

JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 1

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JANUARY 2000

JACKSON COUNTY HISTOBICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2000, 2:30 pm, Stevenson Depot Museum, Stevenson, Alabama. Program Vice President Patty Woodall invites all members and their guests to come prepared to enjoy the museum exhibits which portray many facets of Jackson County's history and to experience the age-old hospitality of Stevenson.

2000 JCHA ANNUAL DUES NOW PAYABLE

2000 Association dues are now due and payable. **Mail your check** in the amount of \$10.00 to Treasurer Mary Ann Parsons, P.O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL 35768, to assure receipt of all quarterly issues of THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES. **Include nine number zip code.**

**JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 1494
SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768**

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 11**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

JACKSON COUNTY, THE SWITZERLAND OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA

**ANCESTOR SEARCHING IN
JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA**

BARNETT-HAYS

Rebecca Hall, 3534 Campfield Ct, Katy, TX 77449, email:rebeccahall@juno.com is researching Mary Barnett (born Aug, 1880 in AL) who married Lee Mack Hays (born 1863, GA) on Apr 22, 1896, in Jackson County. 1900 census shows 2 children: Susan Anna, born 1897 and Willie L, born 1900. Who were the parents of Mary (Barnett) Hays and Lee Mack Hays? Was Mary (Barnett) Hays the daughter of John W. Barnett who married Martha Susan Dicus on May 23, 1870, in Scottsboro?

ELLEGE-WILMOTH

Beth Rhoten, 7723 34th Ave E, Tacoma, WA 98443, email: rrrhoten@gte.net, seeks info on families of Martha Elledge (born 1797 in KY) who md William Wilmoth ca 1815 (probably Warren CO, TN). Five of their children were: Elisha Wilmoth (b. ca 1816 in TN); Reuben Wilmoth (b. ca 1820 in TN); Lucinda Wilmoth (b. ca 1821 in TN); William H Wilmoth (b. ca 1829 in AL); and George A. Wilmoth (b. ca 1834 in AL).

**KUDOS TO JCHA MEMBER
HARRY CAMPBELL** of Section. He is researching and writing the history of Section, AL, and its earliest settlers. Would that every town had someone so dedicated to *documenting* their community history!!

JCHA OFFICERS FOR 2000

PRESIDENT Drenda King
PROGRAM V. PRES. Patty Woodall
MEMBERSHIP V. PRES. Kati Tipton
SECRETARY Tawney Pierce
TREASURER Mary Ann Parsons
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Clyde Broadway
David Campbell
John Graham
John F. Neely
Barry Pickett

Immediate Past Pres. Finis Royal
CHRONICLES Editor Ann Chambless

**OCTOBER 1999 EXECUTIVE BOARD
MEETING**

Plans were made for a noon luncheon on October 28 in Jacobs Bank Laurel Room with Dr. David Campbell hosting the Scottsboro premier of his documentary, **BOB JONES: A CONGRESSIONAL LEGACY.**

A nominating committee was appointed to submit slate of officers and board of directors to be elected at October 28 meeting.

President Royal appointed the following to serve on committee for publication of Barry Pickett and Charlotte Ray's Jackson County Cemetery Inventory:

Dr. David Campbell
Ann B. Chambless
John Graham
Barry Pickett
Charlotte Ray

POST SCRIPT:

October 28, 1999 luncheon meeting was well attended, and Dr. Campbell's documentary on the late Honorable Bob Jones was enjoyed by all. He presented a copy to the JCHA.

LOOKING BACK IN TIME: THE STEVENSON DEPOT MUSEUM

compiled by Ann B. Chambless

The Stevenson Railroad Depot Museum was officially dedicated on June 12, 1982. A large contingent of concerned citizens had worked tirelessly for six long years to save and restore the Depot "to rekindle memories of bygone years" in the town of Stevenson and Jackson County, Alabama.

One of their first acts was making application for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Their efforts were rewarded on May 13, 1976.

Two years later, "The Little Brick," the house which served as federal headquarters during the Civil War was also added to the National Register, and the Town of Stevenson was designated as an Historic District.

In June of 2000, the citizens of Stevenson will celebrate their 19th annual summer festival called Stevenson Depot Days with a most cherished landmark, the depot museum, as the yearly hub of week-long activities.

According to Eliza Mae Woodall's THE STEVENSON STORY, the first railroad depot in Stevenson was built in 1853. The original building burned, and the present depot was built in 1872. If its walls could talk and the surrounding grounds could echo past activities, the resounding voices would surely shock and entertain.

Listen to the sounds of the day and the "music of the night" as described in a letter written in 1862 by a young woman whose husband was a Captain in the Confederate Army. Lizzie Pearl Armstrong traveled from Wartrace, Tennessee, to Georgia by rail to be near her husband, James L. Armstrong, who was actively engaged in "defending the South from Northern aggression." The dateline reads, "Trenton (GA), Feb 16, 1862." Mrs. Armstrong's letter to her parents, gives a graphic description of her stopover at the Stevenson, Alabama Depot:

"We left Wartrace (TN) at six that evening and arrived at Stevenson (AL) half past ten that night and ought to have gone right on but the down train from Chattanooga did not arrive until half past five and such a disagreeable time we had. It was pouring down raining, there were from 50 to 75 men and 3 ladies, all with children, and they (bless their little hearts) deserve credit for their behaviour that night. We were all in a room at the depot about 20 by 22. A number of the men were soldiers and had their blankets along. The gentlemen, one after another, laid down on the floor. Mr. Word held Charlie until he was tired and then took off his overcoat and made a pallet on the floor and put him down. One kind gentleman gave one of his blankets for Pearl and the little fellows slept soundly and sweetly as though they had been at home in their own beds. By one o'clock everyone of the men were down and it would have been difficult for anyone to have crossed the room as Uncie Pearl used to say they were all settled "cub house" fashion. Mr. Word was obliged to give up, having been broke of his rest for the past few nights. I kept awake until about two when tired and exhausted I sat down on an old box, the best the house afforded, and leaning my head against the wall, I went to sleep.....

The letter was signed, 'Your affectionate Daughter, Lizzie P. Armstrong' "

A GLIMPSE OF STEVENSON DURING THE CIVIL WAR

written in 1986 by Jeff Tryon, Huntsville Times staff writer

STEVENSON - Letters from a Union soldier stationed in Stevenson during the Civil War give a feeling of the often mundane, sometimes humorous, day-to-day life of soldiers defending this key railroad junction.

The letters, written by Charles F. Almendinzer to his wife in Michigan during 1864, are currently on loan (1986) to the Stevenson Railroad Depot Museum from a Huntsville man who is the grandson of the author.

The letters, written in March and April of 1864, mostly detail minor camp events from the second Union occupation of Stevenson. Some mention is made of the construction of the earthen rampart now known as Fort Harker, which has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places.....

As early as April 1862, elements of Gen. Ormsby M. Mitchell's Federal Division advanced by rail and seized Stevenson, scattering a makeshift defense of Confederate home guards. Mitchell's occupation of Stevenson was part of a larger plan to capture Chattanooga, and thereby control the "gateway to the deep south," Union army records show.

Late in 1862, Union soldiers began construction of several forts and blockhouses to protect the key railroad junctions from Memphis to Nashville. The largest of the fortifications was Fort Harker, begun in the summer of 1862 by Col. Charles G. Harker.

Fort Harker was built by Union troops and local conscripts during the first occupation of Stevenson as one of two gun emplacements which commanded the town and the strategic depot.

"Our camp is south of town on a small sand hill facing the town, railroads and stations so that we see everything that is going on as there is nothing but one low cornfield between us and town," Almendinzer wrote in March 1864.

"Back of us on the same hill is a strong fort with platforms inside for seven guns. It was built by the Rebels but not quite finished and we are now finishing off this one and another to the east of town."

A Glimpse of Stevenson during the Civil War (Continued)

Much of the labor on Fort Harker was accomplished by black slaves from a 5 or 6 mile radius around the town which Col. Harker "impressed" into service.

Although a *Harper's Weekly* article from the period states "All Negroes who come to our lines are set to work at once on fortifications and paid wages and freed as a reward for their labor," it is not at all clear from military dispatches that this was in fact the case.

Col. Harker and Gen. D. C. Buell in Huntsville exchanged several dispatched in which Buell urged Harker to return specific slaves to their owners to help maintain the farms.

Almendinzer provides a glimpse of everyday life in Stevenson during the war years. "This town contains one three-story hotel now used for a soldiers retreat, some six or eight two-story houses, and some 25 or 30 one-story buildings all going to decay. Then there are several camps of Negro shanties close by. These shanties are built in streets well cleaned and drained.

I heard singing in the back of town and was told there was a meeting of colored people. As I had never been to one, i thought I would go and did so. The congregation was large and composed of all colors, the women were plainly dressed. The seats were composed of rough wooden benches, homemade chairs, three iegged stools, boxes, wash tubs, pork barrels, grease and rain water barrels, blocks of wood, logs and the surrounding stumps. Many sitting on their doorsteps and others in the summer huts were attentively listening to what was said and I could not help noticing the contrast between here and home or in the North. There the Negro is not permitted to enter a car or omnibus. Here our men and officers sit down on the same block of wood or door step, elbow to elbow and side by side." The work of fortifying Stevenson went on throughout the war, and as late as the fall of 1864, Gen. Gordon Granger was employed in completing work on the Mitchell redoubt, 500 yards north of the depot on the railroad line....Another redoubt, located three-quarters of a mile north of Stevenson, though never completed, would eventually be known as Fort Granger.

MAYNARD COVE MEN MUSTER ROLL
RESEARCH SHARED BY T. J. BYNUM

Many of the men listed in this document produced by the U. S. House of Representatives on January 17, 1896, were residents of Maynards Cove in Jackson County, Alabama.

54th CONGRESS

1ST SESSION H. R. 4317

In the House of Representatives

January 17, 1896

Mr. (Joseph) Wheeler introduced the following bill which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

A BILL to place on the muster roll the names of Claiborn Evans and others.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled that the Secretary of War be, and is hereby, directed to place upon the muster roll of the United States Army the names of Claiborn Evans, Samuel Potter, David R. Bellomy, Isaac N. Bynum, John Shelton, James K. P. Shelton, John Precise, Thomas Precise, William Potter, Claiborn Evans, Jr., Solomon Cox, Robert F. Riddle, James M. Wood, Adam Smelser, Marion Brewster, David Hull, Aaron Fish, and Andrew J. Brannon who served as scouts and guides for one hundred and fifty-two days in the war of 1861; the said Claiborn Evans as first lieutenant, the said Samuel Potter as first sergeant, and the others as privates in the service of the United States.

