel DuBose, he wrote largely his own conclusions and in a great measure from memory and from the observations and deductions arrived at by his own very lonesome self, rather than to be influenced by what others thought of what was

going on around him. Personally I would say that Colonel DuBose, who the general public at the present time at least considers a political interpreter, was more interested in people and political economy that he was in politics. He wrote his "Recollections of the Plantation" as about the last of his "heaviest" efforts, when he worked at Montgomery in the Department of Archives and History, but his health at that time was impaired and he was by no means at his best. Even so he was a keen painter of that life of the Southern plantation which many of the old South have depicted as aristocratic, cultured and classical to a marked degree. The present generation is prone not to find the same romance and glamour as did the literary painters of Colonel DuBose's type and I myself doubt that the influence of the Black Belt plantation of 1840-50, was all that some have credited it with being.

John Tyler Morgan considered Colonel DuBose's "Life and Times of Yancey" as a prose epic of rare and charming power." Even with the eccentricities of the Colonel, he was to me a rather interesting character.

on furniture and glass and antiques, reprinted into one dollar ninety-eight-cent editions. Let me say right quick that the new edition don't sell for one ninety-eight. It is a well printed good looking two-volume edition well worth having. The new reprint will possibly serve as a reference book and perhaps give the coming generations an opportunity to get a picture of that life and time about which the old Colonel wrote, but I would like to think that those few hundred which were originally printed were all that would ever be. You may think when I tell you what is to follow that I am selfish and that I have this opinion because of a personal reason only. It so happens that I have old Colonel DuBose's own copy, his very own copy. He gave it to me in his last days and while he did his research here in Montgomery in the Department of Archives and History. The Colonel left Montgomery about a year and a half before his death which happened by his being run over by a switch engine in Birmingham. For several years prior to that time he had compiled his material, the series of "Canebrake" stories, "Ten Years of Governors," and two or three others, which he did for The Montgomery Advertiser, The Age-Herald and occasionally for some other paper, in the Department of Archives and History. He suffered from a grievous malady which made him shun company and he was at the same of a planter after Reconstruction until 1886, when he took up the necessary work of writing as he was unfitted to direct his plantation interests. At the time of his death his estate was an extremely modest one.

During my association with the Colonel, I several times discussed Yancey with Doctor L. W. Phillips, an old East Alabama practitioner who was going to school in New York in 1860, when Yancey made his celebrated speech in Madison Square Garden. Doctor Phillips had heard Yancey make political speeches at Crawford and had heard him debate with Alpheus Baker, Dowdell, Samford, Judge, Hilliard, and others of that day and it was interesting to me to contrast Doctor Phillips' opinion with that of Colonel DuBose. The Colonel was interested in the life of the period, the life of the times, the Doctor was a warm enthusiastic admirer of Yancey and his ability to sway public opinion. I never thought that either one of them, certainly in late life, considered Yancey as a great man, but they did consider him as a great moulder of opinion. Even as late as Colonel DuBose's death he was still working on his "Life and Times of Yancey." He was still doing research that he might discover more of what other people thought of that time, the 1850's, when he, between fourteen and twenty-four years of age, was most keenly alive to the issues of that period. Colonel DuBose was obviously a member of the original Ku Luux, as well, he was of that organization the White Shield, both prominently identified with the Reconstruction period of this State. Having lived and worked prior to the 1861 conflict and having to readjust himself subsequent to 1865, he was an excellent example of the period. Until I became a member of the Staff of the Department of Archives and History in 1910, I never knew him but I knew of his reputation and he expressed in his ability to discuss the period, that very interesting Alabama character, the combination politician, public thinker, writer, and speaker, though the Colonel never mounted the platform. He was a keen observer and keen interpreter, with rare sagacity, and had he entered the arena prior to the time of his incapacity by deafness, I can well conceive that he would have been a sharp antagonist. He was a great believer of the Convention theory as opposed to the Primary, as did most of the men of that time, and the idea of having run off elections and second choice votes vexed this old gentleman to the nth degree.

Anyhow, I am still rather proud of my original and now that there are reprints to be had, I will leave it resting on the shelves for the coming generation can go out and buy a copy of a new one and quit using mine. In order that others may enjoy the fruits of his activities, I suppose it is fitting that I should say that this new reprint will be welcomed, even though as I said in the beginning it is a bomb-shell into the ranks of one of those rare old originals.

Still Another DuBose Reminder

A few months back, in 1940, Professor James K. Greer of Howard College reprinted Colonel DuBose's "Ten Years of Alabama, 1865-74," and in his preface has himself something to say about the old Colonel. He says that while he has rearranged DuBose's original contributions to The Age Herald, that he did no violence to the main facts and opinions and that he intends that the voice which speaks from the narrative be that of the Colonel. This volume, which Doctor Greer calls "Alabama's Traffic Decade," has an introduction and I have read that with interest.

Doctor Greer begins his very attractive narrative with a sort of biographical compilation which he admits he has drawn together from several sources, at the same time he injects some of his own

Through The Years

Tradition Versus Facts

By PETER A. BRANNON

ONE OF MY EARLIEST recollections is the "School House Field" of my grandfather's plantation in the Eastern part of the State. He had a rather large farm, I should not call it a plantation, and there was the "Williams" field, and the "school house field," and the "Jones place," and the "McDougald place," and the "Pierce place" and other tracts or sections of land which he had accumulated over the years. I recall that the School House Field had a large Oak tree and an extra large Persimmon tree (and Persimmons grew into trees there, not shrubs as they do in the middle part of the State), and being told the stories of the students from the settlements as much as four miles beyond who went to school to him there. It seems that my grandparents came into that section—to Vilula—as a young man from Georgia and taught school for a year or two until he married one of his pupils and then moved up the country some three or four miles where he opened a school and farmed and became County Superintendent of Education, and carried on two or three side businesses, or professions, (whatever you may call them), all in an effort to make ends meet as the family grew and necessities of life became more evident.

All of which is prefatory to a story which I heard all of my life with which all the records, that is those entered as published statements, seem to conflict, (but which story persisted in my own mind), to the effect that "John McDonald went to West Point from Seale." So far as I know, I never saw John MacDonald but one time. He came in later life (I think along about 1895, or 1896), to visit grandparents for whom he seemed to have rather warm and cordial attachment. This gentleman, born in Limestone County, Alabama, (as far as I have been able to determine), but who was positively appointed to the West Point Military Academy from the 3rd Congressional District of Alabama (of which Limestone County was not a part), had a colorful career in the military life of the State and Nation. Of his warm friendship with my family I was told quite a few incidents. As a Cadet at West Point John McDonald of Alabama made a reputation in a case of settling the race question by taking the matter in his own hands (so the story goes), and he had a reputation at Auburn of being a rather strict disciplinarian. His Army life seems to have been classified as, " a West Pointer," which in the olden days meant that there was no softness in his disposition or in the matter of handling his men, but in the face of all this, I do not know that I ever heard of him being classified with those Army officers who were unbearable.

His Appointment

I tried for twenty-five years to prove that John McDonald was appointed to the Military Academy from Seale, Russell County, without any success until a few days ago I found this statement in The Russell Register printed at Seale, Thursday, January 20, 1876.

West Point Cadet!

Johnnie B. McDonald, of Seale, was chosen by the Examining Board at Opelika last week as the young man to be recommended by Honorable Taul Bradford, M. C., to the West Point Cadetship from the 3rd Alabama Congressional District. He was accepted too by the Medical Examiner who pronounced him well developed, and thus he has Sana mens in sano corp re. We understand that he stood a most remarkable examination before the Board, and that Mr. Slade, of Columbus, under whose charge and instruction he has been for several years, says that he is one of the brightest and most promising young men of his acquaintance. The Board of Examiners were Messrs. Hardaway and Hogge of Lee (this probably should be Hodge), and Colonel Brannon of Russell County. Johnnie is the eldest son of our townsman, Colonel Joseph B. McDonald. He will not leave for West Point before May. We congratulate our young friend on the appointment he has received and hope he will be in days to come an ornament to his county and Country."

That is a rather characteristic statement which I presume was written by Judge E. Herndon Glenn, inasmuch as he was the editor of The Register at that time and it proves beyond any question the tradition handed down in my family, but it is not borne out in many published records of General McDonald. His official data which I presume emanate from the West Point records show that he was apponited from Athens in Limestone County.

"Colonel" Joseph B. McDonald is shown as an exemption from Military service in the Governor's correspondence in 1863, because he was State solicitor of the 9th Judicial Circuit and that he lived in Tallapoosa County. Directly against this is the official Pay Roll of Company K, 47th Alabama Infantry which shows that he was a Private, enlisted April 29, 1862, from Tallapoosa County. Incidentally Tallapoosa County claims John B. McDonald and there are statements to show that he was appointed to the Military Academy from that county. I have not gone into the records to determine when Colonel McDonald and his family left Tallapoosa County and moved South to Seale, but it is a known fact that they lived at Seale in 1876, and that he was a Lawyer. The Register, (the local newspaper), published on March 9, 1876, an account of the fire which burned the residence and outhouses of Colonel Joseph B. McDonald two miles northwest of town "last Friday night." This would make the fire on March 3, 1876, at which time he was living near Seale. According to our present appreciation of things in general, it was a disastrous fire. The smoke house was consumed and in it was five hundred pounds of bacon (Bought bacon), and twelve hundred pounds of home raised meat. The Colonel's fine library was badly damaged, but he saved many volumes. Though he lost two or three hundred, the loss in value to his Library alone, was twenty-five hundred dollars. The house had on it an insurance policy of eight hundred dollars and he had a two hundred dollar insurance policy on the furniture. Most of his entire property was destroyed. An interesting statement is made that the few things which he saved were "by the assistance of neighboring freedmen." For the uninitiated, this is an expression used in those days to identify recently freed slaves.

The Colonel

On November 18, previous, we read a very interesting account of the case in the U. S. District Court at Montgomery against Colonel Joseph McDonald and Colonel Lyman W. Martin who were being tried, with Colonel Taul Bradford, under an indictment which charged them with tampering with the U. S. Election laws. Incidentally the State had just gone Democratic and I suspect that the two colonels had been probably too active in the estimation of the Republicans in carrying the County into the Democratic column. That same paper shows a vote for and against the ratification of the new Alabama Constitution of 1875. Russell County went 1,185 for, and 332 against Ratification.

