

JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

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JANUARY 2010

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010, 2:00 p.m., in the Scottsboro Public Library meeting room. The Program Vice-President is pleased to announce that Marilyn K. Morris, author of **THE STORY OF THE YOUNG WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB AND THE BIRTH OF THE SCOTTSBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY**, will be the guest speaker. After the program, Ms. Morris will be available to autograph books which will be for sale before and after the meeting. The JCHA Executive Board will meet at 1:00 p.m. prior to the January 31 meeting.

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2009 annual dues were due and payable on January 1, 2010. IF paid 2010 does not appear on the mailing label of your January 2010 CHRONICLES, please mail your check to:

JCHA TREASURER, P. O. BOX 1494, SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768,

as follows:

Annual Dues (except Senior Citizens)	-	\$ 20.00
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PLEASE include your 9-DIGIT ZIP CODE WITH your membership renewal. IF your address changes, please notify the JCHA. Members in good standing receive THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES in January, April, July, and October.



While Tidwell family members are the main characters in ONE FAMILY'S JOURNEY THROUGH TIME, this book tells a deeper story about all the first settlers who came down the Appalachian Trail and the Natchez Trace. It is a saga about what they had to do to survive in order to carve new homes from the wilderness that soon became our southern states. It describes such mundane things as how they had to rely on farm animals for transportation and beasts of burden and for milk, eggs, and meat needed for basic survival.

My immediate family settled in a very remote area of North Alabama, and the book includes detailed stories of their daily lives before the age of electricity, refrigeration, and other modern conveniences we now take for granted. I am sure many of the things my ancestors had to do and the way they had to do them differed only slightly from colonial times. Everyone's ancestors had to live in a similar fashion at some point in time.

Families included are TIDWELL, REID, PECK, PHILLIPS, AND HALE, MOOMAW, and YOUNG. The book covers the time span of 1650 to 2009. More detail is given from the year 1845 forward.

I call this book living history as it includes: genealogy; farming; gardening with horses and mules; hog killing days and then salting and smoking the meat; preserving fruits and vegetables; making soap; and cooking and old recipes. There are stories about our limited access to social interaction and even taking baths.

Published by Bluewater Publications in late 2009, ONE FAMILY'S JOURNEY THROUGH TIME includes 311 pages, a table of contents, an index, and numerous photographs. This book may be purchased for \$29.95 at the Scottsboro-Jackson County Heritage Center and the Scottsboro Public Library in Scottsboro, Alabama.

**To order from author's inventory, please send a check for \$34.61 (\$29.95 for book and \$4.66 for shipping and handling) to:
JERRY TIDWELL, P. O. BOX 38, SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768 (page 2)**

ERIN DAVIS: A PROLOGUE AND A LEGEND

This is a REPRINT OF ROBERT L. (Bob) HODGES, JR.'s Tribute to Erin Davis (first published in THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES, Vol. 2, No. 2 dated July 1987)

On a bitterly cold day in December of 1983, six men stood huddled around a newly opened grave in the cemetery of a country church in Dutton, Alabama, on Sand Mountain, where they had borne the coffin of ERIN McGRIFF DAVIS. As the minister intoned the last rites, one of them, a former student, braced against the bite of the cold looking down at the flowers bedecking the casket, and thought of a prologue and a teacher who loved growing flowers.

“What that April with his showres soote
The Droughte of March hath perced to the roote,
An bathed every veine in swich licour,
Of which vertu engendered is the flowr.....” (Chaucer)

The words still come to him from over twenty-five years before, as they fondly do to many of her former students whenever they gather to reminisce.

(ABC NOTE: Please remember Bob Hodges' thoughts were penned in 1987; and I might add that your editor can still recite Chaucer's words she learned 55 years ago.)

As the mourners began to drift away to the warmth of the little country church and the casket was lowered to rest beside that of her husband, he thought of Chaucer's "Prologue" and of how to legions of high school students who passed out of her classroom door into the world, the commitment to memory of those words and the recitation of that prologue in the Old English dialect of the Middle Ages was part of the discipline she lived in the classroom, a discipline of learning so central to her beliefs and her teaching philosophy. And yet, he thought, as the red mountain dirt was shoveled over, it was a discipline so tempered with enthusiasm and compassion for the future of all her charges that he had often thought of her as a kind of Methodist Mother Superior in her classroom.

(ABC NOTE: For those readers not fortunate enough to have studied English at the feet of Erin Davis, no student obtained a diploma from Jackson County High School until they could recite Chaucer's Prologue to the Canterbury Tales. Mrs. Davis imposed her own SAT Test in the 1940s and 1950s!)

“Whatever you do,” she had said to him in those last days of his senior year so many years ago, “whatever you do, write. Don't ever you let that go. I want you to write!”

And so she counseled many who were leaving her in the forty-eight years she graced the teaching profession: to write, to go into business, to go on in basketball, to teach, to be a minister, and so on. It was as if she had some insight they had not, in their young years, to know what was out there for them, to perceive some special talent, and to incite the nurturing of it. And, in the ways she brought that about, and in the accomplishments of those she sent out into the world's colleges and marketplaces and armed services and governments, she made for herself quite without fanfare:
A LEGEND.

The legend began when she was born to William Earl and Mary Ellen McGriff in Albertville, Alabama, on October 1, 1903, the oldest of six children, four of whom were girls. When she was a small child, her parents moved to Hodge, Alabama, near Dutton. There was a rudimentary school of sorts nearby, administered by Professor Cyrus Ulrich of German descent. Ulrich was the first real influence upon her, by all accounts, which probably set her early on a path toward the teaching profession. He would stop by the McGriff Store, and, being besieged by her on his visits, finally urged her parents to let her accompany him to school. She did, and, at age four, began her education.

It was Cyrus Ulrich who gave her her first book, a copy of John Milton's "Paradise Lost". She cherished it, and, in those tender years, it was her constant companion. Her insistence many years later that Milton's epic be read by her students is perhaps owing to her fondness for her very first book as a child.

She is remembered by some who survive from those early days of this century as an energetic and enthusiastic little girl with a thirst for learning. Nellie Nichols, in those days of Ulrich's school, was a child of 12 years. Nellie, now 91 (in 1987), recalls that she and a friend, Mae Chaney, made a "pack-saddle" with their hands and carried Erin to school.

Her very first teacher, Cyrus Ulrich, lies buried a scant distance from Erin Davis, in another small country churchyard at Chaney's Chapel near Dutton. He died on November 24, 1927.

The continuing truth of her legend exists today in the memories of her colleagues in the profession who write to the former student these accounts:

"The Master Teacher."

"Tough."

"An individual dedicated to excellence, whether it be teaching, bridge playing, homemaking, or flower gardening."

"No one could deny that she motivated her students to do great things with their lives."

"Her contributions to the teaching profession and the great influence she has exerted on her students will long be remembered."

She attended high school at Jacksonville and Jacksonville Normal at Jacksonville, Alabama, and, in her tenure there, excelled in women's basketball. Her sister, Iris McGriff O'Brien Reed, remembers seeing Erin in those days only on vacations when she would help unpack Erin's trunk where there was always a gift for a sister. Erin then attended the University of Alabama, where her days as an undergraduate were distinguished by academic excellence, her marriage to Newman Davis, the birth of a child they named Margaret Ellen, and graduation from the University with an All-A record, a bachelor's degree in education, and a Phi Bet Kappa key. She was only the 13th woman to receive that key there.

In later years, after the death of her husband to whom she was devoted, she confided to her attorney, the former student: "He was a lovely man. I adored him." In the same conversation, she reminisced with the former student of the time when her husband proposed to her. The account of this is, by best recollection, as follows:

"I was in love with him. I knew it, and I knew he was the man I wanted to marry. On his visits to my father's house, he had noticed, as had many people, that my father spent a great deal of his time at home doing chores around the house and in the yard and took great pride in it. Newman, this particular afternoon, had taken me for a drive, and, sure enough, proposed. But before the matter was concluded, he said: 'Now Erin, there's something I have to tell you about me before you give me your answer.' My heart skipped a beat, and it was one of the most anxious moments of my life. I thought, Oh, Lord, what is he going to tell me? He is such a beautiful man and I do so want to marry him and now he is going to tell me something awful about himself." And Newman Davis then said: "Erin, you need to know this. I do not do yard work."

She actually began her teaching career before her graduation from the University, and her first position was at Bridgeport where she was hired as a home economics teacher but actually taught English.

She married Newman Davis in 1923, and her daughter was born in South Pittsburg, Tennessee, where she taught next and there taught home economics.

They moved to Oxford, Alabama, where she continued to teach home economics for three years and English for seven years. It was at Oxford where she had as a student a young athlete named Q. K. "Dusty" Carter. In later years, he was a highly successful and beloved basketball coach on the same faculty with her in Scottsboro, Alabama. Having been under her tutelage as a student, Coach Carter took extra steps to insure that his basketball players maintained their eligibility, and, many days of the school year, one could hear, from within his office in the gymnasium, the lines of Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven" and other classical, Erin Davis-required reading, wrenched by rote from the throats of All-State athletes. After Oxford, the Davis family moved on to Montgomery, Alabama, where Erin taught at Sidney Lanier High School for five years. They then returned to Jackson County, Alabama, where Erin taught at Pisgah High School for two years.

ERIN DAVIS; PROLOGUE AND LEGEND by Robert L. (Bob) Hodges, Jr. (Continued)

At the graveside, her former student-turned pallbearer thought also that he could see her standing in that classroom many years ago, waiting for an answer from him with those foreboding eyes, with that stern jaw that tolerated nothing less than an excellence response, and with the hint of a smile that betrayed her eagerness to propel him into some intellectual debate she knew she would have fun winning.

In the 1942-43 school year, she came to Jackson County High School at Scottsboro and there joined a faculty that included Coach Mickey O'Brien, her brother-in-law. Her career there included English classes, public speaking, and a role which became very special for her - the supervision of commencement exercises for the senior class each year. It seemed to be a special occasion for her, as if this event were the fruition of all her efforts, the coming together of all the excellence she strived for in her students. She gave to it a sense of dignity, insisted on it, and spared no meticulous detail in preserving both the pomp and circumstance of it. Her attention to detail and her discipline can today be seen if one simply takes a stroll down the hall of the old Jackson County High School and looks at the composite of each graduating class. A local photographer, one of her former students, recalls that the senior class picture each year, by her requirements, featured all the girls in each senior class dressed in sweaters and white dickey collars. It was only after her retirement that the girls in the senior class were permitted to be pictured, as is fashionable now, with bare shoulders draped. It was a small and barely noticeable rule of hers, but so characteristic of her rigid discipline and dedication to excellence and detail - a small facet of **THE LEGEND**.

It is a legend that lives today, and perhaps, as her former students talk to their grandchildren of the rigor of the old days, is embellished upon and enlarged. Any legend, by the generations who perpetuate it, comes to beg the truth, after time enough has passed. The continuing truth of this one is in legions of her students who have gone on to establish themselves in colleges and universities, many of them in advanced English classes, where they have excelled with the tools of grammar she made almost instinctive, and with the power of comprehension and written expression she commanded in her classroom, and with the familiarity with great works of literature she utilized to teach them all, in a subtle and beautiful way, how to be better human beings.

The continuing truth of her legend is also in the many who did not go on to college, but who became, fresh from her classroom experiences, parents and citizens and builders of the communities in which they live today. She gave them a glimmer of some human values through the lines of Robert Burns to "...see ourselves as others see us..." by the eternal truths of a Shakespearean character's warning that "...all that glitters is not gold...", and Macbeth's somber reminder of the fragility of life as "...a poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage, and then is heard no more..." She touched her students with her profound love between man and woman in leading them through the words of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's "How do I love thee? Let me count the ways...."

In those cherished moments in her classroom, the heart of many a callused farm boy was made to soar with a poem, and the will and determination to succeed was fired in the soul of many a quiet and timid youth.

On May 21, 1971, Erin McGriff Davis taught her last class at Scottsboro High School, after almost half a century in the teaching profession. On December 3, 1983, she died and the prologue to the legend ended.

Among her personal belongings left to her family was a small book that contained a collection of poetry written by her former student (Bob Hodges) for his first published work. On the flyleaf is this inscription in his handwriting, given her years before her death:

“To Erin Davis who lit the first candle in my darkness.”

And, as her former student sits here in his study to write these words (in 1987) perpetuating her legend, he recalls her command to an eighteen year old boy to “whatever you do, write.....don’t ever let that go.....write.” And so he does, and, in the pursuit of excellence, he can see that first candle still burning in his darkness.

EDITOR’S NOTE by ABC: The author of this tribute is Robert L. (Bob) Hodges, Jr., whose father was the late R. L. Hodges, Sr. of Scottsboro’s renowned Hodges Drug Store. Bob’s mother was the late Zelma Nichols Hodges who graced and worked in the Scottsboro Public Library just because she loved the library and wanted to be there.

Bob Hodges is a 1957 graduate of Jackson County High School where he was president of his senior class. Today he still holds his classmates close to his heart and maintains a Class of 1957 website that enables him to stay in constant touch with his high school friends. Bob graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1963 and then practiced law in Huntsville, Alabama. In 1982, he was elected to the circuit judgeship in Jackson County, Alabama. Bob is a published poet and author and has appeared in lead roles in more than twenty plays at North Alabama Community College. His portrayal of Professor Henry Higgins in MY FAIR LADY was better than anything seen on Broadway or in London. He is also a former president of the Jackson County Historical Association. Bob is now retired and recently spoke to the Creative Writing Group at the Scottsboro-Jackson County Senior Center where he kept the group enthralled with his wit and wisdom gained in public speaking, writing, and publishing. He readily admits that his grandson is now the delight of his life and the perfect reason to keep ALL his candles burning in the darkness.

SOURCE: The Huntsville Weekly Democrat November 15, 1882

Larkinsville, Ala. ----- LARKINSVILLE, IN A BLAZE OF GLORIOUS TRIUMPH, CELEBRATES PRYOR'S GRAND VICTORY AND THAT OF DEMOCRATS EVERYWHERE, AND NOMINATES HON. JOS. WHEELER FOR CONGRESS TO FILL THE EXISTING VACANCY. -----

Larkinsville, Ala., Nov. 11, 1882. Mr. Editor:--Last night, the Democrats of this village, and of the adjacent neighborhoods met, in great numbers, to give suitable expression to the joy and gladness which filled their hearts, on account of the success of Democratic principles in this Congressional District, and throughout our beloved country: to proffer to our Democratic brethren, our happy greetings and joyful congratulations of our gratitude, as well as our exalted appreciation of the noble and brilliant triumph of our illustrious leader, the matchless Luke Pryor, in his grand, inimitable canvass and redemption of the 8th District. Ample preparations had been inaugurated to make the occasion a grand success. The town was beautifully illuminated. Bonfires, blazing rockets, flashing fire-balls—grand illuminations—lit up earth and sky, and threw a brilliant flood of glory over the grand old mountains which so majestically skirt our beautiful valley. Our noble, gallant Democratic boys made the welkin ring with their glad shouts, and the mountains and the valleys to echo and re-echo with the deep-toned thunders of exploding gunpowder. Brilliant meteoric showers and revolving, scintillating, coruscating streams of dazzling light illumined the smiling heavens, and bore aloft, on glory-crowned beams, a fit reflection of the light and joy which thrilled our glad hearts. Our noble, patriotic women, our lovely, beautiful maidens, were out in great numbers to honor the occasion, to testify their approval, and to manifest their joy in the triumph of a noble cause. Many, also, of our late political opponents gave us the pleasure of their presence, and it affords me great gratification to testify that, to their credit and honor, they demeaned themselves with manly dignity and propriety. Let it here be said in commendation of all present, Democrats, Greenbackers and Republicans that not one word was heard, not an act done, to cause a ripple in the stream of good humor and kindly feelings that flowed throughout the entire throng. In response to earnest calls from the assembled multitude, brief, soul-stirring speeches were made by Dr. B. B. Smith, our worthy Mayor, Hon. W. L. Higgins, former Representative from this County in the Legislature, David Austin, J. R. Morris, Dr. W. B. McKelvy, Polk Wright, and J. P. Harris. At an auspicious moment in the progress of these thrilling scenes, and by concert of action, J. R. Morris ascended the platform, and alluding in fit terms to the fidelity, the patriotism, and the unselfish devotion of that true and tried Democrat—the Hon. Joseph Wheeler, placed his name in nomination as the People's candidate for Congress, to fill the vacancy made by the death of the late Hon. W. M. Lowe, and calling for the vote of the assembled multitude, one, long, loud, unanimous aye rent the very heavens with its spontaneous and hearty response.

