

MUSCOGIANA



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MUSCOGIANA
Journal of the Muscogee Genealogical Society

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Book reviews of both local titles and general genealogical monographs are accepted for inclusion in *Muscogiana*. Reviews should be 350-1000 words, and should contain an overview of the work and an analysis on the value of the work to genealogists and other researchers in the region.

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On the cover: Henry Madison Woodall, courtesy of Charles Woodall

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In Memoriam

Dorothy H. Daniel, 1927 - 2018
C. Dexter Jordan, Jr., 1939 - 2019
Joanne J. Middlebrooks, 1942 - 2019

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From the Editor

As readers of this journal are well aware, we do our best to have it feature a little bit of narrative history on topics of significance, include articles that are reference resources for those interested in conducting research, and keep readers aware of recent publications and developments they will find interesting. I am pleased to say that this issue does all that and more, as it features a diverse series of articles that educate, entertain, and further the long-term goal of making this publication a critical resource for the study of Columbus area history which all the members of the Muscogee County Geneological Society share.

We open up this issue of the journal with another solid contribution by our friend Daniel Bellware, who has unearthed quite a story on the interesting life of a figure who looms larger in city history than most of us are likely aware. Bellware always finds a way to enlighten our understanding of local history through compelling stories somewhat forgotten, and this is no exception. Along the same lines, another frequent contributor, Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr., brings to us a piece on a virtually unknown figure he has spent quite a while researching. His article on an unsung man present at the city's founding, as his title suggests, may indeed hold claim to several "firsts" in Columbus history, and could literally force us to rewrite some of our early history.

Callie McGinnis and Dan Olds offer a follow-up to their article listing emigrants to Liberia from Columbus which we featured in the last issue, this time focusing on those who left in the spring of 1868. McGinnis also offers another short piece she compiled for this issue, providing a guide to accessing digitized collections relating to city cemeteries on Familysearch.org. Both will be valuable to those of us who are involved in researching Columbus's rich heritage. We close out this issue with our customary update on what's happening at the Columbus State University Archives and reviews of a few books of note.

I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed helping arrange it. Remember, this journal would not be possible without the dedicated work of so many of you who take the time to write about some of the intriguing topics you research and share with our readers. We are always looking for new articles. Please contact me at any time should you have something you would like to have considered for publication!

Mike Bunn, Editor

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H. M. Woodall, Muscogee County Coroner

By

Daniel A. Bellware



Henry Madison Woodall
Courtesy of Charles Woodall

Henry Madison Woodall was the coroner of Muscogee County for twenty of the twenty-four years from 1921 to 1944 and a civil servant of the community for several years before that. During this time, he was a witness to some of Muscogee County's most interesting occurrences. While his name appeared in sensational stories in local papers for years, few likely know much about this man and his remarkable career.

Woodall was born in Lumpkin, Stewart County, Georgia, on September 28, 1859. The Woodall family, including his father William Matthew, his mother, Rhoda Holloway, and his sisters Emma and Florence, moved to Alabama by horse-drawn wagon in the 1860s. Henry remembered seeing soldiers as they passed through Columbus. They settled in Chambers County, Alabama where his siblings Naomi, Joseph, and Mary Jane were born. He married Mollie Smith in Chambers County in 1881 and they had three children: Oscar, in 1882; Rhoda, also known as Arnie or Onnie Mae, in 1886; and Bertha Pauline, in

1887. Mollie died in 1892 and Henry married Susie Finch in 1896. She helped raise his children and remained with him for the rest of his life.¹



Officer Fitzhugh Lee on horseback during the Spanish-American War, 1898
Courtesy of the State Archives of Florida

Woodall joined the army to fight in the Spanish-American War, serving in Company L of the Second Alabama Infantry regiment. The Second Alabama mustered in at Mobile in May 1898 and went to Miami, Florida, in June. It was part of Major General Fitzhugh Lee's Seventh Army Corps, in the Second Brigade, First Division. Lee was a general in the Confederate cavalry and a nephew of Robert E. Lee. In August of 1898, the regiment went to Jacksonville and then back to Montgomery in September. The boys mustered out in Birmingham on October 31 without ever leaving the country. While his career in the military was a brief one, it qualified him for membership in the Veterans of the Spanish-American War fraternal organization in which he took an active part. Woodall joined the Winfield Schley Camp of Spanish War Veterans and served as Adjutant and Quartermaster of the group. He attended reunions and functions over a period of several years in those capacities. His family incorporated his flat military marker into the concrete upright monument on his grave.²

The Woodall family moved to Columbus in 1901. It is not clear if all Henry's children came with him. Oscar was living in Columbus by 1910, working as a furniture salesman. Arnie married Allen Barnett Brown in 1900, probably in Chambers County, where they both lived at the time. However, the couple resided in Columbus by January 1906 when their child Jesse Roy Brown died after a short illness at the age of three. This couple lost another child to illness, one-year-old Bertha Virginia Brown in May 1914. Their remaining children, Howard, Lillian, Bessie and Allen Barnett, Jr. all lived to adulthood. Woodall's youngest child, Bertha Pauline married Harry Lassiter in July 1908. They had one child, Luther Alonzo

¹ "Coroner Woodall is 80 Years Old," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, September 29, 1939, 7.

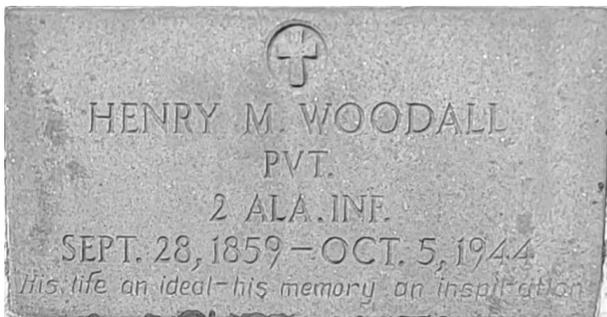
² *Columbus Ledger*, February 6, 1925, 4; "Coroner H. M. Woodall Returns From Texas," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, May 27, 1925, 2 and "U.S.W.V. Session Plans Discussed," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, September 15, 1926, 5; "State Leaders Visit Camp," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, February 9, 1935, 6 and "Spanish War Vets To Be In Parade," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, April 16, 1936, 13.

Lassiter in 1909. After serving in World War I, Woodall's only son Oscar married Gladys Kelley in Ohio in 1920. She was with him in Columbus in 1923 but it appears that they had no children.³

Woodall was a member of the Jordan City Baptist Church for several years. It started as a mission of the Rose Hill Baptist Church to serve the area around the Jordan Mill. He was active in his church and was one of their delegates to the Columbus District Baptist Association conventions in 1915 and 1916. Woodall switched to the Rose Hill Baptist Church by 1919, when he participated in that church's "75 Million Campaign" fund drive. He belonged to Rose Hill for the rest of his life.⁴



An example of Sacred Harp shape notes
Courtesy of Wikipedia Commons



Headstone of Henry M. Woodall, Riverdale Cemetery, Columbus, Georgia, photo by Daniel Bellware



In addition to his church membership, Woodall was also a practitioner of Sacred Harp singing, named for a well-known tune book, *The Sacred Harp*, that included "shape notes" to help teach the singing of Sacred Harp. It was a popular form of acapella singing dating back to 1844 with the publication of the original book and based on even earlier traditions. An article announcing one of Woodall's vacations noted that he would certainly join in if he encountered any Sacred Harp singing while away. In 1916, Woodall sang a Sacred Harp solo in the presence of Governor Charles Henderson at the Alabama

³ "Treat 'Em All Alike is Motto of Retiring Veteran Coroner Woodall," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, June 23, 1944, 19; "Mr. and Mrs. Allen B. Brown Celebrate Silver Wedding," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, December 27, 1925, 9.

⁴ Calvary Baptist Church, "History of Church," <https://calvaryga.com/who-we-are/history-of-church/>, accessed January 11, 2020; "Many Delegates to Convention," *Columbus Ledger*, July 9, 1915, 5; "Columbus District Baptists Meet at Ellerslie Tomorrow," *Columbus Ledger* July 24, 1916, 8; "Rose Hill Baptist Church to Fore in Line Up for Drive," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 18, 1919, 3; "Woodall," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 6, 1944, 4.

capital. After his election as coroner, he suggested the idea of a coroner's convention that might include a certain amount of singing, as well. Woodall eventually presided over a Sacred Harp Festival that attracted hundreds of enthusiasts from around Georgia and Alabama in 1929.⁵

NEW BRITAIN. C. M.

"And David the king came and sat before the Lord, and said, Who am I, O Lord?"—1 CHRON. 17: 16. "According unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions."—Ps. 51: 1.

45

JOHN NEWTON, 1789. Key of C Major.

The original title of this hymn in "Olney's Selections" is "Faith's Review and Expectation." John Newton lived in wickedness a long time, but finally turned to the work of his Lord and Master, and entered the ministry, and was a power as a preacher, poet, and hymn writer. He expresses his feelings at the time he wrote the hymn, "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!" He was born in 1725 and died in 1807. He was a minister in the Church of England.

We have been unable to find the name of the author of the above tune. There are numerous claimants of it, but after investigation there are doubts as to who is really the author. The tune appears on page 8 of "Southern Harmony," by William Walker, in 1835. It is believed that it was composed early in the nineteenth century. The name of "New Britain" is suggestive of the source of the origin of the tune, but no author is given in any of the books we have examined of the music.

Copyright, 1909, by J. S. James.

"Amazing Grace," from *Original Sacred Harp*,
by B.F White and E. J. King, (Sacred Harp Publishing Company: Carrollton, GA, 1991)

Woodall first shows up in the city directory in 1906 as a clerk. He expressed an interest in running for bailiff that year; however, he never followed through. By 1910, Woodall was an agent for the Life Insurance Company of Virginia. His public service began the next year as an assistant marshal in 1911. Woodall served on a coroner's jury again in 1919, this time as foreman, in the case of Rosie Dennis, found dead in a room on Robinson Street. Her death went unreported to the coroner for two days and the jury ruled she died from causes unknown.⁶

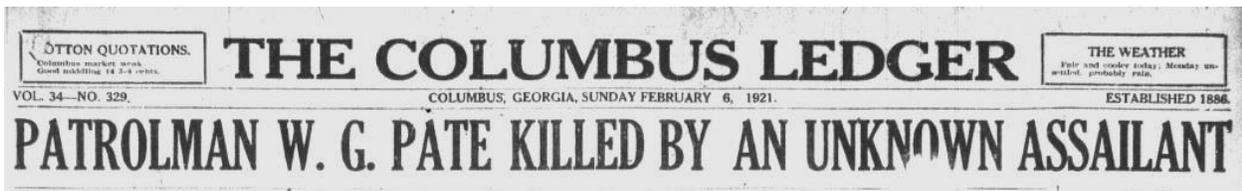
Woodall ran for Muscogee County Coroner for the first time in 1920, when he was already over sixty years old. The previous coroner, A. Frank Irvin, decided to run for Sheriff. Woodall announced his

⁵ "Coroner Woodall To Be Absent Few Days," *Columbus Ledger*, July 14, 1921, 6; "Columbus Man Sings Before Governor Henderson," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, May 16, 1916, 2; "Call the Coroners," *Columbus Ledger*, June 5, 1921, 4; "Harp Festival Planned Today," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 13, 1929, 5 and "Sacred Harp Singing Slated at Columbus," *Selma Times-Journal*, October 13, 1929, 3.