LANDMARKS/HIGHLIGHTS OF SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL

by Ann B. Chambless

Even before the village was officially incorporated in January 1869, the founding fathers supported classroom education in Scottsboro. In 1868, Thomas G. Windes purchased eight lots from Mrs. Robert T. Scott. (Jackson CO, AL Deed Book 3, p. 587)

In an October 1868 edition of *The Alabama Herald*, Thomas G. Windes advertised the opening of his school. The frame building was located on Lot 91 between Main Street (now Maple Avenue) and Chestnut Street.

In August 1869, Mr. Windes sold this property to Thomas J. Wood who rented the building to the Jackson County Commissioners, and court was held at this site while the court house was being constructed in Scottsboro.

On March 3, 1872, Mrs. Shelton announced in *The Alabama Herald* she would commence a private school at the T. J. Wood house the next Monday. This building continued to be rented by teachers during the 1870s, as *The Alabama Herald* carried the following news:

“August 27, 1876: Scottsboro has two free or public schools now, one taught by Prof. A. E. Russell in the Brick Church (southeast corner of Laurel and Caldwell Streets) and the other by Miss Annie Scruggs in the Woods Building.”

“September 13, 1878: Miss Sue Snodgrass (Mrs. Hamlin Caldwell) is still teaching in the ‘Uncle Tommy Wood’ house and has a very good school.”

On January 11, 1878, *The Fellow Citizen* reported:

“The Scottsboro Academy - Steps are being taken to build a college at this place on the land north of town donated for educational purposes by the late Hon. R. T. Scott. Our leading citizens are aroused on the subject and some are enthusiastic over the idea of having a permanent educational institution at this place. Some of our enterprising men met at the brick church last Monday evening and elected a board of trustees. They are: J. T. Skelton, John Snodgrass, W. H. Robinson, James W. Moody, and Nelson Kyle. Judge Kyle subscribed \$200 and says he will double that amount if they will build a brick house. A nice brick building can be built for \$3000.00.”

LANDMARKS/HIGHLIGHTS OF SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL (Continued)

***The Alabama Herald* provided the following news:**

January 24 1878: Quite a number of our townsmen and boys met on the school land, the Scott donation, Tuesday morning and by noon had about one acre of the ground cleared of undergrowth and useless saplings. (Land was very near where Carver High School stood.)

January 16, 1879: A. P. Moore has the contract for erecting the school building on the Scott donation.

***The Scottsboro Citizen* reported:**

May 16, 1879: The College building will be completed this week.

September 29, 1879: The high school begins in the new school building next Monday. Professor Scruggs, late of Lawrence County, is the principal. Mr. Charles W. Brown, Rev. C. B. Roach, and Miss Fannie Ledbetter, assistants. *Painting would help the new college amazingly.*

***The Alabama Herald* reported:**

Feb 5, 1880: The new additional school building was completed last week and school opened on Monday last. The town now has ground floor room under one roof, most favorable located, to accommodate 300 pupils. Much credit is due Mr. A. P. Moore, the contractor, for the style in which it was done and the expedition with which the work was brought to completion. (The facility was named the Scott Male and Female Institute.)

On February 16, 1883, the Alabama Legislature passed an Act which consolidated the Scott Male and Female Institute and the Scottsboro Building Association. In August 1883, school opened with Messrs. Gross and Hopkins as principals. On April 17, 1888, The Scottsboro Citizen reported Scott Academy (Scott Male and Female Institute building) was destroyed by fire. The citizens decided not to replace the building at this site, as Scottsboro's businesses were quickly moving to the Court House public square, and the town was spreading south and east.

LANDMARKS/HIGHLIGHTS OF SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL (Continued)

Shortly after the 1888 fire, Robert Scott Skelton, grandson of the founders of Scottsboro, donated four acres for a school located in the west end of the block surrounded by Martin and Scott Streets and College Avenue. On July 12, 1888, the paper reported:
“The College. Contract let and work will begin some time next week. Mr. Samuel Stone of Chattanooga has been awarded the contract for something over \$6000, and the building will be completed the first of October (1888.)”

An 1889 Alabama Legislative Act amended the Scott Academy Act and created the Scottsboro College and Normal School. The first term of the new school began in February 1889. *The Progressive Age* reported on August 8, 1889:

“The new addition to the College Building is progressing. (Due to enrollment) Trustees found it necessary to make a 50 by 80 addition to the already commodious building. Richard Hunt of Chattanooga was the architect for the addition. The second term of the school will open the first Monday in September. (This addition later served as a gym and was still used as the girls’ gym in the 1950s.)

in 1894 a newspaper advertisement called the school The Tri-State Normal University. In 1899, the City of Scottsboro purchased the school building. J. T. Rose was appointed president of the new university. In August 1899, the school newspaper ad read:
NORMAL SCHOOL AND COMMERCIAL INSTITUTE, full session begins August 28, 1899. Course of Study: Primary, Preparatory High School, Teachers, Collegiate, Music, and Elocution. Thoroughness is our motto. Thomas L. Smyth, A.M., President.

Ninety-two students were enrolled in January 1901, and the school was then called The Baptist Institute, as the Southern Baptist Convention had purchased the Tri-State University for \$4000 and J. C. Dawson was hired as the principal.

By 1908, the building and grounds were the property of the Jackson County Board of Education. The first session opened on September 21, 1908, with 91 students enrolled and J. R. Ward as principal. There were dormitories for students who lived outside the town.

LANDMARKS/HIGHLIGHTS OF SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL (Continued)

The enrollment continued to grow, and some classrooms were remodeled to comply with the State Board of Education requirements in 1929. A new gym was built in 1932 at a cost of \$30,000. (this building burned in 1949 and was rebuilt on same site.)(O'Brien Gymnasium). In 1933, vocational classrooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1000 were built at a cost of \$25,000.

On December 1, 1938, *The Progressive Age* carried advertisement for contract to build new brick Jackson County High School building in Scottsboro. On February 23, 1939, the same paper reported:

“Work is well under way on the Jackson County High School at Scottsboro. The JCHS is a modern, two-story and basement building of semi-firesafe construction. Mr. Ogletree (from Anniston) is the construction superintendent.”

On September 14, 1939, the paper announced that the Jackson County High School opened its fall session last Monday “in the beautiful new \$80,000 building with a record enrollment of nearly 600 students.” On October 6, 1939, food was first served in a brand new cafeteria located in the school basement. C. P. Nelson was the principal, and his faculty consisted of:

Mrs. James Holland, Miss Antionette Lovejoy, Bill Newman Huddleston, Coburn Thomas, Mrs. Rudolph Jones, Mrs. H. C. Hayes, A. H. Borden, Mrs. Della McCrary, Mrs. Coburn Thomas (Mary Jane Hodges), Miss Ernestine Mann (later Mrs. Pickens Russell), Mrs. Mabel Bailey, James Foley (band director), Raymond Wedgeworth (coach/teacher), W. G. (Mickey) O'Brien (coach/teacher), and Mrs. Lyles Hembree (music department.)

BECOMES CITY OF SCOTTSBORO SCHOOL:

In September 1953, the Scottsboro City Board of Education was established, and the Board assumed control of all schools in Scottsboro. The class of 1957 were the last to graduate as students of Jackson County High School. With the name changed to Scottsboro High School, the class of 1958 were the first to receive diplomas as graduates of SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL. A new gym (Carter Gymnasium) was constructed in 1958 which seated 3000. The building was dedicated on Feb 20, 1959.

LANDMARKS/HIGHLIGHTS OF SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL (Continued)

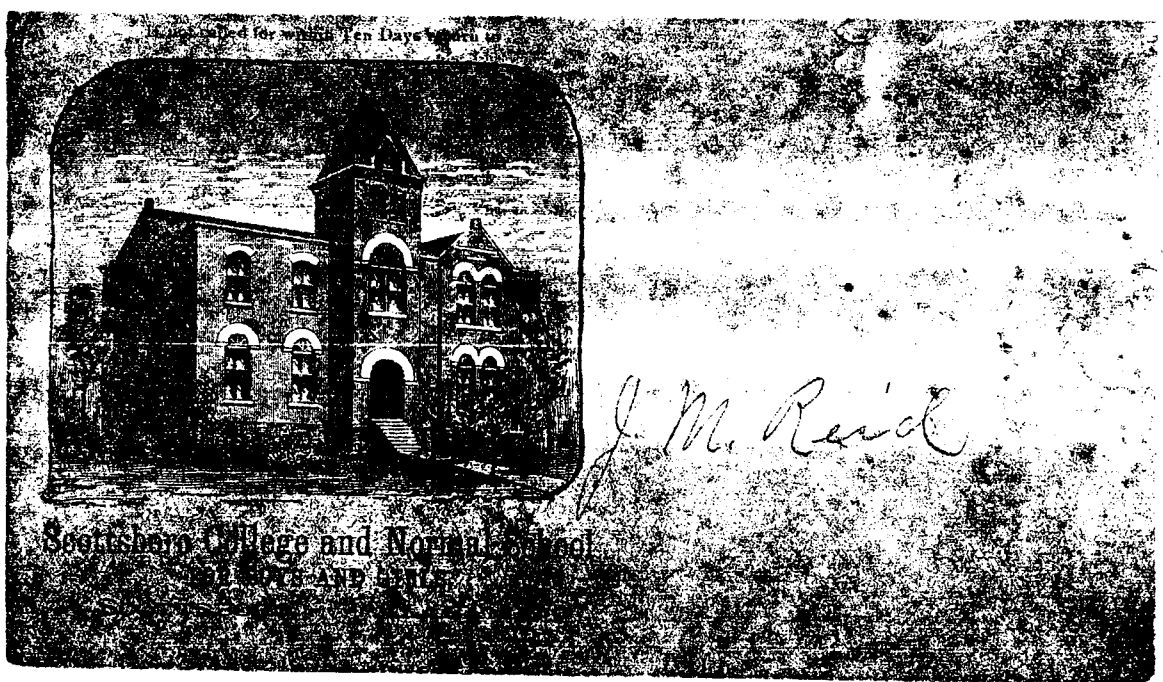
In 1967, a new Scottsboro High School was completed at a cost of \$1,250,000. The facility was located in the city block defined by Broad and Cecil Streets. Ray Collins was the first principal. He was followed by Fred Thomas, David Hulsey, Kenneth Holder, Jr., Lewis McBride, and Buddy Holt.

Also, in 1967, the old high school facility became the Scottsboro Junior High School with Lewis Wendell Page as principal. In 1975, the Scottsboro Junior High School moved into a new building on Jefferson Drive with Fred Thomas as principal. (Later when Fred Thomas moved to the High School, Roy Fred Durham became the Junior High principal.)