SOURCE: THE HUNTSVILLE WEEKLY DEMOCRAT NOVEMBER 15, 1882 (Cont)

And now, in conclusion, Mr. Editor, will not every Democrat in the District, and every lover of right and justice, and every admirer of a manly, a noble, an unselfish patriot, which the gallant Wheeler has shown himself to be, ratify and endorse this nomination spontaneously and by acclamation and with one accord, return him to the seat from which he was ousted—thus administering a fit rebuke to a partisan Congress which disregards the voice and the rights of the people, and showing to our country that we understand our rights, and that we know how to vindicate them; and that we can, and do appreciate that noble spirit in which this unselfish man, who was justly entitled to precedence in the late Congressional race, stepped forward at Decatur, and, like a self-sacrificing and country-loving Roman, in the best days of that grand old Republic, magnanimously placed the People's cause and their banner in the hands of Luke Pryor, our Cincinnatus. The writer of this has no personal ends to sub-serve in this appeal to his fellow Democrats, and no interest, except that which is common to him and the people. He asks no office, seeks no honor for self, other than to be a faithful citizen of a country in which the people's rights and liberties are held sacred, and he believes that the people do honor to themselves in the just and proper exercise of the elective franchise: The Honorable Joseph Wheeler, ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joseph Wheeler (1836-1906) graduated from West Point in 1859. During the CW, he was successively promoted from Lt. to Lt. General by Feb 1865. Had 16 horses shot out from under him during the Civil War. Admitted by the Alabama Bar and practiced law in Wheeler, AL. Represented North Alabama in the U.S. Congress from 1882 to 1900. Buried in Arlington Cemetery in 1906.

RULES FOR TEACHERS IN 1872 (Copied. Original source and place of employment unknown.)

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps, clean chimneys, and trim wicks.
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and scuttle of coal for the day's lessons.
3. After 10 hours in school, the teachers should spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
4. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
5. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intentions, integrity, and honesty.
6. Make your pens carefully; you may whittle nibs to the individual tastes of the pupils.
7. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.
8. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
9. The teacher who performs his labors faithfully and without fault for 5 years will be given an increase of 25 cents per week, providing it is approved by the board of education.

CAPT. G. S. DRANE'S DETACHMENT DURING THE CHEROKEE REMOVAL IN 1838

Compiled by Patty Woodall and Edited by Ann B. Chambless

On June 17, 1838, Captain G. S. Drane started from camps above Ross's Landing with 1,076 Cherokees bound for Waterloo, Alabama. Due to lack of steamboats, Drane's detachment traveled overland by day and camped along the way by night. From Ross's Landing they traveled across Moccasin Bend and crossed the Tennessee River again at Brown's Ferry. This took the entourage through present-day Tiftonia, Georgia, before they entered Marion County, Tennessee. After reaching a point near Kimball, Tennessee, the detachment headed south toward Bellefonte, Alabama.

A reporter for the CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE gave a detailed report of the Cherokee encampment in old Bellefonte which was then the seat of justice of Jackson County, Alabama, as follows:

BELLEFONTE, ALABAMA. June 28 (1838)

"On Monday evening a body of 1070 Cherokee under the guidance of General N(athan) Smith, principal agent, arrived at this place (Bellefonte). Some hours after Captain (G.S.) Drane, U. S. army, came in when the command was transferred to him.

The Indians formed their camp with regularity, refreshed cheerfully, and behaved with the utmost decorum. When they had finished supper, they made seats, and by the sound of a trumpet summoned their people to prayers. They sang hymns in the Cherokee language to old familiar tunes; exhortations were delivered by two preachers, full blooded Indians, named Wolf and Lewis Downing. Never have we witnessed a religious congregation of any sect better conducted or more reverence to a sacred subject displayed.

So far they were reconciled and consistent. Mark this event and contrast in consequences of the arrival of a letter.

On the morning of Tuesday, they breakfasted in the same temper, struck their tents, and prepared for the march. An Indian courier arrived from the Agency with a packet for Dr. Willoughby (Medical Agent) and stated to the Cherokees that the letter contained matter authorizing the detachment, in the name of John Ross, to return to their homes there to remain until September; this caused much excitement and confusion. The Indians rushed to the wagons and seized their baggage. It was forcibly recovered by the officers of the detachment whose strenuous exertions in personally resisting the attempt of the Indians to possess themselves of the baggage is much to be applauded; more so, as they were not supported by any military force. About 300 unreflecting Indians took this in dudgeon and in small groups ran to the wood leaving their property.

The Bellefonte Infantry company, commanded by Capt. (Wm.?) McReynolds, and some prudent Cherokees pursued them and brought them back, with the exception of 14 or 15 stragglers. The detachment is now encamped at Roseberry Creek. It is the intention of Capt. Drane to wait for a company forming at this place (Bellefonte) which will be immediately completed to guard it as far as Waterloo (Alabama).

The letter in question is from a person named McFarlane, residing near Calhoun (Georgia). Strange! That it is dated previous to the departure of the officers of the detachment and that it should contain matter of which they are entirely ignorant. Capt. Drane conversed with General (Winfield) Scott in person and such an order was not mentioned.

It is needless to say that the statement of the Indian courier was premature. Inconsiderate communications in these cases are of mischievous tendency. They produce disorder and excite the feeling(s) without beneficial results; with this trifling exception, credit is due to the emigrants for their general good conduct. It is to be hoped that in the future they will not give confidence to any information unless conveyed officially."

SOURCE: THE HUNTSVILLE DEMOCRAT

The Indians passed through this place on Monday last. Some deaths had taken place since they left Bellefonte, but we understand there was less sickness among them than when they departed Georgia.

Captain Drane is indefatigable in administering to their wishes and comforts.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Drane's detachment approximated U.S. Highway 72 from the Jackson County line to Florence, Alabama. At this point the detachment turned west following the general route of what is now Highway 14 which took them to Waterloo. Here they boarded the steamboat Smelter for the balance of their journey to Arkansas. They traveled down the Tennessee, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers to the White River cut-off. On the Arkansas River, they changed to smaller steamboats twice but were stranded by low water near Little Rock. They traveled the remainder of the journey overland and reached present-day Stillwell, Oklahoma, on September 7, 1838. This means the total time required for this detachment's trek was 10 days short of three months.

Colonel Thomas Snodgrass (1808-1868), an early settler of Bellefonte, expended his own funds to defray the expenses of his company that was mustered into service for thirty (30) days to assist Capt. G. S. Drane. The following page (12) was copied directly from May 1854 records of the United States Congress published in the Congressional Globe. Colonel Snodgrass stated he incurred expenses in the amount of \$741.25. As the reader will see on the following page 12, the U.S. Congress appropriated a lesser sum: \$230.00. You will also see that it took Col. Snodgrass almost 16 years to collect this reimbursement. His personal funds were expended in June and July of 1838, but Congress did not vote to reimburse him until May of 1854. It would be interesting to know when and if he actually received the \$230.00 remuneration.

SOURCE: The Congressional Globe ...: 23rd Congress to the 42d ..., Volume 23, Part 2

**By United States Congress
MAY 1854**

THOMAS SNODGRASS.

The bill for the relief of Thomas Snodgrass, reported from the Committee on Claims, was considered as in Committee of the Whole.

It proposes to appropriate \$230 to reimburse to Captain Thomas Snodgrass the expenses incurred by him for a team, and balance for forage and subsistence furnished to his company of volunteers, while employed as a guard or escort for a party of emigrating Cherokees in 1838. But the bill is not to be construed to sanction any claim of the representatives of Washington Smith upon the United States for the amount, or any other sum advanced to Snodgrass.

In June, 1838, Gen. Nat. Smith, then in charge of a party of emigrating Cherokees as emigrating agent, under the escort of Captain Drain, United States Army, found that the Indians had become restless, dissatisfied, and disposed to desert, and otherwise manifested a spirit of mutiny and insubordination, and a disposition to commit depredations upon the country through which they were passing. Finding the escort of Captain Drain insufficient to restrain them, General Smith engaged the memorialist to raise a company of mounted volunteers of thirty men, and promised that, on condition that Captain Snodgrass would look to the United States for the pay of the men, he, General Smith, would defray the other expenses, and risk the chance of their reimbursement. With this understanding the company was raised, and mustered into service for thirty days, to assist Captain Drain, as guard from Bellefonte to Waterloo, in the State of Alabama. In default of Smith, who failed to provide funds, Captain Snodgrass, as he alleges, incurred expenses to the amount of \$741 25.

To defray these expenses Captain Snodgrass was compelled to obtain the amount of \$625 from W. Smith, a brother of the agent, who took the obligation of Captain Snodgrass for this sum, payable when an appropriation should be made by Congress. He has since been sued upon this obligation, and judgment obtained, 28th November, 1848, for the amount of \$1,143 66 and costs, in the district court of the United States for northern Alabama.

He claims other sums arising out of the same transaction.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read a third time, and passed.

THE 1893-1898 CITY COURT OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, AL

Researched by Retired Madison County Circuit Judge William D. Page and edited by Ann B. Chambless

By an Act approved February 21, 1893, the Alabama Legislature created an inferior law court called the City Court of the City of Bridgeport. The court provided jurisdiction concurrent with the Jackson County Circuit Court in civil matters and for trials of misdemeanors in criminal cases.

Causes of action, arising in Precinct 1 - Bridgeport; Precinct 2 - Bolivar; Precinct 3 - Stevenson; Precinct 4 - Carpenter; Precinct 5 - Kash; Precinct 7 - Bass; and Precinct 29 - Gross Spring, were to be litigated in the new court whether the parties resided in these precincts are not. The Jackson County Circuit Court Clerk also served as clerk of the City Court of the City of Bridgeport. L. W. Willis was Circuit Court Clerk 1886-1892. James Thompson was Circuit Court Clerk 1892-1898, and Frank D. Hurt was commissioned in 1898. The Jackson County Solicitor (prosecuting attorney) also served in dual positions.

The first judge of the City Court of the City of Bridgeport was appointed by the Governor of Alabama with an election to be held in August 1896, for a four-year term. Election was by qualified voters of the entire county. Trial by jury was available in criminal cases and in civil cases where the amount in controversy exceeded \$20.00.

Governor Thomas Goode Jones appointed William L. Stephens as the first judge. Samuel W. Tate was elected judge in 1896. In the 1896 election, Samuel W. Tate received 2539 votes and Ernest Parks received 1870 votes. (Source: THE CHRONICLES, STEVENSON, ALABAMA, August 11, 1896.)

The Court was abolished by the Alabama Legislature in December 1898. Pending cases with their respective files and records of the court were then transferred to the Jackson County Circuit Court.

EDITOR'S NOTE: WILLIAM LARKIN STEPHENS (first judge mentioned above) later moved to the Washington, D.C. area where he was employed in the Legal Department of the U. S. Government Land Office in Washington. He died suddenly in March 1927. SOURCE: Obit from THE PROGRESSIVE AGE, dated March 17, 1927. William L. Stephens was the son of Absalom Stephens who married Priscilla Larkin born February 20, 1839, (daughter of David and Elizabeth Larkin). Priscilla (Larkin) Stephens died in February 1868 and is buried in the David Larkin family plot in Blue Springs Cemetery in Larkinsville, Alabama. William Larkin Stephens was raised in the home of Priscilla's brother, William R. Larkin, in Larkinsville.

SAMUEL W. TATE, born 1868, was the son of Jackson County Probate Judge David Tate and Martha A. (Wynne/Wynn) TATE.

ERNEST PARKS (1867 - 1935) was the son of James Monroe and Mary Jane (Scott) Parks. Mary Jane (Scott) Parks was the daughter of Robert T. and Elizabeth Scott, the founders of Scottsboro, AL.

ONE EXAMPLE OF LEGAL ACTION processed in the City Court of the City of Bridgeport, Alabama, was the naturalization proceedings of a Canadian native, THOMAS R. PATTERSON, who worked for the Gunters in the 1890s in Bridgeport, Alabama.

1882 JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA MEDICAL SOCIETY Report:

PRESIDENT: William C. Maples, M.D., Bellefonte

Secretary: George W. Foster, M.D., Stevenson

President of the Board of Censors: William C. Maples, M.D., Bellefonte

County Health Officer: David A. Padgett, M.D., Scottsboro

NAMES OF MEMBERS with their Colleges and Current Post Offices:

Andrew Newton Blackburn, University of Nashville, 1880, Dodsonville

George Winfield Foster, Vanderbilt University, 1882, Stevenson

J. S. Gillespy, college not given, Scottsboro

John Jackson Horton, Vanderbilt University, 1881, Bass

William C. Maples, University of Tennessee, 1881, Bellefonte

David Blackburn McCord, University of Nashville, 1855, Scottsboro

John Harvey McCord, certificate county board, 1876, Scottsboro

Albert Morris McCullough, certificate county board, 1880, Bellefonte

William Mason, Transylvania University, Fabius

David Anderson Padgett, Vanderbilt University, 1882, Scottsboro

James Polk Rorex, Medical College of Alabama, 1878, Scottsboro

William B. Smith, certificate county board, 1878, Limrock

PHYSICIANS NOT MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY:

Charles W. Adkins, University of Louisville, 1868, Langston

William Henry Allen, certificate of the county board, 1884, Langston

James Harvey Boyd, University of Nashville, 1860, Larkinsville

John Fletcher Clark, certificate of county board, 1882, Garth

LaFayette Derrick, certificate of county board, 1882, Woodville

Joseph Anderson Duckett, certificate of county board, 1882, Larkin's Fork

Henry Franklin Gattis, certificate of county board, 1882, Princeton

Felix Grant Robertson, certificate of county board, 1882, Larkin's Fork

Mike Graham, certificate of county board, 1869, Stevenson

D. W. Hotter, University of Tennessee, 1881, Woodville

James Wiley Knowlton, Vanderbilt University, 1883, Paint Rock

E. L. Lee, University of Nashville, 1873, Bridgeport

James Monroe Parks, certificate of county board, 1884, Scottsboro

James O. Robertson, certificate of county board, 1884, Garth

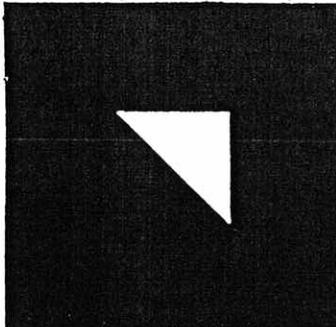
Barton Brown Smith, University of Nashville, 1867, Larkinsville

William Kingston Spiller, Vanderbilt University, 1874, Bridgeport

Wiley C. Womack, certificate of county board, (no date), Samples (later Hollywood)

Dr. G.W. Story, formerly of Sauta, moved to Paris, Texas, and Dr. William B. Smith moved from Limrock to Guntersville, Alabama. Dr. J. S. Gillespy, formerly of Birmingham, Alabama, moved to Scottsboro.

The board made this note: No one has been examined to begin the study of medicine or to practice since our last report. 14



JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

VOLUME 22, No. 2

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APRIL 2010

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, April 25, 2010, 2:00 p.m., in the Scottsboro Public Library meeting room. Program Vice-President Kelly Goodowens is very pleased to announce that Dr. Pete Sparks, a dentist who practices in Grant, Alabama, will be our guest speaker. Dr. Sparks is one of Alabama's most knowledgeable scholars of the Civil War. His talk will cover Brig. Gen. Hylan B. Lyon's expedition from Kentucky to Alabama. The highlight will be the armed skirmish at the Scottsboro Freight Depot and the burning of Guntersville. YOU will not want to miss this timely and interesting documented story of the last Civil War skirmish in Jackson County. JCHA member Dr. Sam Holland stated that he doubts anyone can ask a reasonable Civil War question that Dr. Sparks cannot answer.