⁶ It is possible that a brief stint on a coroner's jury in 1916 got him thinking about that office. He participated in the coroner's jury called for the suicide of James Crawford, the despondent attorney who had served as chairman of the Columbus Homecoming the year before.⁶ "Election for Bailiffs," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, December 2, 1906, 5; "Treat 'Em All Alike is Motto of Retiring Veteran Coroner Woodall," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, June 23, 1944, 19; "Despondent, J.M. Crawford Committed Suicide Today," *Columbus Ledger*, May 17, 1916, 1; Daniel A. Bellware, "Columbus Throws a Party-Homecoming 1915," *Muscogiana* 28, no. 1 (Spring 2017): 45; "Negro Dead Two Days Before Call is Sent to Coroner," *Columbus Ledger*, March 3, 1919, 8.

intentions by early July of 1920. Running against three other candidates, he garnered 1,265 votes, easily overcoming W. P. Palmer with 745, J. B. Anderson with 446, and E.H. Hawkins with 308.⁷

As Coroner, Woodall played a part in more than his share of violent, tragic and strange stories in Columbus. His first case began less than a week after his swearing in. A taxi driver named Will Holmes met his untimely end on Brown Avenue in Wynnton. Shot through the head and robbed, Holmes' body lay in the road next to his car. Woodall remembered this case throughout his career and told the story shortly before he died. Woodall had to drive the cab from the scene as no one else would. He loaded the body in the back seat and took a passenger in front. He hit a bump and body bounced up startling his passenger. Woodall got off to a rocky start. It appears that he forgot to sign the death certificate and gave "skull fracture" as the cause of death. The fracture was a result of the gunshot, which would normally appear on the death certificate. He would have plenty of other chances to get it right, though.⁸



Columbus Ledger February 6, 1921, p. 1

About a month later, William Grady Pate, a plain-clothes detective, died from a gunshot wound in the alley between Nineteenth and Twentieth Street near Thirteenth Avenue. The police assembled a posse and brought out the bloodhounds, to no avail. Despite several arrests made in weeks that followed, the case went unsolved. This time, Woodall not only signed the death certificate but also made sure the cause of death was as explicit as possible. It read; "The cause of death was gunshot wound by party unknown to jury."⁹

Woodall hit his stride with the death of Hezekiah "Bud" Ware, found dead near Glade Road in March 1921. The cause of death was quickly determined and entered on the death certificate saying: "He came to his death by epileptic fit was the decision of the jury empaneled by H. W. Woodall, Coroner, Muscogee Co., Ga."¹⁰

⁷ "Coroner Irvin Announces for Sheriff's Race," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, July 15, 1920, 6; "Announcement," *Columbus Ledger*, July 4, 1920, 6.

⁸ "Coroner Woodall Retiring After a Quarter Century," *Columbus Ledger*, June 23, 1944, 12.

⁹ "Patrolman W. G. Pate Killed by An Unknown Assailant," *Columbus Ledger*, February 6, 1921, 1.

¹⁰ "Negro Found Dead," *Columbus Ledger*, March 16, 1921, 8.

HERMAN HALL'S BODY RECOVERED SATURDAY

**Coroner Woodall Holds Inquest
and Jury Returns Verdict of
"Accidental Drowning" in
River.**

BODY BIBB MAN FOUND IN RIVER

**Foul Play Believed Probable.
Coroner and Police Are
Probing Death Robert Jack-
son.**

Headlines from the *Columbus Enquirer*, July 2, 1922, p. 2 and *Columbus Ledger*, July 7, 1922, p. 1

The waterways and woods of Muscogee County were fertile territory for mischief and frequent locations for mysterious deaths, both accidental and intentional. In just over a week in 1922, authorities recovered the bodies of Herman Hall and Robert Jackson from the water. Coroner's juries determined Hall's death accidental. He fell from a boat while fishing. Another jury found that Jackson met his end from several blows to head from "parties unknown."¹¹

One particularly tragic event that occurred far too often was the discovery of a dead baby. Two boys playing in the North Highlands woods found a shoebox buried under a bush on March 1, 1922. The boys thought the box contained a stash of hidden whiskey. Instead, it contained the body of a baby. A strangely similar case happened the next year when two boys found a box near Cook's Branch creek. The boys played in the area for a while before deciding to investigate a box under a nearby bush that they also thought contained whiskey. The box had no top and appeared burned. Upon removing the charred material, they made the awful discovery. The box contained an unidentifiable baby. The decomposition of the body was so bad, the infant's race and sex could not be determined. Both of these discoveries took place during prohibition, which may explain why the children assumed the boxes contained alcohol.¹²

¹¹ "Herman Hall's Body Recovered Saturday," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, July 2, 1922, 2; "Death of Jackson Due to Blows on Head, Says Jury," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, July 12, 1922, 1.

¹² "Finding Body Infant Probed," *Columbus Ledger*, March 1, 1922, 7; "Murdered Baby is Found in Box on Cook's Branch," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, December 1, 1923, 1.

THE WEATHER

GEORGIA and ALABAMA: Rain Saturday and probably Sunday. Continued mild temperature Saturday, cooler Sunday.

The Columbus Enquirer-Sun

ESTABLISHED 1878

MEMBER ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL COTTON

Market Nominal 18 1/2
Spot midding 18 1/2
Blending 18 1/2
Strict Low midding 18 1/2

VOL. XXIV—No. 88

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 11, 1922.

FIVE CENTS A COPY.

HAMMOND FOUND GUILTY OF WIFE MURDER; GIVEN LIFE TERM

Headline from the *Columbus Enquirer*, February 12, 1922

Occasionally, one of Woodall's cases would take on a life of its own. One such instance involved the death of Winnie Hammond in July 1921. Her husband, Louis (L.C.) Hammond, reported that his wife accidentally shot herself with the gun he cleaned that evening. Woodall recorded suicide as her cause of death on July 12. However, the police had other ideas and continued investigating. The prosecutor claimed that Hammond was having an affair and had previously tried to poison his wife. However, the prosecution's case relied entirely on circumstantial evidence. The Grand Jury indicted Hammond on September 27, 1921. Over the next three years, Hammond would go to trial five times. The first trial ended with a mistrial on December 2, 1921 with the jury hopelessly divided. While awaiting a new trial, Hammond and several other prisoners made an unsuccessful attempt at a jailbreak with saw blades smuggled into the jail.¹³

The second trial took place on February 11, 1922. This time, the jury returned the verdict in less than two hours. He was guilty and received a life sentence. His attorneys appealed and he went to trial a third time. This jury was deadlocked on November 11, 1922. Hammond received a life sentence at his fourth trial on November 22, 1922, which he appealed. His fifth trial ended on December 11, 1924 with another conviction and life sentence. The prosecution in the final trial depended on the testimony of one witness, Mrs. Lillie McFarland, who lived next door and heard the shot. Hammond's former neighbor moved to Springfield, Ohio and was in ill health, causing a delay in the trial. His attorneys hoped for a sixth trial, but Hammond's luck finally ran out. Regardless, Winnie Hammond's official cause of death still stands, "pistol shot self-inflicted."¹⁴

Early in his career, Woodall had to do something that was unheard of in Muscogee County. Jesse Beard, the sheriff, got into a dispute with Judge Frank D. Foley, a local lawyer, during a session of Superior Court while both appeared in front of Judge George P. Munro. Beard pulled a knife after Foley called him a liar. Both men required restraint from the others present. This did not sit well with the judiciary. However, it is the sheriff's job to serve papers on people in the county so, who serves papers on the sheriff? In Muscogee County, the only person authorized to do so was the coroner. That is exactly what happened at the end of January 1923 as noted by the local press.¹⁵

¹³ "Jail Delivery Here Thwarted," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, January 11, 1922, 1.

¹⁴ "Jury Deadlocked in Their Third Trial of L. C. Hammond," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, November 11, 1922, 1; "Local Man Will Again Answer Murder Charge," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, December 10, 1924, 1.

¹⁵ "Coroner Called First Time to Serve Sheriff," *Columbus Ledger*, January 28, 1923, 3.



From *Columbus Ledger*, January 28, 1923, 3 and *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, September 12, 1924, 5

Woodall decided to run again in 1924. He won handily which led to his taking out an advertisement thanking the voters of Muscogee County. He decided not to run for coroner in 1928 and ran for marshal of the municipal court, instead. He lost that race to the incumbent, William J. Davidson who received 2,699 votes to Woodall's 1,811. John W. Dortch, a farmer several years older than Woodall, took over as coroner for one term. Although he was out of office, Woodall made a point of assisting Dortch. The U.S. census of 1930 noted that Woodall worked as a salesman in a coal yard during this time. He ran for his old post again in 1932.¹⁶



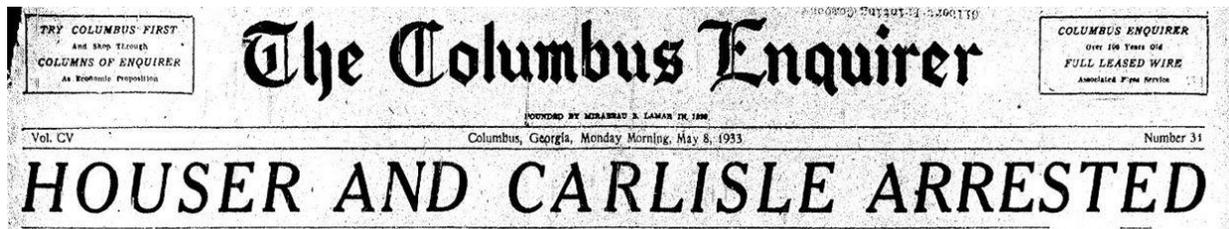
Headline of the *Columbus Ledger* April 13, 1933

After winning the 1932 election, Woodall would serve throughout the Great Depression. One of the most sensational cases of that time involved the death of Thomas (T. J.) Davis and Mrs. Thelma Holmes in April 1933. Davis, a convict camp guard, supposedly murdered Mrs. Holmes before taking his own life. Lewis M. Houser, road superintendent and warden of the convict camp in Muscogee County where Davis worked and Matthew Carlisle, custodian at the convict camp, discovered the bodies on Moore Road, about fifteen miles from Columbus, just off Buena Vista Road. Mr. Davis had four bullet wounds in his chest and Mrs. Holmes had two bullet wounds in her chest, one passing through her arm.

¹⁶ "Muscogee Vote Is Consolidated," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, September 14, 1928, 1; "H. M. Woodall's Funeral Today," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 6, 1944, 1.

Houser summoned Chief McKenney, who brought Officer J. B. Ellison, and found Houser's acquaintance Dr. Forrest Lee Cosby, Jr., at the convict camp when he arrived.¹⁷

McKenney called in Woodall, who empaneled a coroner's jury which included Houser and Carlisle, as well as Dr. Cosby, Officer Ellison, J. F. Edwards, and a guard at the convict camp. Chief McKenney acted as foreman. No one on the jury was independent from the case. Coroner Woodall drove the car with its bullet-riddled passengers to the D. A. Striffler Mortuary in Columbus and the jury quickly returned verdicts of murder and suicide.¹⁸



Headline of the *Columbus Enquirer*, May 8, 1933

The authorities in Chattahoochee County had other ideas. An investigation continued in that county and resulted in the arrest of Houser and Carlisle, members of the coroner's jury that Woodall empaneled. According to two witnesses, Houser did the shooting while Carlisle, the custodian, helped clean up his boss's mess. Houser's friend, Dr. Cosby, testified that it was entirely possible for a man to shoot himself four times in the chest, including twice through the heart, before losing consciousness. W. H. Patterson, a former chain gang member, testified that Davis told him privately, only ten days before the crime, that "he was going to take his pistol and kill the girl and then kill himself" if she two-timed him once more. Two witnesses for the prosecution claimed the murder occurred in Chattahoochee County at the Muschat (formerly the Idle Hour) Fishing Club and not in Muscogee County on Moore Road. Early Barker, the African American caretaker at the club, and his nine-year-old son B. C. Barker testified that Houser and Davis had an argument at the club before hearing shots fired. After the arraignment in May, the Grand Jury returned a "no bill" in September, meaning there was not enough evidence to indict, freeing Houser. This let Carlisle off the hook, as well. The two witnesses for the prosecution, however, received jail time for perjury after claiming the chief coerced them into giving false testimony. Early Barker received a sentence of ten years in the penitentiary while nine-year-old B.C. Barker received four.

¹⁷ "Houser and Carlisle Deny Guilt at Cusseta Hearing Which Will Be Continued," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, May 13, 1933, 3.

¹⁸ "Man and Woman Found Shot to Death in Auto Near Here," *Columbus Ledger*, April 23, 1933, 1 and "Jury's Verdict Shots Declares Fired by Davis," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, April 24, 1933, 1.