In 1975, Scottsboro's fifth and sixth graders moved to the Scott Street facility, and Wendell Page remained at his post as principal until he retired in 1977. At that time, the Scottsboro Board of Education honored long-time educator Wendell Page by naming the Scott Street facility the Lewis Wendell Page Elementary School. Mr. Page was succeeded by Mrs. Jo Smith, Ray Collins, Ella Ruth Lambert, Hal Luse, and Dr. Halbert.

On January 10, 2000, Principal Buddy Holt along with his teachers, staff, and high school students moved into a new state-of-the-art facility which is bounded on the west by John T. Reid Parkway, on the south by the Trotters Shopping Mall, and on the east by Crawford Road. It is located on acreage long known as the George Moody property.

The new Scottsboro High School was built 1998-1999 at a cost of approximately 17 million dollars under the direction of Board of Education members: Dr. Clyde Butler, Jr., Robin Shelton, Rickey Dooley, Howard Hill, and Ron Ricker and Scottsboro Superintendent of Education, Dr. Charles Carrick. From 1868 to 2000 - surely the Robert T. Scott family would marvel and be pleased with Scottsboro's progress in the field of higher education if they could visit now!



02/04/1985

Dear Ann,

This might interest some of our Association members.

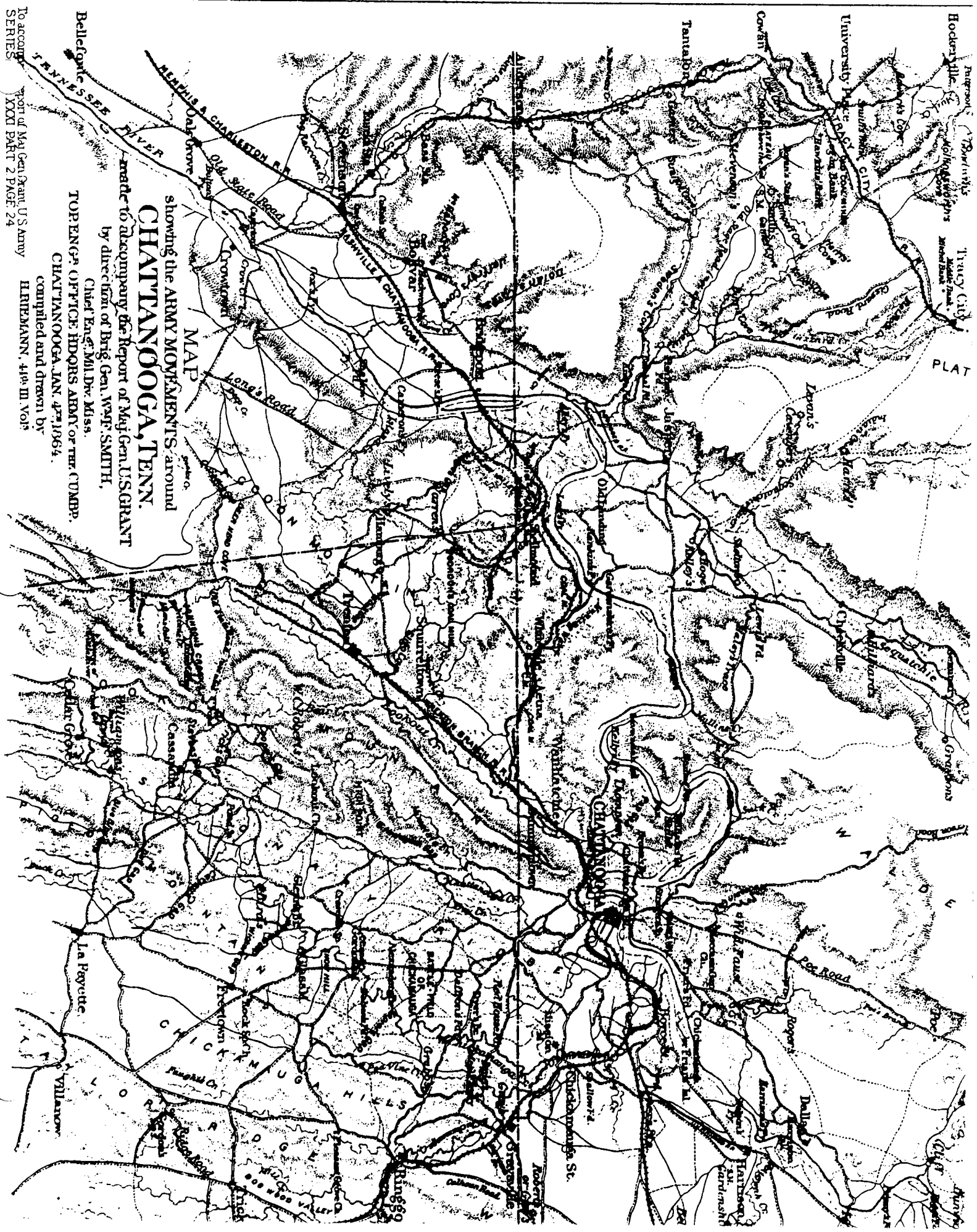
In "prowling" I came upon this print. This was an old envelope. I suppose it was the official stationery of this school. It had no dates on it. The name "J. M. Reid" looked as if it had been addressed to "Reid", but had subsequently been "hand delivered". No postmark appears.

In this same connection, in my perusing the issues of The Bridgeport News - 1896, January through December, "F. O. Wallace, Publisher", I observed the following news in the June 19th issue: TRI-STATE NORMAL COMMENCEMENT -- The degree of B.S. was conferred on Misses Fanny Woodall (Francis America Maples nee Woodall), and Mollie Williams and Mr. John R. Kennamer--

"Miss Fanny Maples" was of the "Woodall Clan" of Woodville. Many Methodists will remember her from "The Fanny Maples Zone of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Huntsville Conference". She still has a niece in this area, Eda Mildred Hodges Baker nee Woodall; she was also the aunt of the late Clifford Barron Woodall of Scottsboro. Miss Williams, I do not recognize. Mr. John R. Kennamer was an early merchant, postmaster and author of Woodville. He authored two outstanding local histories, one relating some history of Woodville and the other a history of Jackson County. These are in "The Alabama Room" of the Scottsboro Public Library indexed under "Kennamer, J. R.".

Is there any alumni of this old prestigious school around?

Researched by Carlus Page



MAP
 showing the ARMY MOVEMENTS around
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

made to accompany the Report of Maj Gen. U.S. GRANT
 by direction of Brig Gen. Wm F. SMITH.

TOPENGE OFFICE HDQRS ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND
 CHATTANOOGA, JAN. 4TH, 1864.
 computed and drawn by
 H. REBHANN, 4th Ill. Vol's

To accompany
 Report of Maj Gen. Grant, U.S. Army
 XXXI PART 2 PAGE 24

RENEW MEMBERSHIP JANUARY 1

MEMBERSHIP DUES NEW OR RENEWAL

ANNUAL DUES - \$10.00

LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$100.00

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS ARE WELCOMED

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 1494

SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768-1494

Please provide:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

NEW _____ **RENEWAL** _____

The membership year begins January 1. Any dues received before October 1 will be for the current year. Dues received after October 1 will accrue to the following year. Members receive the JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES quarterly in January, April, July, and October.

J.C.H.A. BOOK FOR SALE

The Jackson County Historical Association has republished THE HISTORY OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA by John R. Kennamer, Sr., 1935 edition. The price of the book is \$20.00. If mailing is required, please add \$3.00 for each book order. Allow ten (10) days for processing. Please complete the following order blank and mail to:

HISTORY BOOK

P.O. BOX 1494

SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768-1494

NAME _____ **STREET** _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____ **TELEPHONE** _____

JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 2

ISSN-1071-2348

APRIL 2000

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2000, 2:30 pm, JONES-KING HOME, 414 Scott Street, Scottsboro. Jerry and Drenda King are restoring the childhood home of the late Honorable Robert E. Jones, Sr. and Rudolph Jones. Drenda's National Register of Historic Places application is pending, and the house should be approved for National Register status by late spring or early summer. The Kings and Program Vice-President Patty Woodall invite all members and their guests to enjoy family stories of the house and its neighborhood related by special guests Rudolph Jones, Carter Jones, and Ed Boyd. A treat is in store for all who tour this historic Scottsboro home which is being lovingly restored by Jerry and Drenda King. Be thinking of questions you might want to ask our guest speakers or our hosts.

2000 JCHA ANNUAL DUES NOW PAYABLE

2000 Association dues are now due and payable. **If you have not paid your dues this year, please mail your check** in the amount of **\$10.00** to Treasurer Mary Ann Parsons, P.O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL 35768, to assure receipt of all quarterly issues of THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES. **Include nine number zip code.**

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JACKSON COUNTY, THE SWITZERLAND OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA

HISTORIC MARKERS

There are so many historic landmarks and sites which should be marked in Jackson County. During the January meeting, the JCHA voted to fund \$1600 annually to place at least one historic marker each year.

Those in attendance were asked to spread the word: if an individual or family chooses to privately fund a marker (or even half the cost), their tax deductible gift to the JCHA would certainly accelerate the goal of placing markers at the historic sites which have never received the recognition they rightfully deserve.

After considering several sites for the marker to be placed in 2000, the Historic Marker Committee is ready to recommend the Scottsboro Freight Depot.

What site would you nominate? Additional recommendations can be made at the April 30 meeting, and President King will chair a discussion and vote for a final 2000 decision.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

At the April 30 meeting, the JCHA will hear reports from Ralph Mackey, Chairman of the Bus Tour Committee, and Ron Dykes, Chairman of the Robert E. (Bob) Jones Symposium.

UNMARKED GRAVES

Almost every cemetery in Jackson County has burial plots which have never been marked with an inscribed marker. Who *are those people buried in such plots?*

Charlotte Ray has entered 49,000 plus names in her computer database which have been identified from Jackson County cemetery inventories.

She is now accepting the names of people buried in unmarked graves which will be included in a special section in the cemetery record book which the JCHA plans to publish in 2001. PLEASE help Charlotte Ray identify those buried in unmarked graves.

Mail info to:

Charlotte Ray, 5239 CO RD 43, Section, AL 35771, or call Charlotte at (256) 228-6972.

1867 JACKSON COUNTY VOTING RECORDS
INTRODUCTON shared by W. W. Page of Huntsville, Alabama

RESOURCE: *THE SOUTH'S 1867 RETURN OF QUALIFIED VOTERS AND THEIR VALUE IN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH*, by Robert S. Davis, Jr.