Professor Slade

That celebrated teacher, long known in Columbus, Georgia, as "old Professor Slade," was Mr. Jerry Slade of a family that came out of East Georgia and in more recent years, at least, (the last fifty or sixty), he has been identified with a home over there called "Saint Elmo." This place was either named for Augusta Jane Evans's (Mrs. Wilson), book of the name, or the book was named for the home, there are adherence to both claims. Formerly, before Columbus built in that direction and surrounded the old estate, it was a typical old Southern showplace. Even now it is a right interesting old house in the Eastern section of the city of Columbus. When I was some 40 or more years younger I remember Mr. Slade as a distinguished old gentleman who wore his walking cane with great dignity.

The Examining Board at Opelika

The above referred to Board of Examiners, Colonels Hardaway and Hodge of Opelika, and Brannon of Seale, are the old Confederate officers, Colonel B. H. Hardaway of Columbus, Georgia, Colonel John M. Brannon of Seale and I do not recognize the other man. Colonel Hardaway was long time Professor of Mathematics at the University of Alabama. His son Robert Hardaway was a student at Auburn in 1876 and while he might have been the examiner, I doubt it.

Colonel John Brannon of this Board was, in 1876, a planter living about two miles, as the Crow flies, North of Seale. He had served as a Lieutenant in the 39th Alabama Infantry, C. S. A., until wounded at Chickamauga, and during the last year of the War was in command of the Home Guard Regiment of Russell County which participated at the Battle of Girard. Opelika was until the creation of Lee County in 1867, in Russell County. Seale and Opelika have for many years had quite a bit in common. Up to the War period, the Russell County legal advertisements were published in the Opelika newspaper. For a time after the War, until the founding of the Russell Register in 1875, I find the county legal notices published in a Union Springs paper.

The Third District

As strange as it may seem the 3rd Congressional District of Alabama of which Taul Bradford was Congressman, included Russell and Lee County on the South and Talladega County on the North. This Congressional District arrangement held after the adoption of the 1868 Constitution, but must have existed no longer than the ratification of the 1875 Constitution, for Honorable Jere N. Williams of Clayton is shown as Congressman from the 3rd District late in 1876. The new Congressional District became effective March 4, 1876.

Honorable Taul Bradford was a son of the old Register of the Land Office at Montevallo, (which office was later at Mardisville) and sometime Major-General of the 8th Division of Alabama Militia. The son Taul was a Major of the 10th Alabama Infantry Regiment, C. S. A. He was in the Legislature from Talladega County in 1870-72, and represented the then 3rd Congressional District from 1874 to 1876, and lost his Seat in Congress only because of the redistricting of the State.

Through The Years

The Montgomery Male High School

By PETER A. BRANNON

SEVERAL days ago the catalogue of the Montgomery Male High School, being the Literary Department of the Business College, came into my hands. The high school was located in the Methodist Protestant Church on Bibb Street. Included in the catalogue for 1870-1871 is the announcement for 1871-1872, and if you will read it right, you may compile quite a bit of Montgomery history.

The faculty of the high school was F. W. Lewis, A.B., principal; Upton Perrine, and A. T. Clark, A.M., who was superintendent. Incidentally Mr. Clark was president of the Alabama Actual Business College, of which this Male High School was the literary department. Mr. Perrine was the secretary of the Business College and professor of business and ornamental penmanship. F. W. Lewis (who was principal of the high school), was the lecturer on commercial arithmetic in the Business College. Principal Lewis was a graduate of Washington and Lee University. The announcement says that "he graduated with distinguished honors at the best conducted and noblest of our southern institutions, the Washington and Lee University of Virginia." One learns that the Montgomery High School was originally founded October 3, 1870. The list of students shows many of the old generation of Montgomery, but I do not find any who are now living.

The catalogue shows that there was but one session a year of the high school, there was a preparatory and a high school course. It was nine months in length, commencing always in the first week of October and closing the last week in June. Pupils were admitted at any time, but the parents were earnestly requested to enter their sons at the commencement of the scholastic year. Tuition, per session of nine months, was eighty dollars. There was no extra charge for Latin and Greek or any other higher

ing the building quite three feet higher than the present floor. This building is similar to the old Georgia Home Insurance Company's Building, at Columbus.

William B. Davidson, George W. Cook, R. L. Fannin, A. G. Foster, S. Gassenheimer, William B. Gilmer, Jr., Arthur Hirscher, E. R. Holt, F. M. Hereford, Joseph Kennedy, Henry Krutner, T. Kenneworth, Samuel Lewy, E. Lobman, Mark Lehman, L. M. Marks, J. B. Nettles, William Pinkston, George M. Powell, Isadore Strauss, J. J. Shaver, A. Weil, and many others, are shown as students in the Commercial Department of the College.

Advertisement

The advertisements carried in this little volume are quite indicative of a rather good stock of type metal in the shop of Brown and Barrett. Quite a number of Alabama newspapers carry space ads. The volume contains a list of all papers published in the State, covering those alphabetically between the Abbeville Register, of Henry County, to the Wetumpka Republican. Not many of these old papers have withstood the ravages of time. The Greenville Advocate, the Montgomery Advertiser (which was the Advertiser and Mail), the Mobile Register, the Monroeville Journay, the Ozark Star, the Selma Times (which now has a "Journal" onto the name), the Troy Messenger, the Talladega Mountain Home, the Tuskegee News, and the Union Springs Herald and Times (which does not now have the "Times" in the title) are the only ones which are now circulating. The Troy Messenger was edited by Sidney Herbert Blan, whose name is now borne by S. H. Blan. Ryland Randolph was still running the Independent Monitor at Tuscaloosa. Screws and Williams owned the Montgomery Advertiser and Mail. Joseph Hodgson was editor of the Advance here at Montgomery. The Alabama State Journal, a Union Republican paper owned and edited by Arthur Bing-

Worth I do not know. Curan, the Saddle and Harness manufacturer, I do not locate. Miss Maggie McPhillips, I cannot identify, and there are others.

These little worn out volumes, as the one above, actually is to be classified, are valuable additions to the Library of the Department of Archives and History. The one just discussed was brought into an old book shop in Atlanta about a week ago and a friend of mine there thought that the proper place for it was in our Library, so he sends it along. Incidentally he, Mr. John Weatherly, was born in Calhoun County, not far from the birth-place of the gallant John Pelham, and he has a warm spot for Alabama. So he sent along this Montgomery item.

Montgomery High School was originally founded October 3, 1870. The list of students shows many of the old generation of Montgomery, but I do not find any who are now living.

The catalogue shows that there was but one session a year of the high school, there was a preparatory and a high school course. It was nine months in length, commencing always in the first week of October and closing the last week in June. Pupils were admitted at any time, but the parents were earnestly requested to enter their sons at the commencement of the scholastic year. Tuition, per session of nine months, was eighty dollars. There was no extra charge for Latin and Greek, or any other higher branches or languages, except French and German, when twenty dollars extra, for each, was charged. Students from abroad, that is not living in Montgomery, were directed to private families where they could obtain good board at from twenty to twenty-five dollars a month. Regular board was two hundred and twenty-five dollars. Books cost ten dollars, and tuition at eighty dollars, making a minimum expense of three hundred and fifteen dollars, and extras if one studied modern languages. The government of the school was intended to direct the student to make the best possible use of his time in cultivating his mind and prepare himself, by his studies, for future usefulness. The discipline was firm and rigid. Only students of good moral character were wanted. They advertised that they did not want a large number of students, though they did seek students of ability and true moral and intellectual worth.

Frank Elsberry, Arthur Elsberry, LeRoy Holt, Alex Troy, and Marcus Moore distinguished themselves and were posted on the honor roll for the first session of the school.

The catalogue which was set up by Barrett and Brown (incidentally they were the predecessor of the Brown Printing Company), has some very interesting page heads. "Life Without Literature Is Death;" "Let the Victor Bear the Palm;" "Mind Moves Matter;" "Dare To Be Wise;" "No Steps Backward;" "Seize the Opportunities;" "The End Crowns the Work;" are some of these "slogans" used to stimulate interest.

Among the Names On the List

T. E. Gilmer, John Hastings, Samuel Holt, David Johnson, Willie Jackson, Clark Lanier, S. Lemle, Sid Watt Lanier, Hardy Littlepage, Charles Moore, D. May, C. W. Norton, Henry Opp, John Phillips, Joseph Simon, Sam Strauss, F. W. Seelye, Charles Sutter, August Uhlfelder, are among the students in the high school department.

Remember the High School was the Department of Science and Arts of the Business College. The Business College occupied the third floor of the Liverpool and London and Globe Company's building. To those who did not know, this is today the Klein Building on the corner of Court Square and Dexter Avenue. The cut of the building on the front cover of this catalogue shows the building as it stood even as late as a few years ago with steps up from the Court Street side as well as the Dexter Avenue side entr-

Register, the Monroeville Journal, the Ozark Star, the Selma Times (which now has a "Journal" onto the name), the Troy Messenger, the Talladega Mountain Home, the Tuskegee News, and the Union Springs Herald and Times (which does not now have the "Times" in the title) are the only ones which are now circulating. The Troy Messenger was edited by Sidney Herbert Blan, whose name is now borne by S. H. Blan. Ryland Randolph was still running the Independent Monitor at Tuscaloosa. Screws and Williams owned the Montgomery Advertiser and Mail. Joseph Hodgson was editor of the Advance here at Montgomery. The Alabama State Journal, a Union Republican paper owned and edited by Arthur Bingham, carries an entire page advertisement. The Pensacola Mail is the only paper outside of the State carrying an ad. Henry C. Davidson and Company, clothing merchants, were in business at 17 Market Street. F. A. Gerrish, who had an office in the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance building, guaranteed to have all the latest improvements for the making of photographs and their rooms had a "Sky Light not Excelled." Watts and Troy advertised as Solicitors in Chancelry. Winter and Winter were Attorneys at Law and gave a fine financial reference which included Josiah Morris and Company, Farley, Smith and Company, Holmes and Goldthwaite and the First National Bank. Molton and Falkner and Joel White, were selling books and stationary. John Powell was in the furniture business as well as selling coffins and caskets, at his place, Number 8, Perry Street. A. N. Kennedy sold paint in Montgomery, and Carswell and Kennedy sold paint in Selma. Lehman, Durr and Company ran a warehouse and did a commission business. Napoleon Abercrombie had a barber shop in the excellent establishment next to Saint Nicholas Restaurant. Abercrombie's Barber Shop, as such, lasted until within the memory of the present man. Some of those other concerns went out before the present generation. Some of the names in these advertisements are not identifiable by me even. G. L.

