











NORTHERN

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ALABAMA

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HISTORICAL

AND

BIOGRAPHICAL

ILLUSTRATED.

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1888.

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BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

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1888.



of limestone water, though there are among them many sulphur and chalybeate springs and a few of other salts. This valley is bounded on the north by a broken country, that in the western part of the State is hilly, and is known as *the borrens*, and is but a part of the highlands of Tennessee, and that in the eastern part of the State is mountainous, and is but a part of the elevated tablelands of Tennessee. On the south it is bounded by a precipitous escarpment of the elevated plateau of the Warrior coal field, that is commonly called Sand Mountain. This precipitous escarpment rises from 600 to 700 feet above the valley. It has in the eastern part of the State, about half way up it, a terrace or bench, which, as you go to the west, gradually widens and separates from the main mountain until it forms a distinct mountain, that is known as Little Mountain, and that has between it and the main mountain, or Sand Mountain, a fertile valley that gets to be ten to twenty miles in width, which is called Little or Russellville Valley. Little or Russellville Valley is, in most respects, similar to its parent stem, the Tennessee Valley.

(2) THE COOSA VALLEY. This valley and its outliers are the southwest end of the series of long, narrow anticlinal valleys that extend from New York to Central Alabama. They are usually, in a general way, trough-shaped depressions, that are low and flat along the center and have smaller ridges and valleys on each side. Some of the outliers of this valley, as Long Valley or the valley in which Birmingham is situated, including its different parts, that are known as Roup's, Jones' and Murphree's Valley are over a hundred miles in length. These valleys are all very similar to each other in their lithological, topographical and agricultural features, and they all show plainly the close relationship that exists between the geological formations or structure and the soils, topography and growth of a country. This is especially noticeable in the case of the soils, and is well exemplified in the barren ridges of chert, or almost pure hornstone, running along parallel to and with the fertile limestone valleys at their base. The Coosa Valley proper is a continuation of the Valley of Tennessee, which has been described by Professor Safford, as a complex trough fluted with scores of smaller valleys and ridges. This description will apply, equally as well, to all the outliers, as they are, in all respects, similar to the main valley, or to the Coosa Valley proper.

They are all anticlinal valleys, or eroded anticlinal ridges. They, including the smaller ridges of each, comprise in Alabama some 1000 square miles. They are very striking topographical features, and, from their being environed by ribs of coal and iron, and from their being, for the most part, made up of beds of inexhaustible limestones and dolomites of the very best quality for fluxing purposes, burning lime, etc., and from the fertility and durability of their soils and the superabundance of their bold *big springs* and limpid streams of perpetual flow, and from their being, by far, the most important natural highways between the great and busy marts of the Northeast and those of the Southwest, they are of the greatest interest to the geologist, the engineer, the manufacturer and the agriculturist. They are due entirely to erosion, though they present many features that have been highly influenced by the outcroppings of special geological strata. Their edges, as a general thing, are well defined by ridges or bluff escarpments of millstone grit on the heavy bedded sandstones and conglomerates at the base of the coal measures. Their floors are often higher than the mountainous country on each side, beyond their raised edges, as shown by the fact that, though they are bounded on both sides by high, perpendicular bluffs of millstone grit, etc., their streams do not flow along them for any considerable distance before they break through the rocky barriers, on one side or the other, into the mountainous country beyond. They therefore in these instances present the anomalies of valleys that are water divides in a mountainous country. They rarely exceed two to three miles in width, though occasionally they are much wider. They include outcrops of representatives of all the geological formations from the Carboniferous to the Lower Silurian, inclusive. Their simplest form is a simple regular anticlinal valley, with the older rocks along the centers of the valleys and the others occurring in regular succession on each side. They seldom however, have this simple form, and one or the other of their sides is nearly always more or less complicated, from the presence of faults and from the overlapping of strata. They are rarely complicated on both sides at one and the same time and place. The most important, by far, of their geological formations are the Upper and Lower Silurian, from their being the great repositories of the iron ores of Alabama.