“To revise the legal machinery for restoring the former Confederate states to the union, the United States Congress passed a new Reconstruction law on March 23, 1867. Among the changes called for in the law was state-wide elections in each of the former rebel states, except Tennessee, among registered males, black and white, over age twenty-one.

The resulting voting records of 1867-1870 vary widely in quantity and quality, depending upon state. The 1867 voter registration book for the State of Alabama is extant. The original records are in the records of the Elections and Registration Division of the Alabama Department of Archives and History and have been microfilmed, although the film and the documents are often hard to read. Aside from naturalization information on foreign born persons, most of the returns lack any major genealogical information. Most Alabama counties have no foreign born voters although returns for Mobile and Tuscaloosa counties are rich in naturalization information. Dale County’s returns give the names of employers for some registrants. The books for Henry, Lee, Perry, and Russell counties give place of birth for at least some voters. The Walker County returns are spectacular, giving exact date of birth and state of birth for most of the men registered.

Having an ancestor who voted in the 1867 election was one of the requirements for voting under the state constitution of 1901. These records are on microfilm at Wallace State College, Hanceville, Alabama.”

1867 JACKSON COUNTY PRECINCT 16 VOTING RECORDS
shared by W. W. Page of Huntsville, Alabama

HUDSON BUTLER
MARION BOWERS
W. J. BARCLAY
LUNA BOWERS
L(afayette) DERRICK
JOHN H. EVANS
JAMES H. EVANS
ISAAC GRIZZLE
C. L. HARDCASTLE
WILLIS HODGES
JOHN J. HODGES
J. A. KENNAMER
WILLIAM C. LEWIS

C(harles) J(efferson) LEWIS
E. J. MAPLES
MOSES MAPLES
E. F. MAPLES
WILLIAM PAGE
E. O. D. PRUITT
W(illiam) G(reen) STEPHENS
C. N. STEPHENS
MARION STEPHENS
JOSIAH STEPHENS
MILES V. STEPHENS
SILAS P. WOODALL
C. S. WOODALL

1867 MARSHALL COUNTY PRECINCT 9 VOTING RECORDS

SAMPSON BISHOP
W. F. BARCLAY
JOEL BARCLAY
A(llen) T(wit) CHAMBLESS
WILLIAM ELKINS
JAMES ELKINS
E. M. ELKINS
N. K. ELKINS
JOHN LEE
JOHN G. MORRISON
JOHN W. PERKINS
WILLIAM PERKINS
ISAAC PERKINS
ADAM SMELSER
P. S. WOODALL

LINBERT KENNAMER
JACOB L. KENNAMER
DAVIS (?David) KENNAMER
GEORGE KENNAMER
STEPHEN D. KENNAMER
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THE SPANISH INFLUENZA OF 1918

by Ann B. Chambless

A recent television program dealt with the adventures of a current-day outbreak of the Spanish influenza; thankfully, it was just a movie. However, it triggered my mind while working on flu deaths that devastated Jackson County, Alabama, in 1918.

It has been reported that the flu began in Fort Riley, Kansas, which was an establishment housing 26,000 men at Camp Funston in a 20,000 acre boundary. Soldiers there began complaining of the weather to be found at the site: extreme winters and unbearable summers. The dust storms also had a great affect on this area. Aiso to be found at the camp were thousands of horses and mules producing nine tons of manure monthly. Burning was the method of disposal of the manure. On Saturday, March 9, 1918, a dust storm arrived. The dust, combined with the ashes of burning manure, caused a stinging, stinking yellow haze. The sun was said to have gone dead-black in Kansas that day. The so-called Spanish influenza would finally take the lives of 600,000 Americans. On Monday, March 11, the first wave of the 1918 influenza was felt. Company cook Albert Gitchell reported to the camp infirmary with a "bad cold." Then Corporal Lee W. Drake voiced similar complaints. By noon, camp surgeon Edward R. Schreiner was treating over 100 sick men, all apparently suffering from the same malady.

In April and May of the same year, some 500 prisoners at San Quentin in California came down with the same condition. Camps Hancock, Lewis, Sherman, Fremont, and several others were also infected. It appears not too many were alarmed - the United States was in a war. By March 1918, 84,000 American "dough-boys" were sent to Europe; they were followed by another 118,000 in April. They did not know they were taking with them a virus. Enroute, the 15th U.S. Cavalry incurred 36 cases of influenza and six deaths.

THE SPANISH INFLUENZA OF 1918 (Continued)

By May 1918, the flu had spread to two continents with no end in sight. Great Britain reported 31,000 flu cases in June. War plans were changed and attacks were postponed due to a shortage of healthy men. In early summer, the flu reached beyond the United States and western Europe. Cases of influenza were reported in Russia, North Africa, and India. Then China, Japan, the Philippines, and New Zealand experienced the flu. By July tens of thousands had fallen ill and died.

In the fall of 1918, the flu began its deadly trek across the United States. It happened with such speed and fatal efficiency that many thought it was a deliberate attack by an enemy. After all, we were in World War I. Thousands of Bostonians were felled by the influenza and suspicions grew that German spies deliberately infected the Boston Harbor with germs. It was suggested that poison gases used in the war, air charged with carbon dioxide from the trenches, and gases formed from decomposing bodies, and exploding munitions had all fused to form a highly toxic vapor that flu victims had inhaled. Among the other causes advanced were: air stagnation, coal dust, fleas, the distemper of cats and dogs, and dirty dishwater.

The Red Cross, Post Office, and the Federal Railroad administration put up posters. Surgeon General Rupert Blue, who as the nation's Chief Public Health Officer, ordered the printing and distribution of pamphlets with titles like, "Spanish Influenza," "Three-Day-Fever," and "The Flu." The Colgate Company placed ads detailing twelve steps to prevent influenza. People were warned to chew food carefully, avoid tight clothes and shoes, etc. Alfred Crosby, in "Epidemic and Peace, 1918," said that the influenza "could have been smothered by paper, and many lives would have been spared."

THE SPANISH INFLUENZA OF 1918 (Continued)

The Committee of the American Public health Association believed the disease extremely communicable. They pushed for legislation that would prevent the use of common cups and utensils and that would ban public coughing and sneezing. They begged the public to wash their hands before every meal and to pay attention to general hygiene. They stressed exposure to fresh air and gargling with a variety of elixirs. Doctor advised rinsing with chlorinated soda or a mixture of sodium bicarbonate and boric acid. Stories began to surface of people relying on folk remedies such as mothers insisting their children stuff salt up their noses and wear goose grease poultices or bags of garlic-scented gum around their necks. Onions were looked upon as another solution. In Alabama, the Spanish Influenza took its toll. In reading old town or state regulations, it appears that much of the nation came to a halt while battling this unknown killer. Many thousands died in the state of Alabama. Public gatherings were curtailed; some schools were closed down. It is assumed that funeral homes simply and rapidly buried the deceased.

The author's great-uncle, R. Henry McAnelly, was a licensed embalmer and owned a combination furniture store-funeral home in Scottsboro during this time period. On numerous occasions, I have heard him tell about burying five people from the same family on the same day. The sadness and grief of that one day were etched in his memory, and I have never forgotten the look in his eyes nor the tone of his voice as he recounted the stories of lives extinguished by the Spanish influenza in Jackson County, Alabama. Statistics from Charlotte Ray's inventory of inscribed markers for people buried in Jackson County reveal some interesting facts for 1918: 140 people were buried in the first nine months of 1918, AND 145 people were buried in the last three months of 1918. This proves the flu was full-blown by October of 1918. Did members of your family die from this flu? if so, please share their names with Charlotte Ray or Ann B. Chambless.

A FEMALE'S EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF BRIDGEPORT DURING THE CIVIL WAR: from the life and words of Princess Agnes Joy Salm-Salm condensed and edited by Ann B. Chambless

WHAT WAS A PRINCESS DOING IN BRIDGEPORT, ALABAMA, DURING THE CIVIL WAR? Where did she live? What role did she play in the Federal Army hospitals in Bridgeport and Stevenson? How did she travel? How did she view the budding village of Bridgeport and its surrounding countryside? Why was she in Bridgeport in the first place?

The answers to these questions are found in **TEN YEARS OF MY LIFE** by The Princess Felix Salm-Salm (also known as Princess Agnes Joy Salm-Salm) printed by the Courier Company of Buffalo, New York, in 1878.

In the Preface of her autobiography, Princess Agnes Joy Salm-Salm stated: "Alas! In my ear is still resounding the din and roar of battles, and in my heart are still lingering the cries of the wounded and the heartrending whispered words of the dying, sending their last greetings and blessings to their bereaved mothers, wives, or children.....In writing the following pages it is not my intention to write my biography. I shall only relate what I have seen and observed since 1862, the year in which I was married to Prince Felix zu Salm-Salm. This time of ten years is one of the most memorable in history, including the great American civil war, the catastrophe in Mexico, and the fall of the Napoleonic empire. **DURING THE AMERICAN WAR I WAS ALMOST ALWAYS WITH MY HUSBAND.....**" and she kept a diary of their life and travels.

Agnes Elizabeth Winona Leclercq Joy was born December 25, 1840, in Franklin, Vermont. She married Prince Felix Constantin Alexander Johann Nepomuk Marie zu Salm-Salm on August 30, 1862, in St. Patrick's Cathedral in Washington, D. C. She died on December 20, 1912, and is buried at Karlsruhe, Germany. Agnes Joy Salm-Salm's dynamic personality combined with her unique experiences in three major war zones produced a remarkable life!

When the American Civil War broke out, Agnes Joy was in New York City. In her own words she described the scenes in both New York and Washington:

"Recruiting was briskly carried on in New York; everywhere the goose-step was practiced under the superintendence of officers whose faces one had seen quite recently behind counters and bars. The center of public interest and curiosity was, however, Washington, and the trains between that capital and the metropolis were always crowded.....A great review of the newly-formed cavalry was to take place near Washington, and great numbers of New York people were anxious to witness such rare show. ***I was as eager and enthusiastic as the rest, and arrived with a numerous company of ladies and gentlemen in Washington. To visit the camps around Washington was then the fashion. It was a fine day when our party drove over the Potomac Bridge, and the General greeted us in a most polite, cordial manner.***"

A FEMALE'S EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF BRIDGEPORT DURING CIVIL WAR (cont.)