He had his sentence modified to serve his time in the state reformatory but went to a chain gang in Marion County, anyway.¹⁹

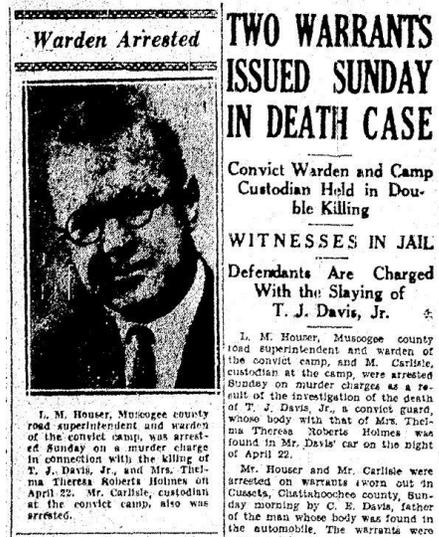


Photo of L. M. Houser from the *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, May 8, 1933

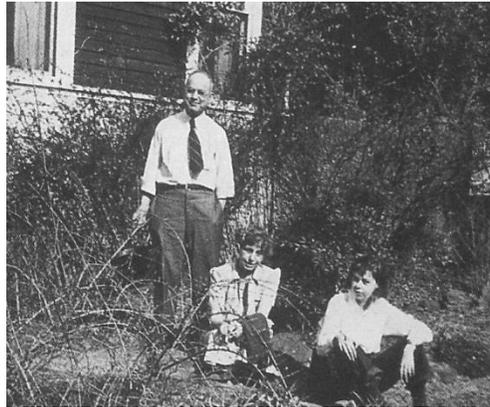
When the election of 1936 rolled around, Woodall received some criticism for having made the job of coroner something that it had not been known for – a well paying job. At the end of his career, he disclosed that he received about \$11 for each investigation. Apparently, some had taken exception to the number of coroner’s juries empaneled during his tenure. While examining expenses, County Attorney Britton refused to okay a bill for an inquest that he thought was unnecessary.²⁰

Occasionally Woodall’s work would bring him to wider attention. Such was the case when two sisters and their mother all died within the same month in October in 1936. The story raised suspicions in Columbus, even though two of the deaths occurred outside of Woodall’s jurisdiction. Mrs. Moses P. Williams died at the home of her daughter Mrs. Pearl Revell on Knowles Road, about three miles from Phenix City, Alabama, on October 5. Mrs. Revell died on October 27 at the home. Another daughter, Lottie Williams, of that same home, died on October 28 at the city hospital in Columbus. Suspecting death by poison, he ordered an autopsy. Woodall sent Miss Williams’ vital organs to Atlanta for analysis. The lab report showed that the organs were free of poison. In the meantime, the story appeared in newspapers from Miami and Palm Beach, Florida to Monroe, Louisiana and Bristol, Tennessee.²¹

¹⁹ "Houser and Carlisle Deny Guilt at Cusseta Hearing Which Will Be Continued," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, May 13, 1933, 3; "Houser and Carlisle Deny Guilt at Cusseta Hearing Which Will Be Continued," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, May 13, 1933, 3; "B. C. Barker Serving Time on Chain Gang," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, September 30, 1933, 1.

²⁰ W.C. Woodall, "Good Morning," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, September 13, 1936, 23; "Treat 'Em All Alike is Motto of Retiring Veteran Coroner Woodall," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, June 23, 1944, 19; "Inquest Ruled Unnecessary," *Columbus Ledger*, August 14, 1935, 7.

²¹ "Mrs. M. P. Williams," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 6, 12; "Mrs. Pearl Lee Revell," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 28, 1936, 2; "Death Claims Third Member of One Family," *Columbus Enquirer*, October 29, 1936, 1; "Mrs.



Lamar, Marguerite, and Carson Smith at their home on Stark Avenue in Columbus.
From *Illuminations and Night Glare, the unfinished autobiography of Carson McCullers*.

One of Woodall's last cases dealt with a rather prominent death on August 1, 1944, just a few weeks before his own. It involved Lamar Smith, the father of author Carson McCullers. A story in *Muscogiana* in 2017 explored the possibility that Lamar had committed suicide in 1944 instead of the dying from a heart attack, as was reported in the newspapers. The claim of suicide originated in the 2003 preface of the second edition of Virginia Carr's biography of Carson McCullers, *The Lonely Hunter*. In it, Carr supposes that family, friends, the coroner and police were all in on the deception. The claim of suicide originated in the 2003 preface of the second edition of Virginia Carr's biography of Carson McCullers, *The Lonely Hunter*. In it, Carr supposes that family, friends, the coroner and police were all in on the deception.²²

After many years of good health, Woodall became ill in the summer of 1944. The county brought in Hardie C. Edenfield to assist Woodall.²³ Woodall went into a semi-coma on his eighty-fifth birthday at the end of September. He died in the hospital on October 5, 1944. Lauded for his many years of public service as deputy marshal and coroner, one correspondent said, "everyone who knew him liked him and that everybody knew him."²⁴

Pearl Lee Revell," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 28, 1936, 2; "Report Made in Death Case," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, November 23, 1936, 12; "Family's 3 Deaths Cause Investigation," *The Miami News*, October 30, 1936, 1; "Third Family Death Causes Police Probe," *Palm Beach Post*, October 30, 1936, 1; "Three Deaths Probed," *Monroe News-Star*, October 29, 1936, 1; "Deaths of Three Family Members Are Mysterious," *The Bristol News Bulletin*, October 30, 1936, 1.

²² Daniel Bellware, "A Member of the Family," *Muscogiana* 28 no. 2 (Fall, 2017), 19-27; Virginia Carr, *The Lonely Hunter* (Athens, University of Georgia, 2003), xvi-xv.

²³ "New Coroner," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 8, 1944, 12.

²⁴ "Coroner Woodall's Condition Serious," *Columbus Ledger*, October 3, 1944, 2; W.C. Tucker, "Top O'The Morn, Coroner Passes," *Columbus Daily Enquirer*, October 7, 1944, 6.

**Zachariah Dewell (Duell);
Early Columbus Resident with Several Firsts:
First to Marry Here, First to Die Here (?) and First (oldest) Surviving Will
(1828)**

By

Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.

Zachariah Dewell's origins are as yet unknown, but due to the October 2016 re-discovery of his will, we know that he died in the fledgling city of Columbus in late February or early March 1828. Prior to being in what became Columbus, Dewell (Duell) lived in Cahawba (Cahaba), near present-day Selma, Dallas County, Alabama, some 130 miles away, where surviving newspapers report that he was a merchant in 1824 and 1825 and several newspaper notices would make it seem he was closing out and moving during 1825. Cahawba was the capital of Alabama from 1819 to 1826.¹

He appears to have moved to what became Columbus but then was known as "Wewoka," the official United States Post Office name, also called the "Falls of the Chattahoochee." It was there that he married on October 4, 1827, as quoted in the Macon newspaper, where Columbus and Muscogee County news was published until the advent of the *Columbus Enquirer* on May 29, 1828:²

At Watumpkah, the new village at the Falls of the Chattahoochy on the 4th inst., by Luther Blake, Esq., Mr. Zachariah Duell, Merchant, formerly of Cahawba, Alabama, to Miss Nancy Day, all of that place. [This is the first marriage that has been Solemnized at the new village since its settlement by the whites.]
Macon Weekly Telegraph, October 16, 1827

¹ Flora England, *Dallas County, Alabama Genealogical Records, Volume I* (Tuscaloosa, AL: Willo Publishing Co., 1963), 6. The author purchased a copy of this book on October 25, 2016, with the very short abstract of the Dewell will. The re-recorded copy and other accompanying information is cited in its entirety below. Obituaries for Mr. Dewell, cited later in this article, also substantiated his death in Columbus; *Cahawba Press and Alabama Intelligencer*, May 1, 1824 and May 14, 1825 (where he has groceries for sale); W. Stuart Harris, *Dead Towns of Alabama* (Tuscaloosa, Ala.: University of Alabama Press, 1977), 66-67.

² "Post Offices," *Augusta Chronicle and Georgia Advertiser*, November 13, 1827, 5 [3], col.1. See also W. C. Woodall, "Did You Know We Were Wewoka Before Columbus?" *Columbus Ledger*, February 18, 1971 (published one week before Woodall's death; copy received by the author on February 25, 1971 by mail). Woodall had research from the original U.S.P.O. records at the National Archives showing Wewoka was the name established on October 3, 1827; Elizabeth Evans Kilbourne, *Columbus, Georgia, Newspaper Clippings (Columbus Enquirer), Vol. I, 1832-1834* (Savannah, Ga: self-pub., 1997), 2 (issue is on microfilm at the University of Georgia and Columbus State University).

The brackets noting that this was the first marriage are in the original in the above newspaper, although not included in other announcements reprinted in other newspapers. Punctuation and spelling are also just as published in 1827.³

Luther Blake, who performed the service, had come to Columbus from Cahaba, Alabama, along with Dewell, and was a local Muscogee official. He later became well-known in Indian affairs and had a long career. Cahaba had been the capital of the new state of Alabama from 1819 until 1826 when the capital was moved to Tuscaloosa, after severe floods in 1825 inundated Cahaba. They would have been living there when the Marquis de LaFayette came through on his American tour, reaching Cahaba on April 5-6, 1825.⁴

One question arising from the marriage notice was whether or not the fledgling community was ever called Watumpkah (Wetumpka). The editors appear to have mistaken the town's original United States Post Office name of "Wewoka" for Wetumpka. Wewoka was chosen by settlers in June 1827, and certified by U. S. postal officials in Washington on October 3, 1827, just before the above marriage. The official post office name was not changed to "Columbus" until March 6, 1828, after the December 24, 1827, law passed by the Georgia General Assembly establishing the new county seat and naming it Columbus.⁵

Mr. Dewell's niece by marriage, Mrs. Rebecca Jane Day Whitely, returned to Columbus in her old age and was interviewed for a newspaper story. She shared her recollections of the early days of Columbus and her family's arrival there:

THE COLUMBUS LEDGER, Sunday, October 17, 1897:⁶

"This Lady was Here before Columbus was a Town"
Mrs. Wm. Leftwich Whitely, who was the First White Child to set Foot on Columbus Soil,
is in the City, and Talks Entertainingly of the Days Long Ago.

³ *Macon Weekly Telegraph*, October 16, 1827. The marriage appears in numerous other newspapers as well.

⁴ Anna M. G. Fry, *Memoirs of Old Cahaba* (Huntsville, Ala.: Strode Publishing Co., 1972), 11 (reprint of a ca. 1905 work). Blake became an Indian Agent and was involved in many U.S. government activities. See also *Alabama Journal*, March 7, 1829 for early evidence of this.; William W. Winn, *The Triumph of the Ecunnau-Nuxulgee – Land Speculators, George M. Troup, State Rights, and the Removal of the Creek Indians from Georgia and Alabama, 1825-38* (Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 2015), passim, with many references to Blake; Herbert J. Lewis, "Lafayette's Visit to Alabama," *Encyclopedia of Alabama*, <http://encyclopediaofalabama.com/article/h-2152>.

⁵ *Augusta Chronicle and Georgia Advertiser*, November 13, 1827; Woodall, "Did You Know We Were Wewoka Before Columbus?"; *Augusta Chronicle and Georgia Advertiser*, April 15, 1828 (referencing U.S.P.O. changes in March 1828); *Augusta Chronicle and Georgia Advertiser*, November 13, 1827; Woodall, "Did You Know We Were Wewoka Before Columbus?"; *Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, Passed in Milledgeville at an Annual Session in November and December 1827* (Milledgeville, GA: Camak & Ragland, 1827), 183-186. The act became law on December 24, 1827, when signed by the governor.

⁶ "This Lady was Here before Columbus was a Town," *Columbus Ledger*, October 17, 1897 (typed transcript by Dean Owens, a descendant of Mrs. William Leftwich Whitely, received by author April 23, 1986). No other sources of the *Ledger* are available except Margaret Laney Whitehead and Barbara Bogart, *City of Progress, A History of Columbus, Georgia* (Columbus, Ga.: Columbus Office Supply Co., 1978), 21-22.

"Columbus" shouted a conductor on an incoming train the other day. As the train swept around the curve and under the car shed the passengers looked out with interest upon the varied manufactories that greeted the eye on every hand. There was one passenger, a silver haired old lady, who looked with peculiar interest upon the broad streets, the big factories and the swiftly moving electric cars, and who noted closely the life and animation of the metropolis [sic] of western Georgia.