These anticlinal valleys are also remarkable for their *big springs*. They are destined to be the seats of the greatest industries of the State and to be the richest and most densely-populated portions of Alabama.

#### ROLLING AND PRAIRIE LANDS.

These lands lie to the southwest of the *mountain region* with its valleys, as above described, or to the south and west of the broken line that connects the first cascades, or rocky obstructions to navigation in the different rivers, or along and to the south and west of the *old shore line* of the Gulf of Mexico, as has been defined by the State Geologist. They form a belt of country that runs, in a general way, diagonally across the State. This belt is some thirty miles wide next to the Mississippi line, but narrows towards the east, until it finally comes to a point near the Georgia line. It embraces some 5,915 square miles. These lands do not present any very striking topographical features, as they are composed of strata of comparative uniformity in hardness, and of strata that are almost level, having only a slight dip to the southwest. These lands are, however, hilly and broken along their upper edge, or the old shore line, where they are cut up by some deep gullies and ravines, and hence have some considerable irregularities of surface. They form the prairie region that is known as the *Black Belt*, or *Canebrake*, and are, for the most part, of this region. This prairie region has a gently undulating surface, and a remarkable uniformity in its topography. It is in places covered by a fine forest growth of oak, ash, gum, hickory, etc., though, as a general thing, it is bare of such, and is in cultivation. It is noted for the great fertility and durability of its soils. It produced before the war more of agricultural value than any area of like extent in the United States. It may, some of these days, become world-wide famous for its phosphatic deposits.

#### WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM

Northern Alabama is well supplied with an abundance of pure water for all purposes. Bold springs that never go dry, and lasting wells and streams of perpetual flow, are to be met with in all parts of the country. The annual rainfall is about fifty-three inches. The springs occur wherever the country is the least broken. They gush out from the banks of the streams and from the sides of the ravines and from under the hills and cliffs,

and often boil up in low, flat places. They are of all kinds, from the biggest to the smallest, and from the purest to the most saline. The *big springs* are confined principally to the valleys, and to limestone formations, though their waters are never too hard for domestic purposes. They are nothing more than the coming to light of large underground streams, and often carry off from 800 to 1,200 cubic feet of water per minute. Many of the saline, or medicinal springs, have been in time places of resort for the afflicted and pleasure seekers, and some of them have gained for their curative properties more than a State-wide reputation. The mean temperature of the waters of seventeen of these springs during the months of June and July, was, according to Professor Tuomy, 59° F., while that of the air was 74° F. Wells of lasting and cool waters, that are good for drinking and domestic purposes, are to be had for the digging in nearly all parts of this country, and streams that can be made navigable the year round, and are the great drainage channels, together with their feeders, form a network over Northern Alabama. These streams give now to Northern Alabama almost a complete system of drainage, and will give to it, some of these days, a cheap and ready transportation for its every element of wealth.

#### CLIMATE.

Northern Alabama has a most delightful temperature, uniform and salubrious climate. It seldom experiences the extremes of heat and cold, and is entirely free from the feverish heat and scorching sun of a more southern summer, and the rigors and blizzards of a more northern winter. Sunstrokes are almost unknown, and the streams of running water are never frozen over. The climate is truly as equable and as delightful as in any portion of the South. The springs are early and wonderfully balmy, the summers are long and even in temperature, the autumns are late and dry and the winters are so slow of approach and so mild that the crops are frequently left out in the fields until after Christmas. The mean temperatures for the seasons are about as follows: Spring, 63.9° F.; summer, 79.5° F.; autumn, 64.5° F.; and winter, 50.4° F.