JCHA NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT: Dr. Ronald Dykes' third book relative to Jackson County, Alabama, will soon be available for purchase. Dr. Dykes, the JCHA program speaker in July, will share his experiences in writing about Jackson County's Korean War veterans. Once again, Dr. Dykes has allowed the JCHA to be his co-publisher; the JCHA will receive half the proceeds from the book sales.

2009 annual dues were due on January 1, 2010. *IF paid 2010 does not appear on your current mailing label, please mail your check to:*

JCHA TREASURER, P. O. BOX 1494, SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768

Annual Dues (except Senior Citizens) \$20.00

Senior Citizens (65 years of age) \$15.00

Life Membership Dues \$150.00

Please include your 9-digit ZIP CODE with your membership renewal.
IF your address changes, please notify the JCHA.

**CHRONICLES EDITOR: Ann B. Chambless, 435 Barbee Lane,
Scottsboro, AL 35769 Email: rabc123@scottsboro.org**

PICTORIAL MEMORIES OF PAINT ROCK, ALABAMA

Now you can see and read about what once was - the uniqueness of a place called Paint Rock, Alabama, as it existed in the 1930s and 1940s. In its heyday, Paint Rock was a bustling little town wedged between two mountains within a valley that was no more than one to two miles wide. These mountains and the nearby Paint Rock River were two of nature's permanent gifts to the town.

Norma Jean (Skelton) Brown grew up in Paint Rock and remembers the landmarks that were most distinctive in their construction as well as being essential for the railroad's use. The Coal Chute and Water Tank contributed to the pleasure of meeting the train at the old Paint Rock Depot. The progression of faster trains and the environmental hazard of the steam engine brought about the demise of the Chute and the Tank, and eventually the depot was torn down. Paint Rock miraculously survived the great tornado of 1932, but did not survive the widening of U. S. Highway 72.

Most of Paint Rock's vintage landmarks no longer exist, BUT Norma Brown has captured their beauty in her paintings which have been photographed for her PICTORIAL MEMORIES. These include, but are not limited to: Paint Rock Dam, the Swimming Hole; the Paint Rock River Bridge; the Water Tank; the Coal Chute; the old school house; Rousseau General Merchandise Store; a picture of Katherine Rousseau behind the store counter; the Calvin Marcellus Rousseau House built in 1910; O'Neal Manufacturing and Trice's Grocery; Allison Candy Company and the Campbell Building; the Depot; the Backyard Barber; the Baptist and Methodist Churches; and portraits of Esley Mullenax Flanagan and Lela Mae Duncan Whitaker (two beloved teachers). Each painting/picture is complemented by a brief historical memory written by those who are most familiar with these subjects. Historical essay contributors include, but are not limited to: Dendy Rousseau; Jane (Allison) Nevels; Roy (Chip) Whitaker; Jeanette (Rousseau) Middleton; John Martin O'Neal; Tennie (Law) Clemons; Catherine (Clemons) Cameron; Betty Putnam; Faye Carolyn, Jane, and Billy Joe Flanagan; Phyllis (Skelton) Clay; Mark and Mike Skelton; Nellie (Campbell) Hunt; Cecil Campbell; Robert Smart; Eddie Thomas Hunt; Hattie Henson; Odell Millsap; Lucian Hill; AND, of course, the author and artist: Norma Jean (Tince) Skelton Brown.

TO ORDER THE PICTORIAL MEMORIES OF PAINT ROCK, ALABAMA:

Mail your check in the amount of \$75.00 made payable to Norma S. Brown to:

Norma S. Brown

3408 Pikeview Road

Fort Mill, SC 29715

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page 2

The Military Telegraph during the Civil War in the United States ..., Volume 1

By William Rattle Plum

Pages 280-284

Soon after, he was *en route* for Huntsville, in company, on the train, with Superintendent Bruch. They had proceeded but a few miles, when bump, bump ! bang ! bang !! The train was ditched and the bushmen were whacking away. It was a moment full of confused scare, and Bruch and Dougherty were surcharged with that sort of confusion. No sooner had they crawled through a window on the off side than the guerrillas sounded their demoniac war-whoop; but not wishing to encounter the train guard, they hurriedly decamped, and the telegraphers took possession of the *field* back to Columbia, exhibiting commendable energy all the way.

For want of other amusement, and chancing to have some copper pennies, Dougherty amalgamated them in the battery room, and among the illiterate farmers they became excellent silver half dollars, much sought after in exchange for watermelons and vegetables, which would have been exorbitantly charged for by the native Secessionists, but for this system of specie payment.

Three trains left Huntsville, August 27, traveling close together; two were laden with troops, the last was to take up the post guards along the road. At Mooresville, the six soldiers and operator were found by the second train on a flat car, with all their truck, including about twelve barrels of mess pork, with which they made a barricade, that undoubtedly saved the lives of some of the party. The sergeant of the guard missed that train and took the last one. Thus Dougherty became commander-in-chief on the flat car, which was the last on the middle train. Near three P. M., about midway between Pulaski and Columbia, the train was thrown from the track, and a shower of buckshot announced the presence of the enemy in the adjoining woods. The telegraph party, safely ensconced behind the salt pork, had the happy satisfaction of knowing that it was that, not they, that was being well peppered. The attack came from the east and, consequently, the passengers hastily landed on the opposite side of the train, which was used as a protection. A lively fight ensued for about ten minutes, during which time a Federal who was fighting with Dougherty was shot through the brain and fell dead by his side. A lieutenant called for volunteers to reconnoiter. Dougherty and a few others went into the woods to see what had become of the enemy, who had suddenly ceased firing, and while darting from tree to tree the party was again fired upon, and another soldier was shot, whereupon, "having accomplished the object of the reconnaissance," they fell back in good order, bringing off one wounded prisoner and some shot-guns, but, while away, they discovered that the bridge ahead had been burned, and they soon noticed that the one in their rear was burning. In the language of an eminent military authority, they were "bottled up;" but the last train coming up the next morning with a thousand soldiers and some cotton bales, the latter were used successfully to pass the trains over one stream, the troops being transferred to trains from Columbia at the other bridgeway.

The line was destroyed by fastening it about every half mile to the end of the train, which tore off insulators and broke down poles before the line parted. Operator J. A. Fuller came up on the last train. Dougherty was sent to General Negley, whose command was, walking north on the pike. For this march, Dougherty donned his old clothes and sent his better ones by train to Nashville. That was the last he ever saw of them; a very common mishap; for what army operator did not lose at least one *best* suit ?

Now let us go back a little and note what the chief operator, Crittenton, was doing.

August 30, he telegraphed Superintendent Bruch, **from Stevenson, Ala.:**

Troops withdrawn from Decatur and Columbia route three days ago. Mooresville, Athens, Elk River and Pulaski offices closed. Operators and repairers ordered to Nashville with all telegraph property. Battle Creek taken by rebels; operators escaped. Bridgeport office closed and troops left. Huntsville to be evacuated to-day; Stevenson to-morrow. This will give us no foothold in Northern Alabama for the present. I am withdrawing everything from my section as quietly and orderly as possible.

The next day was full of interest to Crittenton. **A wire was run to the fort in Stevenson, and communication opened there from to**

Rousseau's head-quarters in Nashville, and so continued throughout an engagement with an advance force of the enemy. The following excerpt from an article by the author, in 1867, is now in point: "*Stevenson, Alabama, was attacked, I think, by General Wheeler. Our lines were still working; the operator had his office in the stockade at that place. In Nashville, we were having a terrible thunder-storm; the surcharged wire found relief in my office every minute; officers flocked there to learn the cause of so much firing; the crack of the escaping lightning was as loud as that of a rifle.* Every minute I thought would be the last for my magnets. I inquired of General Rousseau if I should 'cut out.' **'No, sir,' he replied; 'let the instrument burn if it will; I must keep posted about the Stevenson fight.'** A minute after this, he was leaning upon my desk, with one hand upon the window sill, when he received a powerful shock. That great strong man was nearly prostrated ; he who had withstood the shocks of many fierce battles, was for once demoralized by a single one sent forth by the God of battles. It was a week before he fully recovered."

That night the Stevenson force began its retreat and, telegraphic communication was opened at each bivouac. Then all was quiet on the Southern lines; that whole country had been given up to the enemy, and operators arrived one by one and in twos, in the main, impecunious, ragged and communicative. They awaited developments at the Cedar street office by day and the theater on free passes, by night, until singly or in squads, they assumed new duties, and then the Cedar street office, like the city itself, was shut off from the world.....

LEMUEL GREEN MEAD



Lemuel Green Mead

was a native of Paint Rock, in western Jackson County, Alabama. His family, who came from Virginia, were prominent locally. His uncle, Lemuel Mead of Huntsville, was a signer of the Alabama Constitution of 1819. Lemuel G. Mead was a Paint Rock lawyer when the war began. He was also master of the Paint Rock Masonic Lodge.

In September 1861, Mead raised the "Paint Rock Rifles" which became Company C, 26th (later 50th) Alabama Infantry Regiment. He led his men into combat at Shiloh in April 1862 but resigned his commission on 1 July 1862, after North Alabama had been invaded by Union forces. Mead was soon commissioned a captain of partisan rangers and authorized to operate behind the enemy lines in North Alabama and Tennessee. On 18 January 1864, Mead was authorized to increase his command to a battalion. His operations were so successful that on 1 March 1865, Mead was authorized to reorganize his men into a regiment of three battalions. Mead's friend, General John Brown Gordon, pushed for Mead's temporary promotion to the rank of brigadier general. However, the war ended before the promotion could take place.

In May 1865, Colonel Mead refused demands for his surrender, replying that he "saw no military necessity to do so." Mead was accordingly declared an outlaw by Union Gen'l George Thomas. Mead swam his horse across the Tennessee River and held out for a short time longer on Brindley Mountain, in Marshall County. He finally took the oath of allegiance in September, 1865, at Montgomery.

After the war, Mead moved his law practice to Scottsboro, Alabama, where he prospered. He was active in Democratic politics, becoming an elector for Samuel Tilden in the "stolen election" of 1876.

Colonel Mead was killed in the town of Gurley, Alabama, in 1878 while walking with Captain Frank B. Gurley, late of the 4th Alabama Cavalry. The killer approached Mead and shot him once with a shotgun. As Mead lay on the ground, the killer then emptied the other barrel into him. The cause of the shooting was a dispute over sharecropping, allegedly involving just one bale of cotton. The killer fled to Texas, but years later was located and returned for trial. The gunman was found not guilty, since the defense attorney (no less than Leroy Pope Walker, former Confederate Secretary of War) argued self-defense, since Col. Mead had been carrying a pistol at the time! (Walker is also famous for winning an acquittal on robbery charges in Huntsville for Missouri outlaw, Frank James.)

Mead's Cavalry Battalion

Mead's Cavalry Regiment, or Mead's Partisan Rangers, was initially a single cavalry company under the command of Capt. Lemuel Green Mead. It operated effectively as early as the summer of 1862. Capt. Mead later raised several other cavalry companies behind enemy lines in northern Alabama and Tennessee during 1864. These were arranged as battalions, but several companies failed to complete their organization. Of these, the 5 Alabama companies were transferred to the 25th AL Cavalry Battalion under the command of Major Milus E. Johnston, and the 6 Tennessee companies were transferred to the 27th TN Cavalry Battalion on 3 March 1865.

According to the *Official Records* (v.XVI, pt. 2), Mead's company was ordered (15 August 1862) to operate in north Alabama and Tennessee, reporting to the nearest Confederate commander. General Braxton Bragg's order, dated Chattanooga, TN, 26 August 1862 announced the following cavalry assignments: Crawford's, Mead's and Allen's regiment, commanded by Colonel Wheeler, to left wing of army of the Mississippi, reporting to Major-General Hardee. The command is mentioned by Union General R. W. Johnson, Pulaski, TN, as Mead's Battalion. The command is also called by Union Col. W. J. Clift, at Fayetteville, TN, "the most reckless and daring in the country." Finally, Special Orders No.52, Richmond, VA, 2 March 1865 dictates that "the following companies [of] Alabama cavalry raised within the enemy's lines by Capt. L. G. Mead, under authority of the War Department, are hereby organized into a battalion, to be known as the Twenty-fifth battalion, Alabama cavalry: [composed of] Capt. M. E. Johnston's, Capt. F. E. Cotton's, Capt. D. C. Nelson's, Capt. R. L. Welch's, Capt. W. M. Campbell's and Capt. John Cobb's [companies]."

SARA LOUISE WILLSON JACOBS (Mrs. Henry Grady) (1893-1988)

By Ann B. Chambless

Sara Louise Willson Jacobs (National Number 166977) was the organizing Regent of the Tidence Lane Chapter of the Alabama Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The charter members honored their first Regent by naming the fledgling Scottsboro chapter for one of Mrs. Jacobs' patriot ancestors, the Reverend Tidence Lane.

Images of the late Sara Louise Willson Jacobs flash like the variegated colors of a prism. They move in the swirling winds of time, some soft and subtle, some brilliantly sharp. All illuminate the life paths of her descendants, her sea of friends, and the innumerable lives she touched in her dedication to nurturing the goals of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Louise Jacobs grew up in Sweetwater, Tennessee. In the early 1900s, she rode the train to Murfreesboro where she attended the Middle Tennessee State Normal School now known as Middle Tennessee State University. On September 17, 1913, she married Henry Grady Jacobs (of Scottsboro, Alabama) in Niota, Tennessee, and they were the parents of Elizabeth (Beth) and John Clinton Jacobs II.

Mrs. Jacobs held every office in Tidence Lane Chapter and served as Alabama State Regent during the years of 1946-1949. During those years, she visited forty-six chapters and had the pleasure of organizing five new chapters and reviving four chapters that had previously lost interest in DAR work. For the National Society, Mrs. Jacobs served on committees and as Vice-President General. As long as her health permitted, she attended Continental Congress; each April she came home rejuvenated and even more dedicated to the work of the NSDAR.

The DAR project that claimed her most ardent attention was the Kate Duncan Smith School. A great deal of the early success of KDS can be attributed to Mrs. Jacobs. She was the pendulum that kept the works in motion. KDS Dedication Day was her October highlight, and it is fitting that one of the KDS educational buildings bears her name.

In addition to her love and effort put forth in the DAR, Sara Louise Willson Jacobs was an active member of The Colonial Dames of America, The National Society Daughters of the American Colonists, The United States Daughters of the War of 1812, The Huguenot Society of America, the Alabama Historical Society, and the Jackson County Historical Association. Within these organizations, she served most efficiently and graciously on governing boards, as an officer, and as chairman of many committees.

Civic and church work also played an important role in the life of Sara Louise Willson Jacobs. In her earliest years in Scottsboro, she organized and taught a class for young married couples at Scottsboro's First Baptist Church. Her class members were always reluctant to move on to the next teacher, and she taught the Louise Jacobs Sunday School Class for almost sixty years.

Sara Louise Willson Jacobs, one of the noblest of women, died on October 10, 1988, and is buried beside her husband, Henry Grady Jacobs, in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Scottsboro, Alabama. She was truly the grande dame of Scottsboro, and her encouraging words always spoke the language of her heart.

CIVIL WAR SKIRMISH at DUCKETT'S PLANTATION in Paint Rock Valley

SOURCE: War of the Rebellion Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series 1, volume 45, No.1, pages 636-637

On November 21, 1864, Col. J. W. Hall of the Fourth Regiment, Michigan Infantry, wrote from his headquarters at Larkinsville, Alabama, about his activity in Paint Rock Valley as follows:

“Sir: I have respectfully to report in compliance with orders received, I proceeded to Brownsborough and assumed command of a force assembled there, numbering 394 men, of which 145 were mounted. At 3 o'clock in the morning of the 17th I moved on the New Market road.....Arrived at Mr. Sandsley's plantation at 8:30 a.m. and being informed that the enemy (CSA) 500 strong were three miles in advance, I halted the command for dinner. I then set the column in motion, and after 10 minutes' march came upon the enemy in line of battle on the side of the mountain, and advanced upon him with a strong line of skirmishers from which he retreated. As fast as the infantry could march, I drove him around and over the mountains, up Hurricane Branch five miles beyond New Market, killing 9 and wounded 3 or 4, including one commissioned officer, which he (CSA commander) took with him or secreted in such a manner we could not find him. It then being dark, I returned to New Market in order to have possession of the different roads.....The following morning about 9 o'clock I was informed that the railroad had been torn up five miles north. A train being at hand I took the infantry forces then at Brownsborough and proceeded with the mounted force to that point as soon as possible.....