As she reclined upon her comfortable seat in the elegant coach, while the train was slowly and smoothly sweeping under the shed, the mind of the old lady must have reverted to a time when she entered what is now the city of Columbus, under vastly different circumstances. Well might she grow reminiscent for she had been here when the broad acres which now constitute a fair and prosperous city had been covered with virgin forests. Indeed, she was the first white child who ever set foot upon Columbus soil.

The lady was Mrs. Wm. Leftwich Whitely, nee Miss Rebecca Jane Day. She came here with her father in 1827, and was one of the first white persons to reside here. When she came to this spot nearly three-quarters of a century ago, the place had not been named, much less laid off. What now is block after block of stores, and manufactories, and residencies, was then but a primeval forest.

Mrs. Whitely, whose present home is Rome, Georgia, is nearly seventy-four years of age. She has a remarkable memory, and relates clearly and entertainingly many of the incidents in the early history of Columbus.

She is visiting the family of Mr. W.H. Gibson, on Rose Hill. Time has silvered her locks, and ever and anon makes her voice somewhat tremulous, but for one of her age she exhibits remarkable vigor, and her intellect is as clear and undimmed as it was in the long ago. She remembers names and dates distinctly, and even many of the minor details of her child life clearly photographed upon her brain.

In an interesting manner Mrs. Whitely told me of her trip to Columbus.

My father, David Day, served in the British War of 1812, said she: He was under General Jackson, and during their campaigns he had occasion to pass through this country. He was greatly impressed with its many advantages and when the war was over he resolved to locate here. He was then a resident [of] Tennessee. My mother did not much want to go down to Georgia, but she finally consented. It took some time for her to get used to the new country. We came through in a big wagon, my father and we four children.

There were no roads in these sections in those days. There were few Indian trails, but that was all. You have never seen an Indian Trail? Well, all are just alike. They are not more than a foot or two wide. If there are ten thousand Indians in line I suppose that they would all stick to these narrow trails in traveling. Our progress was necessarily slow, because in many places my father had to cut trees out of the way in order to get the wagon through. It was like making a road, almost, in some places. We were aiming for the head waters of the Chattahoochee.

When we arrived at this point I was the first child taken out of the wagon. My father used to remark because of this that I was the first white child that ever set foot on Columbus soil. We tented the first night under a big tree, on the spot where the Rankin House now stands. We tented there about ten days, when my father built a house. There were in all not more than a dozen or fifteen people here when we came. My brothers and sisters and I were the only children here then. There was only one store here when we came and that was run by Ben Tarver and Slack.

My father soon built a two-room house. There were no saw mills here in those days, and he had to make lumber in rather primitive fashion. The logs were cut up and then split into slabs which were used for weather boarding. All this was woods and swamp then. The country was very heavily timbered, in fact that [there?] was nothing but forest, no clearing having been made up to that time. This was but an Indian post. It wasn't named until several months after we came here. A few of the Indians resided down about what is now the south commons, but most of them lived across the river. They were in the habit, many of them, of hunting over on the Georgia side in the daytime.

I was three years five months old when we came here. My other sisters were very shy and timid. Somehow I wasn't afraid to run about the place and would frequently be away from our house all day. The men were very fond of playing with and petting me, I remember. My father and my uncle, James C. Holland started up the first blacksmith shop. I said that we were the only children here when we came--

well, there was another married man besides my father, Dr. Lang, but he had no children. The first marriage that ever occurred here was that of my aunt, Miss Nancy Day, to a Mr. Duell. The Duells will be well remembered by the older inhabitants.

My aunt married in October, 1827, and the following February her husband died. It was the first death here, so far as I know, among the whites. He was the first person buried in what is now Linwood Cemetery. The settlers saw that they must select a cemetery, and they thought that they had better decide upon a location at once. They accordingly selected the hill where is now Linwood cemetery. The first grave made there was dug on Sunday and in it my aunt's husband was buried. I went out to the cemetery the other day and visited the very grave where he rests. It is not marked by a monument, but I knew where it was.

There were no mills in this section when we came. Father had to haul his meal and flour all the way from [the] Flint river. Afterwards, when steamers were placed on the Chattahoochee he got his flour from Virginia, paying. \$24 a barrel for it. Calico was worth 50 cents a yard in those days. I well remember the day when the first steamers came to Columbus. I think that they came from the Mississippi River. They were exploring the Chattahoochee to see how far it was navigable. The coming of steamers created the biggest kind of excitement here.

The names of the two steamers impressed themselves indelibly upon my memory, and I will never forget them. They were the "Rob Emmett" and the "Stuvenville." Before the steamers left there was a big dance aboard them. There were between fifty and a hundred people here then, I suppose. People soon began coming in right along. The place was cleared up, the streets were laid, and the town began to grow. We lived here three years and then moved a few miles up the country, where we lived seven years. We then removed to Russell County.⁷

Mrs. Whitely's marriage to Mr. William Leftwich Whitely occurred in Alabama. Her husband died in 1866. She has several children, and a number of relatives in Montgomery county, Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Whitely removed to Rome, Georgia, in 1869, and has [sic] been residing there ever since, paying occasional visits to Columbus.⁸

Her daughter, Mrs. William Byrd, of Lee County, [Alabama] is the stepmother of Mrs. W. H. Gibson. Mr. Gibson's father and Mrs. Whitely were double cousins. Mrs. Whitely has one sister Mrs. Bain, residing in Montgomery. Mrs. Whitely will remain in Columbus several days longer yet.

The transformation that this section has witnessed since this venerable lady's first visit here is startling. Primeval forests have given way to rich fields, and the wilderness has blossomed as the rose. Prosperous towns now stand where the red man then hunted. The rich lands, then uncultivated, are now responding to the generous rays of a Southern sun and are yielding their share of cotton and other varied crops, while the tall corn stands in serried rank on many a hillside, telling far more eloquently than words, of the march of civilization and industry.

A silence that was then broken only by the falling of the Chattahoochee river has now given way to the sounds of factory bells and the whistle of the locomotive, and a busy, bustling city has succeeded the wilderness.

W.C.W.

⁷ Edward A. Mueller, *Perilous Journeys: A History of Steamboating on the Chattahoochee, Apalachicola, and Flint Rivers, 1828-1928* (Eufaula, AL.: Historic Chattahoochee Commission, 1990), 17, 20. The ship name was spelled "Steubenville" and reached Columbus on February 6, 1828. Edward Lloyd Thomas's field notes, "Notes Taken on the Survey of the Reservation at Cowetah Falls on the Chattahoochee River, and also the Town of Columbus, commencing 30th of January 1828," Georgia Archives, Surveyor General Field Notes, RG 3-3-25, Columbus and Coweta Falls Reserve; *Athenian* (Athens, Ga.), April 11, 1828, p. 3 (Georgia Archives microfilm), state clearly that the boat arrived on February 21, 1828, and he met the captain. Mueller states that the "Robert Emmett" arrived in February 1829.

⁸ Russell County Heritage Book Committee, *The Heritage of Russell County, Alabama* (Clanton, Ala.: Heritage Publishing Consultants, 2003), 558-559. See also their joint tombstone at Myrtle Hill Cemetery, Rome, Ga.: FindaGrave.com memorial 113439757.

Do these initials reflect W. C. Woodall (1878-1971), noted local historian and author? We assume they are in the original article, a copy of which has not yet been seen by the author. Woodall was a reporter for the *Ledger* starting in 1894 and went on to become a renowned local historian and author.⁹

Mrs. Whitely's account seems accurate enough, given what we know now about the founding and early days of Columbus. Her date of birth was January 22, 1824, and she states, above, that she was three years and five months at her arrival in Columbus. That would make it around June 1827. Her aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Day Andrews had their arrival date cited in her obituary in 1872 as February 22, 1827. So which is it? But if Mrs. Whitely was only 3 to 4 years old when these early events occurred, her memory had to be supplemented by family reminiscences. Despite her detailed and cheerful account, the Day family and others were legally squatters as the land in the Coweta Falls Reserve had not yet been surveyed, and divided into lots, let alone sold or auctioned to individuals. That did not happen until the summer of 1828, a full year after their arrival.¹⁰

Mrs. Whitely states, as noted, that her uncle, Mr. Dewell, was the first person buried in what is now Linwood Cemetery, the city's oldest white burial ground. The original cemetery was laid out in early 1828 by Edward Lloyd Thomas, the state surveyor hired to lay out the town and create its plan and lots. In his field notes for 1828 he records the death of his son Jacob T. H. Thomas, known as Truman Thomas, on March 26, 1828 and obituaries record the same date. Mr. Dewell's obituary, recording his death some three weeks before Truman Thomas, can be found back in Cahawba, Alabama, as well as other places, states his death occurred "At the Falls of the Chattahoochie, lately Mr. Zachariah Dewill, formerly of Cahawba, Alabama." This does not clarify the date of his death, only as "lately." Other versions of his obituary might be located, now that so many newspapers are digitized and online.¹¹

The will of Zachariah Dewell (Duell) was originally filed in Muscogee County's fledgling courthouse in Columbus on March 4, 1828. The original will book burned in the October 15, 1838 Muscogee County

⁹ W.C. Woodall Collection (MC 33), Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Ga., <https://archives.columbusstate.edu/findingaids/mc33.php>, indicates he was a reporter for the *Columbus Ledger* beginning in 1894.

¹⁰ *Heritage of Russell County*, 558-559, Findagrave.com Memorial 113439757; "Death of an Estimable Lady," *The Weekly Sun*, July 30, 1872, 2, col. 1; Steven B. Skipper, "The Original 1828 Survey of Columbus, Georgia," *Muscogiana*, 5, no. 3 & 4 (Fall 1994): 65-70. The author writes an interesting story, clearly based on original sources, but has no citations.

¹¹ Thomas, "Notes Taken on the Survey of the Reservation at Cowetah Falls on the Chattahoochee River,"; *Selma Courier*, April 10, 1828 (from card file at the Alabama Department of Archives and History); also in *Charleston Observer*, April 19, 1828, as abstracted in Brent H. Holcomb, *Marriage and Death Notices from the Charleston Observer, 1827-1845* (Greenville, S.C.: the A Press, 1980), 20.

Courthouse fire in Columbus, but was recently re-discovered by the author as being re-recorded in Dallas County, Alabama, where Dewell still had assets. It is reproduced here:¹²

(Georgia, Muscogee County) By the Court of Ordinary for said County To all wherein these presents shall come Greeting. Know that on the fourth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight the last will and testament of Zachariah Dewell late of said County dec'd. was exhibited in open court and in common form of law, proved and admitted to record a copy of which is hereunto annexed and administration of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of said deceased was granted to Ira Scot [sic] & E. E. Bissell the Executors in and by said will named and appointed they being first taken the oath and performed all other requisitions required by law they are by order of said court and by virtue of these presents legally authorized to administer the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased according to the terms (?) and effects of said the [sic] will and testament according to law and they are hereby required to renan [sic, should be return] a true and perfect inventory of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of the said deceased and appraised and returned to the court according to law and to render a true and correct account to the said court of their writings and doings yearly and every year until their administration is dully completed.

[LS] E. H. Hall, J.I.C. [Justice of the Inferior Court, where probate took place.] Witness the honorable Edward H. Hall one of the judges of the said Court of Ordinary this ninth day of June in the year of [our] Lord eighteen hundred and twenty eight. John Townsend, Clk, C.O. [Clerk of the Court of Ordinary.] This is to certify that John Townsend is Clerk of the court of Ordinary June 9, 1828. E. E. Hall, J.I.C.

[The Will]

(Georgia, Muscogee County) I Zachariah Dewell of the County and State aforesaid do make and ordain this to be my last will and testament. First I wish all my accounts, notes and debts due me of any kind collected and after they are collected I wish them and [the] rest of my property to go to the payment of my just debts. Secondly After all my debts are settled up justly I give and bequeath to my wife Nancy Dewell all my estate both real and personal in fee simple. Thirdly I appoint Ira Scot [sic] E.E. Bissell my executors to manage my Estate agreeable to my wish as above expressed. Witness my hand and seal this first day of Feb. One thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.

Witness Samuel E. Buckler, James C. Holland.
[Signed] Zachariah Dewell.