Princess Agnes Joy Salm-Salm's explanation of the females' reason for visiting the encampments:

"Military enthusiasm was paramount in Washington. The ladies were not left untouched by the prevailing epidemic; in fact, they were more excited than the men, and not being permitted to enlist themselves they did their utmost to encourage the nascent heroes. Civilians had then little chance with them. Apollo himself would have passed unnoticed if he did not wear shoulder-straps. He who has not witnessed this military fever will scarcely believe it. All laws of society seemed suspended, and what in peaceable times would have been considered very improper and shocking was then the order of the day. Both sexes seemed to have changed places."

The encampment's commander was General Louis Blenker (a native of Worms, Germany) who commanded the German division which consisted of about twelve thousand men. Twelve thousand Germans in the American Civil War? Yes! According to Princess Salm-Salm, the outbreak of the war was a godsend to most of the Germans (especially the Prussians) who had refuged to America after the German revolutions of 1848 and 1849. "Amongst these refugees were many distinguished men who were always to be found in the wake of revolutions." The military chiefs of the German revolution rose at once to high places, as the American Government acknowledged the military rank they had held in their homeland.

Shortly after General Blenker welcomed his visitors, the General's chief of staff - **Colonel Prince Salm-Salm** (a man of about 30 years), entered the tent. *(Prince Felix zu Salm-Salm was a younger son of the reigning Prince zu Salm-Salm of Prussia. The Salms belonged to one of the oldest dynastic families of Germany. After the death of his father, the young Prince was given his inheritance which he soon spent. He then went first to Paris and then to America in 1861.)*

Though his movements were elegant and pleasant, he came across as bashful which appealed to the ladies including Miss Agnes Joy who "felt particularly attracted by the face of the Prince." She stated "it was evident my face had the same effect on him." They continued to see each, "the sweet malady increased," and the Prince proposed. They were married in August 1862 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Washington. Witness for their Catholic ceremony was an intimate friend, Colonel von Corvin, another American military leader and a native of Germany as well. (The von Corvins and the Prince and Princess later traveled together as the American Civil War progressed.)

Princess Agnes Joy Salm-Salm stated: "It is said that ladies have a very great influence in the United States, and I think it is so. A reason the influence of ladies in America is even greater than in other countries may perhaps be that they are as a rule very pretty and clever.....To keep the heart cool is, I suppose, the key to the American ladies' secret."



PRINCESS FELIX SALM-SALM.

"I soon became aware that we could never succeed much in America without the help of influential friends, and whilst my husband did his duty in the field I tried to win the good opinion and kind interest of men who might be supposed to be able to assist him. Amongst the friends I made was New York Senator Harris."

When Prince Salm-Salm was about to be dismissed by Secretary of War Stanton, the Princess journeyed to New York in the company of Senator Harris, managed an audience with New York Governor Morgan, pled her case, and obtained a commission as colonel of the 8th Regiment for her German born husband. (When this commission expired, she again pled her case before Illinois Governor Richard. *Gov. Richard was so impressed with the Princess that he not only gave Prince Felix a commission, he also gave the Princess a commission as an Honorary Captain.*)

The Princess accompanied her husband through the duration of the Civil War. Prince Felix was appointed to lead the 68th Regiment of NY Volunteers, and on June 8, 1864, the Prince and his troops were moved to Nashville, Tennessee. In July, she traveled to Nashville "accompanied by my maid and Jimmy my dog, who had become my inseparable companion. I did not find my husband, for his

regiment had marched south to Alabama. Salm managed to pay me an eight days' visit at Nashville, riding all the way on horseback." He convinced his wife to return to Washington, but she did not linger there long.

"Traveling alone was in those times, for a young lady, neither very easy or safe. I was therefore very much pleased when Mrs. Corvin accepted my proposition to accompany me to Bridgeport, Alabama, where Salm's regiment was encamped on an island formed by the Tennessee River." They left Washington on October 1, 1864; her description of their train trip is incredible. Her dog Jimmy jumped off the train. She pulled the emergency cord "lustily," and the train stopped. The captain in command ran anxiously to learn the reason and "was inclined to be angry, but seeing my distress, the train stopped until my pet arrived panting from such an unusual exertion, and amid the good-natured laughter of the soldiers, the dear deserter was restored to me." She stated: "We arrived at last at Bridgeport station, which was about one and a half miles from Salm's camp. The soldiers of the port, on hearing my name, procured at once an ambulance and, at the same time, a breakfast which we needed very much. We arrived soon in the camp, and I was happy to be again with my dear husband."

"The regiment was encamped on an island in the noble Tennessee River. The railroad going to Chattanooga crosses this island by means of two bridges. That next to Bridgeport is a remarkable structure. The banks on both sides are high, and connected with beams on which run the rails, and about 30 feet below is the rather long bridge for horse cars. 10

A FEMALE'S EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF BRIDGEPORT DURING THE CIVIL WAR(Cont)

“The (Long) Island was not large, but contained two or three farms, and was mostly covered with beautiful trees, enlivened by a great variety of pretty birds.....in rainy weather it was by no means pleasant, but when the sun was shining a more delightful place could scarcely be found anywhere. Right opposite the camp, on the southern bank of the river, rose a rather high wooded ridge, the slopes of which were always haunted by rebels who thence could look right into our camp.”

“The camp was extended on a meadow not far from the northern bank of the river. It was not laid out with much regularity, on account of the condition of the ground, and looked quite romantic. As it was expected that we would remain there a good while, the soldiers had made themselves as comfortable as possible. There was plenty of wood and a saw-mill in Bridgeport.....and many shanties rose amongst the tents, serving either as bureaus or as quarters for officers. At a beautiful place from which the camp could be overlooked, Salm had built quite a stately building. It was about 30 feet long, stood somewhat above the ground on poles, like a sanitary barrack, had in front a verandah, and contained three compartments. The largest was our saloon, and to its right and left were two smaller apartments, one serving as a bedroom for me and Salm, and the other for Madame von Corvin. The saloon had in front a glass door and two windows, and contained also a fireplace of rather primitive construction, for when it rained hard the fire was frequently extinguished by it..... Behind our palace was built a kitchen.....Further back amongst the trees were some buildings for the commissariat, and a barrack serving as a hospital.”

“To visit this hospital was one of the first things I did. I found it in a very miserable state, for the doctor whom my husband found on his recent arrival, was a rather careless man, and thought more of his own comfort and profit than that of the patients. The steward and nurses were not better, and it was found they frequently appropriated the good things furnished for the sick.....Most of them were suffering from ague or malignant fevers. I was indignant at this state of affairs, and at once took care to remedy it. The next step was to procure warm clothes, blankets, etc., and also wholesome food for the patients, of whom I had those who needed it most transferred to the larger hospital in Bridgeport. In that place, I found agents of the Christian Commission, and on applying to them, I was at once provided with a good supply of clothes and eatables (the more valuable of the provisions.) The soldiers had to be satisfied with salt pork and hard tack, for bread was not to be had either. The officers were not much better off. Salm dined with his officers, and if some fish, bird, or fresh butcher's meat had been procured, it was reserved for our dinner.”

A FEMALE'S EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF BRIDGEPORT DURING THE CIVIL WAR(Cont)

"The War had exhausted the country; cattle were extremely rare, and fresh meat was not to be had at all.....It was a fortunate circumstance that we had plenty of salt, for we could procure as much as we liked above our allowance from the commissariat at Bridgeport for about two cents a pound, and that salt was the article most desired by the rebels around.....The news that we had a surplus of this precious article spread, and very soon we saw many rebel women arrive who were eager to exchange their produce for salt.....These poor rebel families came frequently from a distance of 10 or 20 miles in search of salt.....These people looked very unhappy.....They felt humiliated that necessity compelled them to apply to us, and we never heard one laugh, nor even saw them smile. They all behaved, however, with a certain dignity which did not fail to produce a favorable effect on our soldiers, who generally treated them with kindness..... Not far from our camp a man, of the name of Hill, had a good farm, but as Mrs. Hill had made herself suspicious by saving her brother from the rebel recruiting officer, their house had been destroyed, and the whole family of 6 or 8, lived in a one-roomed, most miserable log-house. They had succeeded in preserving a few horses and cows, and Mrs. Hill, a rather pretty and merry young woman, sold us with pleasure some welcome milk.....Our position was much exposed and full of danger.....The pontoon bridge laid over the Tennessee for army purposes was guarded by a picket, and protected by two good blockhouses provided with guns; and on the southern side of the river, on a commanding eminence, was built a fort called Fort Prince Salm."

"Bridgeport, situated on the high northern bank of the Tennessee, consisted originally of only a few houses and a sawmill near the river; but in war time it had become much enlarged by a spacious field hospital and many other military wooden buildings, mostly serving as magazines for the provisions and as dwellings for the officers connected with the commissariat. In a house on the highest point the commander of the post, Colonel Taylor, commanding a Kentucky regiment, had established his headquarters.....The only family unconnected with the troops living at Bridgeport, was that of a clergyman of the name of Gilford. Their dwelling-house stood on the top of the before-mentioned ridge, but being there right in the midst of the rebels, and not feeling safe amongst them on account of his Union tendencies, he had left there and was living now in a wooden house, which he had made rather comfortable with the furniture carried over from his dwelling on the hill. His wife and grownup daughters were very agreeable persons, and we passed with them many pleasant evenings. They were not the only ladies in Bridgeport, for a Capt. Armstrong of the commissariat had his wife with him, and two other ladies were attached to the Christian Commission.....We had frequent visits, attempted even to give dinners, and in the evening we had generally company. We played a rubber of whist, and Groeben brewed a very acceptable eggnog or punch, for the wine furnished by our sutler, though he charged \$3.00 a bottle, was a miserable compound.....We received now and then visits from the generals stationed at Stevenson or Chattanooga. (They even made one pleasure excursion to Lookout Mountain.) On Sundays we went to church in Bridgeport and heard rather prosey sermons, and on other days we had enough to do with our hospital, which had already assumed quite a different aspect."

A FEMALE'S EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF BRIDGEPORT DURING THE CIVIL WAR (cont)

"General Granger invited us to interrupt the monotony of our life by visits to Stevenson, which were not without danger, and perhaps for that reason more tempting. Whenever we wanted to make such an excursion, I telegraphed my old friend General Meager, commanding then in Chattanooga, to send me a locomotive, which he never failed to do, in spite of the grumbling of the officers in charge of the railroad department. We took the precaution of taking with us 10 or 12 soldiers, who with their guns ready, watched the woods as we passed them. Such a trip was always exciting.....General Granger treated us with the fine music of his bands and most exquisite dinners, for the General was a bon vivant. Stevenson itself is an insignificant place, stretching along a most dreary bare hill, but which looked then quite grand, on account of the great number of military wood buildings."