I then proceeded on (Col. Alfred A.) Russell's track, coming up with him at dusk at DUCKETT'S PLANTATION, near Paint Rock River. Dismounting all the Enfield rifles, I moved on him at a double quick, using the dismounted men on the mountain on the right and the cavalry on the left of the road which runs along at the foot of the mountain. The enemy here made a more stubborn resistance than at any time previous, and I was in hopes he would stand long enough for us to get within short range, but I was soon invited to another race, as he showed his heels as usual; it was then dark and impossible to come up with him again.

Civil War Skirmish at Duckett's Plantation in Paint Rock Valley (Continued)

I captured his camp, rations for the men and oats and corn for the horses, also several horses, saddles, bridles, forage, and haversacks, blankets, and canteens, which were mostly filled with whiskey. About 30 horses were captured....

Captain (John B.) Kennamer's home guards have about 8 or 10 head of cattle at Woodville, which I directed to have sent here. Some 20 stand of arms were captured, including rifles, carbines, and shotguns; they were mostly given to the home guards, as they were mostly without arms. Much of the property captured at the camp was of considerable loss to the enemy, but of very little use to us. I ordered it burned and otherwise destroyed.

I occupied the enemy's camp the night of the 19th, and the next morning at daylight took his tracks, but soon ascertained that he was too far in advance for me to overtake him, and as it had been raining all night and the streams rising rapidly, I did not think it prudent to follow him, and therefore returned with the command to Brownsborough, where I arrived at dark, that being the only point where I could get to the railroad on account of high water. Two of my command were slightly wounded. I lost 2 horses drowned and 3 or 4 abandoned.

Very respectfully yours,

J. W. Hall, Colonel, Fourth Regiment Michigan Infantry"

NOTE BY Ann Chambless:

At the time of the 1860 Jackson County, Alabama census, Richard Duckett's neighbors were L. L. Padgett, Eli Toney, James McCord, Richard Latham, Polly Smith, David and Carroll Brewer, Jessie Webb, and Jackson Riddle.

The 1860 census shows that Richard Duckett's real estate was valued at \$11,500.00 and his personal property was valued at \$7,000.00, so it is no wonder the Col. Hall called Duckett's farm a plantation. All of Richard Duckett's neighbors owned small acreage as shown by the value of their real estate on the 1860 census.

In 1854 and 1860, Richard Duckett purchased land in Township 3, Range 3 East; in 1858, he purchased land in Township 2, Range 3 East, in Jackson County, AL. Richard Duckett was born January 31, 1798, in Laurens County, South Carolina. He died on April 1, 1885, in Jackson County, Alabama.

Richard Duckett was the son of Thomas Duckett, Jr. and Lydia Whitmore Duckett of Laurens and Newberry Counties, SC. 1820 Newberry County, SC court records show that Richard Duckett received cash for his distributive share of the estate of Thomas Duckett, Jr. (his father). By 1829, Richard Duckett had followed his brother John to Lauderdale County, Alabama, where both purchased sizable acreage. Lauderdale County, AL legal records show that Richard Duckett was awarded 5 separate court ordered judgments in 1855, totaling approximately \$7500.00. Since Richard Duckett appears on the 1860 Jackson County, AL census as a large land owner, he apparently moved his family here between 1855 and 1860. Richard Duckett is buried in the Duckett Cemetery located in Section 12, Township 3, Range 3 East on his old farm. In 1986, this farm was owned by Mrs. Louise Cunningham.

AN ACT of the Alabama Legislature approved December 23, 1836

To authorize **Samuel Gay** to Turnpike a road therein named.

Section 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama in General Assembly convened,* That **Samuel Gay**, be, and he is hereby authorized to open and turnpike a road to commence at the ferry of the said Gay on the Tennessee river, in the county of Jackson and to pass over the Raccoon mountain, to the foot of said mountain at the place known as the widow Koons, at the eastern foot of said mountain.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the aforesaid road shall be opened fifteen feet wide, ten feet of which shall be cleared of every obstruction, stumps and grubs, taken up by the roots or cut level with the ground, sloping ground and banks of water courses shall be so worked on as to admit the easy passage of all kinds of carriages, all marshes and swamps shall be causewayed ten feet wide, with good and durable materials.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That when the said Samuel Gay shall have completed said road and reported the same to the county court of Jackson county and also to the county court of DeKalb county, it shall be the duty of said judges to appoint three suitable persons, two of whom shall be appointed in the county of Jackson and one in the county of DeKalb, to examine said road and report their opinion to the judge of said counties, and the said commissioners shall receive such compensation for their services as the judge shall deem reasonable to be paid by the said Samuel Gay.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That should the commissioners to be appointed under the third section of this act, report that the road has been opened and is in good order, then in that case the said Samuel Gay is hereby authorized to erect two gates, one in the county of Jackson and the other in the county of De Kalb, at which gates, he the said Gay or his agent may demand and receive of and from every person passing through said gates the following tolls, to wit: for every pleasure carriage drawn by two or more horses or mules, or wagon drawn by more than two horses, mules or oxen, fifty cents; for every two wheel pleasure carriage, thirty seven and one half cents; for every carryall or other four wheel carriage or wagon drawn by not more than two horses, mules or oxen, twenty five cents; and for every other two wheel carriage or cart, twenty five cents, for every man and horse, twelve and one half cents; for every horse or mule, six and one fourth cents; for every head of cattle, hogs, sheep or goats, one cent; and if any person shall pass around said gates with the intention to evade the payment of toll, he or she, for every offence, shall forfeit and pay to the said Samuel Gay, the sum of ten dollars, to be recovered before any justice of the peace with legal cost for the same.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the judge of the county court of Jackson county, on application, to appoint three suitable persons, who shall proceed to examine the condition of said road and report the same to said judge, and in case the commissioners shall report the road not to be in good order, he shall direct the gates to be thrown open and no toll shall be received under the penalty of twenty five dollars for each offence, until said road shall be repaired in a good and sufficient manner, and the said Samuel Gay shall commence said turnpike road in twelve months after the passage of this act, and complete the same within two years thereafter, and shall have all the profits arising from the tolls for the term of fifteen years from the time they are authorized to receive tolls on said road. Approved December 23, 1836.

History of La Grange Military Academy and the Cadet Corps, 1857-1862, La Grange College, 1830-1857 by Dr. John Allan Wyeth of Guntersville, Alabama

The village of La Grange (originally in Franklin County, Alabama but now in Colbert County) organized La Grange College, and, by approval of an Act of the Alabama Legislature, opened its doors for students on January 11, 1830. In 1858, a military feature was introduced, and the name of the school was changed to La Grange Military Academy. In 1861, when John Allan Wyeth (of Guntersville, Alabama) enrolled, there were 170 Cadets in the Cadet Corps of La Grange Military Academy.

When the Civil War began, many of the Cadets entered the Confederate States Army. Of the 170 in the Cadet Corps, 48 had volunteered by July 1, 1861. In March 1862, the doors to the school were closed, and almost all of the Corps entered the Southern Army. In the early 1900s, Dr. John Allan Wyeth wrote a history of La Grange Military Academy and included brief bios of his fellow Cadets. The following young men were Cadets from Jackson County, Alabama, and this is how Dr. Wyeth remembered them:

JAMES POLK BREWER:

Born in Jackson County, Alabama, in 1845 (Son of Leroy Brewer). LaGrange, Company A, 1860 to December, 1861. When the school closed in March, 1862, cadet Brewer entered the service in an Alabama regiment and died of typhoid fever at Murfreesboro late in 1862. I knew Polk Brewer very well and can testify to his gentle and manly deportment.

JAMES MASON COTNAM:

Born in Jackson County, Alabama, February 6th, 1847 (son of Thomas T. and Elizabeth (Doran) Cotnam) . LaGrange, 1860-61. Volunteered as a private in Company G, 3rd Kentucky Cavalry, in 1863, and served until the close of the war. After the war graduated in medicine and has been a successful practicing physician ever since, and is now a resident of South Pittsburg, Tennessee. J. M. Cotnam was one of the youngest and smallest in stature among the cadets and carried the guidon (company identification).

AUGUSTUS GORDON

From Jackson County, Alabama. LaGrange, 1859 to 1860. At the outbreak of the war he enlisted in the Raccoon Roughts, a company from Jackson County, commanded by his brother, Captain, afterwards, General John B. Gordon. Cadet Augustus Gordon was 1st Sergeant of this company and was soon elected 1st Lieutenant and later Captain of the company, which was assigned to the 6th Alabama Infantry. He was wounded at the Battle of Seven Pines. Upon the recommendation of General Rhodes he was promoted Major of the regiment. Gordon requested on account of his youthfulness to be allowed to remain Captain of his company, but General Rhodes declined his request, and he was placed in command of a regiment in General Stonewall Jackson's marvelous campaign in the valley of Virginia in 1862. He won the entire confidence of this great soldier. A few days before the battle of Chancellorsville he was confined to bed in a Richmond hospital, but hearing that a battle was imminent, although in feeble physical condition, he left the hospital and made his way to the front.

HISTORY OF LA GRANGE MILITARY ACADEMY AND CADET CORPS (Cont.)

At the head of his command, in one of the most desperate charges in that great battle in which Jackson won a brilliant victory and received a mortal wound, young Gordon was shot through the body with grape shot and died within a few minutes. His last words were "leave me and go after the enemy. I am ready to die."

Cadet Gordon was a worthy scion of the great family from which he descended, an honor to La Grange Academy, to his State and to his country. He died in his twenty-second year. It may well be said of him as was spoken of one who fell at Balaklava, "None died with greater glory than he, yet many died and there was much glory."

A GUNTER:

Bridgeport, Alabama (**Could this really be Charles, son of William and Cynthia Malinda Gunter? IF so, Charles Gunter met his death in an 1861 CW battle in Virginia**) . La Grange for only a short portion of the term from February to July 1861.

FRANK D. HURT:

Bellefonte, Alabama. La Grange, July to December, 1861. He enlisted in December, 1862, in the 55th Alabama Infantry and served in that regiment until December, 1864. He returned to his native county after the war and is now residing at Scottsboro, Alabama.

THOMAS HURT:

Bellefonte, Alabama. La Grange, from July to December, 1861. Early in 1862 he enlisted in Company K. Starnes' 4th Tennessee Cavalry of Forrest's Corps and served actively in this command until the surrender in May, 1865. This was one of the most famous regiments in Forrest's renowned cavalry corps. Tom Hurt engaged in farming in Jackson County after the war, and died several years later.

D. F. MOORE:

Woodville, Alabama, now living at 262 - 8th Street, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Son of Samuel D. J. Moore who was a lawyer in Tuscaloosa, Al, in 1850 per Federal census.

E. M. MOORE:

Woodville, Alabama. La Grange, July to December, 1861. Son of Samuel D. J. and Ann M. Moore. Samuel D.J. Moore was a lawyer in Tuscaloosa, AL, at time of 1850 census.

JAMES S. WILLIAMS:

Born Mar 25, 1842 (Son of James and Katherine (Tally) Williams of Bridgeport-Stevenson area) LaGrange, 1860. In July of 1860 he enlisted in Company I, 17th Tennessee Infantry. He was captured at the battle of Murfreesboro, December, 1862, and imprisoned at Camp Douglas. He was exchanged in April, 1863, and re-enlisted in Graham's Company, Russell's 4th Alabama Cavalry, and was wounded at Knoxville in December, 1863. He was made Captain of scouts in General Clanton's Brigade in the spring of 1864, with which command he served until the close of the war. In June, 1865, he returned to his native county (Jackson) and followed the occupation of farmer until his death, in August, 1890. (J.S. Williams married Emily Hale).

1892 Report on the coal measures of the plateau region of Alabama

By Dr. Eugene A. Smith, Alabama State Geologist

EXCERPTS FROM COAL MEASURES OF JACKSON COUNTY:

"The Coal Measures of Jackson county, like those of Madison county, are confined to the tops of mountains, but then the mountains are much broader in this county. These mountains are nothing more than elevated table lands that have been cut and divided up by valleys of erosion. Those to the north of the M. & C. R. R. are still connected or continuous with the great table lands of Tennessee and are known as the *Cumberland table lands* or Cumberland Mountains. Those to the south of the above railroad and to the north of the Tennessee River, form the groups of mountain peaks known as *Gunter's Mountain*. Though they are now disconnected from each other and from the main table lands to the north of the above railroad, by coves and valleys of erosion, they were once but parts and parcels of the same *great table land of Tennessee*.

Those to the south and east of the Tennessee River, known as *Raccoon Mountain*, are nothing more than the extension into Alabama of the Walden Ridge or eastern edge of the table lands of Tennessee, cut in two by the Tennessee River. The plateau areas or Coal Measures of these mountains or of Jackson county were therefore once connected throughout and they formed the entire area of the county; but the Cumberland and Raccoon Mountain areas have, since their deposition, been separated by a fold of the strata, afterwards, eroded into the valley running north-east and south-west, and now occupied by the Tennessee river, and the Coal Measures on both sides of this valley have been so wasted away that they now, all together, do not cover quite half of the area of the county or as much as 500 square miles.

The boundary lines of these Coal Measures along the valleys, coves, etc., are distinctly marked by high abrupt bluffs that cap the steep mountain sides. For a general description of these Coal Measures or the plateau region of Jackson county, see Introduction.

BELMONT COAL MINES:

The *Belmont Coal Mines*, in S. 1, T. 4, R. 5 E., are in this *Cliff Seam* of coal. At the time visited, in September, 1880, these mines are said to have consisted of nine drifts. These drifts are arranged along under the capping bluff (*Cliff Rock*) on the south east side of the mountain.

Prof. Lupton remarks that this coal is of *excellent quality*, very dry, firm and hard, and contains a large percentage of volatile matter, which renders it in all probability eminently suitable for the manufacture of gas. The specimen analyzed showed an entire absence of sulphur or any other hurtful ingredient."

"Mr. Jno. A. Grant, the Supt. of the M. & O. R. R., in a letter written to Mr. F. D. Hurt, of Boyd's Switch, dated Oct. 27, 1877, says :

"I have had the coal from your mine (Belmont) tested as to its adaptability to locomotives, and am pleased to be able to certify to its superiority to any now in use on this road."

In a letter written to the same gentleman by Mr. D. Bryant, of Memphis, he says :

" Some of the mechanics at the shops here (M. & C.R. R.) have seen some of the coal you shipped here, and have asked me to write you, to know if there is any possible chance to get some, say three car-loads, at Boyd's Switch on cars, and at what price. They say it is as good as Pittsburg coal."

Across the mountain, east of the above sections, on the margin of *Doran's Cove*, near the State line, in the southwest corner of Marion County, Tennessee, there occurs the following out-cropping:

The coals of the last three sections are probably of the same variable seam, (4) of the *Etna Section*. The out-cropping of coal in "*Bedstead Hollow*," one of the hollows leading down into the head of *Doran's Cove*, are believed to be also of this same seam. The out-cropping of coal on the north side of "*Bedstead Hollow*" is said to be 3 feet 6 inches thick; that on the south side of the hollow is in the back part of a rock-house, in which there was, in November, 1883, an old furnace and the remnants of what is said to have been an old *scaffold bedstead*, hence the name *Bedstead Hollow*. The old furnace is built of flagstones from the back part of the rock-house and is said to have been here for from 70 to 75 years. The supposition is that a counterfeiter here once mined his coal, made his spurious money and slept. The coal has a lamellar structure and often carries much pyrites. The flagstones of this neighborhood are often well suited for grindstones and whetstones, and are used for headstones to graves.