¹² *Southern Recorder*, October 23, 1838, states that the fire occurred on October 15. The fire is covered extensively in John H. Martin, comp., *Columbus, Geo., from its Selection as a "Trading Town in 1827, to its Partial Destruction by Wilson's Raid, in 1865," Part I – 1827 to 1846* (Columbus, Ga.: Thomas Gilbert, 1874), 95.

(Georgia, Muscogee County) Personally appeared before us two of the Justices of the Inferior Court of Muscogee County out of term time James C. Holland who being duly sworn saith that he is a subscribing witness to the above will and that he saw Zachariah Dewell subscribe the same as his last will and testament and that said Zachariah was of sound mind and disposing memory at the time of executing the same and that this deponent saw Samuel E. Buckler sign the same as witness. Sworn to and subscribed before us this 4th day of March 1828.

W. J. Franks, J.I.C., Edwin E. Bissell, J.I.C.

This is to Certify that the above is a true copy taken from the records this 7th day of June 1828. John Townsend, Clk. Rec'd. into office and recorded the 21st day of August 1828. J. D. Craig, Clerk. [of the court in Dallas County, Alabama, where the will was copied as certified from Muscogee County.]¹³

The next bit of information on Dewell appears first in the *Georgia Messenger* in Macon in March and later in the first issue of the *Columbus Enquirer*, May 29, 1828. The executors scheduled an estate auction for June 3, 1828 at the courthouse in Columbus. As part of that sale, the executors would be selling dry goods, groceries, crockery-ware, household and kitchen furniture, and a Jersey wagon. This is similar to what he sold in Cahawba, Alabama, and mentioned in the newspaper there.¹⁴

In summary, then:

1. Zachariah Dewell and Nancy Day were the first couple married in what became Columbus. The newspaper said so at the time, their niece confirmed it seventy years later.
2. Was Dewell the first person to be buried in the City Cemetery, now known as Linwood Cemetery? His niece said his grave was dug on a Sunday, which would have been at the latest March 2, 1828, because he had to be dead by Tuesday, March 4, 1828 when his will was exhibited at the Muscogee County Courthouse to be probated. So it is possible that Dewell had died on Saturday, March 1, 1828. The cemetery had been located on the plan by Edward Lloyd Thomas in February 1828, only a few weeks before Dewell died, but was not surveyed until April.

Truman Thomas, long venerated as the first person buried in Linwood Cemetery, died at 5:30 p.m. on March 26, 1828, per his own father's field notes and confirmed by obituaries. But the father's field notes for March 27 states: "Attended to the Interment of my departed son" but he does not indicate where he buried his son. But since his plan for the town had a cemetery already designated, but not yet surveyed, he surely would have chosen that spot. Clearly Dewell

¹³ *Dallas County, Alabama, Orphans Court Minutes, Volume B* (pp. 69-70), <https://www.familysearch.org/>.

¹⁴ Kilbourne, *Columbus Enquirer*, Vol. I, 2 (issue is on microfilm at the University of Georgia and Columbus State University); "Executor's Sale," *Georgia Messenger*, March 31, 1828. Below it is the notice for debtors to come forward with any claim against the estate; *Cahawba Press and Alabama Intelligencer*, May 1, 1824 and May 14, 1825.

died at least three weeks before Truman Thomas. Truman Thomas was honored with a cenotaph at Linwood Cemetery, dedicated in 2010, giving his date of death as March 26.¹⁵

3. Dewell's will, exhibited in court on March 4, 1828, and recently re-discovered, is the oldest known will for Muscogee County to survive, and will remain in that position barring future discoveries or other re-recordings in places yet unknown.
4. The Rest of the Story: What became of his widow, Mrs. Nancy Day Dewell? She had to be quite young and was widowed after only five months of marriage. Census records put her date of birth at c. 1808 or 1811. If 1808, she would have been 19 when she married in 1827. Cursory research has shown that after thirty years of widowhood in Columbus, she moved to Atlanta by 1857, and was a dress maker. She remarried in 1859 to Rev. Isaac Green Mitchell (1810-1881), minister in the Methodist Protestant faith, who was the great-grandfather of Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone With The Wind* (1936). Rev. Mitchell died in 1881. Nancy survived him and is in the *Atlanta City Directory* as late as 1889, the same year she sold her property in downtown Atlanta.¹⁶ At this writing, her date of death and place of burial are unknown.¹⁷
5. Relatives/Descendants: The Day family of Mrs. Dewell/Mitchell and Mrs. Whitely have many descendants who remain in the Columbus area. Mrs. Dewell's sister Elizabeth Day married in 1828 Samuel R. Andrews in Columbus and they are the ancestors of Mote W. Andrews, Jr. of Columbus and many others. Mrs. Whitely's descendants include the late Mrs. John R. Kinnett, Sr. (Mildred Frazer)'s descendants and many others.

¹⁵ Mary Bondurant Warren and Sarah Fleming White, *Marriages and Deaths, 1820-1830* (Danielsville, Ga.: Heritage Papers, 1972), 125, cites the *Athenian*, April 11, 1828, stating he died on March 26, 1828. The cenotaph at Linwood Cemetery was dedicated in May 2010; F. Clason Kyle, 'Truman Thomas: The First Person Interred at Linwood Cemetery,' *Muscogiana*, 21, no. 3 (Spring 2010): 17-21; see "Notes Taken on the Survey of the Reservation at Cowetah Falls," 35-36.

¹⁶ *Fulton County, Ga., Tax Digest for 1889* (Georgia Archives and microfilm at the Atlanta History Center). She is shown with \$500 worth of land. Her last appearance in the Atlanta City Directories is also for 1889. See also *Fulton County, Georgia, Deed Book N3* (1879-1891), p. 308, FamilySearch.org. The deed is signed June 14, 1889.

¹⁷ Census records for Nancy Dewell Mitchell 1850 (Muscogee County, Ga.) and 1860-1880 (Fulton County, Ga.), Ancestry.com; Patti Andrews, email messages to the author, March 3-4, 2020. Mrs. Andrews, who has done extensive work on this family, noted that she is not listed properly on various Day family trees on Ancestry.com or in published family history books; "List of Letters," *Atlanta Daily Intelligencer and Examiner*, December 18, 1857, with letters waiting at the post office for Mrs. N. Z. Dewell; *Williams' Atlanta City Directory, City Guide, Vol. 1, 1859-1860* (Atlanta: M. Lynch, 1859), 75, 153 (on microfiche at the Georgia Archives); *Fulton County, Georgia Marriages Book A* (p. 253): Married December 22, 1859; Handwritten paginated manuscript, pages 51-52, Folder 2, A. Stephens Mitchell Genealogy Collection, Georgia Archives. It states, referencing Rev. Isaac G. Mitchell: "he married a third time...Mrs. Nancy Z. Dewell, a widow, who survived him without issue and removed to Alabama and died about 1895."

Columbus to Africa, Part II: A List of Local African Americans Who Emigrated to Liberia in the Spring of 1868

By Callie B. McGinnis; Transcription by Daniel B. Olds

Beginning in 1822, an organization called the American Colonization Society (ACS) began transporting black Americans to the newly established colony of Liberia on the west coast of Africa. From then until 1904, roughly 15,000 individuals relocated from the United States to Liberia through the ACS. Of that number, about 500 of them, transported mainly in 1867 and 1868, were from Columbus, Georgia. A list of that first group of emigrants (235 in number), was included in the last issue of *Muscogiana*. They departed on November 18, 1867, on the *Golconda*, from Charleston, South Carolina. This article contains the names of the remaining Columbus residents, 204 of whom departed on May 14, 1868, along with a few other listings for other miscellaneous departures before and after 1868.¹⁸

On May 17, 1868, an Augusta, Georgia newspaper carried the following article:¹⁹

DEPARTURE OF THE GOLCONDA.—This superior ship, owned by the American Colonization Society, went to sea yesterday afternoon, with 451 emigrants for Liberia. Of these, 12 were from this city, 5 from Augusta, 21 from Sparta, 37 from Marion, Twiggs county, and 204 from Columbus, Georgia; 12 from Mobile, and 39 from Eufaula, Alabama; 42 from Columbus, Miss.; 65 from Ridge, South Carolina; and 9 from Nashville, Tennessee. They have chosen as their places of settlement in the African Republic—Monrovia, 68; Cape Palmas, 90, and Bassa, 292.

Most of the men are farmers and mechanics, and are well supplied with agricultural implements and tools. Turning lathes and the requisite machinery for grist and saw mills, for which ample water power abounds in Liberia, were taken by some of the well-to-do of them. Sewing machines were not forgotten by the women. Our stores were patronized by the people for many of these articles; others were brought by them. Free transportation in the ship was given them by the Society, and such articles tending to promote the success of the emigrants and the Republic to which they go.

A fair proportion of the company can read, and some can read and write. The communicants of churches are remarkably numerous.—There are five licensed ministers of the Baptist and Methodist denominations.

The reception and embarkation of the people was conducted by Mr. Wm. Coppinger, Corresponding Secretary of the American Colonization Society, to whom we are indebted for much of the above information.

Emigration to Liberia is greatly on the increase among the people of color. Had the Society the means thousands instead of hundreds would be glad to remove to the prosperous home of their race on their own ancestral continent.—*Savannah News & Herald*, 15th.

¹⁸ Callie B. McGinnis and Daniel B. Olds, "Columbus to Africa: A List of Local African Americans who Immigrated to Liberia In the Fall of 1867," *Muscogiana*, 30, no. 2 (Fall 2019), p. 1.

¹⁹ *Tri-weekly Constitutionalist* (Augusta, Ga.), May 17, 1868, Image 4.

In 1868, all of the 204 Columbus residents were headed for Bexley, situated in Grand Bassa County, Liberia. This settlement is located about sixty miles slightly southeast of Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, situated on the St. John's River.



Detail of map of Liberia. Compiled from data on file in the office of the American Colonization Society, under the direction of the Rev. W. McLain, Sec., by R. Coyle. Baltimore: E. Weber & Co., 1845. Digitized map retrieved courtesy of Michigan State University Libraries at https://lib.msu.edu/branches/map/MSU-Scanned/Africa/326_A-1845_I/.

Bexley had been named in honor of Nicholas Vansittart, first Baron of Bexley (England), who lived from 1766 to 1851. A politician, Vansittart served as Chancellor of Exchequer from 1812 till 1822. Lord Bexley was a "staunch friend" of the abolition of the slave trade; he was also very supportive of foreign missionary work.²⁰ Vansittart was an early benefactor of Kenyon College, founded as the Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Ohio. He was also a Vice President (one of many) of the American Colonization Society.²¹

The Columbus group's relocation to Liberia in 1868 was encouraged, orchestrated, and supported by the American Colonization Society. They also received encouragement from a few members of the Columbus contingent that had emigrated in spring of 1867. Arthur Shivers, a free man of color before 1865 who had emigrated from Columbus in 1867, wrote back to his friends and acquaintances in Columbus, painting a rosy picture of life in his new homeland and encouraging others to join him. After describing the wide variety of fruits and vegetables grown in Liberia, he urged the reader to join him in his new homeland – where, with a bit of hard work, men have become rich:²²

²⁰ "Vansittart, Nicholas," *The History of Parliament*, accessed March 8, 2020, <http://www.histparl.ac.uk/volume/1790-1820/member/vansittart-nicholas-1766-1851>

²¹ "Kenyon college, Gambier, Ohio," *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church*; accessed March 8, 2020, <https://episcopalchurch.org/library/glossary/kenyon-college-gambier-ohio>; *The African Repository and Colonial Journal*, 20, no. 1, 1844, accessed March 8, 2020, <http://books.google.com>.

²² Frank Simpson, Jr., *Federal Union* (Milledgeville, GA), November 12, 1867, 1; Henry Lewis, *The Weekly Sun* (Columbus, GA), March 24, 1868, 2; and Nelson Pierce, *The Weekly Sun* (Columbus, GA), March 31, 1868, 3, all

What I tell you is true, and you may rely upon it. I believe this is the land for the colored race. Here you may have true liberty. I believe the Lord intended we should live and die in this land.— It is my candid opinion that you would all do well to come to this country. You will then have rest, and with industry and enterprise, you can make a living here as well as you can in any country. The land is good, and only wants cultivation. I have seen what the land will do, not being cultivated; and of course if the land was cultivated as it should be, it would yield the better. Besides that, there are men here who came to this country, and by industry and enterprise have become well to do.