Program Of Entertainment

Through The Years

Jaque Batiste

By PETER A. BRANNON

A MOST interesting document, which has quality if it doesn't have quantity, came into the Department of Archives and History a few days ago when a bill rendered against the U. S. A. by Jaque Bastiste in 1799, was received. I am not making any deductions about where it came from, but the original item is there and no one can question its authenticity. Jaque couldn't sign his name, but he could make his "mark" and he had two rather important men to certify that it was payable, so it is all the more of interest to me.

According to this document, on April 29, 1799, Jacque rendered services to the United States as pilot in navigating two Keel boats, the property of the United States, "from the Bayou Saint John to the town of Mobile in the territory of the King of Spain." Bartholomew Shaumburgh, captain, Second Regiment, commanding the detachment destined for Fort Saint Stephen, indorsed this requisition, "the quartermaster, Mr. Collins, will pay the above fourteen dollars and charge it to the quartermaster general." Captain Shaumburgh signed at "town of Mobile, April 29, 1799." In due and formal manner, is indorsed thereon "received at Mobile, April 29, 1799 .....of John Wilkins, quartermaster general, fourteen dollars .....signed duplicates." To the left is indorsed "Joseph Campbell." Jaque makes his mark and the whole transaction is ended.

Captain Shaumburgh

Gardner's Dictionary of Officers of the United States Army, published at New York in 1853, says of Captain Shaumburgh:

"Bartholomew Shaumburgh, sergeant major; commissioner of military stores 1 Sept. 1790; ensign, 1 Inf. 4 Mar. 1791; lieutenant, Mar. 1792; in 1st sublegion Dec. 1792; Capt. June 1794; aid-de-camp to Brig Gen. Wilkinson 1796; in 2d Inf. Nov. 1796; Div. quartermaster 1 Nov. 1799; disbanded 1 June 1802; sutler at Fort Adams, Miss., Apr. 1803; deputy quartermaster general 15 May 1812; assistant paymaster 22 Apr. 1815; disbanded in 1817 (died at New Orleans, La., Dec. 1835)."

Spain and the United States in April 1799, but it was known that Saint Stephens' Fort was above the line and there is no excuse for thinking it was known that the site on Mobile River, destined to be Fort Stoddert, was not above the line. In 1803 Captain Shaumburg and Lieutenant Gaines were credited as officers at Fort Stoddert, but if you will note above in the Military register's statement, the official records indicate that the Captain was at Fort Adams much further West on the Mississippi River. Edmund Pendleton Gaines, a Lieutenant according to the Military Register, but who was promoted about that time, captured Aaron Burr in 1807, near McIntosh Bluff and confined him for trial. George S. Gaines, the U. S. Factor (Indian Agent), is said to have been on a visit to his brother Edmund P. at the time of Burr's visit and he was very much charmed by the former Vice President's personality. Mrs. Gaines, daughter of Judge Harry Toulmin, according to Colonel Pickett, proved a worthy antagonist of Aaron Burr in the games of backgammon with him.

As well as having been commanded by such personages as Gaines and Shaumburg, the celebrated New York officer Peter Philip Schuyler was on duty at Fort Stoddert before 1805, and there were probably others of equal Military importance who served there. The officers who commanded there certainly prior to the War of 1812, were connected with the 2nd U. S. Infantry. When President Jefferson appointed Ephraim Kirby as the first Judge in the newly constituted District, this distinguished Connecticut citizen had served as a Land Commissioner for the territory East of the Pearl River and had already visited Fort Stoddert prior to that time he came to the place to hold Court. He was destined to live but a short time in this Southern region. Judge Kirby died at Fort Stoddert, October 20, 1804, and was buried there at the reservation. A modest official Marker locates his burial place which is a short distance East of the present Mobile Highway and three or four hundred yards up stream from the old river wharf site long used by the Military Post as well as a

District of Mobile
Port of Fort Stoddert,
March 4th, 1813.

Raymond Lizana, Master of the Schooner Mary, having produced a Certified Manifest of the Cargo on Board the said Vessel:—permission is hereby granted to land the same.

Ship's Residence
Wm. Conner & Co., N. Orleans
Consignee's Residence
Messrs. Files & Terrel F. Stores.

Four Hogshead Sugar
Two Ditto Molasses
Nineteen Bbls Whiskey
Eight Bbls Cider
Eight Bbls Apples
Two Bbls Cherry Bounce
One Bag Pepper
One Box Indigo
One Imperial Tea
One Bundle Shoe Thread
Four Pounds Sewing Thread
Fifteen Corn Mills
The whole of s.d Cargo—
Addin Lewis, Coll'r"

Josiah Blakeley, writing from Mobile on the 28th of February 1812, to his relatives in Connecticut, says among other things, "Fort Stoddert, fifty miles North of this, on the West bank of this Mobile River, is an American garrison of five hundred or less troops." He proceeded further to give accounts of his land on Blakeley Island nearby. While it is doubtful that Fort Stoddert was more than a river bank stopping place, in 1818 when the French Colonists ascended the river to claim their allotments under the Philadelphia grant, at the White Bluff on the Tombigbee, they stopped at Fort Stoddert where they were received with great hospitality by Judge Harry Toulmin to whom they bore letters. Colonel Pickett gives an interesting picture of that day when he says that after leaving Fort Stoddert on the Mobile River they proceeded up the Alabama to Fort Montgomery, which was near old Fort Mims and the Tensas where they visited General Edmund P. Gaines who (he says) was in command at that point. Thence they proceeded through the Cut Off, by Nannahubba Island, across to the old Hollinger's Ferry site to enter the Tombigbee and proceed on to the junction of the Black Warrior with the Bigbee.

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Colonel Albert J. Pickett wrote, back in 1851, in his "History of Alabama" most interestingly about Captain Shaumburgh. He credits the Captain with being the first to perform a Protestant marriage ceremony in what is now Alabama, when he, as captain and on duty at Fort Stoddard on Christmas morning, 1800, joined in holy bonds Eliza Lindner and her sweetheart, named Daniel Johnson, who were opposed to just mating off like most of the other couples in that pioneer country of south Alabama.

As one of the most elusive, as to the date of founding, military posts in Alabama, Fort Stoddert ranks first. Our early historians insist that the post was named for Benjamin Stoddert, secretary of the Navy and acting secretary of war. It is positively known fact that if Benjamin Stoddert ever acted as secretary of war it was not but for about a week, and the date was either in 1800 or 1801. Most of the early writers credit the post with having a name prior to that time. I am not unwilling to think that the post did not have a name until two or three years later, though there may be documentary evidences to contradict this suspicion on my part. The territorial records and the military correspondence and early pioneer government transactions indicate that there was a post on Mobile River and the annotations which accompany these published and transcripted early documents all give the name of Stoddert to the post, but even so, the present-day historian must accept these with some degree of trepedation as they certainly couldn't be proven.

Again, there is some doubt as to whether the Post was named for Benjamin Stoddert. Many of the early writers have called it "Stoddard," but this is positively in error, so we can dismiss that. Lieutenant McLary was sent over from the Natchez country about the time that the 31st Degree Line was run. No one has credited him with being the first commanding officer at Fort Stoddert, but rather at Fort Saint Stephens site. There are several indications that there was a Post and a garrison on Mobile River at the place that we now call Fort Stoddert, and that the commanding officer credited to this Post was not called Shaumburg. Discounting all that, however, "Bw Shaumburgh," Captain, 2nd Regiment commanding the detachment destined for Fort Saint Stephens, was at the town of Mobile on April 29, 1799, and Saint Stephens' history doesn't credit Captain Shaumburgh ever commanding there, so the Captain may have been interrupted on his way up during the Summer of 1799 and put in charge of the garrison to be placed at Fort Stoddert. At least the requisition of the pilot Jaque, is a proven documentary evidence that the United States of America was shipping material from Bayou Saint John through the town of Mobile which was in the territory of Spain up into U. S. territory. Remember that the Northern Boundary of Spain was the 31st Degree of North Latitude and the 31st Degree is South of Fort Stoddert. Colonel Andrew Ellicott had not finished running the Boundary Line between commanded there certainly prior to the War of 1812, were connected with the 2nd U. S. Infantry. When President Jefferson appointed Ephraim Kirby as the first Judge in the newly constituted District, this distinguished Connecticut citizen had served as a Land Commissioner for the territory East of the Pearl River and had already visited Fort Stoddert prior to that time he came to the place to hold Court. He was destined to live but a short time in this Southern region. Judge Kirby died at Fort Stoddert, October 20, 1804, and was buried there at the reservation. A modest official Marker locates his burial place which is a short distance East of the present Mobile Highway and three or four hundred yards up stream from the old river wharf site long used by the Military Post as well as a landing place for the Mount Vernon Military Reservation.

In fact Fort Stoddert as a site has no comparable historical importance with several nearby local points, even though it outranks them in age as fixed localities. Mount Vernon up out of the swamp and on the overlooking hill was a rendezvous point or cantonement from almost the beginning of the Military Post days at Fort Stoddert. The soldiers were encamped at the Cantonement and away from the Post on the river certainly as early as 1806. After 1828 the United States maintained a military Post, well stocked with supplies and called it Mount Vernon. The U. S. Arsenal at that place was so destined after the selection of the locality in conformity to an Act of Congress which directed that there be a place where Military supplies should be kept, somewhere along the Gulf region.

Even so, Fort Stoddert was the port of entry for the Mobile District of Alabama for Addin Lewis issued this Document:

"To the Inspector
of the Port

[illegible] ascended the river to claim their allotments under the Philadelphia grant, at the White Bluff on the Tombigbee, they stopped at Fort Stoddert where they were received with great hospitality by Judge Harry Toulmin to whom they bore letters. Colonel Pickett gives an interesting picture of that day when he says that after leaving Fort Stoddert on the Mobile River they proceeded up the Alabama to Fort Montgomery, which was near old Fort Mims and the Tensas where they visited General Edmund P. Gaines who (he says) was in command at that point. Thence they proceeded through the Cut Off, by Nannahubba Island, across to the old Hollinger's Ferry site to enter the Tombigbee and proceed on to the junction of the Black Warrior with the Bigbee.