#### FORESTS.

In many sections of Northern Alabama there are large forests of soft and hard woods as yet untouched by the woodman's ax; and one-half of Northern Alabama may be said to be still covered

with its native growth. This native arborescent growth comprises over 125 species, which include almost every kind of tree of any economical value, though the prevailing forest growth is pine. In many localities, however, the oak, hickory, gum, beech and cedar abound, with, in some places, a considerable sprinkling of ash, poplar, cypress and walnut. The prevailing growth of any locality is closely dependent on the soil or the underlying geological strata. In other words, if the underlying strata are of sandstones, the prevailing growth is pine; and if the underlying strata are of limestones, the prevailing growth is of the hard woods, that vary in kind with the different geological formations or the purity of the underlying limestones. So true is the above that the different timber belts of the State conform closely to the outcroppings of certain geological formations. So the outcroppings of each formation may be said to have its own peculiar growth, and so distinct are these peculiarities in many cases, that the underlying geological formations can be recognized by them. At the present rate of cut, it is believed, there is enough standing timber, not allowing any for natural growth, to last at least for 150 years.

#### SOILS.

The soils of Northern Alabama are of the following typical varieties with all the intermediate grades, namely: (1) The silicious soils of the mountains, or elevated lands, (2) the loams of the valleys, and (3) the calcareous soils of the prairies.

(1) **THE SILICIOUS SOILS OF THE MOUNTAINS OR ELEVATED LANDS.** These soils cover the *high-lands* or *barrens*, and the *table-lands*. They are usually of a light gray color and often are not much more than sand or pure silicious matter. Up to a few years ago they were regarded as almost worthless for all agricultural purposes, but of late years, by kind treatment and the use, in small quantities, on them of suitable composts, they have been found to be fine for cotton, corn, tobacco, small grains, grasses and root and fruit crops. The greatest objection to them is that they do not hold, or retain well, organic matter or fertilizers, and hence in many localities they look as if they had been leached, so completely have all traces of organic matter been washed out of them.

(2) **THE LOAMS OF THE VALLEYS.** These soils vary in color from a deep red to almost a deep black. They are commonly of a clayey nature and form some of the best farming lands in the State.

They are noted for their fertility and durability, and are susceptible of the greatest improvement. They contain within themselves all the ingredients that are necessary for plant food, and hence, if properly cared for, can be made to last or be kept rich, for an indefinite length of time, without the addition of a single handful of extraneous manure of any kind. They, however, as a general thing, have been badly abused, some of them for as long as seventy-five years, and still, though they have never received any outside help, are comparatively fertile wherever they lie so as not to be easily washed away. Unlike the silicious soils of the *highlands* and *table-lands*, they are very retentive of all organic matter, and manures placed on them show their effects for years. They are well suited for a great variety of crops, though they have ever been cultivated in cotton and corn.

(3) **THE CALcareous SOILS OF THE PRAIRIES.** These soils include all grades from a gray to a very black soil. They are based on the *rotten limestone* and are famous for their great and lasting fertility. They, in many instances, have been constantly abused for the last forty to fifty years, by uninterrupted planting in the same crops, cotton and corn, by the exhaustive method of ever taking off and never putting back, by working and tramping over at all seasons of the year and under all conditions, etc., still they yield good crops for the labor bestowed. They have to the north and south of them, and in them, rich phosphatic deposits, that can be easily and cheaply spread over them, and hence they will always be regarded as forming the most valuable farming lands of Northern Alabama.

#### GEOLOGY.

Northern Alabama, in its geological structure, or in the variety, location, materials and development of its geological formations, and in the present positions of the outcrops of these formations, and the manner in which these outcrops have been thrown together and exposed, and in the economic wealth of some of these formations, presents a field that is of the greatest interest, especially to geologists. It has in its outcrops representatives of not only every geological formation of the Appalachian region of North America, but also of two newer formations.