"From the army we heard only vague reports.....At last on December 18, news arrived of great victories achieved by our army.....Hood's army was reported as being in full retreat, and we expected them every moment to appear before Bridgeport. Two gunboats arrived for the protection of our Island, and Colonels Taylor and Corvin were busy with strengthening Bridgeport as much as possible and in disposing of the few troops left in that place.....The glorious news was confirmed; General Thomas had beaten Hood on the 15th and 16th, in two great battles near Nashville. At the same time, the 68th Regiment received orders to march to Stevenson, and wait there for their colonel and General Steedman. The order, of course, produced great excitement, for the regiment had been on the Island about nine months and everything the soldiers had arranged for their comfort had to be left behind.....The detachments from Fort Prince Salm, Whiteside, and Shellmound had to be recalled. We prepared a farewell collation for our officers and saw them off with regret. The empty camp offered a very cheerless aspect the day afterwards. When we received the news that General Steedman with 15 trains would arrive on the 23rd in Stevenson, and that he expected to find us all there, I was exceedingly glad, for I was to see again my dear husband after a time full of danger. It was good that I received the news of the battles fought after they were over, and together with that of Salm's safety, or I would have felt great anxiety.....Salm was beaming with happiness, not alone on account of our meeting, but because he at last had fighting to his heart's content, and an opportunity to distinguish himself....We returned to Bridgeport, feeling extremely proud and happy.....To celebrate Christmas, and the victories, we dressed out our house and its verandah with holly. Corvin went for mistletoe and brought one bush at least four feet in diameter...We passed a very merry Christmas Eve at Gilford's in Bridgeport, who gave us a splendid supper. Corvin brewed several gallons of much appreciated whiskey punch with the help of lemon peel, preserved pineapples, vanilla essence, and sugar. On Christmas Day we arranged a similar feast in our quarters".....In 1865, Princess Agnes Joy Salm started for Washington - once again in search of a promotion for her husband...."As I had friends amongst the governors and senators, I hoped they would exert their influence in my husband's interest....I therefore started on February 24 (1865) for Washington, carrying with me the good wishes and hopes of the brigade." **WHAT A LADY! WHAT AN INTERESTING LIFE!! And then there are her experiences in Mexico and during the French/German wars. Her book helps the reader turn back the pages of time. 13**

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The membership year begins January 1. Any dues received before October 1 will be for the current year. Dues received after October 1 will accrue to the following year. Members receive the JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES quarterly in January, April, July, and October.

J.C.H.A. BOOK FOR SALE

The Jackson County Historical Association has republished THE HISTORY OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA by John R. Kenamer, Sr., 1935 edition. The price of the book is \$20.00. If mailing is required, please add \$3.00 for each book order. Allow ten (10) days for processing. Please complete the following order blank and mail to:

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JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 3

ISSN-1071-2348

JULY 2000

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2000, 2:00 pm, Scottsboro Public Library. The Bob Jones Symposium Committee has finalized plans for the Symposium and it is scheduled as the program in July. Dr. David Campbell will introduce the guest speakers for the Symposium honoring the late Congressman Robert E. Jones. They will include Attorney Robert Dawson and retired Judge John David Snodgrass. Attorney Dawson will review the late Congressman's legislative agenda and his many accomplishments and Judge Snodgrass will share personal and political aspects of his life and service to people. Following their presentations Dr. Campbell will show his documentary film, "Bob Jones: A Congressional Legacy". The Symposium Committee and Program Vice-President Patty Woodall invite all members and their guests to join us as we celebrate a man recently called "The most effective Congressman ever from the State of Alabama".

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Ann Chambless is enjoying a well deserved trip to Ireland so she was not here to compile this issue of THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES. She should return in time for the July JCHA meeting.

DRENDA KING, PRESIDENT

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JACKSON COUNTY, THE SWITZERLAND OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA

HOUSE OF HAPPINESS PIANO

As many people know, the House of Happiness was begun in the early 1920's by Miss Augusta Benning Martin in Sauta Bottom, Jackson County. It began as a mission of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Alabama and functioned as an all-inclusive school, daycare, orphanage and church. People in need who had little or no work began to work for Miss Martin to build the House of Happiness and earn food, clothing and medical care for themselves and their families. It is difficult for us to realize today what an impact this ministry must have had on the locals during a time when many of these isolated people were barely surviving. Stories from people who experienced life and time at the House of Happiness reflect their love and gratitude for "a handful of people who felt that God wanted them there". (Long, 1973, Preface).

Ultimately two buildings were constructed which were the main dwelling and a school/church building near Birdsong Spring. This spring supplied water to the House of Happiness by a bucket on a rope pulley from the spring to the house. The spring is still in existence and well cared for today. Apparently the mission was named the House of Happiness by Miss Martin after an orphan child named Rosa said, "This is shore a happy house!" (Long, 1973, p. 2). For the first seven years Miss Martin led the work at the mission which was carried on for 23 more years by the Church Army and others.

Eventually this property was purchased by Beatrice Smith Abercrombie Calahand, a sister to Samuel Lester Smith. Beatrice Smith was one of the first students taught by Miss Martin, and Lester Smith attended the House of Happiness School from approximately 1925 thru 1927. S. Lester Smith inherited the property from his sister at her death. Mrs. Stella Mae Smith, wife of the late Samuel Lester Smith, has donated an original House of Happiness piano to the JCHA. Although there were several pianos, the Smith family (E.K. Smith, personal communication, June 12, 2000), believes that the donated piano came from the dwelling building. It will be housed by the JCHA in the Scottsboro Freight Depot. Copies of texts by Samuel Lester Smith and Campbell Long will also be available at the Depot for visitors to read more about The House of Happiness.

The JCHA extends their thanks to the Smith family for this valued artifact!

Drenda King

Long, Campbell (1973). The House of Happiness Story. Selma Printing Press.

Smith, Samuel Lester (1991). Some of the Things I Remember About the Smith Family: Books I & II. Scottsboro, AL: Author.

SAVING GRAVES

David Campbell

They are some of our best sources of history, and they can tell us about family genealogy, folklore, folk art, customs, religion, economics, or education. A one-line inscription on one of their stones can inspire a novel in our minds about why the words were written. At other times, the lack of words on their stones silently speaks volumes to us. They vividly remind us of our connection with all people both past and present.

They are the small family or community cemeteries that exist throughout Jackson County, Alabama, and the United States. And for decades they have fallen on hard times. They often have been neglected, displaced due to development, or sometimes even intentionally vandalized, their objects plundered for antiques or conversation pieces. As has been noted, America in many ways has become a “throw-away” society and in all too many cases this applies to the graves of our ancestors as well.

Fortunately, there is a growing movement in the United States to save and preserve rural cemeteries. The recently formed organization named “Saving Graves” is at the forefront of this movement. “Saving Graves” is a free-access Internet online resource dedicated to the protection and preservation of endangered cemeteries. The “Saving Graves” Website can be found on the Internet at <http://www.savinggraves.com/>.

“Saving Graves” offers some good advice about what we can do locally to protect and preserve our often-abandoned rural cemeteries. One of the most important things, it is noted, is to simply “tell your children and grandchildren” about rural cemeteries of which you may be aware. This is an important first step in keeping the memory of that cemetery alive. Then, it is suggested, document in writing what you know of the cemetery and pass this information along in such a way that it can be preserved.

The “Saving Graves” group also recommends getting involved in some way with cemetery preservation, or organizing a local cemetery protection association to take care of a neglected cemetery. As is noted, work at the cemetery doesn’t have to result in a site that looks as well-

kept as your front yard; removing debris, cutting weeds, and brush around the graves is good as an important first-step.

The "Savings Graves" group recommends that interested parties talk with landowners about protection of abandoned community or family cemeteries on their property, and work for compromises with them that allow access to these sites while respecting their rights as a property owner. Most of these landowners, the group notes, are good people who are just trying to make a living, but who may have liability concerns or have experienced vandalism of property by trespassers in the past. Communication with the landowner about the importance of their cemeteries and offering help in preserving them can often bridge the gap.

Jackson County is fortunate in that many of our rural cemeteries have been identified and catalogued by such tireless researchers as Barry Pickett, Jane Nichols, Randy Nichols, and Ann Chambless. Indeed, more than 200 cemeteries in Jackson County are listed in the AIGenWeb Archives Website on the Internet at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~algwarch/cemetery.htm>. The listings, most submitted by Jane Nichols, include a geographic description of the cemetery, its general condition, and a list of the persons buried there by dates of birth and death. The cemetery listings are an invaluable source of information and a major first-step toward preserving many neglected cemeteries in the county.

Jackson County is well represented, also, in a recently published atlas of cemeteries throughout Alabama. The atlas is *Historical Atlas of Alabama, Volume II: Cemetery Locations by County*. The Cartographic Research Laboratory, Department of Geography compiled the atlas at the University of Alabama. (The entire volume sells for sixty dollars, or county information may be purchased at a lesser price individually.)

Some steps are underway in locating Jackson County's rural cemeteries. Still, as we know many of these cemeteries are in a state of disrepair even though they may be at important historical sites. Oftentimes the problem results from citizens or property owners simply not knowing what to do about the cemeteries. The "Saving Graves" organization offers some good advice about how to preserve these cemeteries and the rewards of such efforts are enormous. The future of this aspect of our past rests with those of us in the present.

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OCTOBER 2000

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION WILL MEET SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2000, 2:30 pm, BRIDGEPORT DEPOT MUSEUM. David Loyd, who has directed the renovation and restoration of the Bridgeport Depot Museum, will share highlights of the depot's vital role in shaping the history of Bridgeport. Refreshments will be served. Program Vice President Patty Woodall invites you to bring a friend and enjoy a Sunday afternoon in historic downtown Bridgeport.

JCHA ANNUAL DUES for 2001 will be due on January 1, 2001. Please mail your check in the amount of **\$10.00** to Treasurer Mary Ann Parsons, P.O. Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL 35768, to assure receipt of all quarterly issues of THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES. **Include nine number zip code.**



**ROBERT E. (Bob) Jones, Jr.
Symposium on July 30, 2000**

Dr. Ron Dykes, chairman of the Robert E. (Bob) Jones Symposium, reported more than 100 in attendance for the July meeting and symposium co-sponsored by the Scottsboro Public Library. Dr. David Campbell introduced three generations of the Jones family: Robert E. (Rob) Jones III and his son, Carter Jones, and the late Bob Jones' brother, Rudolph. Dr. Campbell then introduced Robert Dawson of Washington, DC, and Judge John David Snodgrass of Huntsville.