The dividing ridge between *Doran's Cove* and *Jefferies' Cove*, a small cove running out from the main *Doran's Cove* towards the north-west, in what is known as *The Narrows*, has been worn down to the mere thickness of the *Cliff Rock*. Across *The Narrows* the *Cliff Rock* forms a wall some 60 feet long by some 15 feet high and only 2 to 3 feet thick. The approach to *The Narrows* from either end of the spur is, for a long way, not more than wide enough for a wagon-way, with a bluff on each side.

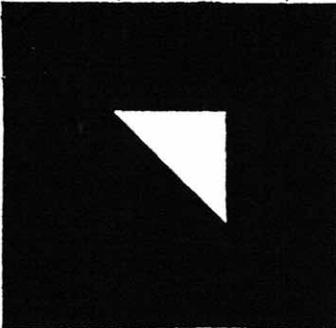
"West of the Dade or Cole/Coal City Mines, near the Alabama line, on the edge of the mountain on the south side of the west prong of *Nickajack Creek*, are the *Castle Rock Mines*.

On the side of the *Bridgeport* and *Trenton* road down the mountain in the *Moore Gap*, in S. 14, T. 1, R. 9 E., there is an old drift in the out-cropping of a seam of coal. Under the capping bluff (*Cliff Rock*) to the southwest of the *Moore Gap* or in the S. E.± of S. 22, T. 1, R. 9 E., there are reported out-croppings of coal about 12 inches thick.

The mouth of the (John) *Cunningham Old Drift* is in the S.E. corner of S. 27, T. 1, R. 9 E. This drift was worked before the war; it is said to be driven for one-fourth mile, and the coal in it to be from a few inches to four feet in thickness. The coal was hauled in wagons down the mountain to the river and loaded on flatboats. Most of it is said to have been lost in the *Tennessee River* at the head of *Muscle Shoals*.

Along *Long Island Creek*, the *Cliff Rock* is near 100 feet, in thickness. It forms water-falls along the branches or headwaters of this creek in their descent from the plateau/or top of the mountain. Under these water falls, in several instances at least, are out-croppings of the *Cliff Seam of Coal*. On the side of the mountain south of *Long Island Creek*, in S. W. quarter of S. 10, T. 2, R. 9 E., there is a reported an outcropping perhaps 12 inches thick.

The *Cliff Seam* shows in several places under the capping bluff {*Cliff Rock*) along the edge of the mountain next to the river below *Long Island Creek*. The coal in these outcroppings is said to range from one to seven feet in thickness. It was worked in *ante bellum* days, in S. 9, T. 2, R. 8 E., in what is known as the *Caperton or Gibson Mines*. The coal from these mines was hauled in wagons down the mountain to the river, loaded on flat-boats and shipped to *Chattanooga*, etc."



JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

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JULY 2010

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, July 25, 2010, 2:00 p.m., at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Bradford Hall. The church is located at the corner of Scott Street and College Avenue in Scottsboro. Program Vice-President Kelly Goodowens is pleased to announce that JCHA member Dr. Ronald H. Dykes, author of **BUILDING BRIDGES AND ROADS IN THE KOREAN CONFLICT: HISTORY OF COMPANY B FROM SCOTTSBORO, ALABAMA, DURING THE "FORGOTTEN WAR"**, will present the program. Veterans of Company B will be special guests of Dr. Dykes and the Association on July 25. After the program, Dr. Dykes will be available to autograph books which will be for sale before and after the meeting. Our historical association receives half the proceeds from the sale of this book. More in-depth information about the book and how to order it by mail can be found on Page Two of this edition of **THE CHRONICLES**.

The Executive Board will meet at 1:00 pm. prior to the meeting.

2010 annual dues were due on January 1, 2010. *IF paid 2010 does not appear on the mailing label of your July 2010*

CHRONICLES, please mail your check to JCHA Treasurer, P. O. BOX 1494, SCOTTSBORO, AL, 35768, as follows:

Annual Dues (except Senior Citizens)	\$20.00
Senior Citizens, 65 years of age	\$15.00
Life Membership dues	\$150.00

Please include your 9-digit zip code with your membership renewal. IF your address changes, please notify the JCHA. Members in good standing receive **THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES** in January, April, July, and October.

CHRONICLES EDITOR: Ann B. Chambless, 435 Barbee Lane, Scottsboro, AL 35769, email: rabc123@scottsboro.org

JCHA MEMBER DR. RONALD H. DYKES' THIRD BOOK

Published Jointly with the Jackson County Historical Association

Building Bridges and Roads in the Korean Conflict: History of Company B, From Scottsboro, Alabama, During the "Forgotten War" by Ronald H. Dykes is now available for purchase. This is Dykes' fourth book and the third in which he has generously shared the proceeds with the Jackson County Historical Association.

The book is divided into five sections. The first is a brief history of the Korean Conflict. Technically, it was not a war but a "police action" and is now generally referred to as the Korean "War" or the "Forgotten War".

The second section is the history of Company B, a National Guard unit from the Scottsboro area which was part of the 151st Combat Engineers Battalion headquartered in Huntsville. Included in this section is the unit's history prior to the outbreak of the war, as related by Major Mark Scott Skelton; an overview by Captain Charles Bradford of the unit's time in Korea; newspaper articles about the unit (one of which includes a roster of the 164 members); and formerly classified information detailing day-to-day work assignments of Company B.

The third section is the heart of the book. Dykes did in-depth interviews with thirteen members of Company B, and their stories are presented as they were related to him. The interviewees were Archie Barclay, Elbert Beaird, Bert Boykin, Don Campbell, Bill Freeman, Leroy Gist, Bill Gross, Jim Johnson, Gene Kirby, Ben Law, Joe Rounsavall, Willard Thrasher, and Jake Word.

The fourth section consists of eighteen half-page photographs of members of the unit at work and at leisure. There are also five pictures of the "Alabama Bridge" (including the photo on the front cover), which was still standing as of a few years ago. The photos were taken by Jake Word, a member of Company B who served as the battalion photographer during the latter part of his tour in Korea.

The last section is an appendix which includes interviews with Delbert Shelton and Alfred Kennamer, who were in the conflict but not in Company B.

Dykes dedicates the book to the "unsung veterans of the Korean Conflict" and emphasizes how absolutely essential support troops like Company B were in this conflict and in all wars.

Building Bridges costs \$22.95 and is currently available at the Scottsboro Public Library and the Scottsboro-Jackson Heritage Center. It can be ordered by sending a check for \$25.50 (made out to JCHA) to JCHA, PO Box 1494, Scottsboro, AL, 35768.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Ronald H. Dykes is a native of Bullock County, Alabama, and practiced medicine in Scottsboro for a number of years. He and his wife Jane live on the brow of July Mountain (overlooking Scottsboro). The Dykes have one son who lives and practices law in Birmingham. They presently have two grandchildren, Katie and Ellis, and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of another precious granddaughter in July.

March the 27, 1864
Larkinsville, Alabama

My dear wife, I must write to you again as I am so lonesome this Sabbath day. There is nothing will amuse me only to write you a letter. That is all the pleasure I take in this cruel war. I do not know what to write that would interest you but I may think of something before I get through. I have received one letter from you this month and now this is the 27 of March. It seems like I ought to get more then that in a month but I can account for that in this month from the fact that our train captured a few weeks ago. So the rebels got to read my letter.

The weather has been very disagreeable for the last 10 days but is pleasant overhead today. **The snow was 24 inches deep before it quit snowing.** It has been a long time since I got a letter from Mother and the girls. I have also wrote to Jane and Frank since I have been in this place, but I have never received any answer. Those was my friends when I lived at home but since I have been in the army it seems as though they had forsaken me. Such has been the case such friends will not do in this our day and if God spares me to get home, I shall remember such ones. This is the time to know who is your friend and I have found some since I have been in the army. I neither buy or beg friendship in time of war or in time of peace but my dear, I think I can count one that was proved true to me since I have been a United States soldier and that is you. When all fails you still show that you have a good feeling towards me. Well, that is enough. Still those that seem to be my friends at home should think of my condition while I am fighting for one of the best governments that the whole world can produce whilst they are sitting around their fireside with their beloved families. Those at home don't have any idea about the soldier life.

I have been in the service for nearly 20 months and I have forgot as much as I know but I want to forget more yet. But my dear, I don't play cards or gamble in any way or drink whiskey. I have become an enemy in drinking whiskey. I don't handle the Creator in any way. **The whole company was drunk yesterday and all last night but me and 3 others.** They wanted me to drink with them. I told them I have more love and respect for you then that. I told them I should always respect my family if I never get to [-unreadable-] the most of those that was drunk had families at home and some of those that was drunk their families needed all the money that they could get in way of support. It will cost a man five dollars here to get drunk and the same to get sober.

General Sherman and General Logan visited our camp today. It has been a long time since we seen General

Sherman. We gave him three loud cheers and he give us all the glory. I still hear good news about this war but whether to believe it I can't say. Well it can't last always. I am aware of that. This cruel war has brought women and children to suffer. It is a sight to see how they have to live. Still the poor class had to live like heathens before this war commenced. There was a very nice girl asked me for a chew of tobacco the other day. I told her if my wife chewed tobacco I would leave her. She said the women used it as much as men.

My dear, I have dreamt of you now for the last three nights and I surely will hear from you tomorrow. Oh, to God that I was with you this Sabbath day. I do love you as I love myself. Dear, take good care of yourself and write often. So I will close. Tell Jimmy to sleep at Ma's feet and keep them warm and to kiss his little sister. Dear don't let them get spoiled. Raise them to your own notion. You know how I hate a spoiled child and the way we are living, they can be spoiled might quick. Dear, I must close for the present hoping this will find you enjoying the best of health as it leaves me. My health can't be no better than it is at this time. So farewell my dear darling companion.
To you I call from William Craig to one of the best and prettiest women in the whole world Levica Craig.

*[Editor's Note: I am the great-granddaughter of William Samuel Craig. These letters from the Civil War were in the possession of his grandson, Jerry Craig, and they were loaned to me during a visit to his home in Norborne, Missouri. All of these letters were difficult to "translate" from the decorative script-writing; some have areas of blanks which were impossible to decipher. Each letter retains some of its original spelling and grammar; some punctuation has been added for clarity; paragraphs have been created for easier reading. Where a word or phrase could not be read, "[--unreadable--]" is inserted; some words, such as places and names, may have "[Sherman]" immediately following. If you'd like to read more about my experience discovering William Samuel Craig, be sure to read the Go Inside Magazine article, Civil War Ancestors, in our History section.
-- Joyce Kohl]*

EDITOR'S NOTE BY ANN B. CHAMBLESS:

Larkinsville, Alabama was Jackson County's second largest town in the 1860s. During that era, Larkinsville's post office receipts were second to that of old Bellefonte (then the county seat). Stevenson, Scottsboro, and Bridgeport were still in their infancy. According to the "War of the Rebellion Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies", there was a skirmish near Larkinsville on August 30, 1862; a skirmish at Hunt's Mill near Larkinsville on September 26, 1863; and an "affair" near Larkinsville on February 14, 1864. From December 13, 1863, to May 1, 1864, the 54th Ohio Volunteer Infantry did railroad guard duty while stationed at Larkinsville. From June 1, 1864 to October 16, 1864, the 11th regiment, Indiana Calvary, Com M was headquartered at Larkinsville, AL.

ALABAMA. An Important and Interesting Letter from General William Tecumseh Sherman to Daniel T. Martin (of Bellefonte, Alabama)

From Our Own Correspondent.

Published in the NEW YORK TIMES on September 7, 1865

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Friday, Sept. 1, 1865.

The following letter from Gen. SHERMAN to Mr. (Daniel T.) MARTIN, of Jackson County, this State, is of interest, coming as it does from the pen of one of the most brilliant stars in the Union galaxy. It is, moreover, a valuable link in the chain of the great history which this war has created. By permission, I transcribe and transmit it for publication, feeling assured that the distinguished author will not regard it a breach of confidence:

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION MISSISSIPPI, IN THE FIELD, NEAR
ATLANTA, GA., Aug. 10, 1864.

Daniel M. Martin, Sand Mountain:

MY DEAR OLD FRIEND: When in Larkinsville last Winter, I inquired after you, and could get no positive answer. I wish you had sent me your letter of Jan. 22 -- which I have just received -- for I could have made you feel at ease at once. Indeed, do I well remember our old times about Bellefonte, and the ride we took to the corn mill, and the little farm where I admired the handsome colt and tried to buy it. Time has worn on, and you are now an old man, in want and suffering, and I, also no longer young, but leading an hostile army on the very road I came when I left Bellefonte, and at this moment pouring into Atlanta the dread missiles of war -- seeking the lives of its people. And yet I am the same WILLIAM TECUMSEH SHERMAN you knew in 1844, with as warm a heart as ever, and anxious that peace and plenty shall prevail in this land; and to prove it, I defy JEFF. DAVIS, Gen. LEE or Gen. HOOD to make the sacrifice for peace that I will make, personally or officially. I will to-day lay down my power and my honor -- already won -- will strip myself naked, and my wife and child stark naked in the world as we came, and begin life anew, if the people of the South will but cease the war, elect their members of Congress, and let them settle by argument and reason the questions growing out of slavery, instead of trying to divide our country into two angry halves, to quarrel and fight to the end of time. Our country cannot be divided by an East and West line, and must be one, and if we must fight, let us fight it out now, and not bequeath it to our children. I was never a politician, but resigned from the army and lived in California till 1857, when I came back with my wife and three children, who wanted to be near home, -- Mr. EWING's, not Mr. CORWIN's -- but I had the old army so ground in my composition that civil pursuits were too tame, and I accepted an offer as President of the Louisiana Military Academy. Therefore, at the time of LINCOLN's election I was at Alexandria, on Red River.

AN INTERESTING LETTER from Gen. W. T. Sherman to Daniel T. Martin (Cont)

I saw, and you must have seen, that the Southern politicians wanted to bring about secession, separation. They could have elected Mr. DOUGLAS, but they so managed that LINCOLN's election was made certain, and after they had accomplished this, was it honest or fair for them to allege it as a cause of war? Did not Mr. BRECKINRIDGE, as Vice-President, in his seat, declare Mr. LINCOLN the lawfully elected President of the United States? Was it ever pretended the President was the government? Don't you know that Congress makes laws, the Supreme Court judges them, and the President only executes them? Don't you know that Mr. LINCOLN of himself could not take away your rights? Now, I was in Louisiana, and while the planters and mechanics and industrious people were happy and prosperous, the politicians and busy-bodies were scheming and plotting, and got the Legislature to pass an ordinance of secession, which was submitted to the people, who voted against it, yet the politicians voted the State out, and proceeded to take possession of the United States mint, the forts, the arsenal -- and tore down our old flag and insulted it. That, too, before Mr. LINCOLN had got to Washington I saw these things, and begged BRAGG, and BEAUREGARD, and Gov. MOORE, and a host of personal friends, to beware. In that was high treason. But they answered: The North was made up of mean mechanics, manufacturers, traders and farmers, who would not fight. The people of the North never dreamed of interfering with the slaves or property of the South. They simply voted as they had a right to do, and they could not understand why the people of the South should begin to take possession of the forts and arsenals till our government had done something wrong -- had done something oppressive. The South began the war. You know it. I, and millions of others living at the South, know it; but the people of the North were as innocent of it as your little grandchildren. Even after forts had been taken, public arms stolen from our arsenals, and distributed among the angry militia, the brave and honest freemen of the great North could not realize the fact, and did not until BEAUREGARD began to fire upon a garrison of United States troops in a fort built by the common treasury of the whole country. Then, as by a mighty upheaval, the people rose and began to think of war, and not until then. I resigned my post in Louisiana in March, 1861, because of the public act on the part of the State in seizing the United States Arsenal at Baton Rouge, and went to St. Louis, where I readily got lucrative employment, hoping that some change would yet avert war. But it came, and I, and all of military education had to choose. I repeat that then, as now, I had as much love for the honest people of the South as any living man. Had they remained true to the country, I would have resisted even with arms any attack upon their rights -- even their slave rights. But when as a people they tore down our old flag and spat upon it, and called us cowards, and dared us to the contest, then I took up arms to maintain the integrity of our country, and punish the men who challenged us to the conflict.