The following is a general and approximate sec-

tion, in a descending order, of the geological formations of Northern Alabama:

### B. NEWER OR SOFTER ROCKS.

(13) Stratified Drift	DRIFT	200 feet
CRETACEOUS.		
(12) Upper Cretaceous.	(h) Ripley	250 feet
	(g) Rotten Limestone	3,000 feet
(11) Lower Cretaceous.	(f) Entaw	200 feet
	(e) Tuscaloosa	1,000 feet

### A. OLDER OR HARDER ROCKS.

CARBONIFEROUS.		
(10) Coal Measures	(Warrior Coal Field)	3,500 feet.
SUB-CARBONIFEROUS.		
(9) Calcareous or Mountain Limestone		800 feet.
(8) Silicious	(a) Upper Silicious or St. Louis Limestone	400 ft.
	(b) Lower Silicious or Keokuk	300 ft.
DEVONIAN.		
(7) Black Shale		100 feet.
UPPER SILURIAN.		
(6) Clinton or Red Mountain		400 feet.
LOWER SILURIAN.		
(5) Trenton and Chazy		400 feet.
(4) Quebec	(b) Knox Dolomite	3,500 feet.
	(a) Knox Shale	1,800 feet.
(3) Knox Sandstone		800 feet.
(2) Potsdam Sandstone		4,000 feet.
METAMORPHIC.		
(1) Crystalline Rocks		5,000 feet.

These rocks, as shown by the above general section, are of later origin than the Carboniferous formation. They, from their comparatively soft and uniform nature, do not make any striking topographical features, or are not at all mountainous. They form the southern part of the State, the part to the south and west of the old Gulf shore line, or to the south and west of the *mountain region*, though the stratified drift occurs also to the north and east of this line, covering, in patches, some of the higher points of all the *older rocks*. The above section also shows that the only representatives in Northern Alabama of the *newer rocks* are of the drift and cretaceous formations.

#### DRIFT.

(13) **STRATIFIED DRIFT.** This is a wide-spread formation. There are superficial deposits of it in nearly all parts of Northern Alabama. As a rule, it is irregularly stratified. The areas covered by it have irregularities of surface from the fact that some few of its strata are of varying degrees of hardness, and the underlying strata or formations were irregularly eroded previous to its deposition. The superficial coating of drift, therefore, determines most of the minor details, but not the general contour and most prominent physical features of the country covered by it. It most commonly occurs in detached patches or beds, but sometimes covers

completely areas of considerable extent. As a general thing, it occupies, topographically speaking, high positions and is covered with a growth of principally pines, with a mixture of oak, hickory, etc. In Northern Alabama it appears, in a general way, to thicken to the south and west, and in places is at least 200 feet thick. It is made up of rounded pebbles, sands and different colored loams. These different materials occur in irregular streaks or seams. The pebbles are of flint and fossiliferous chert. The flint pebbles are the more rounded of the two, showing that they have been transported the greater distance. These pebbles are well suited to the macadamizing of roads and walks; much better than the cracked-up limestones, etc., that are generally used, as they are round, and hence are much less injurious to the feet of horses and pedestrians, and to the wear and tear of vehicles, and as they are not so easily worn away, and as they do not give off any disagreable and injurious impalpable dust. Among these pebbles are to be found beautiful specimens of quartz, agate, jasper, chalcedony, cornelian, silicified wood, etc. The sands are coarse-grained and rounded. They are well suited for mortars, etc., and are frequently of the very purest quality. The clays are of various grades and shades of color, and many of them make the best of ordinary bricks, and some of them doubtless would make fine fire bricks and pottery ware.

**CRETACEOUS.** The rocks or strata of this formation lie approximately horizontal, having only a slight dip to the south and southwest. They form a rolling and a prairie region, and are comprised within a belt that runs diagonally across the State. This belt is some thirty miles wide next to the Mississippi line but gradually narrows toward the east until it comes to a point near the Georgia line. It embraces some 5,915 square miles. This formation is divided, in the general section given, into (12) *Upper Cretaceous* and (11) *Lower Cretaceous*.

(12) *Upper Cretaceous.* This division is made up of the (h) *Ripley* and (g) *Rotten Limestone* groups.