Robert Dawson began the salute to the late Robert E. (Bob) Jones' life and his many accomplishments in the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Dawson outlined ten traits which made Bob Jones one of America's greatest legislators and public servants of the 20th century. Judge John David Snodgrass delivered personal and family anecdotes. He pointed out that Bob Jones appreciated both the Jackson County Historical Association and the Scottsboro Public Library and supported both with his time and his money because Bob Jones believed strongly in history and education. He stated Bob Jones loved people and was blessed with a wonderful memory.

Judge Snodgrass closed by reading a very appropriate poem entitled THE DASH.

BOB JONES: A CONGRESSIONAL LEGACY, a video produced by Dr. David Campbell and Northeast Alabama Community College, was enjoyed by those in attendance.

THE DASH
(Author Unknown)

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of his friend.
He referred to the dates on his
tombstone
from the beginning....to the end.
He noted that first came the date of
his birth
and spoke of the second with tears.
But he said what mattered most of all
was *the dash* between those years.
For *that dash* represents all the time
that he spent alive on earth,
And now only those who loved him
know what that little line is worth.
For it matters not, how much we own:
the cars, the house, the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
and how we spend *our dash*.
So think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is
left

(You could be at "*dash* mid-range.")
if we could just slow down enough
to consider what's true and real
and always try to understand
the way other people feel.
And.... be less quick to anger;
And show appreciation more;
And love the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.
If we treat each other with respect,
And more often wear a smile,
remembering that this special *dash*
might only last a little while.
So, when your eulogy is being read
with your life's actions to rehash...
Would you be pleased with the things
they have to say about how you spent
YOUR DASH?

DERRICK CEMETERY

Information shared by JCHA Member Sue McLaughlin

Progress is being made in the restoration of the Derrick Cemetery located just east of Yellow Creek on Jackson County Road 8, Woodville, Alabama. The first planning meeting was attended by Joann Thomas Elkin, William D. Page, Margaret Stephens Gurganus, Cheryl Gurganus, Robert Charles McLaughlin, and Sue McLaughlin.

Sue has been in touch with the owners of the cemetery site (Tom Cobb heirs and Sue Cobb Stewart family), and the property owners approve of this restoration project. Several Derrick family descendants have done basic cleaning at the cemetery, but more work remains to be done. The property owners have agreed for a fence to be placed around the cemetery. A volunteer is needed for this, should funds be available for a fence in the near future. A Derrick Cemetery Fund has been established. Donations should be sent to Derrick Cemetery Fund, c/o First National Bank, P. O. Box 96, Woodville, Alabama 35776. William D. Page has agreed to coordinate the cemetery fund with Jim Butler of First National Bank. Donations of labor are also greatly appreciated.

Who is buried in this cemetery? Children, grandchildren, and in-laws of Henry and Catherine (Branner) Derrick are known to be buried here. There may be others who can be identified at a later date. Can YOU help?

Those who have inscribed markers include: Stephen E. Kennamer and his wife Salina (Derrick) Kennamer; William Green Stephens and four of his children including Frances Gurley Stephens; William Lafayette Stephens; Charley Benjamin Stephens; and Hettie Jane Stephens.

Stephen E. Kennamer married Salina Derrick on May 13, 1855. William Green Stephens married Maria(h) Jane Derrick on March 7, 1849 or 1850. Salina and Maria(h) Jane Derrick's parents, Henry and Catherine (Branner) Derrick, were among the earliest settlers of Old Woodville. Henry Derrick was born in 1788 and died on July 15, 1856. Catherine (Branner) Derrick was born July 2, 1791, and she died on March 14, 1869. Both Henry and Catherine Derrick were buried at their home place.

CHILDREN OF HENRY and CATHERINE (BRANNER) DERRICK

- 1. MELINDA DERRICK (1810-1895) (buried Center Point Cemetery)
married Joel S. McClendon (1811-1858) (buried Liberty Cemetery)**
- 2. ANNA DERRICK (1812-1839) (her stones moved to Hodges Cem)
married John P. Fletcher**
- 3. CHRISTINA DERRICK (1814-1870) (buried Derrick Cemetery)
married John H. Evans (1802-1868) (buried Derrick Cemetery)**
- 4. GEORGE B. DERRICK (1816-1864) (died in Nashville, Civil War)
married Mary Edington**
- 5. MASTON D. DERRICK (1819-1840) (possibly buried Derrick Cem)**
- 6. WILLIAM DERRICK (1825-1881) (burial unknown)
married Cynthia Joplin (1825-1896)**
- 7. LAFAYETTE DERRICK (1827-1896) (buried Union Cemetery)**
- 8. MARIA(H) JANE DERRICK (1828-1903) (buried Union Cemetery)
married Wm.G. Stephens (1828-1870) (buried Derrick Cemetery)**
- 9. BENJAMIN F. DERRICK (1831-1863) (possibly buried Derrick Cem)**
- 10. SALINA DERRICK (1833-1908) (buried Derrick Cemetery)
married Stephen E. Kennamer (1826-1870) (buried Derrick Cem)**

**GRANDCHILDREN OF HENRY and CATHERINE (BRANNER) DERRICK
who are buried in Derrick Cemetery:**

- 1. Jane Catherine and Melinda Ann Derrick (daughters of George B.
and Mary Edington Derrick.) (POSSIBLY buried Derrick Cemetery.)**
- 2. James H. Fletcher (son of Anna Derrick and John Fletcher)**
- 3. Children of Wm. G. and Maria(h) (Derrick) Stephens previously
cited on page 3.**

ANOTHER CIVIL WAR CASUALTY

Or Neighbor Against Neighbor

Compiled by Ann B. Chambless

The Civil War left many scars in Jackson County, Alabama. Many were the result of actual combat. Other scars were from deep personal wounds.

While the state's leaders were discussing Alabama's secession from the Union, many Jackson County citizens talked of seceding from Alabama and annexation to Tennessee . Also, there is at least one documented reference to Jackson Countians having considered forming the Free State of Jackson {much like what became the Free State of Winston (County.)}

In 1861, the average landowner in Jackson County owned 40 to 120 acres of land, and few owned slaves. Most of these hardworking families were self-sufficient and, thus, extremely independent. They were not accustomed to depending on the government for any form of assistance. The initial thought of fighting against the federal government to save the large cotton farmers' slaves did not appeal to the independent nature of these hard-working, small farmers.

However, once the first shots were fired and the call to arms was sounded, sentiments changed. A large number of young men answered the call and chose to wear the gray and bear arms for the Confederate States of America. Many others chose blue.

The question of personal loyalties pitted brother against brother and neighbor against neighbor. Such was the case in the Maynards Cove and head of Mud Creek communities located near the geographic center of Jackson County.

Because some of the Hollands and Golds continued to subscribe to and read weekly newspapers printed by presses in Northern states some of their neighbors were "offended" and verbally expressed their strong disapproval. During this time, James Holland, son of John and Rhoda Davis Holland, joined the CSA and gave his life for the cause he supported.

At least three sons and a son-in-law of Joseph Sanders joined the Union Army.

ANOTHER CIVIL WAR CASUALTY (Continued)

Other families from the head of Mud Creek Community also sent their young men off to war. Eliza (Rogers) Barbee (widow of Mark Barbee) never saw her son, Thomas Preston Barbee, again after he joined the CSA. Measles, not battle scars, claimed his life. Her oldest son, P. W. Barbee, joined Carter's Cavalry as a scout and was captured in 1862. He spent the remainder of the war in a Union prison.

Shortly after receiving word that Thomas Preston Barbee had died in a CSA hospital in Mississippi and that P. W. Barbee had been captured by Union forces, Eliza (Rogers) Barbee's family suffered another Civil War injustice. Early in 1863, Eliza, her daughters, and two younger sons had to share a cabin with a black family who helped farm the Barbee land. Needless to say, the Barbee family and some of their close neighbors who supported the CSA most likely were filled with resentment of those who supported the Federal army in both word and deeds. Opposing views of the necessity of war divided what had been a productive, peaceful neighborhood. Battle lines were drawn on the home front, and the fallout was life changing for all.

Oral tradition relates the story of the tragic death of Joseph Sanders in April 1863 - ANOTHER CIVIL WAR CASUALTY which was not battlefield related.

Joseph Sanders purchased 161 acres in Section 35, Township 2, Range 5 East in 1830-1831. He built a home near a spring in the area known as the head of Mud Creek. According to the Jackson County Plat Book, his neighbors included the families of John Rogers, Mark Barbee, G. William Houston, and Isaac Teeters.

The story of Joseph Sanders' death has been passed down through generations of the Sanders family. One version is that Joseph Sanders was shot while getting water from his spring. Another version is he was caught off guard while plowing and shot. Three young neighbor boys had first made him dig a grave where they buried both man and horse.

ANOTHER CIVIL WAR CASUALTY (Continued)

Another version is that Jefferson (Jeff) Barbee, Thomps(on) Houston, and John Teeters - all close neighbors of the victim - took old Joseph Sanders into the nearby mountains, and Jeff Barbee shot Sanders on April 10, 1863.

The following report from the HUNTSVILLE CONFEDERATE, published April 23, 1863, appears to fit the description of the murder of Joseph Sanders, in time and place:

"DISLOYAL MEN SHOT"

"We are reliably informed that a man, named Pleas. Hickman, who lived in the Sinks, near the boundary line of Jackson and Madison counties, and was a Union man and a bad character, generally, had been conscribed and taken into the Army of Tennessee, deserted, and, coming home, laid out in the mountains, and turned to robbing soldiers' families, and others, of their scanty provisions, and, on Sunday last, some unknown person shot and killed him, in the Mountain four miles North-East of Maysville. He was found with his abdomen perforated by a ball."

"On the same day, we learn, an old man, named Saunders, who affiliated with the Abolition Army, when they occupied Jackson County, and went off with them, but returned to depredate on the neighborhood, was shot and killed by some unknown person, on Mud Creek in that county."

EDITOR'S NOTE: The newspaper account cited above and other pertinent data were shared by JCHA member Don Schaefer of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Jeff Barbee was the son of Mark and Eliza (Rogers) Barbee. Thomps(on) Houston was the son of G. William Houston. John Teeters was the son of Isaac Teeters whose second wife, Elizabeth, was a sister of Eliza (Rogers) Barbee. Eliza (Rogers) Barbee and Elizabeth (Rogers) Teeters were the daughters of John and Elizabeth Rogers. It is interesting to note that John Rogers and Joseph Sanders evidently traveled to Huntsville together in 1830 when they purchased their first land at the head of Mud Creek. John Rogers' certificate number was 2812 and Joseph Sanders' certificate number was 2813, both dated September 13, 1830. John Rogers purchased the east half and Joseph Sanders purchased the west half of the southwest quarter of Section 35 in Township 3, Range 6E.