The witness in the case of Jaque's bill against the Government, Joseph Campbell, was a Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers between 1796 and 1800. He was appointed to the Army from Pennsylvania as an Ensign in the 2nd Subaltern Legion in May 1794. I suspect that if one tried hard enough he could find his name among the early settlers of our South Alabama country.

General Ferdinand L. Claiborne, General Andrew Jackson himself General Flournoy who succeeded Wilkinson in this Eastern Mississippi Territorial country, and many of those Military men of lesser reputation, Gilbert C. Russell, Thomas H. Benton, the Mississippian Colonel Carson and others were at Fort Stoddert in the day of its Military association. That luxuriant growth of South Alabama flora which so richly covers this Mobile River section, appears today as if it might have been there when these men were on the ground as well as even fifty years before that time when the British Colonial officers had jurisdiction prior to the time of Spain in those parts.

Through The Years

Holding Our Own

By PETER A. BRANNON

A GEORGIA newspaper sent a man to Montgomery recently and he got together a few pictures and wrote a dandy story to show that Montgomery had been little influenced by the war and its attending forces. I say they sent a man. He may have just voluntarily come, anyhow I enjoyed his story whether it is altogether true or not. Those of us of Montgomery, see that we are not holding our own as we would like to, even if those from the outside think we are. Being so "sot" in my ways, and being so convinced that the good old days were better than these, I am not yet reconciled to that feminine voice over the radio and it makes me sorry that the manpower shortage is so acute that we have to ring in the dear things to help out in the necessary situations. I enjoy browsing through the novelty stores, and the dime stores, and the department stores from time to time, mainly because it is not expensive for me as I do not start out with much cash and have spent very little when I get through. Recently it has been interesting to me to stop and ask the clerk a question or two in order that I may hear them talk. I do not think that I can be accused of exaggerating the situation when I say that full three-fourths of them are not natives and they speak a different language to me, even though by careful and close attention I do "get" what they mean to say. I do wish the girls would pronounce Montgomery our way, not the way they want to teach us to say it. I am satisfied that the very great majority of these temporary ones have come from north of the Mason and Dixon Line and I am sure that my very Southern brogue is sometimes confusing to them. It was necessary for me to interpret the South Carolina language to a group of Northern Museum people on one occasion. The large influx of soldiers from all parts of the world into Montgomery recently is going to make it necessary for somebody here to interpret much of this dialect, if things get much more decidedly changed.

Local Language

Of course we Southerners have many things which these Northerners don't understand, but that is largely their fault, not ours. If we say "terectly," and they finally interpret it to mean "directly," it doesn't necessarily mean that we are going in a straight line to a place. It merely means that we have made up our mind to go and will leave shortly, or after a "little bit." At the same time we may say right it is not because he has been educated as a professional. He is no professional talker anyhow, he is a newspaper, or publicity man, who has bravery enough to get into those countries and talk late every afternoon under the very most adverse circumstances.

That Radio Announcer who does not have a section accent has no interest under the sun to me. If he is talking out of Boston I want him to talk Bostoneese. If he is talking in Dallas, he should talk Texas language. If he is a bootblack in a colored barber shop he ought to talk like one. I don't care whether he was educated at the Troy State Teachers College, or the University of Texas, or Columbia, or Wellesley, or at Bowdoin, Maine. The listener who can't enjoy a program out of Maine for the reason that he is in Texas and can't understand Mainiac talk, should turn off the radio. That Radio Announcer who says Schreeeeevvvveeeport, is not only putting his own home town on the map, his own self on the map, his own section on the map, and making an impression and selling the world to that station —or rather selling that station to the world—but at the same time he makes the world know that he is not trying to "academic" himself collegiate and talk pure English and sound unnatural and absurd. He does it with a purpose.

Colloquial Lore

Obviously there are colloquials which stamp, unequivocally, the locality. These sectional expressions could not be universally acceptable over the radio, but they are very acceptable in books, for people in California and New Orleans and Wisconsin enjoy a New England story with its characteristic phrases, terminology and "sayings" and we certainly enjoy talking to one from another section of the country. We do not necessarily have to lose our own individuality, or the individuality of the section of the country, or the folklore of that section, in order to be popular with some other section of the country. The statement which I heard in Mobile some weeks ago, "tharwannotep," would not readily be understood by a visitor to that section, unless you see, as well as hear, the application of the statement. The waitress in a restaurant explained to another who was making ready to go off duty, and who did not wait for her customer to finish her lunch, that "there was no tip," that is when the customer left she did not leave a dime for the girl.

Obviously a floating population incident to the present emergency carries local expressions the South, bend backward so far in their efforts to pervert it that even those to whom they appeal lose the meaning of the effort.

Customs As Well As Language

A friend of mine who is a statistician at the University recently asked me whether I recalled the days of my boyhood when it was considered proper to turn to the outside of the walk, next the street, when a person met a lady. I most positively do. It was always correct to turn out for the lady, but to turn to the right in case of the gentleman. Of course modern traffic ideas, as well as laws, would dictate that we turn to the right in America, even as if they do turn to the left in Europe. I suppose it is customary to turn to the outside of the walk because it would be impolite to make a lady endanger herself by getting too close to street traffic, or to walk out onto the street if the walk was narrow. I have often seen a person stop and get off the sidewalk for a group of ladies to pass. It is even yet impolite, or rather it embarrasses me to turn to the right in case of four ladies walking in a line on the sidewalk when all five of us can't get on the sidewalk.

This same gentleman called my attention to incidents of "uppity" youths who lacked breeding and took the inside tract. He further noted the fact that this question of taking the outside might go back to an Oriental feeling that it was not permissable for the shadow of a person of lower rank to fall on one of a higher rank. While we still have a caste system in the South which may be a little more pronounced than in the North, it certainly is not as pronounced as it is in India. Certain sections of South America have no distinction between color lines and the democracy of those countries has been thrown up to us. As long as we have distinction between classes, that is as long as we have an element of our population which thinks themselves different from (and better than), others, we will probably have aspiring individuals who are "biggety" and who in the assertion of their "rights," will cause some unhappiness and perhaps some unpleasant relations. We had more than one class in the beginning of history and we had the Pharisees at the dawn of Christianity and continue to have the upper crust, and other kinds of crusts, so all of these peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of localities will probably continue to exist and as long as you have

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Of course we Southerners have many things which these Northerners don't understand, but that is largely their fault, not ours. If we say "terectly," and they finally interpret it to mean "directly," it doesn't necessarily mean that we are going in a straight line to a place. It merely means that we have made up our mind to go and will leave shortly, or after a "little bit." At the same time we may say right good when probably the academic expression would be very good. Lots of us down South say "aint," but only a few say "I seen." I heard a Covington County native the other day say "stoveroom," when she meant "kitchen," but even so, I see no very harmful reason why you cannot use "stoveroom," a good kitchen should have a stove in it. I am going to continue to "tote" packages. You may "carry" yours. I read only this morning that "ration" should now—see that I say now—be pronounced to rhyme with "fashion." Even the brain trusters and the "eclat" of the radio announcers have quit "rayshining" and gone back to "rationing." I never could "rayshun." I am happy that I held out long enough to win. We of the Southland still "reckon." Our Eastern friends "guess." We still have "porches." The South Carolinians have "piazas," the Virginians have "verandas," and in some places they have a "stoup." People are still "funny" down South, even if they are "queer" in other places. I still hear children say that they got a "sticker" in their thumb when they might have said that they had a "thorn" in their finger. But Southerners at least know that brer rabbit landed in the briar patch. When I was a young boy I carried a "bucket" of water from the well. All of my story books said that Jack carried a "pail" of water up the hill when he fell down to break his crown. Some people are "skeared" of ghosts. Others are "afraid" of dark houses. I occasionally see a "crippled" man, but I think perhaps he should be a "lame" fellow. Although I have seen "goobers," and have eaten "ground peas," I am now quite fond of "peanut" butter. I frequently "ought" to do something when I am reminded that I should do it.

Many of our outside visitors and newcomers are "definitely" determined in their opinions whereas most of us natives are sometimes swayed in our conclusion. We often "shore do" have our own opinions and when we do, generally stick to them. A writer on the correct use of words says that the planes "dived" rather than "dove." I have heard small boys brag about how far they "dove" off the springboard, but I never did like the word, so I am willing to use dive. Cotton pickers, when I was a small boy, had their baskets weighed and overseers used "Stilliards." The Scales used in weighing cotton should be pronounced "steel yards," perhaps because the rod along which the Pea, or weight slid, was about a yard long.

On the 20th of March last, the Southern boys connected with the Columbia Broadcasting System got their names, to the tune of a quarter of a page, in most of the Southern papers when they were twitted about their Southern "accent." Not all of these Southern boys have held on to their Southern accent. Some have, and John Allen Wolfe forgets himself sometimes and talks natural, but even he is losing what he had in Montgomery. I am not convinced even if the brain specialists of the Radio systems do think it is so absolutely necessary to talk with those flawless accents. I can't understand that man in North Africa, and Irak, and Burma, and the Solomon Islands, but own individuality, or the individuality of the section of the country, or the folklore of that section, in order to be popular with some other section of the country. The statement which I heard in Mobile some weeks ago, "tharwannotep," would not readily be understood by a visitor to that section, unless you see, as well as hear, the application of the statement. The waitress in a restaurant explained to another who was making ready to go off duty, and who did not wait for her customer to finish her lunch, that "there was no tip," that is when the customer left she did not leave a dime for the girl.

Obviously a floating population incident to the present emergency carries local expressions from one section of the country to the other and causes a shake-up in our local cultural adjustments, but we students of our social geography at least, hope that when it is all over we will have the traditions of the Southland, and the traditions of New England, and the traditions of the Black Hills of the Dakotas, in some degree left alone to their sections. That is to say that the whole picture of the face of the United States will not be stamped on Mobile, or New Orleans. I am convinced that Charleston will keep its traditions, or rather hold them even though there are a hundred thousand outside workers there now who don't "belong" and who will, when it is all over, pass on to a new place. I am not unwilling to admit that I rather like a certain amount of snobbishness. There can be local pride in the traditions of the hill billy country of northeast Alabama, just as deep-seated as it is in the aristocrat culture of the one-time rich Black Belt, and those who work with their hands in the dirt are just as much entitled to their own folklore as are the white collar workers in air conditioned, glass-topped desk offices on the twelfth floor in the city. Those of us interested in the preservation of our traditions must by all means hold our own. Even if the outsider comes in and talks a different language, and uses a slang necessary to adapt that language, "I would know," for example, don't let it "get you." I certainly hope that Montgomery will never get to the "doughnuts and coffee for breakfast with a piece of pie as dessert" custom, for while that may be good enough, and correct and alright, for the Middle West, or even the East, it doesn't belong in the Southland. Ham, or bacon, and eggs belong here.