Is this not a true picture? Suppose the North had patiently submitted, what would have been the verdict of history and the world? Nothing else but that the North was craven and coward. Will you say the North is craven and coward now? Cruel and inhuman as this war has been, and may still continue to be, it was forced upon us. We had no choice. And we have no choice yet.

AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM GEN. W. T. SHERMAN to Daniel Martin (Cont)

We must go on even to the end of time; even if it results in taking a million lives and desolating the whole land, leaving a desert behind.

We must maintain the integrity of our country; and the day will come when the little grandchild you love so well will bless us who fought that the United States of America should not sink into infamy and worse than Mexican anarchy by the act of Southern politicians, who care no more for you, or such as you, than they care for Hottentots. I have never underrated the magnitude of this war, for I know the size of the South, and the difficulty of operating in it. But I also know that the Northern races have, ever since the war begun, had more patience and perseverance, than the Southern races. And so will it be now -- we will persevere to the end. All mankind shall recognize in us a brave and stubborn race, not to be deterred by the magnitude of the danger. Only three years have passed, and that is but a minute in a nation's life, and see where we are. Where are the haughty planters of Louisiana, who compared our hard-working, intelligent whites of the North with their negroes?

The defeats we have sustained have hardly made a pause in our course, and the vaunted braves of Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Missouri, etc., instead of walking roughshod over the freemen of the North, are engaged in stealing horses and robbing poor old people for a living, whilst our armies now tread in every Southern State, and your biggest armies in Virginia and Georgia lay behind forts, and dare not come out and fight, us cowards of the North, who have come five hundred miles into their country to accept the challenge. But, my dear old friend, I have bored you too much. My handwriting is not plain, but you have time to study it out, and as you can understand, I have a great deal of w[riting??] to do, and it must be done in a hurry. Think of what I have written. Talk it over with your neighbors, and ask yourselves if in your trials and tribulations you have suffered more from the Union soldiers than you would had you built your barn where lightning was sure to burn and tear it down. Their course has provoked the punishment of an indignant God and government! I care not a straw for niggers. The moment the master rebels, the negro is free, of course, for he is a slave only by law, and the law broken, he is free.

I command in all Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. The paper I enclose will be of service to you. Love to Mrs. MARTIN.
(Signed) W.T. SHERMAN, Major-Gen.

The pure flow of patriotism which pervades this "plain, unvarnished tale," discloses the General's opinions on various topics of public and historic interest. Gen. SHERMAN had been identified closely with the people of the South, and if anything, as is plainly indicated by this simple chapter from his inner life, he was prejudiced in the South's favor. But he was too honest, too far-seeing and too patriotic to be entangled in the meshes of secession; therefore his departure from the hot-bed of treason upon its first overt act. The charge of Northern traitors that we began the war, is negatively rounded off by the Anglo-Saxon phrases of this interesting document. The letter is all the more important from the fact of its having been written during the battles around Atlanta. 7

HOUSE OF HAPPINESS, Scottsboro, AL
A summary by JCHA Member Elhura (Ellie) Kenady Smith

The House of Happiness was founded in 1923 in Scottsboro, AL as a mission of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Alabama. Its purpose was to provide medical, educational, material assistance and religious instruction to impoverished families of the highland area of North Alabama. Children and their needs were a primary focus. Temporary residential care was given to a number of children needing such care. The House of Happiness received its name shortly after inception when a young girl named Rosa pronounced on her first night there that this was "shore a happy house". In 1923, Augusta B. Martin came from Montgomery to explore area needs and to set up an early mission that would serve the area until 1953. Miss Martin stayed for several years and in 1925 saw the program move from a house in Scottsboro to a small shack nine miles west of town in Sauta Bottom. The original purchase of 160 acres included the shack, a barn and an occupied tenant house that was later to become a school and a church. In time, a large and more permanent log home was built just beyond the shack up the side of July Mountain. Birdsong Spring at the foot of the mountain supplied water by virtue of bucket and pulley to the house 200 feet above. The work of the mission was vast and encompassed meeting basic needs of many impoverished families, offering a kindergarten and other schooling opportunities for children and adults, providing an Episcopal chapel for Sunday afternoon services, and even acting at times as an early child welfare intervention program. At such times, Miss Martin worked with resources across the state to locate permanent homes for House of Happiness children. In one of her last reports she stated that one hundred thirty children had been cared for at one time or the other at the House of Happiness. Miss Martin was a tireless worker and teacher, intrepid in her search of and service to those in need, often arising in the middle of the night to respond to some sickness or other emergency need. Families assisted were not only from Sauta Bottom, but often came from many miles away. Dr. Hugh Boyd, a Scottsboro physician, was well known in the area and provided medical services to the families coming to Miss Martin's attention. Throughout its history numerous workers and volunteers were recruited to carry out the work of the House of Happiness. Many came from afar while, after warming to the program, youth and adults from Sauta Bottom pitched in to help in various ways. *Community men harvested logs from the property for construction of the large, one and one-half story log edifice that was to become the permanent House of Happiness structure. Donations of food, clothing, shoes, bedding, other necessities and financial support were received from across the diocese and from as far away as New York City. A piano for the school was sent by a lady from Demopolis, AL. The House of Happiness farm provided some provisions. Barter and sharing within the community was a common way of life. Although free to anyone in need, a stick of firewood or exchange of labor would yield a voucher with which a family could purchase clothing or other items available at the House of Happiness.* Miss Martin remained at the House of Happiness until approximately 1933 when health necessitated her permanent departure.

HOUSE OF HAPPINESS, Scottsboro, Alabama Summarized by Ellie Smith

Miss Nellie Barnwell of Mississippi who had worked at previous times with Miss Martin had returned to Scottsboro and served as acting director while hoping for Miss Martin's return. Miss Barnwell was named Director in December, 1934. In the summer of 1934, Captain Charles Leslie Conder of the Church Army, an evangelical arm of the Episcopal Church, came to assist with religious outreach. He became Director in January, 1936, at which time the work of the House of Happiness became that of the men of the Church Army. Captain Conder and wife, Mary, were followed by Captains Moss, Kast, Thomas, Austin and Wheat. Under the Church Army the House of Happiness no longer provided residential care but continued to provide a viable social service and community program until 1953. Miss Martin died in Montgomery, AL in 1964. Miss Nettie Barnwell went on to serve a mission in North Carolina and died in Mississippi in 1971. During its thirty years of existence, the House of Happiness property came to encompass the barn, a small farm house at Birdsong Spring, the community church/school building, and a privately-owned community cemetery. Refinements had been made to the original log structure and an enclosed sun porch, compliments of a donor, and a worker's addition had been added to the main dwelling. Early in her tenure, Miss Martin had been asked by the Board of Education to teach at the nearby McCutchen School. She later persuaded the Board of Education to provide for a teacher at the House of Happiness School, or Happy Hollow School as it came to be called. An addition was made to the rear of the original tenant house for school and church purposes. The school continued to operate under the auspices of the County Board of Education until about 1939 when roads improved and children could travel to larger area schools. In its peak year of 1931-32, Miss Martin reported Happy Hollow School to have an enrollment of 127. In later years, the House of Happiness became not only a resource for families in need, but a beloved community center, providing a place of social interaction for the many youth of Sauta Bottom. Friday night socials were for many years a common part of community life. In a 1938 report, Captain Conder spoke of Sauta Bottom. At that time there were eighty families living in the area of which eighteen owned their farms. Another thirty-one were tenant farmers and thirty-one were day laborers. In 1938 there were seven automobiles, five radios and two telephones in Sauta Bottom. Around 1953, when the Church felt its mission to the area was complete, the property was sold to a neighbor, Thurmond Richie, who had purchased the first forty of the original one hundred sixty acres in 1951. A later owner was Beatrice Smith Abercrombie Callahan, a community girl who attended the House of Happiness School and later became a teacher in Birmingham. Upon her acquisition, the farm and buildings became rental property. The house and barn burned in separate accidental fires in the 1960s. As of 2010, Smith heirs retain ownership of the original property, including Birdsong Spring, the House of Happiness Cemetery, and an additional five acres just below the school that was purchased from the County Board of Education. Sources: The House of Happiness Story, Compiled and written by Campbell Long, Selma Printing Service, 1973; Records on file at the Scottsboro-Jackson Heritage Center, 208 S. Houston Street, Scottsboro, AL; Scottsboro Public Library; and Smith family knowledge.

A procession to the rectory is part of the mission's annual homecoming festival.



HOUSE OF *Happiness*



A log cabin is the worker's residence, club building and center of mission activities.

"I'M SO HAPPY," breathed a little Alabama mountain girl, as she snuggled down between the first snow-white sheets she had ever seen — so the House of Happiness at Scotsboro, Ala., was named.

Founded in 1923 by Augusta B. Martin, pioneering Church social worker, the mission is now served by the Church Army, an organization of uniformed lay workers in areas too poor to afford regular clergy. "Trainees" of



The original shack in which Miss Martin initiated Church Army's work for Jackson County needy.



A picnic, at which the women serve products of their own cooking, is a feature of annual homecoming day.



A group of Church Army students are introduced to the mission farm.

Superintendent of the Sunday school picking cotton on the mission farm with his family.





Church Army frequently serve here for a period under Capt. Charles L. Conder, director.

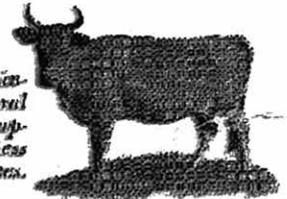
Of 20 families living within a three-mile radius of the house, 76 are served by it in some way. First aid and nursing, work-a-id relief, recreation, food, and clothing are all part of its service, but the major task of the House of Happiness is to bring the Gospel to those whom the Church at large has tended to neglect.



Baptism by immersion is a Biblical custom often followed at the mission.

Water supply of the House of Happiness is obtained by a bucket which descends 200 feet on a pulley and wires to the foot of the mountain.

Milk and ironing in rural work are supplied by Beas to CA trainees.

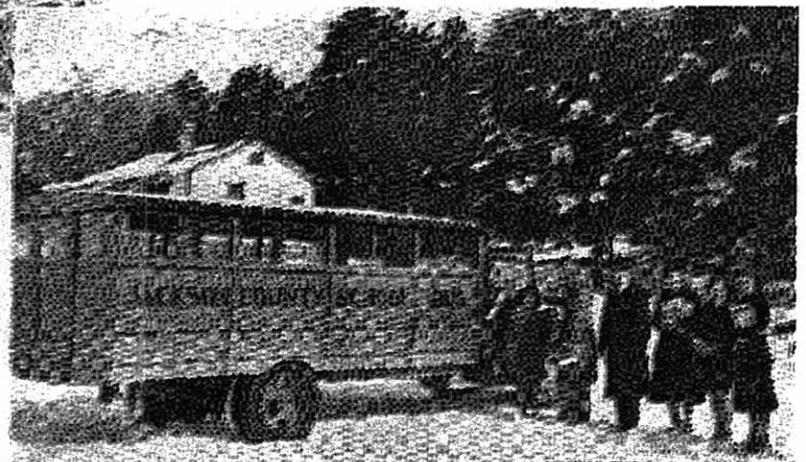


Capt. Conder wheeling boxes of food for needy.



Church Army worker taking wood to bedridden woman.

Mountain melodrama in Christmas play



A school bus rented by the House of Happiness brings together over 100 scattered Church people for church school and services.

Reprinted from the April 1930 issue of the Layman's Magazine, 322 N. Duane St., Milwaukee, Wis.

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT of TOURISM
2010 YEAR of SMALL TOWNS & DOWN TOWNS

Historical Marker Project

Submitted By: Ms. Ann B. Chambless, Jackson County Historical Association
In Partnership with J.P. Parsons, Jackson County Tourism

College Hill Historic District (Side 1)

College Hill Historic District, located along College Avenue between Scott and Kyle Streets, was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. This District was Scottsboro's first subdivision. The area was part of Charlotte Scott Skelton's inheritance from her parents, Robert Thomas and Elizabeth Parsons Scott, the founders of Scottsboro.

The Scott family donated a large plot at the northwest corner of Scott Street and College Avenue for a school. The District gets its name from the academies, colleges, and public schools which have graced this campus for 130 years. The first school located on this site was the Scott Male and Female Academy built in 1878. The current building was constructed in 1939.

College Avenue's first two homes, built in the 1890s on the two eastern corners, are no longer standing. Five of the District's original 16 houses were built 1909-1917. Four were built in the 1920s; three were constructed in the 1930s and two in the 1940s.

COLLEGE HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT (side 2)

In sequence of construction, the architecture of College Hill Historic District follows the trends of architecture in the Southeast. The most unique are the two Pyramidal-roof houses which appear in low numbers in other areas of Jackson County. These two houses were originally constructed in 1909 and 1911. Through the years, several early houses in the District have been replaced or received major renovations. The most recent construction was in 2008. The development of the College Hill Historic District parallels the development of the Public Square Historic District. College Avenue has been the home of three Jackson County Probate Judges: W. R. Bogart, Henry McAnelly, and Robert (Bob) Howland, Sr. All families associated with these homes have made lasting contributions to the commercial, civic, and cultural growth of Scottsboro. Many of the residents are descendants of the original families who established the neighborhood. The feeling of closeness has remained an important thread in the tapestry of College Hill.

COLLEGE HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT in SCOTTSBORO

Compiled by Ann B. Chambless

In 1878, the Scott Male and Female Academy was built at the intersection of College Avenue and Scott Street on land donated by the heirs of Robert Thomas and Elizabeth (Parsons) Scott. For 132 years, the site has been continuously occupied by academies, colleges, and public schools. The District gets its name from the earliest (1890) reference to it being called the "College Hill" area.

In the 1890s, Scottsboro's first subdivision was laid out on the block of College Avenue between Kyle Street and Scott Street.

The development of the College Hill District parallels the development of the Jackson County Court House Public Square Historic District. The first house was built by J. P. and Ella (Whitworth) Rorex at the northeast corner of College Avenue and Kyle Street. In 1949, John Will and Maurine Gay built the two story brick now owned by Sam and Edith Hambrick.

In 1935, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Benson built the house now owned by Carolyn Reid Thomas Davis. The next house was built about 1920 by R. A. Padgett with Curtis Barron as contractor. This house was sold to W. R. Bogart in 1923. Mr. Bogart was then Probate Judge of Jackson County - one of three probate judges to make their home on College Avenue. This house is now owned by retired Circuit Judge and Mrs. Wallace W. Haralson. The next house was built about 1917 by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Grady Jacobs and is now owned by their grandson and his wife, Grady and Kathy Jacobs. The house next to the school grounds was built 1914-1915 by Charles W. Howland to replace the original house on this lot that was built in 1912 and destroyed by fire in 1913. In 1927 this house was purchased by Dr. Hugh and Vic Boyd and came to be known as the Boyd House.

The first house built on the southern side of the street (at the eastern end of College Avenue) was built in 1899 by John F. Proctor. The contractor was a Mr. O'Neal. THE SCOTTSBORO CITIZEN (dated Sep 21, 1899) described O'Neal as an "artist in his line" and stated "he had made this about the handsomest residence in town." This house is no longer extant.

Mr. and Mrs. Rice Jacobs built next door to the Proctor house in 1921, and this house is now the home of his granddaughter, Jane (Moody) Bergman and her husband Jimmy Bergman.

The next house on this side of College was what became known as the Howland house. It was built in 1911 by H. C. Dunn, a Baptist minister who was connected with the Baptist Institute, one of the colleges located on the school grounds at the corner of Scott Street and College Avenue. This house was purchased by J. M. Matthews in 1913. His daughter, Leola Matthews, was the first woman to be elected to public office in Jackson County. In 1944, this house was sold to Mr. and Mr. Robert L. Howland. Mr. Howland served as Jackson County Probate Judge in the early 1950s. John and Becky Barclay Kellenberger now live in the house on this site. Their home is one of the two pyramidal -roof houses on College Avenue.