(h) *Ripley.* This group is composed principally of a hard crystalline and often sandy limestone, and a bluish, micaceous and frequently a highly fossiliferous marl. It holds near its bottom important strata of phosphatic material. It is estimated at about 250 feet in thickness.

(g) *Rotten Limestone.* This is an impure argil-

laceous limestone of great uniformity of composition. It forms a strip of country from fifteen to twenty miles wide that extends clear across the State and is known as the *Canebrake* or *Black Belt*. This limestone, before it is exposed, is of a bluish color, though after weathering, it is of a whitish or chalky clay appearance. It gives rise to a topography and soil that are of remarkable uniformity. The topography is not at all striking, the surface being gently undulating. Its growth consists of oak, ash, gum, hickory, walnut, poplar, etc. Its soil is noted for its great fertility and durability. It is not easily washed off from the prairie likeness of the area covered by it, though there are slight elevations from which it has been removed and hence these places are now bald or barren. These rocks have in them, and especially just under and over them, some very important strata that carry phosphatic green sands and very rich phosphatic nodules. They are believed to be about 1,000 feet in thickness.

(11) *Lower Cretaceous*. This division is subdivided into the (*f*) *Eutaw* and (*g*) *Tuscaloosa* groups.

(*f*) *Eutaw*. This group is composed principally of gray laminated clays and irregularly bedded sands. It also contains beds of lignite and lignitized trunks of trees. It is computed at 300 feet in thickness.

(*g*) *Tuscaloosa*. This group is named from its characteristic appearance in and around the city of Tuscaloosa. It is made up of a great series of beds of sands and clays, and bears a very strong resemblance to the stratified drift, for which it was taken until within the last few years. It borders upon the *older* or *harder* rocks, and forms the old shore line of the Gulf of Mexico. Its clays, especially those in the lower part of the group, bid fair to come extensively into use for the manufacture of fine bricks and various kinds of earthenware. It also carries, in places, beds of ochre and a very good quality of limonite, both of which have been tested and used. It is thought to be about 1,000 feet thick.

#### A. OLDER OR HARDER ROCKS

These rocks include the carboniferous and all the older and lower rocks, geologically speaking. In Northern Alabama they embrace representatives of all the geological formations of the Appalachian system. They form the first cascades, or rocky obstructions to navigation in the different rivers in

Alabama, and hence, as has been said, they make up and are confined to the quadrant drawn with the northeast corner of the State as a center, and the straight line from that point to Tuscaloosa as a radius. They therefore cover about 25,000 square miles of Northern Alabama. They form a mountainous country, that is resplendent with topographical features of the most striking kind. Their strata are thrown into all kinds of positions, and are rich in minerals. They give rise to a great diversity of soils, and are covered by a great variety of forest trees. Their formations will now be considered separately and briefly, commencing with the uppermost, or newest one.

**CARBONIFEROUS.** (10) *Coal Measures*.—This formation is highly developed in Northern Alabama. It is but a part of or the southwest end of the great coal basin of the Ohio, or of the Appalachian coal field. It consists of a series of sandstones, conglomerates, shales and clays, in which are imbedded seams of stone coal. It is rich in coal and comprises about the thickest coal measures in the United States. The coals are all bituminous, though they are of almost every variety of bituminous coals, and are well suited to all the uses of bituminous coals. This formation is not only rich in stone coal, but also in fine building and paving stones. It also has some iron ores and clays, and some grindstone and whetstone rocks that may prove, some of these days, to be of great value. It is also covered, for the most part, with a fine growth of forest trees. It was once continuous, and then formed one connected, immense coal field of some 10,000 square miles in extent, but, during the Appalachian revolution, there was thrown up across it, in a general northeast and southwest direction, a series of parallel anticlinal ridges that were cracked along their summits and have since been washed out into narrow anticlinal valleys, which now divide the outcrops of this formation, or the coal measures of Alabama, into three more or less distinct parts, or coal fields of very unequal areas. The edges, or rims of these coal fields still show that they were parts of anticlinal folds, and are sufficiently elevated to determine the general directions of the main water courses and to fashion the three coal fields into long, tray-shaped depressions. These coal fields, though originally of one and the same coal field, and hence composed of very similar strata, in every respect, are now very different as to their topographical features and geological structure. This