I have often heard of the "drawl" of Texans and the "droll" of the gulf country, but I never heard it. It is largely a matter of what you are listening for when you hear these peculiarly reputed classes of talk on the part of the natives. Imitators who attempt to mimic the rhythmic soft pronunciation of been thrown up to us. As long as we have distinction between classes, that is as long as we have an element of our population which thinks themselves different from (and better than), others, we will probably have aspiring individuals who are "biggety" and who in the assertion of their "rights," will cause some unhappiness and perhaps some unpleasant relations. We had more than one class in the beginning of history and we had the Pharisees at the dawn of Christianity and continue to have the upper crust, and other kinds of crusts, so all of these peculiarities and idiosyncrasies of localities will probably continue to exist and as long as you have them some folks are going to "talk" one way and some another and I doubt very seriously whether we will ever be educated to a universal culture. In fact, I am not in favor of having everybody alike, anyhow. I have seen a great many people that I do not want to be like and I suppose the shoe is on the other foot with them.

Just as long I am able to keep my wits, I hope that there will be a Montgomery, and a Charleston, and a Richmond, and a Mobile, and a New Orleans, and a Jackson, Mississippi, and a Columbia, Tennessee, and that Greenville, South Carolina, will not be like Charleston. I hope every one of them will be different and proud of it. I hope all of them will have their own traditions and hew to them. Selma is entirely unlike Birmingham, and Huntsville and Decatur are rather glad that they are not like Mobile, and who blames them?

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Through The Years

Flag Day

By PETER A. BRANNON

MONTGOMERY and Central Alabama have been tied in to nearly everything that ever happened in North America. I knew that we have established the fact that DeSoto and his Spaniards were here in 1540, and DeLuna was here in 1560, and English, and French, and Scotch, and Spanish Soldiers of Fortune passed this way during the sixteen and seventeen hundreds, and that one of the first cotton gins ever operated in America was in service near here, and that soldiers from the British Army in the American Revolution were recruited here, and that Bienville, the great Frenchman, was once here, and numerous other incidental connections with the world's history took place here, or abouts, but I never realized until a few days ago that we had any connections whatever with the beginnings of the United States Flag.

Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes on June 14, 1777. On September 3rd, Congress officially promulgated the design. The first Flag of that design was displayed on August, 3, 1777, when such was raised on the North-eastern bastion of old Fort Stanwix, sometimes called Fort Schuyler, the present site of Rome, New York. The Lieutenant-Colonel of the New York Command there was Marinus Willett. Colonel Willett had a subsequent very interesting connection with Montgomery vicinity history. The story of the making of this Flag is that they took some of the shirts of the men and made white stripes of them, soldier's wife. This was though without question the first Flag of the Stars and Stripes that was ever hoisted.

Contrary to the above we can find plenty of references which show that the Army never used the Stars and Stripes in battle until the time of the Mexican War.

Colonel Willett

Colonel Marinus Willett served until the close of the American Revolution with some distinction. He was a friend of General Washington and in 1790, was entrusted with the mission to the Creek Nation to find Alexander McGillivray and bring him and a delegation of Chiefs to New York for a conference when President Washington hoped to influence the Indians to agree to a cession of lands in West Georgia, that the white settlers might get into the country West of the Oconee River and eventually open these lands West of the Chattahoochee River for white settlement. Colonel Albert J. Pickett has given us a very good story of Colonel Willett's visit to the Creek Nation and there is a volume, a sort of Journal of Colonel Willett wherein the story of his visit to the South is setout in some detail. We know that Colonel Willett met General McGillivray at the home of Robert Grierson, a Scotchman, a trader in the Indian Nation, at Hillabee, on the Upper Tallapoosa, and came with him to the plantation of the General, located four miles above Wetumpka at what was known in later years as the Howell Rose lands, on the East side of the marked the site of McGillivray's home north of Wetumpka and a tablet on a stone at that place recites the incidents connected with some of the above facts.

A few years ago the great grandson of Colonel Willett was in Montgomery and I had the honor of taking him to the site of McGillivray's old home. He had a manuscript copy of Colonel Willett's Journal and in it was setout certain of the facts connected with the visit to the Creek Nation. I enjoyed seeing these notations as he had entered them.

Celebrating the Day

Tomorrow we pass one of those designated American holidays, Flag Day, and will probably take little note of the significance of that occasion. Today the United Nations include the British Commonwealth of nations, the United States of America, Russia and China, and eighteen other nations and I wonder how many of us know that the first Flag of the United Colonies of America embodied that very same union, the blue field in the left corner of our Flag, which is the Union Jack today. That British Jack is a blue field with the cross of Saint George, red, and Saint Andrew, white, con-joined. If you will today look at the Flag of Canada, the Flag of Australia, that of New Zealand, that of India, and that of North Ireland, you will see that same "Jack" as the Union of these Banners. Our first Flag, the United Colonies Flag, as displayed at George Washington's camp before Boston, January 2, 1776, used this British Jack, but the Flag of the United the true story of the American Flag, we must now debunk the Betsy Ross connection with the first Flag. There are absolutely no records in America to show that George Washington, Robert Morris and George Ross, that reputed committee from the Continental Congress, visited Mrs. Ross and asked her to make a Flag. About a year later, she did make a Flag for one of the Naval units and Congress paid her firm, (she was in business as a Flag maker), Fourteen pounds, twelve Shillings and two pence for making "ships colours."

Respect to the Flag

The President has asked that in the celebration of Flag Day this year 1943 we pay respect to the flags of our allied nations. I wonder if very many of those who see these lines could differentiate between the Flag of New Zealand, the Flag of India, the Flag of Canada and of Australia. They are what we formerly thought of as British colonies. Today we don't so speak of them. The former Colonial Empire of Great Britain is now the British Commonwealth of Nations and when we look at their flags we see the allegiance to the Mother Country. The Union, that is the upper lefthand corner section of the Flag, is the British Jack, that con-joined two crosses, Saint George and Saint Andrew, which has been set into place with a blue field which contains stars and other insignia. If one observes a collection of flags he is impressed with the use of red and blue as colors predominately (though Belgium is black and yellow), and is reminded that the world has adopted for Standards and Banners these colors, in much the same manner that in Heraldity we use gold and silver.

It behooves us all to learn to pay the proper respect to the Flag, to stand at attention when it passes and to properly salute it. Frequently one passes the State House and asks why one Flag sometimes flies on the dome of the Capitol and why another one does at other times. Certainly any good Alabamian should know that by law, the Alabama State Flag flies from the pole on the dome of the Capitol when the Legislature is in session. The National Flag flies there when the Legislature is not in session.

The Pole On the Lawn

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Congress adopted the Stars and Stripes on June 14, 1777. On September 3rd, Congress officially promulgated the design. The first Flag of that design was displayed on August, 3, 1777, when such was raised on the Northeastern bastion of old Fort Stanwix, sometimes called Fort Schuyler, the present site of Rome, New York. The Lieutenant-Colonel of the New York Command there was Marinus Willett. Colonel Willett had a subsequent very interesting connection with Montgomery vicinity history. The story of the making of this Flag is that they took some of the shirts of the men and made white stripes of them. They took a woman's red petticoat which supplied the red stripes, while the blue ground for the stars came from a coat belonging to Captain Abraham Swartwout of Dutchess County, New York. This statement must have originated that insistent American tradition that from the beginning of time our Flags have been made from women's petticoats. Some have denied the fact that the red came from the claimed source, but that tradition must have some background. Captain Swartwout is credited with having given the lining of his coat to furnish the blue for the field of the flag, but we must not give the Captain credit for any generous donation for there is a record to show that he asked for an order on the Paymaster to reimburse him for his coat. The Continental Congress honored the requisition and paid the bill. Colonel Willett, who had that later Montgomery association about which I will tell you, tells a little different story when he says that the white of these stripes in the first Flag were made of ammunition sacks and the blue was from the camlet coat of an enemy captured at Peakskill. Further he says that the red stripes were made of different pieces of stuff procured from one member, or another, of the expedition. John Fiske, the American historian, says that the Flag was "hasty extemporized" out of a white shirt and an old blue jacket and some stripes of red cloth of the petticoat of a

the country West of the Oconee River and eventually open these lands West of the Chattahoochee River for white settlement. Colonel Albert J. Pickett has given us a very good story of Colonel Willett's visit to the Creek Nation and there is a volume, a sort of Journal of Colonel Willett wherein the story of his visit to the South is setout in some detail. We know that Colonel Willett met General McGillivray at the home of Robert Grierson, a Scotchman, a trader in the Indian Nation, at Hillabee, on the Upper Tallapoosa, and came with him to the plantation of the General, located four miles above Wetumpka at what was known in later years as the Howell Rose lands, on the East side of the Coosa River a short distance above the Falls. Colonel Willett visited in the home of McGillivray for sometime until the Chiefs of Coweta and Cusseta, and one or two of the Upper Towns could be notified of the proposed trip to New York, when they all proceeded by the "Stone Mountain" (the same one so much now prominently identified with Atlanta), on out through Richmond and by Annapolis and by boat to New York. The purpose of the Conference at New York was not explained to General McGillivray except in a limited way. The distinguished Indian visitors were met by the Tammany Society and escorted to the home of General Washington on Upper Broadway where they were officially received by the President.

The result of this Conference was that McGillivray made certain concessions. The chiefs were presented with silver medals. They were intended to be presented, these medals, the year previous, in 1789, when the chiefs were to meet with the United States Commissioners at the Rock Landing in East Georgia. When the Indians returned home, the President sent an Army officer to bring the agreed stipulated sum of money $15,000, this being in gold, and as well, to live with McGillivray six or eight months to influence him to abide by the Treaty requirements. This man was Lieutenant Heth of the Regular Army. Some years past the Alabama Anthropological Society

China, and eighteen other nations and I wonder how many of us know that the first Flag of the United Colonies of America embodied that very same union, the blue field in the left corner of our Flag, which is the Union Jack today. That British Jack is a blue field with the cross of Saint George, red, and Saint Andrew, white, con-joined. If you will today look at the Flag of Canada, the Flag of Australia, that of New Zealand, that of India, and that of North Ireland, you will see that same "Jack" as the Union of these Banners. Our first Flag, the United Colonies Flag, as displayed at George Washington's camp before Boston, January 2, 1776, used this British Jack, but the Flag of the United States was adopted to be "Thirteen Stripes alternate red and white," the union to be thirteen stars, white ones in a blue field, representing a new constellation. By first arrangement these thirteen stars were in a circle.