COLLEGE HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT IN SCOTTSBORO (Continued)

The Lipscomb/Pitt House was built in 1937 by Dutch Eyster, a civil engineer. It was sold to Bess Lipscomb in 1950 and is now the home of her daughter, Virginia (Lipscomb) Pitt and her husband, Jim Pitt.

The house next door was built in 1909 by Henry P. Barclay and was occupied by members of the Barclay family until 1976 when it was purchased by Babs Williams who immediately began the preservation/renovation of this house.

The next house was the second house built on the south side of College Avenue. It was built about 1900 by a Mr. Davis for his family who occupied this house until it was sold to R. L. Howland in 1956. In 1957, Mr. Howland sold the house to George L. and Oni Armstrong. The house was razed in the late 1990s to make way for the current home on this lot.

The house next door was built in 1978 by Dorothy (Shook) Floyd and was later the home of Leroy and Irene Gist who sold the house to the current owners.

The Gay/Benson House was built in 1929 by James W. Gay for his family. The house plans were drawn by his daughter, Frances Lyles (Gay) Varnell from a picture that was published in HOLLAND MAGAZINE in 1928. This house is now the home of Stella (Word) Benson.

After the Viola Claybrook house was razed, its lot sat vacant for many years until Jake and Gail Word built their present home in 2008. Their house is the most recent addition to College Avenue.

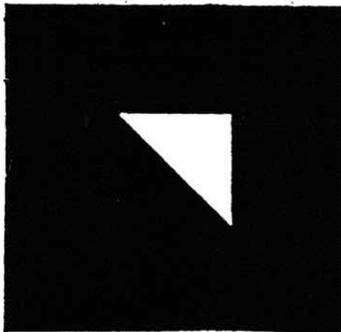
The Henry McAnelly house was built in 1929 by Henry and Lula (Wilhelm) McAnelly. Lula McAnelly designed the house based on her inspiration from magazine photographs. Ben Thomas was the carpenter/builder of this house. Henry McAnelly also served as a Jackson County Probate Judge. He was one of the first undertakers in Jackson County to obtain a degree or certificate from a certified mortuary school. In 1966, the McAnelly house was purchased by members of the Hal B. Word family.

The Hal B. Word house was built in 1937. It is Neo-English, 2-story, red brick with stone arches over the windows, doorway, and porch openings. This continues to be the home of Mildred Ann Word., daughter of Hal B. Word.

The last house at the western end of this side of College Avenue is the Wales House built in 1947 by Alvis and Grace (Payne) Wales.

The Telford House was originally the last house in the historic block of College Avenue. It was a large two-story, frame house with the traditional Southern porches across the front of the house. This house is no longer extant, and its lot is now vacant.

For 120 years, the College Hill Historic District has been the home of many important figures in Scottsboro's development and history. College Avenue is a wide, tree-lined street, and its location is still ideal: a short walk from the public Square, in close proximity to several of the town's churches, and for years it was in very close proximity to the schools that have provided an avenue of secondary and higher education in Scottsboro, Alabama.....yet it was quiet and removed from commercial areas.



JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES

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OCTOBER 2010

The Jackson County Historical Association's second annual Fall bus tour on October 30, 2010, will take the place of the October meeting. During the July program meeting, Kelly Goodowens announced the points to be visited in Woodville, Skyline, and Paint Rock Valley, and members who made the tour in 2009 were first in line. Due to ticket demand, there will be two buses this year. We will meet at the Bob Jones Community Center in Woodville for breakfast (provided by the wonderful ladies of Woodville). Breakfast for the first bus will be served at 7:30 a.m. The second bus ticket holders will eat at 8:00 a.m. Buses will leave Woodville at 8:00 and 8:30 a.m., respectively, and will return to Woodville (to parking area) around 4:00 and 4:30 p.m. Lunch will be served by the Paint Rock Valley Lodge. **TICKET HOLDERS, please remember the time you chose.**

As of Oct 4, there are 9 seats left; cost of tour is \$25.00. Those interested who have paid 2010 dues can call Kelly Goodowens at 256-259-1129.

Annual dues will be due on January 1, 2011. Any dues received after November 1, 2010, will be applied to 2011 membership.

To mail your dues, send your check to JCHA TREASURER, P. O. BOX 1494, SCOTTSBORO, AL 35768, as follows:

Annual Dues (except Senior Citizens)	\$20.00
Senior Citizens, 65 years and older	\$15.00
Life Membership dues	\$150.00

Please include your 9-digit zip code with your membership renewal. IF your address changes, please notify the JCHA.

Members in good standing receive THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES in January, April, July, and October.

CHRONICLES EDITOR: Ann B. Chambless, 435 Barbee Lane, Scottsboro, AL 35769 email: rabc123@scottsboro.org

THE HORTON - JONES HOUSE: A Rare Treat for October 2010 JCHA Bus Tour

Nestled in the narrow valley between Putman and Maxwell Mountains, the Horton-Jones House is a treasure trove of time gone by. Built on a slight rise, this Paint Rock Valley home embraces the architecture of a spacious 19th century farmhouse and the beautiful "green, green grass of home" made even more famous by the Valley's own Claude (Curly) Putman, Jr.

The original part of the Horton-Jones house was built in an "L" shape by Henry H. and Ann Elizabeth (Moore) Horton in the 1870s. The house included an open dog trot hall and a porch that extended across the back of the house. *(H.H. Horton purchased 514.67 acres from James B. Corn on July 9, 1869: Jackson Co. Deed Book 3, pages 588-589. J. B. Corn's wife was Mary E. Criner, daughter of Granville Criner, and these families lived in smaller houses on this property before selling to Horton and moving to Texas in late 1869.)* Henry H. Horton was a Baptist minister, and he served as Jackson County's Superintendent of Education 1884-1886. The Hortons were the parents of six daughters and six sons, one of them being Henry Hollis Horton, Jr., Governor of Tennessee 1927-1933.

In April 1889, Henry H. and Ann E. Horton sold their farm to their oldest son, Robert Carey Horton who married Sarah Frances (Fannie) Robertson in 1876. As their family grew in size, Carey and Fannie Robertson Horton updated the house by enclosing the original dog trot hall and adding a new kitchen, dining room, and the present back porch. (Robert Carey Horton served as a Jackson County Commissioner 1904-1908.)

In December 1910, Robert Carey and Fannie Horton sold the house and farm to John and Sue Willie (Robertson) Reed. After their death, the home place was purchased by their daughter and son-in-law, Lonnie V. and Mary Belle (Reed) Jones.

Lonnie V. and Mary Belle (Reed) Jones' daughters, Ruth (Jones) Bennett and Kathleen (Jones) Ratliff, are the present owners. Both these ladies were born in the Horton-Jones House.

Ruth and Kathleen's love of this house is evident in the loving care they gave to refurbishing their childhood home as well as their daily maintenance. Their family oriented décor allows visitors a glimpse into Jackson County, Alabama, farm life in the early 1900s.

RUTH (JONES) BENNETT's and KATHLEEN (JONES) RATLIFF's Family Tree: Daughters of Lonnie Velta JONES (1906-1970) who was son of Joseph Valentine JONES (1883-1951) who was son of Joseph and Mary Frances JONES AND of and Mary Belle (REED) Jones (1914-1995) who was daughter of John W. REED (1876-1947) who was son of George REED (ca 1820/1822-1910/1920) who was son of Thomas REED (1792-1883) and Nancy (McGehee) REED.

Mary Belle (REED) Jones' mother was Sue Willie (ROBERTSON) Reed (1878-1938). Mary Belle's ROBERTSON grandparents were William T. and Jane Isabella (Clay) ROBERTSON. William T. ROBERTSON (1847-1931) who was the son of Richard Calloway ROBERTSON (1822-1893) and Mary S. (Eustace) ROBERTSON (1824-1907). Jane Isabella CLAY (1852-1937) was the daughter of Russell William CLAY (1804-1885) and Mahala (Jones) CLAY (1817-1892).

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Clay Cemetery in Princeton is located on land originally owned by Russell William Clay.

**Report of Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, U.S. Army,
Commanding Fourteenth Army Corps.
AUGUST 16-SEPTEMBER 22, 1863---The Chickamauga Campaign
HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS,**

Chattanooga, Tenn., September 30, 1863

Brig. Gen. JAMES A. GARFIELD, *Chief of Staff, Dept. of the Cumberland.*

GENERAL: I have the honor to report the operations of my corps from the 1st September up to date, as follows, viz:

General Brannan's division crossed the Tennessee River at Battle Creek; General Baird ordered to cross his division at Bridgeport, and to move to Taylor's Store; General Negley's division to cross the river at Caperton's Ferry, and to report at Taylor's Store also.

September 2.--General Baird's division moved to Widow's Creek.

General Negley reports having arrived at Moore's Spring, 1 mile from Taylor's Store, and 2 miles from Bridgeport; he was ordered to cross the (Sand) Mountain at that point, it being the most direct route to Trenton, in the vicinity of which place the corps was ordered to concentrate.

September 3.--Headquarters Fourteenth Army Corps moved from Bolivar Springs at 6 a.m. via Caperton's Ferry to Moore's Spring, on the road from Bridgeport to Trenton. Baird's division reached Bridgeport, but could not cross in consequence of damage to the bridge; Negley's division marched to Warren's Mill, on the top of Sand Mountain, on the road to Trenton; Brannan's division reached Graham's Store, on the road from Shellmound to Trenton; Reynolds' division marched 6 miles on the Trenton road from Shellmound.

September 4.--Negley's division camped at Brown's Spring, at the foot of Sand Mountain, in Lookout Valley; Brannan's division at Gordon's Mill, on Sand Mountain; Reynolds' division at foot of Sand Mountain, 2 miles from Trenton; Baird's division crossed the river at Bridgeport, and camped at that point; corps headquarters at Moore's Spring.

September 5.--Baird's division arrived at Moore's Spring; Negley's division still in camp at Brown's Spring. He reports having sent forward a reconnoissance of two regiments of infantry and a section of artillery to scour the country toward Chattanooga, and secure some captured stores near Macon Iron-Works. They captured some Confederate army supplies. No report from Brannan's division; Reynolds' division in camp at Trenton; Brannan somewhere in the neighborhood; corps headquarters at Warren's Mill.

NOTE by Editor: Warren's Mill was half way between Shell Mound and Trenton.

September 6.--Baird's division encamped at Warren's Mill; Negley's division reached Johnson's Crook; Beatty's brigade was sent up the road to seize Stevens' Gap (in Georgia); met the enemy's pickets, and, it being dark, did not proceed farther. The Eighteenth Ohio, of Negley's division, went to the top of Lookout Mountain, beyond Payne's Mill; met the enemy's pickets and dispersed them. The head of Brannan's column reached Lookout Valley, 2 miles below Trenton.

Reynolds' division in camp at Trenton. Rumors of the enemy's design to evacuate Chattanooga. Corps headquarters at Brown's Spring.

September 7.--Baird's division closed up with Negley's in the mouth of Johnson's Crook. Negley's gained possession of the top of the mountain, and secured the forks of the road. Brannan's division reached Trenton; Reynolds' remained in camp at that place. Corps headquarters still at Brown's Spring.

September 8.--Baird's division remained in its camp of yesterday, at the junction of Hurricane and Lookout Creeks. Negley's division moved up to the top of Lookout Mountain, at the head of Johnson's Crook, one brigade occupying the pass; another brigade was sent forward and seized Cooper's Gap, sending one regiment to the foot of the gap to occupy and hold it; one regiment was also sent forward to seize Stevens' Gap, which was heavily obstructed with fallen trees. Brannan's division occupied the same position as last night. Reynolds' division headquarters at Trenton, with one brigade at Payne's Mill, 3 miles south of Trenton. Headquarters of the corps still at Brown's Spring.

NOTE by ABC: Major General George H. Thomas gives details of the activities between September 7 and September 19 and concluded his reported written on September 30, 1863, after all these troops were quartered in Chattanooga, TN, by stating the following:

About 10 a.m. of the 21st, receiving a message from Minty that the enemy were advancing on him with a strong force of cavalry and infantry, I directed him to retire through the gap and post his command on our left flank, and throw out strong reconnoitering parties across the ridge to observe and report any movements of the enemy on our left front. From information received from citizens, I was convinced that the position was untenable in the face of the odds we had opposed to us, as the enemy could easily concentrate upon our right flank, which, if driven, would expose our center and left to be entirely cut off from our communications. I therefore advised the commanding general to concentrate the troops at Chattanooga. About the time I made the suggestion to withdraw, the enemy made a demonstration on the direct road, but were soon repulsed. In anticipation of this order to concentrate at Chattanooga, I sent for the corps commanders, and gave such general instructions as would enable them to prepare their commands for making the movement without confusion. All wagons, ambulances, and surplus artillery carriages were sent to the rear before night.

The order for the withdrawal being received about 6 p.m. the movement commenced at 9 p.m., in the following order: Strong skirmish lines, under the direction of judicious officers, were thrown out to the front of each division to cover this movement, with directions to retire at daylight, deployed and in supporting distance, the whole to be supported by the First Division, Fourteenth Army Corps, under the superintendence of Major-General Rousseau, assisted by Minty's brigade of cavalry, which was to follow after the skirmishers. Crittenden's corps was to move from the hill to the left of the road at 9 p.m., followed by Steedman's division. Next Negley's division was to withdraw at 10 p.m.; then Reynolds, McCook's corps, by divisions from left to right, moving within supporting distance one after the other; Brannan's division was posted at 6 p.m. on the road about half way between Rossville and Chattanooga to cover the movement. The troops were withdrawn in a quiet, orderly manner, without the loss of a single man, and by 7 a.m. on the 22d were in their positions in front of Chattanooga, which had been assigned to them previous to their arrival, and which they now occupy, covered by strong entrenchments thrown up on the day of our arrival, and strengthened from day to day until they were considered sufficiently strong for all defensive purposes.

Twelfth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and the Campaigns of Grant and Sherman, By M. D. Gage, Chaplain - Clarke & Co., Publishers, Chicago, Illinois, 1865

NOTE by Editor Ann B Chambless: This material was copied to show the movement of Federal troops through Jackson County, Alabama, in 1863.

Chapter XI: The Chattanooga Campaign

Passing through this rich valley to Winchester (Tennessee), we reached communications with the external world on the 11th of November. After receiving fresh supplies, the troops commenced the ascent of the mountain at Cowan's Station, toiling up the deep ascent, while the trains struggled to gain the summit. The view of the beautiful valley, through which we had passed, charmed the eye, while the rugged sides of the mountain, which appeared so regular in the far off vision of yesterday, now gave forcible illustration of the truth that "distance lends enchantment to the view." It is thus with the toils and privations of the soldier. Though apparently too severe for endurance, when viewed in all their native roughness, if seen in the great range of human difficulties, which form the mountains of life's vision, up whose sides ambition may climb to look down upon the plain below, they wear an air of beauty mingled with sublimity.

Soon we lost sight of the lovely valley, and pursued our mazy course among the sublime scenery of the mountain-top. Through the forest that crowned its summit, into deep gorges, and along the side of yawning chasms, on a narrow and rough inclined plane, prepared by the hand of man, we moved forward, impressed with ever-varying emotions of pleasure and surprise at the scenes before us, till at nightfall the column paused in a deep gorge, beside a rapid mountain stream, to pass the night. The train stood still in the narrow track in which it had moved, while the weary mules were fed, and the troops sought such nooks in the mountain side as were available, building their fires and preparing their coffee, which, always invigorating to the weary soldier, never was more inspiring than at the close of that day in the mountains. In wandering over the narrow space occupied by the Regiment, Lieutenant Hubbard, of Company F, slipped suddenly into an unobserved opening in the surface, catching himself by the arms, as his body was descending vertically into the bowels of the mountain, when a friend assisted him out of his perilous position. Had he fallen it is doubtful if he would have escaped alive.