dissimilarity is due primarily to the different degrees of disturbance to which the strata of the different fields have been exposed, and from this there resulted a difference in the outcroppings of the strata of the several fields, and hence a difference in the erosion, or in the inequalities of surface of the different fields. These three coal fields are all rich in stone coal, and it is believed that two of them comprise the thickest coal measures and the greatest thickness of coal in the United States. They have many advantages, the most important of which are, the inexhaustible quantity and unexcelled quality of their coal, and the nearness of their coal to the iron ores and limestones of the narrow anticlinal valleys separating the different fields, and the ease and cheapness with which their coal can be mined and gotten to market, and their most favorable location; for, as has been said, they are bounded on three sides by coalless areas, and are the nearest of any coal fields to the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic ports south of Charleston. The coals of the different fields differ more or less from each other. This difference is doubtless due primarily to the relative positions which these fields held in the original coal basin and to the different degrees of disturbance to which the strata of each of them have been subjected. It is, however, believed to be more imaginary than real. These coal fields were named in 1849 by Professor Tuomy, the *Warrior*, the *Cahaba* and the *Coosa*, respectively, from the names of rivers which drain them.

*Warrior Coal Field.* This field, as commonly understood, embraces all of the coal measures in Alabama that are drained by the Warrior and Tennessee rivers. It has an estimated area of 7,810 square miles, and hence is nearly ten times as large as the Cahaba and Coosa fields together. It is the most northwestern of the three coal fields of Alabama. In a general way, it is a vast plain that slopes gently to the southwest and that has elevated rims. Its strata have been less disturbed by upheavals, and hence, as a whole, they have a less dip and are less faulty than are those of either of the other fields. In fact, they are almost horizontal, except near the elevated rims. As this field, away from its edges, has no folded or tilted strata, its topographical features are not so intimately connected with the geological structure as in case of the other two fields. It has, however, been conveniently divided into a *plateau or table land* area, and a *basin area*, without any distinct line of division

between the two, the one gradually merging into the other.

The *plateau or table land* area, characterized by its surface rocks of hard sandstones, and conglomerates near base of the measures, is the northeast portion of the field, and includes what is known as Sand, Lookout and Roek Mountains. It is most elevated in the northeast corner of the State, where it forms a wide, flat plateau that is from 1,200 to 1,800 feet above the sea. Its rims are somewhat the higher portions of it, and these slope gently towards the center of the plateau, while the whole field slopes gently to the southwest. It is, therefore, a broad, shallow, elevated synclinal trough that slopes gently to the southwest. It is divided by an anticlinal valley into two parts that have a similar structure to each other. This anticlinal valley, as an unbroken anticlinal ridge, extends some distance down into the *basin proper*.

The *basin proper* is also a wide, shallow trough with slightly elevated rims, and as a whole, gently slopes to the southwest. It comprises the lower or southwest end and greater half of the field. Its inequality of surface is much greater than in the case of the plateau. In the vicinity of the streams it is really broken. Its strata undulate, but not enough to affect the topography. It is rich in workable seams of coal, which increase in number to the southwest, or as the measures thicken. Near its southwestern visible limits, its measures are believed to be over 3,000 feet in thickness and to contain over fifty seams of coal that have an aggregate thickness of about 125 feet of coal and a workable thickness of about seventy-five feet of coal. These coals have never been developed to any great extent except along the southeast edge of the field. There are now however plans on foot to work those near the center of the field on an extensive scale. There is cut off from the southeast edge of this field, by a combined fold and fault, a strip some twelve miles long by three in width that has received the name of the *Little Basin*. This *little basin* is also a tray-shaped depression and runs in the general direction of the anticlinal valleys. The Warrior field furnishes about five-sixths of the present coal output of Alabama, or about 2,500,000 tons per annum. From the ease and cheapness with which its coal can be mined, and from the peculiar fitness of this coal for steaming and coking purposes, this field is destined, in the near

future, to be the center of one of the greatest mining and manufacturing districts of this, or any other country.