Our Flag's Glorious Significance

Permit me to quote Calvin Coolidge who said: "the stars and stripes, our ensign, is the symbol of our union and our honor, our ideals and of our aspirations as a nation." Quoting Frederick C. Hicks, a New York Congressman:

"Its rippling folds wave a benediction to the yesterdays of accomplishment and beckon the tomorrows with hope and confidence; it heralds the noble purposes of a mighty people and carries a message of hope and inspiration to all mankind. Its glowing splendor appeals to us to demand international justice and arbitration; it commands us to self-sacrifice, and to universal obligation of service which alone can maintain equality of rights and fullness of opportunity in our Republic. Its stars and stripes voice the spirit of America calling to a Nation of indomitable courage and infinite possibilites to live the tenets of Christianity, to teach the gospel of work and usefulness, to advance education, to demand purity of thought and action in public life and to protect the liberties of free government from the aggressions of despotic power."

While it is not a very happy thing to do, if we would learn

yellow), and is reminded that the world has adopted for Standards and Banners these colors, in much the same manner that in Heraldity we use gold and silver.

It behooves us all to learn to pay the proper respect to the Flag, to stand at attention when it passes and to properly salute it. Frequently one passes the State House and asks why one Flag sometimes flies on the dome of the Capitol and why another one does at other times. Certainly any good Alabamian should know that by law, the Alabama State Flag flies from the pole on the dome of the Capitol when the Legislature is in session. The National Flag flies there when the Legislature is not in session.

The Pole On the Lawn

I have told the story on several occasions and will not detail it here, but Montgomerians should know when they are asked about the Flag pole on the South lawn of the Capitol Grounds that it was put there in the early part of 1918 and set into place by an Ohio Engineer Regiment, then stationed at Camp Sheridan. The steel pole does not extend, according to my views, very deep into the ground. When I saw that they were not sinking it to a great depth I asked Mr. W. S. Kellar, State Highway Engineer, if he thought it deep enough? He said "Oh Yes, it is set in a block of concrete and quite deep enough and no one of us will ever live to see the day when the wind, or any other circumstance will ever blow it out of the ground." Of course he did not anticipate modern machines of destruction, but we can hope that they will never be used against it. That Flag pole was paid for by Alabamians' subscriptions and the sum was raised by the Montgomery Advertiser. They requested no more than ten cents from each person. I recall that my wife, my two children, and myself, giving ten cents each have a forty cent interest in the pole.

Now, last but not least, when you look at the American Flag and wonder which Star stands for Alabama's place in that constellation, count along the third row from the top, reading left to right to the sixth star. That twenty-second star is Alabama's.

ent Week's Theater Program

Through The Years

Hall's Plantation

By PETER A. BRANNON

I PASSED Gunter Field a few days ago and was reminded of startling changes which can take place in just a few years. It has been less than three years since the Municipal Airport was a plaything, sort of a toy idea with a one runway landing place for the Eastern Air Lines transport plane, and a golf course where the overworked business man could run out and "shoot a few holes of golf." Some few Montgomerians may remember back to a Flag Day occasion in 1929 when the grave of Dixon Hall, Sr., out there in the middle of that field south of the Wetumpka Highway, was marked with a bronze tablet, and possibly others can remember when great waving fields of corn and cotton were there, but the days of old Dixon Hall's plantation and the beginning of old Elim Baptist Church are too remote for any one except a historian to even make surmises about.

Dixon Hall

Dixon Hall, Sr., a brother of Bolling Hall, who is better known to most Montgomerians, was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, in 1755. He was the son of Hugh and Mary (Dixon) Hall, of Virginia. Young Hall lived in North Carolina for a short time, then came to Hancock County, Georgia, and moved to Alabama, some say in the latter part of 1815, but I rather think in 1816. As soon as he could get possession of lands opened by the Treaty of Fort Jackson, of August, 1814, Mr. Hall entered much of that acreage east of the city which is better known around town as the old Ledyard plantation, some times as the Oliver farm, embodying some six hundred of the present Gunter Field, between Kilby and old Elim Church. Mr. Hall died in Montgomery County in 1821. Certain family records say that he owned a plantation here in this county as well as lands in Autauga County. When he died, they buried him on his farm about a half mile south of the present Wetumpka road in an air line from what most people in Montgomery know as the original hangar at the Municipal Airport. His gravestone was one of these box-like affairs, a slab set on four upright sides, some twenty inches above the ground.

On the 14th of June, 1929, that being Flag Day, the Peter Forney Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled a tablet in the grave of old Dixon Hall), Miss Olivia DeWees, little Ledyard DeWees, Misses Eliza and Helen Hall and Joel Barnett DeWees, great-grandchildren, several times removed, were present. The tablet was unveiled by Joel Barnett DeWees. These names interest old Montgomerians, but unfortunately the present generation knows them but casually. That interesting old character Joel Barnett, a great story teller, left his name in Mr. DeWees's. The Halls, that is Mr. Dixon Hall's family, are represented in the name, through the family of Doctor William Hall, at Selma, and Bolling Hall's family is still numerous around Montgomery and over at Robinson Springs and Coosada.

Even though there have been many changes there and one would hardly recognize that beautiful old plantation when you see the numerous hangars, runways and those implements of training for destruction there today, most of the participants in that very interesting exercise which took place some fifteen years ago are yet active in patriotic work here in Montgomery. Mrs. George W. Crist read the ritual on that occasion. Mrs. John L. Cobbs and Mrs. Belle Allen Ross took part, and the Frances Marion Chapter of the Daughters was represented by Mrs. Malcolm Carmichael and Mrs. Daniel Troy.

Elim Church

The surroundings, or rather the associated contacts with the old Hall plantation, have been of interest all the intervening years. Elim Church, the oldest in Montgomery County, was founded in 1819 and its first preacher was Elder J. McLemore. According to Hosea Holcombe, his brother William McLemore, sometimes a member of the Legislature, was long a pillar of the church. The Reverend Mr. Lee Compere, the founder of the First Baptist Church of Montgomery, was often a "preacher" there. In the cemetery are quite a few white burials.

"Old Elim," Antioch and Rehoboth were the oldest Baptist churches in the county and Elder J. Larkins, the McLemore brothers, Mr. Compere, and Elder R. L. Daniel were original laborers in the field here. Antioch was out near Mount Meigs, and Rehoboth was located over on what we know as Barton's Hill, North of the Tallapoosa River, not far from old Ware's Post Office. When the white congregation left Elim, sometime after the Sixties Municipal Airport and thus Gunter Field came into existence.

The Eastern Air Lines designated Montgomery as a stopping place sometime in the late 30's and it was about that time that the City Commission built the hangars and other buildings originally at the field. Commercial planes stopped at Montgomery at the airport two or three years before it had an official name.

Yancey's House

Just north of the present barracks of Gunter Field, and a short distance east of the Kilby Dairy property, is the original house owned by William L. Yancey and in which he died on July 28, 1863. That property is owned by Mr. Archie Tyson and the house is not very different today from the time when Mr. Yancey owned it. Newspaper references to Mr. Yancey's death says that the incident took place "at his plantation four miles east of the city." In running out to Gunter Field today we hardly realize that the distance is that far.

I am not able to say what the Indian village which was located at the site was named, but a short distance north of the Tyson property is a considerable aboriginal town site and in former years numbers of objects were secured there.

Just outside the east wall of Kilby Prison is the old Moseley Cemetery which was adjacent to the home place of a family which came to Montgomery County in 1816. The Moseleys must have reached that location about the same time that Dixon Hall settled his plantation a half a mile further. Even up to recent years, all of this locality was heavily wooded. First they came along and built Kilby Prison during Governor Thomas E. Kilby's administration after 1919, then a few years later obliterated those great cotton fields to the east and smoothed it off to take care of the present emergency. Whether it is a lasting and permanent fixture remains to be seen.

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On the 14th of June, 1929, that being Flag Day, the Peter Forney Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled a bronze tablet which had been placed on the grave of Mr. Hall, a revolutionary soldier, "before a large audience," according to The Montgomery Advertiser, and this tablet, which in the intervening years has met with some vissitudes, is the causus belli of the present story. Even though this bronze tablet was screwed onto this old marble slab, in the years that have passed since 1929, it has been cuffed around quite a little bit, for even before the government took over the old airport, certain would-be pilots who were trying to learn to fly were complaining that Mr. Hall's grave should not be allowed to be out in the middle of the training Field. I suppose that in the intervening years somebody must have layed low these marble slabs for several times in the last three or four years I have heard of Mr. Hall's bronze tablet under circumstances not altogether justifiable. A few days ago a soldier at the U. S. O. on Lee Street asked the attendant what he should do with Mr. Hall's grave marker and it being Saturday afternoon she phoned to my house to ask that same question of me. I made the suggestion to the young man that if he would just leave it there at the club room I would take it and see that proper disposition was made of it. The bronze piece awaits final disposition and can be had in the military records division at the Department of Archives and History. This young soldier, Corporal Rufus L. Hudson, 85th B. F. T. Squadron, Gunter Field, recouped it the last time from an old building at Lagoons Park, feeling that it was not receiving proper treatment in being thrown under the old house.

Lagoons Park

All of which brings to mind other changes which the years have seen in this environment. Several years ago the State Parks Commission set aside an area up the valley from old Elim Church which they designated Lagoons Park and made in into a right attractive place. The boys of Alabama State held one or two encampments there and it was otherwise used for recreational purposes after a CCC Program had put it in pretty good shape. I suppose that in the passing years Dixon Hall's grave must have been leveled, the marble slabs carted away and that ground made smooth that ships might land and take off all the more easily.

Mr. Hall died in 1821, according to his tombstone, but the plantation seems to have been kept in the hands of the family quite a long time beyond a hundred years later for Mrs. Olivia Hall Ledyard, his granddaughter, owned the property just a few years ago. When the Daughters of the American Revolution placed the marker on his grave, (on Flag Day in 1929), I had the honor of being asked to make the historical address on the occasion. Doctor Herbert V. Carson spoke on the significance of the American Flag. It had its beginning back in the days when Mr. Hall saw his service with the Colonists in the struggle with Great Britain. On the occasion of this dedication of the tablet, and this honoring of the Flag, some six generations, Mrs. Olivia Ledyard DeWees (great-granddaughter of Hosea Holcombe, his brother William McLemore, sometimes a member of the Legislature, was long a pillar of the church. The Reverend Mr. Lee Compere, the founder of the First Baptist Church of Montgomery, was often a "preacher" there. In the cemetery are quite a few white burials.