In this deep gorge, at the solemn hour of midnight, a burial scene transpired which produced the most vivid impressions of the true solemnity of death that our mind ever received. A member of the One Hundredth Indiana died at a late hour, and it became necessary to bury him before morning. It was therefore effected at once. A place was selected near our tent, and the grave was dug to the depth of a foot, reaching the solid rock. The body was placed in the shallow vault, and placed with poles to afford protection, the earth being thrown over them, effectually covering the dead from human sight. The hour, the place, the event, and its attendant circumstances conspired to render the incident deeply impressive.

Morning found us in busy preparation for the descent of mountain that was effected during the forenoon. Descending the Crow Creek Valley, a narrow defile between two spurs of the mountain, we reached Anderson Station, where we camped. David Scott, of Company K, died in ambulance on the way down the valley, and Amos Bucy of Company H, and Hiram Wood, of Company E, died the following morning, all being buried at that place. The Corps arrived at Stevenson on the 14th of November and reached Bridgeport on the 15th, where was our base of supply for the army at Chattanooga. The enemy occupied the railroad between our besieged army and this place, cutting off all communication upon the south side of the Tennessee. The only route for reaching Chattanooga was by the mountain wagon road on the north side, a distance of sixty miles, over which it was almost impossible to convey sufficient supplies to subsist the army on short rations. The bridges at Bridgeport and Whiteside had been destroyed when the enemy retired across the Tennessee, and much time was necessary for their reconstruction. The line of communication with Nashville had also been temporarily severed, but was again restored, and supplies were accumulating rapidly at Bridgeport on our arrival. The prospect, which had been gloomy for our cause in Tennessee had begun to brighten, under the direction of Grant, who had assumed command of all the forces concentrated in the vicinity of Chattanooga.

On the 17th of November the Fourth Division crossed the Tennessee, at Bridgeport, moving to Shell Mound and thence up Nickajack Cove, a deep gorge in Sand Mountain, pausing awhile at the Nickajack Cave, an immense cavern in the mountain side, near Shell Mound, into whose yawning mouth we penetrated as far as allowed to go. A guard was stationed within the entrance to prevent the soldiers from imperiling their lives. It was reported that some of those who had visited the interior had never returned, the cave extending for many miles into the heart of the mountain.

A large and rapid stream of pure water flowed from the mouth, up whose tortuous course visitors might safely pursue their way for some distance. The entrance to the cavern was through a vast amphitheatre whose walls were irregular, and the floor of which was the rocky bed of the stream, with a ledge of rocks projecting from the south wall half way across the diameter. The ceiling consisted of one vast rock, spanning the apartment and resting firmly upon the opposite walls. This space had been obstructed by large leaches for draining the nitre from the earth, removed from the interior for the manufacture of salt petre by the rebels, considerable quantities of which had been produced. The grandeur of the scene presented, when on a subsequent occasion we penetrated the darkness beyond, and looked out, through the cavernous mouth, upon the blue sky and fleeting clouds, was awfully impressive, leading the mind to reflection upon the mighty power of the Great Architect.

Near this place an Indian village once stood, bearing the name of the cave. A foolish story has gained credence and the sanction of Appleton in his "Traveler's Guide," to the effect that the name of this cave is derived from the fact that a band of negro robbers, led by one Jack, occupied the place as a secret retreat. Hence the cave was called "Nigger Jack's Cave," which in process of time became "Nickajack." But the oldest inhabitants know nothing of such an origin for the name. The bones of the buried Indian race are still found near the site of the ancient village.

Shell Mound, a Station on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, derives its name from the fact that in the excavation for the track a large mound was found to consist almost entirely of shells. These were probably deposited by the Indians ages ago, and subsequently covered with an alluvial deposit in the overflow of the banks of the Tennessee, which flows near the mound. We pursued our march up the narrow defile in the mountains, a rudely constructed railroad extending from Shell Mound to the "Castle Rock Coal Mines," at the head of the Cove, near the summit of the mountain. The trains toiled up the steep acclivity, which became very abrupt and devious on nearing the coal mine. Night came on, rendering the ascent perilous as well as difficult. The road wound along the south side of the ravine, upon a narrow track excavated in the mountain-side, while above and below was a frowning height and yawning depth. In attempting to reach the summit, in the darkness of the night, the wagons were often upon the verge of the precipice below.

Two were finally precipitated down the steep, lodging against the trees in their descent. It was found to be impossible to accomplish the object till morning, and the train paused in its place, while the troops again passed the night in the heart of the mountain. It was fearful to contemplate the dangers through which the train had passed, as we moved forward the following morning. Fortunately none of the drivers were hurt, and but one wagon lost. Never had an army passed through this deep gorge since Jackson led his troops up the same steeps during the Indian war. The mountain top was at length attained, and a brief rest afforded the troops. Near this point the three States of Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia unite their boundaries. During the day we were in all three of these States, on our way across the mountain. The summit is a rolling section of country, with a scattered growth of timber, and light sandy soil. The inhabitants were of the poorer class, who had no interest in the success of rebellion. Nevertheless they had been forced to aid in the effort to destroy the nation's life and crush out their own liberties, by establishing a gigantic despotism in the place of a liberal and free government.

In the afternoon of the 18th of November we reached the opposite side of the mountain, and camped on the summit, overlooking the beautiful Lookout Valley and the little town of Trenton, Dade County, Georgia, while the vast wall of Lookout Mountain bounded the vision on the southeast. The evening was calm and beautiful, and the sunlight gilded the scene before us with a glow of almost unearthly loveliness. The eye never tired of gazing upon the landscape spread out before us, as we sat upon a projected rock and drank in its beauties. Then the wish for the divine art of painting was awakened in many minds, that the scene might be faithfully transferred to canvas. But, alas! how vain the thought. The visions of beauty and sublimity afforded us from these mountain summits must forever linger in memory, without one touch of the pencil to preserve their form. In the absence of the painter's skill we seized the pen, and drew an outline of the scene, with a few of the thoughts it suggested in the mind of the observer. The latter are reproduced in the following paragraph.

All the enginery of war falls into insignificance in the presence of these works of defense thrown up by the Almighty, and our combined armies seem like crowds of ants upon their several hillocks. Why does man contend, amid such sublime scenery, for the subversion of liberty, whose principles are as enduring as these mountain ranges?

We see the appropriateness of the figures employed by the sacred writers, drawn from the mountain scenery of their own Canaan. We can understand, too, why Christ went up into the mountain to pray and to teach; for who could fail to feel the force of His teachings, amid the sublime works of God, whom He represented in His nature, life, and character! Where could the Son of God so hold audience with the Father as in the mountains of Judea? Infidelity must stand mute in the presence of a person like Christ, tempted, praying, teaching, dying on the mountains, and from them ascending into heaven.

The town of Trenton was occupied by a small force of the enemy, a portion of which was surprised and captured by our advance. The Second Brigade moved up the valley to Johnson's Bend, on a reconnaissance; the Third Brigade occupied Trenton, while the First Brigade held a position on the mountain, overlooking the valley, and was distributed at different points along the summit, with orders to build extensive camp fires, and thus deceive the enemy in regard to our force. The display made on the evening of the 18th indicated the presence of several Divisions and aroused the attention of the enemy, which was the sole object of the diversion. In this we were successful, completely puzzling the enemy as to the strength, object, and subsequent movements of the forces so suddenly appearing in the valley and threatening the rear of the force occupying Lookout Mountain.

On the 19th the First Brigade moved along the crest of the mountain, and descended into the valley above Trenton, remaining in camp till the Second Brigade returned, on the 21st, when the entire Division moved down the valley toward Chattanooga. While halting at Trenton the Court House was accidentally destroyed by fire. The day was in striking contrast with that spent upon the mountain, being cold and rainy, dispelling the enchantment of our beautiful vision by the stern realities of deep mud and thoroughly drenched clothing, followed by an uncomfortable night.

Major General Hooker, with the Eleventh and Twelfth Corps, had driven the enemy from the valley and occupied the ground, the enemy returning to the mountain side, where he held a strong position. On the 22nd we continued our march, through and in rear of Hooker's lines, and crossed the Tennessee under cover of night at Brown's Ferry, moving up the valley four miles and camping at a late hour. We were at last at the scene of coming conflict, and immediate preparations were made for re-crossing the Tennessee and moving upon the enemy's flank on Missionary Ridge. The next day was spent in anxious expectation of movement, while fighting was in progress in front of Chattanooga.

**WHO OPERATED WARREN'S MILL and CASTLE ROCK COAL MINES?
WHERE WERE THEY LOCATED IN JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA?**

By Ann B. Chambless

On September 22, 1863, Maj. Gen. George H. Thomas, U.S. Army, (then headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee) reported:

"The Headquarters of the 14th Army Corps moved from Bolivar Springs to Bridgeport " on September 2, 1863. They spent the next week crossing Sand Mountain on their way to Trenton, Georgia.

Negley's division and Baird's division began their move from Taylor's Store (across the Tennessee River from Bridgeport, Alabama). They camped at WARREN'S MILL on the top of Sand Mountain while Brannan's division camped at GORDON'S MILL on Sand Mountain.

NOTE by Editor: See pages 3 and 7 for more details of troop movement.

According to Harold Maxwell (a Warren descendant), WARREN'S MILL was located on Warren Creek in the Bryant community in the northeast corner of Jackson County. Charles Warren, Sr. owned a sizable farm and operated a grist mill and saw mill powered by the small creek that ran through his property.

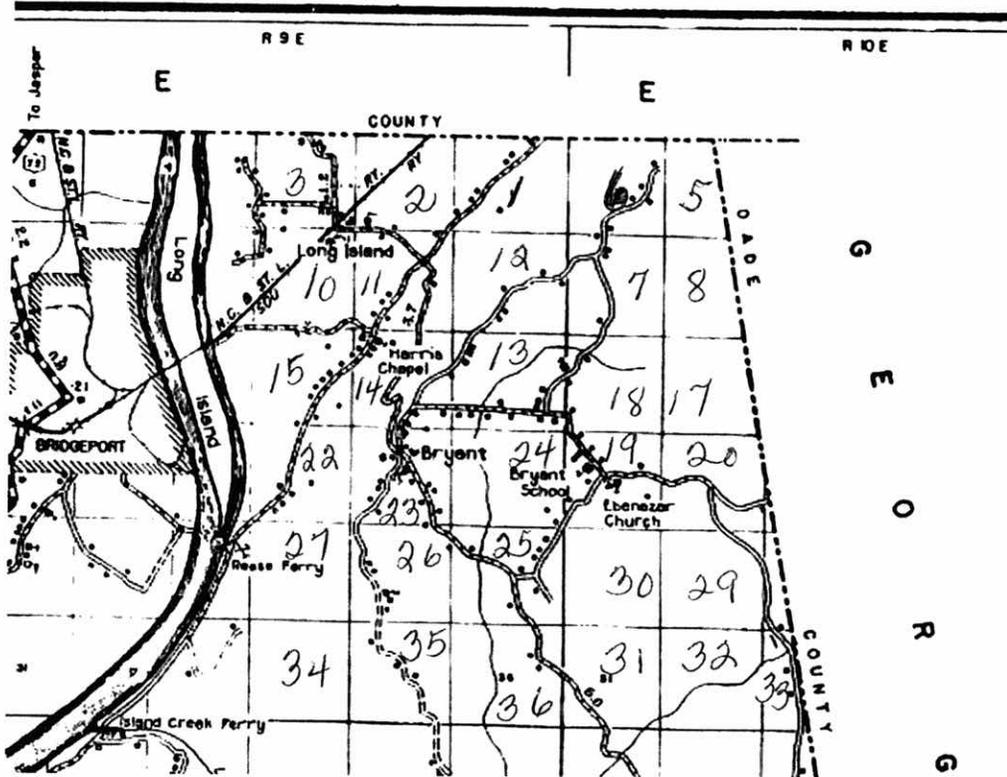
When Charles Warren moved his family from Dade County, Georgia, to Sand Mountain, he purchased the northwest quarter of the Northeast quarter of Section 36, Township 1, Range 9 East, on April 18, 1857. Charles and his brother, John Thomas Warren, are shown on adjoining farms in the 1860 Jackson County, Alabama census in the Long Island precinct. (Later John Thomas Warren moved his family to Bridgeport.) In June and July of 1861, Charles Warren purchased the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 18 in Township 1, Range 10.

By the 1870s, there was a speculators' run on land in this area, since many thought there was coal to be mined here. Charles Warren sold his land to the Castle Rock Coal Company and moved his family to DeKalb County, Alabama.

He purchased land along both sides of what became known as Warren Road (now Ft. Payne's 49th street, NW) beginning near old Lower Sulphur Springs Cemetery.

EDITOR'S NOTE: JCHA Life Member T'lene Tillotson descends from Charles Warren as does Harold Maxell who shared the Warren family info cited above. THE DEKALB ADVERTISER, Vol. 11, No. 27, dated Thursday, May 8, 1997, carried an outline of Charles Warren's descendants, some of whom still live on the land Charles Warren purchased in DeKalb County in 1875.

MAP OF NORTHEASTERN CORNER OF JACKSON COUNTY, AL
Showing Township 1, Range 9 East and Range 10 East



Zachariah H. and John B. Gordon and Castle Rock Coal Mines:
The Reverend Zachariah Herndon Gordon was a Baptist minister, a slave owning farmer, an early mining entrepreneur in Georgia and Alabama, owner of the medicinal Gordon Springs and a 30-room resort hotel in East Chickamauga, Georgia, AND the father of General John Brown Gordon of Civil War fame.

Gordon Springs was 12 miles from Dalton, Georgia, and 35 miles south of Chattanooga.

On October 22, 1850, Zachariah Gordon purchased 120 acres of land in Jackson County, Alabama (SW ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 12, Township 1, Range 9 East and the NE ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 27, Township 1, Range 9 East). On December 18, 1854, Zachariah Gordon purchased 126.49 acres in Jackson County in Section 17, Township 1, Range 10 East. (This acreage adjoined Charles Warren's land.)

In 1861, Zachariah Gordon purchased 80 acres in Section 20, Township 1, Range 10 East. In 1862, he purchased another 120 acres in S20, Township 1, Range 10 East, in Jackson Co. 11

About 1856, Zachariah Gordon moved his family just across the Georgia-Alabama line into the northeastern corner of Jackson County, AL. Gen. John B. Gordon once stated that his father's interest in mining grew out of a conversation Zachariah had with one of his guests at Gordon Springs, Mark Cooper. Cooper was "Georgia's leading industrialist, engaged in a coal mining enterprise", and the idea caught fire with Zachariah. Zachariah convinced John to leave Atlanta and join him in the mining venture. They formed Castle Rock Coal Company and were enumerated as miners in the 1860 Jackson County census which also shows John B. Gordon living next door to his father. Years later when Gen. John B. Gordon wrote his memoirs, he stated: *"The outbreak of the (Civil) War found me in the mountains of Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee engaged in the development of coal mines. This does not mean that I was a citizen of three states; but it does mean that I lived so near the lines that my mines were (mostly) in Georgia, my house in Alabama, and my post office was in Tennessee."* Between 1856 and 1860, The Castle Rock Coal Company attracted many other early settlers to this somewhat isolated and sparsely settled area. A large number of the males enumerated in the Long Island beat were listed as "laborers" as opposed to "farmers". This leads one to believe these laborers were digging coal for the Gordons' Castle Rock Coal Company. It is also interesting to note that the only men enumerated as "miners" were the sons of Zachariah Gordon.

The Gordons built a saw mill and a "rudely constructed railroad" from the top of Sand Mountain to Shell Mound, TN. In 1865, M. D. Gage (see last paragraph of page 7) described the area: "The trains toiled up the steep acclivity which became very abrupt and devious on nearing the coal mine. The road wound along the south side of the ravine upon a narrow track excavated in the mountain-side." Castle Rock Coal mining operations were put on hold during the Civil War. In 1861, John B. Gordon and most of the able bodied men in this area idled their picks and shovels, put on their coon skin caps, and formed the Raccoon Roughs. BUT that is another story as is the post-war history of the Castle Rock Coal Company and the Gordon family.