Shivers' "Letter from Liberia," which appeared in the *Newnan Herald*, April 4, 1868

Shivers's letter and others like it illustrate an example of a "pull factor" as a reason for immigration. Newly-settled Liberian emigrants from Columbus wanted their friends and families to join them in their pioneering adventure. However, there were also some "push factors," one of which was the treatment of the freedmen in Columbus after the end of the Civil War.²³

A letter from Richard Hudson, a Columbus black man who emigrated in 1868 with the second group of emigrants, wrote in the newspaper about the poor treatment he had received prior to his departure – from a man he thought was a "real friend of the negroes." His run-in was with Dr. Thomas S. Tuggle, a Columbus physician who seemed happy to treat Hudson and his wife, both of whom were very ill, without much concern for getting paid. According to Hudson, the doctor even provided the medicine they needed, warning him not to get medicine from other doctors in town as it would be tainted with poison! Once the Hudsons had recovered, Richard went to see Dr. Tuggle to inform him that he was headed for Liberia and was planning to pay his bill in the near future, before he left town. Much to his surprise, that very day, when he returned home, Richard found a bailiff who was there to seize his property to pay off the debt. Hudson ended his letter with the following statement: "So, with various factors compelling their relocation to Africa, the party of 204 Columbus residents, children and adults, left

accessed March 8, 2020, <http://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>; 1860 U. S. Census, Muscogee County, Georgia, population schedule, Upper Town, Columbus Post Office, p. 81 (388 penned), dwelling 625, family 625, Arthur Shivers; accessed March 9, 2020, <http://www.ancestry.com>; "Letter from Liberia," *Newnan Herald* (Newnan, Ga), April 4, 1868, Image 4, accessed March 9, 2020, <http://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>.

²³ For more information on push and pull factors in immigration, see "Push and Pull Factors," National Park Service, accessed March 9, 2010, <https://www.nps.gov/teachers/classrooms/push-and-pull-factors.htm>.

the port of Savannah on May 14, 1868 on the *Golconda*, headed for Bexley, Grand Bassa County, Liberia.”²⁴

I do not believe that any democratic gentleman would have treated me as Dr. Tuggle did, and am satisfied that I could have borrowed of them any reasonable amount of money required to pay my expenses. I do not believe that Dr. Tuggle, or any of them acting with him, are friends to the negroes—they only tell them so to use them for their own purposes—and I am sorry that I have not the time and opportunity to see my colored people and to exhort them to be no longer deceived by the men who have betrayed them and caused them to go against their real friends.’’

Portion of article entitled “The Colored Man’s Friend,” which appeared in the Columbus *Weekly Sun*, May 5, 1868

LIST OF EMIGRANTS FOR LIBERIA

By the Ship *Golconda*, From Savannah, Georgia, May 14, 1868²⁵

No.	Last	First	Middle	Age	Occupation	Education	Religion
1	Monroe	Philip	L.	27	Painter	Read/Write	Baptist
2	Monroe	Victoria		26		Read	Methodist
3	Monroe	Philip	L. Jr.	2			
4	Monroe	Mary	Frances	6 mo			
5	Lowe	Marion		19		Read/Write	Methodist
6	Lowe	Missouri		16		Read/Write	
7	Bell	Dora		34		Read/Write	Methodist
8	Cook	Judge		53	Minister	Read	Baptist

²⁴ “The Colored Man’s Friend,” *The Weekly Sun* (Columbus, GA), May 5, 1868, Image 1, accessed March 9, 2020, <http://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>; Ibid. Note: On page 2 of the same newspaper, there is a letter written by N.H. Fogarty, who was responsible for Dr. Tuggle’s books and accounts. He explained that he had summoned the bailiff on Dr. Tuggle’s behalf. He also said that most of what Hudson said was untrue.

²⁵ African Repository, and Colonial Journal (ARCJ), 46 (June 1868): 173-177, accessed March 10, 2020, [https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.\\$b541076&view=1up&seq=535](https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.$b541076&view=1up&seq=535).

9	Cook	Harriet	49			Baptist
10	Staples	Sarah	28			Baptist
11	Staples	Hattie	12			
12	Staples	Robert	8			
13	Staples	James	3			
14	Cook	Charity	24			
15	Cook	David	1			
16	Cook	Laura	22			Baptist
17	Cook	Judge Jr.	20		Read	
18	Cook	Frank	18		Read	
19	Cook	Chloe	14		Read	
20	Cook	Joseph	13		Read	
21	Cook	Joshua	10		Read	
22	Hudson	Richard	49	Farmer	Read/Write	Baptist
23	Hudson	June	23		Read/Write	Baptist
24	Hunter	Moses	14		Read/Write	
25	Giddings	Augustus	48	Carpenter	Read	
26	Giddings	Mary	26		Read	
27	Giddings	Francis	21		Read	
28	Giddings	Catharine	17		Read	
29	Giddings	Augustus	9			
30	Giddings	Emmet D.	7			
31	Giddings	Julia Ann	6			
32	Giddings	Sherman	4			
33	Giddings	William	2			
34	Porter	Stephan	55	Carpenter	Read	
35	Porter	Ether	58			Methodist

36	Porter	Enolds	17		Read/Write	
37	Donald	David	44	Farmer		Baptist
38	Donald	Judy	40			Baptist
39	Donald	Susan Jane	16			
40	Donald	Silvira	13			
41	Donald	Thomas	12			
42	Donald	James Henry	3			
43	Donald	Mary	60			
44	Donald	Joseph	13		Read	
45	Donald	Robert	11			
46	Lewis	Nelly	55			
47	Lewis	Nathan	39	Carpenter		Methodist
48	Lewis	Sarah	38			Methodist
49	Lewis	Silla	21			
50	Lewis	Nicholas	11			
51	Lewis	George	9			
52	Lewis	Aleck	7			
53	Lewis	Albert	5			
54	Lewis	Mary	3			
55	Miller	Arthur	32	Blacksmith	Read	Baptist
56	Miller	Emily	21			
57	Miller	Mary Ann	18 mo			
58	Banks	Richard	49	Carpenter		Methodist
59	Banks	Eliza	45			Methodist
60	Parker	Spencer	29	Farmer		
61	Parker	Jinnie	28			
62	Parker	Louisa	7			

63	Parker	William	5			
64	Parker	Isaac	4			
65	Parker	Winter	3			
66	Lewis	Jay	20			
67	Harris	Henry	34	Engineer		
68	Harris	Caroline	33			
69	Harris	James	17			
70	Harris	Henry	9			
71	Harris	Jinnie	8			
72	Harris	Phoebe	6			
73	Harris	Sallie	4			
74	Harris	Liberia	2 wk			
75	Moore	Phoebe	51			Baptist
76	Magee	James	46	Farmer	Read	Baptist
77	Magee	Amy	38			
78	Magee	Sallie	19		Read	
79	Magee	John	15		Read	
80	Magee	George	13		Read	
81	Magee	Willis	8		Read	
82	Magee	Mary	5		Read	
83	Magee	Maria	3			
84	Magee	Sinah	2			
85	Frazier	Micajah	87	Farmer		Baptist
86	Frazier	Henderson	18	Farmer	Read	
87	Magee	Lucinda	56			
88	Crawford	John	23	Farmer		Methodist
89	Crawford	Elizabeth	25			Baptist

90	Clark	William	38	Carpenter	Read/Write	Baptist
91	Clark	Margaret	38			
92	Clark	Margaret	8			
93	Ficklin	Charles	42	Farmer		
94	Ficklin	Rhoda	35			
95	Ficklin	Octavia	16			
96	Ficklin	Armstead	14			
97	Ficklin	Mary	12			
98	Ficklin	Charity	10			
99	Ficklin	Gabriel	8			
100	Wright	Madison	38	Blacksmith		Baptist
101	Wright	Rosa	32			
102	Wright	Julia	15		Read	
103	Wright	Jacob	12			
104	Lewis	Anthony	35	Farmer		Methodist
105	Lewis	Harriet	48			Methodist
106	Gray	Edmond	18	Farmer	Read	
107	Gray	Primers	16			
108	Randall	George	12			
109	Gaston	Benjamin	45	Farmer	Read	Baptist
110	Gaston	Martha	39		Read	Baptist
111	Gaston	Emma	17		Read/Write	
112	Sample	Aleck	23	Barber		Baptist
113	Green	Charles	23	Farmer	Read/Write	Baptist
114	Green	Rose	21			Baptist
115	Green	Fanny	1			
116	Green	Jellah	8			

117	Lewis	Floyd	37	Gardener		
118	Lewis	Sarah	16			
119	Lewis	Georgiana	1			
120	Munroe	Alexander	28	Farmer	Read	Baptist
121	Munroe	Phoebe	19		Read/Write	Baptist
122	Munroe	James	3			
123	Munroe	Abraham L.	18mo			
124	Munroe	Jane	8 mos			
125	Jackson	Mimi	62		Read	Baptist
126	Adams	Martha	70			Baptist
127	Barfield	Louisa	23			Baptist
128	Barfield	Wesley	7			
129	Payne	Sandy	37	Farmer	Read	Baptist
130	Payne	Louisa	32			Methodist
131	Payne	Frederick	15			Baptist
132	Payne	Harry	13		Read	
133	Payne	Augustus	11		Read	
134	Payne	Sandy	9			
135	Payne	Joseph	7			
136	Payne	George	3			
137	Payne	Franklin	2			
138	Mitchell	Sarah	50			Baptist
139	Mitchell	Laura	15		Read/Write	
140	Mitchell	Richard	4			
141	Creighton	Mollie	25			Baptist
142	Creighton	Robert	18 mo			
143	Mitchell	Burrell	27	Blacksmith	Read/Write	Baptist

144	Mitchell	Jinnie	16		Read	
145	Mitchell	Crecy	11			
146	Mitchell	Mitchell	6			
147	Mitchell	Louisa	4			
148	Jackson	James	41	Blacksmith		Baptist
149	Fontaine	Nancy	40			Baptist
150	Fontaine	Daniel	17		Read	Baptist
151	Fontaine	Mary	14		Read	Baptist
152	Fontaine	Josiah	12			
153	Markham	Frank	20	Carpenter		
154	Tharp	Anderson	29	Farmer	Read	
155	Tharp	Jane	30			
156	Tharp	James	13			
157	Tharp	Belle	11			
158	Tharp	Nora	8			
159	Tharp	Frank	6			
160	Tharp	Mary	4			
161	Tharp	Lizzie	3			
162	Tharp	Susan	6 mo			
163	Tharp	George	20	Farmer		
164	Tharp	Nora	16			
165	Dade	Stephen	47	Farmer	Read/Write	Baptist
166	Dade	Elizabeth	35			
167	Dade	Stephen	16		Read	
168	Dade	Nancy	9			
169	Dade	Sallie	7			
170	Clark	James	45	Farmer	Read	Baptist

171	Fleming	Riley	45	Blacksmith		
172	Fleming	Emma	19			
173	Fleming	Levi	13			
174	Fleming	Henry	10			
175	Fleming	Rosa	7			
176	Fleming	James	4			
177	Fleming	Henry	1			
178	Hill	Henry	24	Farmer	Read/Write	
179	Avery	Tony	40	Farmer		Methodist
180	Avery	Rebecca	30			
181	Avery	Cornelius	20	Farmer		
182	Avery	Sanders	18	Farmer		
183	Avery	Frances	16			Methodist
184	Avery	Sarah	14			
185	Avery	Laura	12			
186	Avery	Henrietta	10			
187	Avery	Lankin	2			
188	Grant	Anthony	23	Farmer		
189	Grant	Cherry	22			
190	Grant	Viney	1			
191	Green	Robert	31	Farmer		
192	Green	Anna	22			
193	Green	Joseph	7			
194	Green	Lawson	70	Farmer	Read	
195	Green	Millie	60			Baptist
196	Holmes	Abraham	37	Farmer		
197	Holmes	Clarissa	32		Read	Methodist

198	Holmes	Lena	17			
199	Holmes	Wiley	12			
200	Washington	Frank	19	Farmer	Read	Baptist
201	Davenport	Joseph	27	Laborer	Read	
202	Davenport	Lucinda	25		Read	
203	Davenport	Camilla	7			
204	Dawson	William	23	Farmer		

An age break-down of this contingent reveals the following groups:

- 55 men, age 16 and older
- 56 women, age 16 and older
- 53 boys, age 15 and under
- 40 girls, age 15 and older

The oldest emigrant was a Micajah Frazier, who was 87; the youngest was a newborn girl, whose parents, Henry and Caroline Harris, had aptly named her "Liberia." Many of the group's members were literate: 41 of the adults and older children could read; 16 could read and write. Of the men, 28 were farmers, six were carpenters and five were blacksmiths. There was also one painter, one minister, one engineer, one barber, one gardener and one laborer. In summary, then, the May 14, 1868 voyage of the *Golconda*, transported 204 Columbus residents to Liberia. That figure, added to the 235 brought over in November 1867 (listed in first installment of this article, published fall 2019), results in a total of 439. However, before and after the Civil War, there were a number of other smaller emigrations that expands that number.