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Gunter Field

On December 20, 1940, the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Montgomery in a resolution, requested the City Commission to change the name of the Municipal Airport to "Gunter Field" to honor Hon. William A. Gunter, long mayor of the City of Montgomery. Several other organizations made a similar request. This same resolution requested that the Secretary of War so designate the field which was at that time being taken over for a flying field. Mr. William A. Gunter died shortly thereafter. At the time of the opening of the training field at this place the Federal Government so designated this area. Shortly thereafter a considerably increased acreage was added to the old along and built Kilby Prison during Governor Thomas E. Kilby's administration after 1919, then a few years later obliterated those great cotton fields to the east and smoothed it off to take care of the present emergency. Whether it is a lasting and permanent fixture remains to be seen.

Through The Years

West Alabama Military Institute

By PETER A. BRANNON

SEVERAL days ago The Sumter County Whig, dated at Livingston, February 1, 1853, came under my eye and I saw one of these old style finger pointing notices that the reader's attention was directed to a card in another column in reference to erroneous reports which had gotten out about the military school at Sumterville. That card is:

"Mr. Editor: With this you will receive a certificate signed by many of the friends of the Military Institute at this place, which you are requested to publish. Its objects is to correct certain reports that were understood to be in circulation, to the effect that it had became unpopular at home. This is not so. The large majority are more than pleased with it. A very few only are dissatisfied, and so far as I have heard, upon three points only—the price of tuition — the uniform regulations—the discipline. A few words on each point.

Reference to the superintendent, advertisement will show that the average price of tuition is $20, for five months. A small matter one would think to raise an outcry about, when other good schools charge about the same, without any military institution —but some do object to the charge; let the thing speak for itself.

Others cry out against the uniform. Now without this, a mili-

of the community that has reared it.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Sumterville, Jan. 29, 1853."

The recommendation above referred to:

A Card

The undersigned, subscribers or patrons to the West Alabama Military Institute, at Sumterville, take pleasure in expressing their entire satisfaction with the discipline and course of instruction pursued in the Institution, and cheerfully recommended it to public favor.

D. P. BESTOR,
SAM'L M. GIGSBY,
RICH'D J. EPES,
LAMAN WARD,
JACYNTH JACKSON,
J. C. BROWN,
THO'S ORMOND,
I. S. O. G. GREER,
ELBERT AMASON,
WILLIAM FOY,
JER. H. BROWN,
DARIS FOY,
JOHN McINNIS,
NATHAN AMASON,
E. N. BRYANT,
E. TARTT,
JNO. T. EASON,
W. H. B. LACY,
G. A. BROWN,
H. B. LACY,
SAM'L CHAPMAN,
E. C. PETTIGREW,
JNO. E. BROWN,
L. H. ANDERSON,

28th January (1853).

The regular advertisement of

ter and the entire absence of any inducement toward dissipation and immorality make it one of the most eligible situations for an Academy." The term of this institution embraced ten months, or forty weeks.

The newspaper carries an advertisement of a branch of the Gaston Institute, at the town of Gaston to be under the supervision of William J. Gilmore, so I assume that it is a different school from the Institute which Paul S. DeLamar calls attention to in his regular ad.

The Trustees of the Livingston Female Seminary took pleasure, on August 16, 1852, to inform the public that they had employed the services of Mr. Charles E. Brame to reopen the Seminary. William H. Green, R. F. Houston, A. B. DeLoach, J. L. Scruggs, John H. Sherrard and M. C. Houston commended Mr. Brame to the patronage of the public.

Anyhow, it happens that Sumter County in 1853, was pretty well taken care of in the matter of educational institutions.

Sumterville

Sumterville is located about nine miles South of Gainesville and seven miles West of Epes. It was settled in 1832, by John E. Brown, Captain S. S. Webb, Asa Nathan, Major William G. Myers, Elbert Amason and two others and among the other early settlers in the county whose later families signed this endorsement of the Military Academy, was

point.

Reference to the superintendent, advertisement will show that the average price of tuition is $20, for five months. A small matter one would think to raise an outcry about, when other good schools charge about the same, without any military institution —but some do object to the charge; let the thing speak for itself.

Others cry out against the uniform. Now without this, a military school would be simply ridiculous. It must be required, or the military feature abandoned altogether. But why object to it? Any seamstress can put it together when cut out by a tailor. Made in this way, the whole suit costs about $15.00. I believe it cheaper than common clothing, for military discipline requires it to be neatly kept this of course makes it last longer. Then its acknowledged effect on the manners and carriage of the wearer is worth twice the cost.

The exact discipline is distasteful to some; but it is carried out by printed regulations, of which every patron and pupil has a copy. The code is by no means so strict, and no well disposed, or rightly brought-up scholar need ever violate a single article. Many of the cadets never do.

Now with objections no greater than these, could any right-minded man be expected, either openly or secretly to oppose a school in which all agree that the scholars learn well, and which is conducted according to the will of a large majority of its patrons? Do not republicanism and common sense exclaim against the idea! It is far easier to break down than to build up, and though this school has too many strong friends to be broken up, yet its means of usefulness may ertainly be crippled for awhile y the reckless and ill judged onduct of a few. But in the end e institution will rise, and they ll in public estimation, if they ep up unreasonable opposition.

Let the majority rule; and let community show an undivided nt in support of the Institute. ove all, let parents who send t, faithfully sustain the teach- in the discipline, by what they and do at home—let all inter- l give up small objections use everything does not ex- suit their notions, and if e is anything in the lessons of rience, they will find the ol in time, become equally a ing to, and the honest pride

DARIS FOY,
JOHN McINNIS,
NATHAN AMASON,
E. N. BRYANT,
E. TARTT,
JNO. T. EASON,
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E. C. PETTIGREW,
JNO. E. BROWN,
L. H. ANDERSON,

28th January (1853).

The regular advertisement of the school as set out states that "every cadet is required to be in uniform, and except in cases of protracted illness will be charged from time of entrance until the end of the session." The terms of the session of five months, with "instruction in higher branches twenty-five dollars," "contingent fee one dollar." The "Subscriber's" argument that the tuition was not large would seem to be borne out and he makes a pretty good argument.

The Military Academy had some competition for in this same paper is an advertisement of the Gaston Institute which commenced a session on the first Monday in February to continue five months and apparently accepted both male and female students. The classical and scientific Department tuition rates were twenty dollars. Ben P. Burwell's, Classical and Mathematical School, three miles West of Sumterville, charged twenty dollars a month tuition. In that case you boarded at the school and board was six dollars per month, but for your bed, washing, lights, etc., you must pay two dollars. Sumterville had a Female Academy under the supervision of W. Fayette Davidson. He had three assistants. He gave instructions on the piano at twenty dollars for five months, but he charged five dollars for the use of the piano. He had a library to which the students were admitted free, but the town people were required to pay one dollar subscription in advance. At those schools fees were paid half in advance and half during the session.

Brewersville School

There was also a Male and Female Academy at Brewersville. This institution was under the direction of Robert McJimsey. The advertising says that it was located on the road leading from Moscow to Livingston, about seven miles from the former and five miles from the latter place. The statement says that: "The moral and religious character of the community, the healthiness of the location, excellence of wa-

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Sumterville

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nery Advertiser

Society News

5, JULY 4, 1943

Price 10 Cents

Through The Years

The Influence Of The War Of 1812 On Montgomery History

By PETER A. BRANNON

AT ONE of the meetings of the Southern Historical Association, I heard a vigorous, critical, adverse review of a history of one of our Southern States because most of the facts brought out in this volume were tied-in with the military life of the people of the State, and the activities connected with periods of that State's history most largely influenced by this military contact. Personally I can see no very great harm in a study of a life of any section through its military contacts, developments, and associations. To the casual observer, in the slow going, conservative, temperamental Montgomery, Alabama, one does not readily envision a strenuous military association, but this is not true for the town had its birth on account of military activities and has been associated in a great measure with the military life of the Nation since that day. Some of the leading figures of the war of 1812 were James Madison, then president; John Armstrong, the secretary of war; Captain William Bainbridge, of the Navy; Captain Stephen Decatur, of the Navy; Frances Scott Key, Captain James Lawrence, Thomas A. MacDonough, Captain Oliver Hazard Perry, Captain Isaac Hull, General Andrew Jackson, Tecumseh the Indian, General James Wilkinson, James Monroe, sometime president of the United States; Return Jonathan Meigs, and many others whose names are written right here in our local annals. If you walk from Court Square to the Capitol you will be reminded of Captain Perry's victory on Lake Erie; of Captain Lawrence, of the American Navy; of Commodore Thomas MacDonough, who served in the Mediterranean sea fights; of Captain Isaac Hull, who commanded the Constitution in her fight with the Guerriere when she won the nickname old "Ironsides;" of Captain Stephen Decatur, who, I think, was at Tripoli; of Captain William Bainbridge, and in thinking of these it requires little imagination to call to mind the early days of Montgomery when quite a few old second war with Great Britain veterans were part of the life of this locality.

General Andrew Jackson whose shadow is in our midst here quite often, Return Jonathan Meigs, and Captain Arthur Hayne, fixed the Treaty of Fort Jackson, August 9, 1814, and when this ces- operative, company of Cavalry under Captain H. W. Henry, who escorted him into the city where he was welcomed in "handsome terms," by Andrew Dexter, founder of the town. The next day, Captain John Goldthwaite's Company of Light Infantry escorted him to the boat landing and the steamer Coosa carried him on to Mobile. Captain Goldthwaite had served under General Brown on the Niagara River in 1814. Captain Henry was a veteran of the last War.