ANOTHER CIVIL WAR CASUALTY (Continued)

Choices inevitably produce consequences! Joseph Sanders and his sons felt compelled to support the Union. Joseph B. was in Company G and Henry A. was in Company B of the 18th Regiment of the Ohio Volunteers.

Most likely, the Barbee, Houston, and Teeters families considered themselves “victims” of the Union Army who took their crops, food, fence rails, and took over the home of the widowed Eliza Barbee. By 1863 Jefferson Barbee knew a younger brother would never return and was uncertain of the fate of his oldest brother.

Were these three young men punished for ambushing and killing their neighbor? If so, by whom? Did Federal troops intervene? Or did Sanders family members administer their own form of punishment?

The reader must remember that by 1863 the county government basically ceased functioning after the county seat at Bellefonte was occupied by Union troops. Even the local churches did not hold regular services due to the large number of Union troops stationed throughout Jackson County. This could be one reason there are no county government records relating to this case. It has been suggested that possibly some vigilante justice or Union troops took care of things, without leaving a record. Another traditional Sanders family story is that two of Joseph Sanders’ sons killed two of the men who murdered their father.

The author has been told there is a tree near the old Joseph Sanders’ farm which is still called “the hanging tree” where one or more of the culprits suffered the consequences of their “choice” for family revenge. There are court records which show that P. W. Barbee probated Jeff Barbee’s estate in late 1865.

Neighbor against neighbor - wounds and scars so deep - hurts taken to the grave by surviving family members - many unwilling to talk about what happened on April 10, 1863, at the head of Mud Creek, as a result of the Civil War.

JOSEPH SANDERS (1793-1863)

JOSEPH SANDERS who purchased land at the head of Mud Creek in 1830 was the son of Joseph Sanders, born 1755, died 1803 in Randolph County, NC. His grandfather was John Sanders (1711-1772) who was born and died in Isle of Wight County, VA.

JOSEPH SANDERS (1793-1863) had children by his first and second wife.

JOSEPH married Martha Sanders Aug 21, 1809, Randolph Co, NC. Children:

1. Unknown Daughter, born 1810-1815 (Could she have been the Cynthia who married Thomas Fears? Thomas and Cynthia Fears lived next to Joseph Sanders in 1850.)
2. NANCY SANDERS, born ca 1818 (Did she marry James Neison?)
3. WILLIAM SANDERS, born 1810-1820, married (1) Mariah Bishop; (2) Mary Billingsley; and (3) Nancy Emmeline Billingsley..
4. ELIZABETH SANDERS, born ca 1821, married John Thomas Matthews, son of Walker Matthews. Thomas Matthews and his wife, Elizabeth, lived near Joseph Sanders in 1850.
5. BENJAMIN SANDERS, born ca 1823, married Mary __, ca 1846.
6. RACHEL SANDERS, born ca 1825, married Alexander McDougal.
7. GEORGE SANDERS, born ca 1826, married Jane Jacks ca 1846. George died in 1858 or 1859.
8. AILSEY SANDERS, born ca 1829, married Robert Brandon ca 1849-50.
9. MARTHA J. (Mattie) SANDERS, born ca 1830, married William Fears ca 1849. (William Fears served in Co D, 3rd Ohio Cav, Union Army.)
10. MARY ANN SANDERS, born ca 1831-1832, married Jasper Henshaw on Feb 13, 1852.
11. JOSEPH B. SANDERS, born ca 1834, married (1) Mary Elizabeth Davis and (2) Mary A. Sanders, daughter of John and Charlotte (Brannon) Sanders.

JOSEPH married (2) DEBORAH SAUNDERS (dau. of Jacob & Mary Saunders):

1. HENRY A. SANDERS, born Feb 12, 1840, married (1) Mary E. Shelton; (2) Frances J. Hankins ; and (3) Susanna E. (Hankins) Worthen. Henry A. served in Company B, 18th Regiment of Ohio Volunteers, Union Army.
2. PHOEBE EMELINE SANDERS, born May 20, 1842, married (1) Isham King on Aug 29, 1860 and (2) Charles Wm. Kingery on October 14, 1880, in Madison, Illinois.
3. JOHN G. SANDERS, born Aug 30, 1845, married Phoebe Elizabeth Dolberry on Sept 30, 1866. Phoebe Elizabeth Dolberry was the daughter of Absalom and Deborah (Sanders) Dolberry. Deborah (Sanders) Dolberry was the daughter of George and Phoebe (Saunders) Sanders. George Sanders was the son of Joseph and Rebecca Sanders, and, therefore, a brother of Joseph Sanders (1793-1863.)

Joseph Sanders married (3) Mahala (Harper) Shelton, Nov 11, 1860.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM "BILLY" McMAHAN PASSES ON
Obituary written by Parker W. Campbell,
Editor of the Sentinel and Progressive Age

"In the charming old brick church in Stevenson on the morning of March 17, 1933, when the sun was shining with the warmth of the breath of new-born Spring, I sat in retrospection during a brief yet most impressive and beautiful service. A service different from any I had ever seen. It was the gathering of many devoted friends to pay last tribute of respect to the earthly remains of Captain W. A. McMahan. In the hush of the occasion, Rev. J. T. Jones announced that a distinguished friend of the late veteran railway engineer would say words of tribute over the flower covered and draped casket. Miss Annie Wheeler, of Wheeler Station, daughter of the late General Joe Wheeler, arose and with tears in eyes and voice filled with pathos of a sister and the courage of a soldier delivered a eulogy on the life of Captain Billy "M", lifelong friend of the Wheeler family and one of the men selected as administrator of the great Wheeler estate when General Joe encamped upon the far banks of the silver river. Her tribute was touching and dwelt upon the character of Captain McMahan; of his long years of perfect service to his position and loyalty to his friends and love for all those people who came his way during his 47 years service on the Southern Railway on the Memphis Division, the miles that stretched through the valley of the beautiful Tennessee that he loved so dearly..... As the funeral cortege wended its way up the mountainside to the last resting place, while companions and friends and fellow workers of many years tenderly carried the remains, my own thoughts traveled back over the years in pleasant retrospection upon the life of "Billy Mc." It seemed I was a child once again, when I would make trips alone on the train... of this kindly-faced conductor stopping by my seat and engaging me in pleasant conversation. To me he was the human connecting link between the great railway system and my own little half-fare. He represented something I could understand and look forward to contact again and again.

CAPT. WILLIAM "BILLY" McMAHAN PASSES ON (Continued)

Again it would be my mother and her flock of kids and mass of baggage and bundles starting off to visit kinfolks on the train with changes in Decatur. Conductor McMahan would stop and talk and laugh with us and pat the kids on their heads and make us feel like we were sort of special guests of the railway under his careful watchfulness. Again, through the years, the scenes would shift rapidly, and I'd see him so gentle and kind with aged people, no matter how poor their attire or appearance. Always the same, quiet gentleman; always someone you wanted to see again.

And the scene shifts from the long ago into the recent years when I would entrust my little boy - my first born - to his care alone between here and a nearby town at which I resided. Even this second picture now fades into years which measure the service of Billy Mc, for this little boy o' mine now has passed the ways of childhood things and is a man in a far away college. How pleasant was that retrospection and how glad I was that such a life had been lived in my own valley of the Tennessee, lived through so many worthwhile years of service and good-will. Surely he was entitled to a gentie rest from his bodily ills; soft sleep upon the cloudways where ever the faint echo from the whistle of far off trains would waft gently and be heard by his ears now attuned to other melodies.....

And in the closing of this almost unbelievable career of 47 years service with the Southern Railway, the last 25 being a conductor of passenger trains, it was fitting that one of his very last runs was in charge of the famous train bearing President (F. D.) Roosevelt and his distinguished party to Muscle Shoals. It was a glorious day for our valley, for our railroad, for our President, and for Capt. Billy McMahan. It was a fitting "finis" to be written upon his life and career, for he loved every mile of his homeland stretch and gave of his best that it should prosper and be happy. Peace rest him, in his suit with many gold stripes upon its sleeve."

*William A. McMahan (1865-1933) married Sallie A. Allison (1868-1960)
Buried Stevenson City Cemetery*

**ANCESTOR SEARCHIN' IN
JACKSON COUNTY, AL**

HARDY DOYAL - Bill Timmons, 44426 Garfield Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20007-1142, is researching his ancestor, HARDY DOYAL, who was one of the original settlers in the old Bolivar area (near present-day Edgefield community between Stevenson and Bridgeport.) According to an 1834 Huntsville, Alabama newspaper, HARDY DOYAL'S estate was being probated in 1834. Since Jackson County probate records are not extant for that era, can anyone share additional info?

CATHERINE C. CAMERON, 638 Marina Road, Guntersville, AL 35976, needs a copy of Part I of the History Of Woods Cove which appeared in the Jackson County Advertiser in 1973. This is from a series of articles written by Madge Wilbanks in 1973. Did anyone clip and save this article? If so, could you please mail JCHA member Catherine Cameron a copy?

NECROLOGY

**Shirley Bradshaw, TX
Walter B. Hammer, AL
A. N. Holland, Jr., AL
Dr. E. R. Knox, AL
Elberta Page, AL**

**SCOTTSBORO DEPOT
PRESERVATION/
RESTORATION REPORT**

Chairman John F. Neely is pleased to report the office and bathroom work is now complete, as is a ramp built from the office to the freight area. Shelving donated by Lozier has been delivered. Work on the outside including painting, window cleaning, and installation of the fence will be the next order of business.

The committee has applied for a T-21 grant (federal funds through the Alabama Dept. of Transportation.) If approved, the JCHA will need 20 per cent matching funds.

Donations are appreciated and are tax deductible.

**Make your check payable to
Scottsboro Depot**

**Restoration Committee, P.O.
Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL
35768.**

RENEW MEMBERSHIP JANUARY 1

MEMBERSHIP DUES NEW OR RENEWAL
ANNUAL DUES - \$10.00
LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$100.00

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS ARE WELCOMED

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 1494
SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768-1494

Please provide:

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CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

NEW _____ **RENEWAL** _____

The membership year begins January 1. Any dues received before October 1 will be for the current year. Dues received after October 1 will accrue to the following year. Members receive the JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES quarterly in January, April, July, and October.

J.C.H.A. BOOK FOR SALE

The Jackson County Historical Association has republished THE HISTORY OF JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA by John R. Kennamer, Sr., 1935 edition. The price of the book is \$20.00. If mailing is required, please add \$3.00 for each book order. Allow ten (10) days for processing. Please complete the following order blank and mail to:

HISTORY BOOK
P.O. BOX 1494
SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768-1494

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