The first recorded instance of a Columbus black venturing to Liberia under the auspices of the ACS happened before the Civil War. On December 16, 1853, Matthew Hill, a free man of color from Columbus, sailed from the port of Savannah on the *Brig. General Pierce*. He was headed for Sinou, Liberia. Then, three years later, in July 1856, the ship *Elvira Owen*, departed Tybee Island, Georgia, with 321 passengers, bound for Liberia. There were two Columbus emigrants on board, presumably free people of color. Unfortunately their names were not recorded.²⁶

²⁶ *African Repository, and Colonial Journal (ARCJ)*, 30 (February 1854): 56, accessed March 10, 2020, [https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.\\$b541069&view=1up&seq=458](https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.$b541069&view=1up&seq=458); *ARCJ*, 32 (July 1856): 193-194, accessed March 10, 2020, [https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.\\$b541070&view=1up&seq=589](https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.$b541070&view=1up&seq=589).

After the Civil War, the first ACS-sponsored contingent to venture to Liberia did so on May 30, 1867, sailing on the *Golconda* from Charleston. The group, also consisting of 321 persons, included seven members of a Simpson family from Columbus, and a twenty-one year-old Columbus man named Alfred Howard:²⁷

Simpson	John F.	52	Farmer	Read
Simpson	Sarah D.	25		Read
Simpson	Joseph D.	5		
Simpson	Gabriel D.	18 mo		
Simpson	Francis	25	Farmer	Read/Write
Simpson	Maria	24		
Simpson	Elizabeth	5		
Howard	Alfred	21	Farmer	

The last group of Columbus/Liberian emigrants were members of the Jeremiah Edwards family. They sailed on November 1, 1890, from the port of New York on the *Bark Liberia*. The family of seven consisted of Jeremiah, a 45-year-old farmer (Baptist); his wife Ollie, age 37 (also Baptist); and their five children: Susan, 15; Fannie, 13; Joseph, 9; Stephen, 7; and George, 3. There were only two other passengers on that trip: a 39-year-old painter from Wisconsin and a 38-year-old minister from Minnesota. The 1890 voyage of the Edwards family ended the ACS's transport of Columbus residents to Liberia. A few emigrants trickled over from other locations after that, but in 1904, the ACS shut down.²⁸

All in all, from 1853 till 1890, 457 Columbus black residents emigrated to Liberia under the auspices of the American Colonization Society. Most stayed there and raised their families; a few returned. The stories of the Columbus emigrants are more fully chronicled in Matthew McDaniel's *Emigration to Liberia from the Chattahoochee Valley of Georgia and Alabama, 1853 – 1903* (Montgomery, AL: NewSouth Books, 2013).

²⁷ *ARCJ*, 43 (July 1857): 210, accessed March 10, 2020, [https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.\\$b541070&view=1up&seq=589](https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.$b541070&view=1up&seq=589).

²⁸ Matthew F. McDaniel, "Emigration to Liberia from the Chattahoochee Valley of Georgia and Alabama, 1853 – 1903" (master's thesis, Louisiana State University, 2007), accessed March 11, 2020, https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/gradschool_theses/2818/.

**Columbus City Cemeteries Records:
Linwood, Porterdale, East Porterdale and Riverdale
1866 - 2000**

**Location Guide to Digitized Images
available at Familysearch.org**

**Compiled by Callie B. McGinnis
February 2020**

Linwood Cemetery

A.K.A. as "City Cemetery" before 1890, at which time Riverdale Cemetery was established. Officially named "Linwood Cemetery" in 1894.

Linwood Cemetery Card File (1866 – 2000)

These cards were copied from the Interment Books. The sexton who started this project also frequently listed graves for individuals buried before 1866 who had tombstones. Cards are filed alphabetically; some entries have a newspaper obituary on back of card. Originals in Historic Linwood Foundation Office, Linwood Cemetery.

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, Abbott - Bowen, Annie. Film #2200120:
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-5Q8J-C?mode=g&cat=970768>

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, Bowen, Annie (repeated) - Downing, Hamilton F. Film #2200121: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-K9SG-P?mode=g&cat=970768>

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, Downing, Hamilton F. (repeated) - Houston, Mary L. Film #2200122: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-2Y5K?mode=g&cat=970768>

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, Houston, Mary L. (repeated) - McAllister, W.J. Film #2200123: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-V397-Q?mode=g&cat=970768>

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, McAllister, W.J. (repeated) - Price, J.M. Film #2200124: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-RSWK-L?mode=g&cat=970768>

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, Price, J.M. (repeated) - Voight, Wm. S. Film #2200282: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-RS3F-2?mode=g&cat=970768>

Linwood Cemetery card file ca. 1866-2000, Wachendorff, Edward Alexander - Zipperer, Norwood R. Film# 2200283: Image 8 – 1133: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C397-QS9V-H?i=7&cat=970768>

Linwood Interment Books (1866 – 2000)

Entries are listed chronologically by date of burial. Entries in these book would have been posted shortly after date of burial. Originals in Sexton's Office, Riverdale Cemetery.

10/01/1866 – 07/29/1879 Film #2196985: Image 17 – 137
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KCSW?i=16&cat=970768>

08/01/1879 – 03/28/1888 Film #2196985: Image 214 – Image 284
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-K4BY?i=213&cat=970768>

04/02/1888 – 06/30/1894 Film #2196985: Image 381 (p.1) – Image 429 (p.96)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KWN8?i=380&cat=970768>
(NOTE: Burials for July 1894 missing)

08/02/1894 – 12/30/1909 Film #2196985: Image 572 – Image 708
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KZJ6?i=571&cat=970768>

01/03/1910 – 10/24/1923 Film #2196985: Image 432 (p.100) – Image 539 (p.____)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-K4HV?i=431&cat=970768>

11/01/1923 Film #2196985: Image 721 (p.1) (Mrs H.B. Crawford)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-K45J?i=720&cat=970768>

11/01/1923 – 02/28/1924 Film #2196985: Image 540
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-K41D?i=539&cat=970768>

01/01/1924 – 09/27/1971 Film #2196985: Image 722 (p.2) Image 874 (p.148)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KC1N?i=721&cat=970768>
(Note: Jan. & Feb 1924 duplicated).

10/20/1971 – 04/21/2000 Film #2196986: Image 7 (p.149) - Image 37 (P.179)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53FT-9?i=6&cat=970768>

Linwood Miscellaneous Records

First Sale of Lots, 1845 (Listed in loose alphabetical order with lot numbers, no dates) Film # 008616592: Image 205; Image 239 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53ZT-S?i=204&cat=970768>

Notes: Image 208: S.H. Munro to Lucretia Munro 1903, note about cemetery being 47 feet higher than Post Office; Image 220: D.C. Herring note about his lots; Image 239: Ownership of Lynch lots in Section 2.

[List of Confederate Soldiers in Linwood Cemetery] (by street) Film # 008616592: Image 252 (p. 12) – Image 266 (p.37) [https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53X6-M?i=251&cat=Image+266+\(p.+37\)970768](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53X6-M?i=251&cat=Image+266+(p.+37)970768)

[List of Confederate Soldiers in Linwood Cemetery] (by last name) Film # 008616592: Image 268 (p. 41) – Image 297 (p. 87) [https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-536P-D?i=267&cat=Image+266+\(p.+37\)970768](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-536P-D?i=267&cat=Image+266+(p.+37)970768)

List of CSA Vets in Old Cemetery (Partial) (by last name) Film # 008616592: Image 298 (p.89) – Image 299 (p.90) [https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-538B-K?i=297&cat=Image+266+\(p.+37\)970768](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-538B-K?i=297&cat=Image+266+(p.+37)970768)

City Light Guards Plot C.S.A. (By last name) Film # 008616592: Image 300 (p.97) Image 301 (p.98)
[https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53XC-F?i=299&cat=Image+266+\(p.+37\)970768](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53XC-F?i=299&cat=Image+266+(p.+37)970768)

Columbus Guards C.S.A. S.E. Corner (By last name) Film # 008616592: Image 301 (p.99) – Image 303 (p.103) [https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-5382-2?i=300&cat=Image+266+\(p.+37\)970768](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-5382-2?i=300&cat=Image+266+(p.+37)970768)

[List of Railroad Employees? Central of Georgia? 1933], Film # 008616592: Image 246 – Image 249 [https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53ZN-X?i=245&cat=Image 266 \(p. 37\)970768](https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53ZN-X?i=245&cat=Image 266 (p. 37)970768)

Perpetual Care Lots Section 1 – since 03/29/1950 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 41 – Image 72 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53CJ-J?i=46&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section 2, Lot 504; Lot 1252 – since 03/29/1950 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 73 – Image 121 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53Z9-2?i=72&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section A2, includes Lot 1005 ½ - 1218 – since 03/29/1959 (“South side of Section 2 near Fence”) (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 122 – Image 123 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53XP-G?i=121&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section A, Lot 1 – 231 – since 03/29/1959 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 124 – Image 139 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53CL-Z?i=123&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section B, Lot 1 – 4 – since 03/29/1959 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 140 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53Z1-B?i=139&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section C, Lot 31 – 907 – since 03/29/1959 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 142 – Image 168 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-5385-5?i=141&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section D, Lot 1 – 44 – since 03/29/1959 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 170 – Image 172 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53C1-8?i=169&cat=970768>

Perpetual Care Lots Section PC, Lot 290 – 295, 1950-1954 (Listed by Lot number – with Name of owner to side) Film # 008616592: Image 199 & 200 (repeat) <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-538R-G?i=198&cat=970768>

Porterdale and East Porterdale Cemeteries

Porterdale, also known as the Colored Cemetery, Old Portdale, O.P., or West Porterdale, is a historically black cemetery dating back to the early 1800s. East Porterdale appears to have been used beginning in 1946 and is also historically black.

Colored Cemetery Interment Books (1871 – 1944)

Entries are listed chronologically by date of burial. Originals are at Riverdale (Sexton’s Office).

04/01/1871 – 03/31/1877 Film #2196985: Image 157 – 200 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KHM3?i=156&cat=970768>

04/02/1877 – 02/25/1879 Film #2196985: Image 143 – 156
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KZLL?i=142&cat=970768>

03/01/1879 – 06/30/1879 (reverse order) Film #2196985: Image 139 – 142
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KWRL?i=137&cat=970768>

07/02/1879 – 03/30/1888 Film #2196985: Image 287 – Image 366
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KZW9?i=286&cat=970768>

04/03/1888 – 12/31/1890 Film #2196985: Image 541 – Image 571
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-KC7S?i=540&cat=970768>

02/01/1897 – 12/31/1912 Film #2196986: Image 309 (p.2) – Image 515 (p.198)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53CY-H?i=308&cat=970768>

01/01/1913 – 03/31/1929 Film #2196986: Image 526 (p.1) – Image 730 (p.292)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53DM-M?i=525&cat=970768>

04/01/1929 - 05/27/1944 Film #2196986: Image 740 (p.1) – Image 918 (p.173)
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-53F9-P?i=739&cat=970768>

Porterdale, East Porterdale and their Paupers: Card File (mid 1800s – 2000)

Copied from Interment Books. Originals at Riverdale (Sexton's Office).

Abercrombie, Charlie - Dawson, Maggie Film # 2200283: Image 1135 – Image 2414
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C397-Q9YX-H?i=1134&cat=970768>

Dawson, Mary P. - Pye, George Film # 2200284 <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-K3TH-2?mode=g&cat=970768>

Radney, Mary - Walker, Vernon H. Film # 2200658: Image 6 – Image 1613
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-L9DR-D?i=5&cat=970768>

Riverdale Cemetery

Riverdale Card File, ca. 1890 – 2000

Copied from Interment Books. Originals at Riverdale (Sexton's Office).