Andrew Jackson

Judge Dominick Hall in New Orleans in March 1815, fined General Andrew Jackson one thousand dollars for contempt of Court when he ignored the Court during the period of Martial Law in that city. General Jackson's attorney Edward Livingstone submitted an eight page official record and this was endorsed "A. J.," in some six or eight lines, by General Jackson. It sets out that Lieutenant Reid, his Aid, and Duncan and Livingstone, his attorneys, had rectified the garbled record, etc., etc., etc. If you bought this souvenir of the Battle of New Orleans you would have to pay sixty-five dollars for it. Another interesting autograph being a handwritten signed letter is one from the Headquarters of the 7th Military District at Fort Pierce (Alabama), to Governor Peter Early of Georgia. He is asking for troops to be marched by the way of Fort Mitchell, and to join him there on the Alabama. This letter is valued at forty-five dollars and would make a valuable addition to anybody's collection. Pierce's Stockade was on the Alabama River two miles from Fort Mims. It was one of those posts which escaped attack by the Indians although they burned Fort Mims, in the uprising during the Summer of 1813. One of the most interesting of the diplomatic episodes of the War of 1812 period was General Jackson's trip to Pensacola which was in Spanish Territory, where he went on November 6th, contrary to precedent and unauthorized by official orders. After his trip to Pensacola, Jackson went across the country to New Orleans and early in January (on the 8th), whipped the British, after as it developed, the signing of peace between the British and the United States.

Still another letter in this catalogue, is one of four pages (which I assume is dated at the Hermitage), August 14, 1815, outlining the boundary of the Creek Nation and recommending certain things to the commissions. General Jackson advised the appointment of Major Reid as a qualified commissioner to settle the boundary line between the United States and the Creek Nation. You should remember that John Sevier had been sent to Fort Decatur as chairman of the Boundary Line Commission, but he died a day or two after arrival and it is probably that General Jackson's letter had something to do with the filling of the vacancy on the commission. By the Treaty of Fort Jackson, the Indians surrendered 23,000,000 acres of land to the United States. In 1815, they were suffering heavily for food and had appealed to the government for relief. There are certain references in official documents to indicate that there were supplies ordered to be issued to the Indians at Fort Jackson and Fort Strother. Whether they ever got much depends largely on whether they ever asked it.

This record might indicate that Fort Jackson, (old Fort Toulouse), located on the Coosa some 16 miles northeast of Montgomery, was garrisoned in a small way, at least, from the close of the war in the Spring of 1814, to the founding of a town there in 1816, destined to become a few months later, the county seat of the newly created county of Montgomery. Fort Jackson is actually the forerunner of the town of Montgomery. It so happens that the town of Montgomery and the county of Montgomery were not named for the same man. Montgomery County was named for one of those veterans of the 1813-14 phase of the 1812-15 War, Lemuel P. Montgomery, killed at Horse Shoe Bend, March 27, 1814, in the closing engagement of the war with the Indians. This battle which broke the power of the Creek Indians, prompted the land session of August, 1814, and necessitated the fixing of the boundary. This letter which General Jackson wrote in 1815, advising the appointment of Major Reid to deal with the Indians, is one of those souvenirs of those closing days of the contest with the Indians for much of this Central Alabama country. The dealer charges $35 for the letter.

Colonel Meigs, who was governor of Ohio territory at one time, wrote a letter in 1812 and you can buy that letter for two dollars and fifty cents. Whether he wrote home when he sat with the Boundary Line Commission at what we know today as Harrogate Springs, in Elmore County, I will not say. James Monroe, who drew drafts on his banker, and whose name you will find in

(Turn to Page 28)

tur, who, I think, was at Tripoli; of Captain William Bainbridge, and in thinking of these it requires little imagination to call to mind the early days of Montgomery when quite a few old second war with Great Britain veterans were part of the life of this locality.

General Andrew Jackson whose shadow is in our midst here quite often, Return Jonathan Meigs, and Captain Arthur Hayne, fixed the Treaty of Fort Jackson, August 9, 1814, and when this cession of land became operative, then it became possible for Montgomery to come into being. The first Goldthwaite of that family quite prominent in the early days in this town to reach here, was the captain who won somewhat of a military reputation in the campaign on the Great Lakes. Even before the Treaty of Fort Jackson several of these heroes of that period were having their names written on the pages of this town's doings. A bunch of North Carolina militiamen built an earthworks on the bend of the Tallapoosa River, opposite the Indian town of Tukabahchi, in the early days of 1814, and they called it to honor Commodore James Barron. Floyd's Georgia Militia had already made a campaign from Milledgeville to the mouth of Calabee Creek and they erected along the way posts as memorials to Captain Hull and Captain Bainbridge.

The Indian War

The Indian War of 1813-14, which was in the history of the United States, a mere incident to the 1812-15 conflict with Great Britain, was in a great measure prompted by the visit of Tecumseh to the Creek nation in Alabama. This section of the State, should have an interest in this individual for his mother was of the town Sawonogi, the Shawnee Indian village located 12 miles east of Montgomery, on the Tallapoosa, at what was known in the early days of the county as Augusta. Tecumseh came to the Indian nation accompanied by his brother, the Prophet, in 1811. He visited Autauga Town and while there they taught the mystic powers to Josiah Francis. He visited Coosada, Kowaligee, Tukabahchi, and several other places of American history. The Indian Chief was killed in an engagement on the Miami River in 1812, supposedly by Richard M. Johnson who was later vice-president of the United States under Van Buren.

Several days ago I saw a catalogue of autographs for sale by Goodspeeds' Book Shop in Boston. Somebody made a collection of autographs of the prominent figures connected with the period and his catalogue has listed them. The price of the handwriting of these individuals interest me. Likewise the list interest me for many of them have a vital part in the history of Montgomery, its nomenclature, or in the fact that at sometime in their life's history the paths of this town have crossed theirs. A check written by Commodore William Bainbridge, signed in Philadelphia in 1805, is worth two dollars and a half. In 1839 Captain Hull, then commanding the Mediterranean fleet, wrote a letter giving instructions to the Ship Cyne and this letter is worth eight dollars and fifty cents. General Jacob Brown, who commanded on Lake Erie in 1816, wrote a one page letter to Major General Dearborn (for whom Fort Dearborn was named, Chicago of today is Fort Dearborn of then), and if you buy it you will have to pay ten dollars for it. On May 1, 1827, Major General Jacob Brown arrived in Montgomery by stage coach from Milledgeville going West on a tour of Military inspection. He was met by the Intendant and a

Through The Years

(Continued from Page 1-A)

one of our streets, has an autograph value of four dollars. You can buy a document signed by President James Madison and countersigned by James Monroe, Secretary of State, for six dollars, but if you buy one of Thomas MacDonough's autographs, you will have to pay $40 for it. Captain Oliver H. Perry, who commanded at the Battle of Lake Erie when he was 27 years old, wrote a letter of one page, in 1818, to Commodore MacDonough and he recommended a midshipman to serve under him. If you bought this letter you would pay $35 for it. Believe it or not, General Winfield Scott who was commander-in-chief of the U. S. Army at one time, who was an Indian fighter, who had a distinguished career in Mexico, and who had an Alabama and a Montgomery connection because his headquarters was once at Tuskegee in the 1836 Indian campaign, is either not very popular to autograph collectors, or there are lots of his signatures. You can buy a military document of the campaign of 1817 (in Southwest, Georgia), and it signed twice, and it will not cost you but $2.50.

General James Wilkinson was in the Louisiana Territory before 1800. He was not in the very best repute during the American Revolution, he was arguing with the authorities in the transfer of the Spanish Colony of Louisiana, he was envolved in the Burr scandal, and during the War of 1812 he was accused of lacking in initiative, even so, his signature on a document will bring four dollars and fifty cents, whereas that of Zebulon M. Pike, the discoverer of Pike's Peak and for whom Pike County, Alabama, was named, only brings four dollars.

Francis Scott Key

One of those characters associated with the 1812 War, and who had an interesting contact with Alabama was the man who looked out to see whether the Star-Spangled Banner still waved on the Fort McHenry. That young man's name is borne by a short street in Montgomery. (Whether it was named for him or the Key family of Montgomery I do not know). Francis Scott Key, came to Alabama in 1825 [illegible] ious to the Indians and making trouble between the State Government and the National Government. The President thought that Mr. Key, then District Attorney at Washington, might settle the differences between the State and the Federal Government. He stayed some weeks in Tuscaloosa and was domiciled in the home of Governor Gayle. Incidentally Mr. Key was here at Montgomery, but I don't suspect that he visioned that two or three generations later they would honor him by calling a Street for him.

During General Jackson's Campaign against the Indians in 1813, one of his division commanders erected a Post on the Coosa River in what is now Cherokee County and named it for John Armstrong, the Secretary of War. Sometime later General Armstrong was envited to dine on Sunday morning with the Vice President. He wrote him a note and told him "he was too ill today to have that honor." You can buy that note for three dollars.

Collecting Autographs

The collecting of autographs has long interested me, (even if I never have enough money to buy them), and the catalogue which prices them and annotates the document and gives a little historically accompaning statement is indeed most entertaining. For example when Andrew Jackson writes from Nashville in 1816, then commanding the Department of the South, to the Secretary of War, William C. Crawford, his letter is worth eighteen dollars and fifty cents even in bad condition. In 1812 he signed a letter when he was President of the United States, (even though he didn't write it), and it is worth thirty-two dollars and fifty cents. One of his own autographed letters of only two pages written and signed by him from the Hermitage, brings sixty-five dollars, but the Anti-New Deal Herbert Hoover letter of 1938, is worth eight dollars and fifty cents. Warren G. Harding wrote a letter back in 1908 and it is worth sixty-five dollars. an autographed letter signed by U. S. Grant at the Executive Mansion is worth only eighteen dollars and fifty cents. Grover Cleveland wrote a letter as President [illegible]

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Concluding, you might be interested in our old friend John Sevier, who lay buried so long at Fort Decatur on the Tallapoosa. The Colonel who commanded at King's Mountain in the Revolution, was an incessant Indian fighter until he became Governor of the State of Franklin (the Western part of North Carolina), and then was thrice Governor of Tennessee. General Sevier, as stated several lines above, came here in 1815, as a Boundary Line Commissioner, died the next day and lay buried in Alabama until 1888. He wrote a one page letter on June 27, 1797, dated at Knoxville. You could buy it if you wanted to, for ten dollars.

That other fellow who had a lot to do with early history, even though he never stayed here but a few weeks, Aaron Burr, carried on a rather extensive correspondence. His letters written between 1800 and the date of his trial in 1807, bring the best prices. You can get an 1803 one for eighteen dollars and fifty cents.

Even ~~though~~ all the ~~above~~ mentioned parties never had an intimate association with Montgomery's War of 1812 Military life, most of them did.