Allen, Walter J. – Baxley, Evans. Film # 2200658: Image 1616 – Image 2851
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-LSQ6-4?i=1615&cat=970768>

Baxley, Evans (repeated) – Clower, Nancy Jane. Film # 2200659:
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C348-GQ44-F?i=5&cat=970768>

Coan, Ira A. – Flower, Lois H. Film # 2200806: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34F-F3MM-S?i=4&cat=970768>

Flower, Lois H. (repeated) - Hecht, Sadie Berg. Film # 2200807:
<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34D-DSZR-8?i=4&cat=970768>

Hedgecock, Bessie – Justice, William. Film # 2200808:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34F-XFR1?i=4&cat=970768>

Kager, Frank – Mellage, Tonya Lynn. Film # 2208141:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34F-FS37-N?i=4&cat=970768>

Melton, Ada L. – Peyton, J.E. Mrs. Film # 2208142: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34D-Z58X?i=4&cat=970768>

Peabody, Emily J. – Shelton, Mary. Film # 2208286:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34D-CFXB?i=4&cat=970768>

Shelton, Rebecca – Turner, H. J., Jr. Film # 2208287:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34D-4332-8?i=4&cat=970768>

Turner, Hallie L. – Zvoncheck, John William, Jr. Film # 2208288:

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34D-WSZR-F?i=4&cat=970768>

Focus On Columbus State University Archives



For this issue of *Muscogiana*, I thought I would highlight the Eagle and Phenix Collection. This is not a new collection; in fact it was one of the first collections acquired by the Archives. It is also one of our richest collections, as it is truly overflowing with insight into Columbus' past. However, for most of its time here at CSU it has been sorely under-processed and poorly described. Uncovering its secrets required an incredible amount of time and energy by our researchers. This is an unfortunate reality for archives all over the world. Many institutions do not have the resources to tie up staff on one collection for an extended period of time. Instead, collections are quickly processed, providing minimal descriptive guides or finding aids, in an effort to at least make them semi-accessible and clear out ever-growing backlogs.

We do routinely review past collections to address descriptive deficiencies, assess preservation needs, conduct digitization projects, etc... Due to these ongoing efforts, I am pleased to share with you all that the Eagle and Phenix Collection is one we have been working on. Jesse Chariton, who is now in the Ph.D. program at Iowa State University, first started this reprocessing job. Tom Converse recently picked it back up and is almost done with a new finding aid almost completed. A collection with almost no description now has a full box and folder list with considerable annotations giving researchers a clear picture of what exactly is in the collection.

There is so much history that's been buried in the Eagle and Phenix collection that we hope will now be better accessible. Much of it is so seemingly unrelated, one would have never thought to look here in the first place. I will leave you with just one example, in the little known Panola Land and Improvement Company, established in 1884 by some of the most well-known leaders in early Columbus history.

here after associated with them, he and they are hereby
 incorporated and made a body politic and corporate for and
 during the full term of Twenty Years from the date
 here of with the privilege of renewal at the expiration of
 that time under the corporation name of
 "The Panola Land and Improvement Company"
 and as such to have a continuous succession during
 said term, with full power to said corporation to buy and
 improve Real Estate, to sell the same improved or un-
 improved, for cash or on installments to stockholders
 or others, to aid purchasers in building houses and
 improving said property, to lease or rent Real Estate
 or themselves or to others, and to accumulate profits for
 the stockholders, to lend or borrow money, to increase its
 capital stock of Twenty Thousand Dollars from time
 to time to the amount of its own demand

subscribing for said stock he requested to associate themselves with
 said incorporators and to participate in their organization and
 action in accordance with the charter of said "The Panola
 Land and Improvement Company"
 Which said resolution was unanimously adopted.
 There upon the following named persons
 subscribed to the number of shares and amounts set
 opposite to their names, To wit:

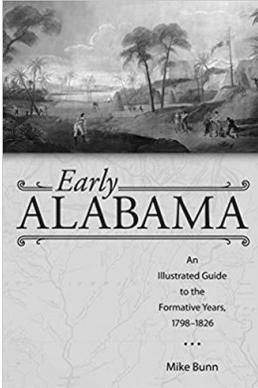
Name	Shares	Amount
G. Humby Jordan	30	\$ 3000
Louis J. Barrard	30	3000
O. S. Jordan	15	1500
W. S. Greene	10	1000
H. R. Batcher	10	1000
W. A. Little	10	1000
Cliff B. Brown	10	1000
John Hill	10	1000
Thos. M. Joley	5	500
E. J. Rankin	10	1000
A. F. Dickerson	10	1000
John J. Flounoy	10	1000
Thos. W. Grimes	15	1500
M. E. Gray	5	500
B. J. Batcher	10	1000

E. J. Rankin, W. A. Little and Thos. M. Joley being
 and G. Humby Jordan by proxy representing
 an, W. S. Greene, A. F. Dickerson, H. R. Batcher, John
 Flounoy, Thos. W. Grimes, M. E. Gray and B. J. Batcher
 participated in the proceedings in accordance with
 action previously adopted.

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Book Reviews

Alabama celebrated 200 years of statehood over three years between 2017 and 2019 with lots of Bicentennial events, seminars, and publications. Two books which appeared last year, *Early Alabama, An Illustrated Guide to the Formative Years, 1798-1826* and *Alabama: From Territory to Statehood*, are reviewed here by Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. A version of these reviews appeared in his weekly Genealogy Column in the Sunday *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* on December 1 and December 8, 2019.



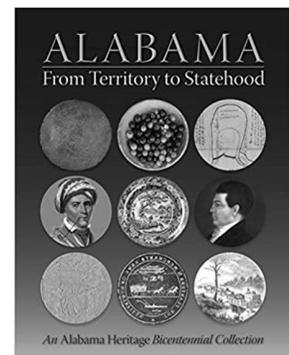
Mike Bunn. *Early Alabama, An Illustrated Guide to the Formative Years, 1798-1826.* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2019), 184 pp.

Mike Bunn has written *Early Alabama, An Illustrated Guide to the Formative Years, 1798-1826*, in which he focuses on what was going on in the area that was first part of the Mississippi Territory, then briefly the Alabama Territory, then became the state of Alabama. His focus is the first years of statehood. In the six chapters of narrative text he writes about what was happening on the land as politics and population growth lead toward statehood.

One chapter is "The Creek War and War of 1812," an area of special interest to Bunn who previously published a book entitled *Battle for the Southern Frontier: The Creek War and the War of 1812*. He follows with the chapter "Alabama Fever: The Great Migration" which gives genealogists some insight into why our ancestors moved there. In "The Place and the People" he covers more about what brought settlers there, and the agricultural advantages and social activities. In "The Land Called Alabama, From Territory to State" he addresses the various political wranglings during the push toward statehood including Creek Indian land cessions, which continued into the 1830s. The last portion of the book is an eighty-six-page "Historic Sites Tour" directing people to many existing sites in Alabama and Mississippi that reflect the early history of Alabama. This beautifully illustrated book would be a great addition to the personal library of anyone with Alabama roots. The book is footnoted, has a full bibliography, and an index. It is available for \$24.95 plus shipping from the University of Alabama Press at uapress.ua.edu, at bookstores, and via online sources.

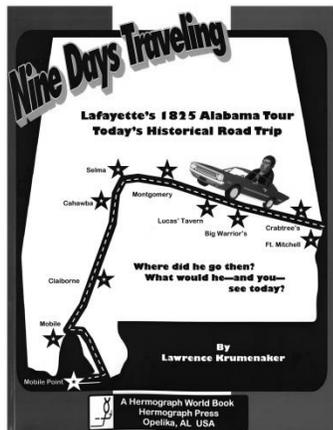
Donna Cox Baker, Susan Reynolds, and Elizabeth Wade, eds. *Alabama: From Territory to Statehood.* (Montgomery: NewSouth Books, 2019), 200 pp.

Alabama Heritage magazine is the sponsor of *Alabama: From Territory to Statehood*, part of the Alabama Heritage Bicentennial Collection. This book is one



of the most beautiful books published to tell a state's history. Each chapter is written by an expert in the field, with the opening chapter by Dr. Edwin C. Bridges, retired Alabama State Archives Director, on the long road to statehood. Other chapters discuss the borders, land claims and surveying, and then Thomas Chase Hagood covers "Alabama Fever Rages: Migrations to the Frontier of Early Alabama." Another chapter is on the cultural landscape, one on St. Stephens, the first territorial capital, followed by "The Three Sisters: How Squash, Beans and Corn Became Southern Food" by John C. Hall and Rosa N. Hall. The first section ends with Mike Bunn's "The Alabama Territory: Quarter by Quarter." Part Two of the book covers Alabama Statehood, from the early events of 1819, the constitutional convention, and William Wyatt Bibb, the first governor. "The Creek Nation and Alabama" is by Kathryn H. Braund. Another chapter is devoted to banking, newspapers and class in early Alabama. Slavery is addressed by Justin A. Rudder. Robert Gamble, noted architectural historian with years of service to the Alabama Historical Commission, ends the text with "This Beautiful and Rapid Rising State: Architecture of the Territorial and Early Statehood Years." Each chapter is illustrated in full color with beautiful photographs of people, places, documents, and objects. There are biographical sketches of the contributors, a full index, but no bibliography or sources. If you wanted one book to have to commemorate your ancestors in early Alabama on the state's Bicentennial, this would be the one. The book is available for \$39.95 plus shipping from NewSouth Books, 105 South Court St., Montgomery, AL 36104, see newsouthbooks.com, or via other online sources and bookstores.

By Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.



Lawrence Krumenaker, *Nine Days Traveling: Lafayette's 1825 Alabama Tour, Today's Historical Road Trip.* (Hermograph Press: Opelika, 2020), 140 pp.

When the last surviving foreign general who had participated in the American Revolution, the Marquis de Lafayette, visited the country in 1824-1825, it was big news across the nation. Lafayette, whose full name was Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier Lafayette, had served with the legendary George Washington in the struggle for independence as a part of France's alliance with America. By the 1820s not only had our first president passed away, but so had most of the founding generation who stood alongside him in that legendary struggle. The Frenchman's arrival therefore served as both a poignant reflection and opportunity for celebration of America's past, present, and future in many ways. America jumped at the chance, and rolled out the

figurative red carpet in the form of an extended celebration lasting over a year and touching every state, from New England to the Gulf Coast, and from the banks of the Mississippi to the Midwest.

Chronicling this heralded visit became something of a cottage industry across the nation in the years following. Historic markers indicating the spots where Lafayette visited, dined, or slept along the long route popped up and a slew of books appeared which detailed the journey in various shapes and forms. It is a journey we are still remembering and commemorating today. Here with a more detailed canvassing of the nine days Lafayette spent journeying through Alabama is Dr. Lawrence Krumenaker, with *Nine Days Traveling: Lafayette's 1825 Alabama Tour, Today's Historical Road Trip*. A light-hearted and fun but superbly researched and informative travel guide and narrative, the book tracks Lafayette from his entrance into the state near modern Columbus via the Federal Road a short distance from Fort Mitchell, through his overland travel to Montgomery, and then on down the Alabama River to Mobile and into Mobile Bay. At Mobile Point, he left the state and continued westward on his journey. Along the way Krumenaker provides information on the context of Lafayette's visit and the people, places, and events surrounding his time in Alabama.

The detail of the tracking of Lafayette's every move in the book is truly incredible, accompanied by abundant photos and detailed directions that will allow adventurous readers to literally follow in his footsteps. It is of course easiest to use the guide on side trips when on major roadways near points of interest, but Krumenaker takes all who wish to go onto the backroads and less-traveled byways on a trip across the Alabama landscape in the book to the sites of inns, taverns, homes, ferry crossings, and more. Of course readers do not have to literally take the trip to enjoy the ride, as the book can be enjoyed from the comfort of your living room almost as well as on the road. Either way, this slim volume promises to be an entertaining addition to the libraries of all who have an interest in this era of Alabama—and the nation's—past.

Mike Bunn

Editor, *Muscogiana*

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