*Cahaba Coal Field.* This is the central coal field of Alabama. It contains the most southern true coal in the United States. It is a long narrow field, some sixty miles long by a maximum width of about fifteen miles, with an area of about 435 square miles. It gradually widens towards the south. It is surrounded almost completely by the Coosa Valley and some of its outliers. It is in the line of the great Appalachian upheavals, and hence its strata have been greatly disturbed and are now highly inclined. The dip, as a rule, is to the southeast and increases to the southeast. The surface is broken and conforms strictly to the geological structure. As the strata possess varying degrees of resistance to disintegration, they have been very unequally eroded, and hence ridges and valleys have been formed with the strike of the tilted strata, or with a northeast and southwest direction. The measures of this field, like those of the Warrior field, are thickest at or near their southwestern visible limits. They are reported to have a maximum thickness of over 4,000 feet, and to contain thirty-nine seams of coal. Eleven of these thirty-nine coal seams are of two feet six inches and over in thickness, and have a total thickness of forty feet of marketable coal. This coal, as a rule, is thought to be harder and cleaner than the coal of the Warrior field, but it has the great disadvantages of being highly inclined and of being in a more broken country.

*Coosa Coal Field.* This field is the most southeastern, the smallest and least known of the three coal fields of Alabama. It is also almost surrounded by the Coosa Valley and some of its outliers. It comprises about 415 square miles. Its strata have been greatly disturbed, and hence, as a rule, are highly inclined and more broken up than those of either of the other two fields. This field, it is believed, made the southeastern edge of the original coal basin of Alabama, and hence, to a great extent, it is believed to be made up of strata near the base of the measures, and as these strata are more barren of coal than those higher up in the measures, this field, in proportion to its size, is not so rich in coal as either of the other fields. It is known, however, to contain, at the least, three seams of workable coal of three feet and over each in thickness, and with a combined thickness of over ten feet of marketable coal.

These coals are, however, of a comparatively softer and dirtier nature than those of either of the other two fields. They are good coking coals.

*SUB-CARBONIFEROUS.* These rocks are principally limestones, with divisions of sandstone and cherty strata that sometimes reach a remarkable thickness. They are much more easily eroded than the overlying hard sandstones and conglomerates of the coal measures. They are valley-making rocks, though the harder varieties of the limestones and the sandstone and cherty strata form the mountainous sides of the steep escarpments of the valleys, and oftentimes make distinct mountainous peaks and ridges. They crop out in all of the valleys, though they are most highly developed in the extreme northern part of the State or, in the Tennessee valley, where they reach a thickness of at least 4,500 feet. In this valley they lie almost level, but in the other valleys, or in the anticlinal valleys, they are highly inclined. The limestones are often very pure, and well suited for fluxing purposes and for burning into lime. They also often make beautiful and durable building stones, that are easily cut when first quarried and harden on exposure. Some of them, it is believed, would do very well for lithographic stones and hydraulic cement. This formation is noted for the sink-holes, caves and big springs that are so numerous in it. These caves often contain large earthy deposits of niter, copperas, alum, Epsom salt, etc., which were, in many instances, worked during the late war. The rocks of this formation in many places are stongly impregnated with crude petroleum, which sometimes exudes from them as a liquid bitumen, or mineral tar, and thus forms the so-called *tar springs* that are scattered over this country.

This formation is dividable into two distinct groups, namely: (9) *Calcareous Mountain Limestone* and (8) *Silicious*. The *Silicious* group can generally be divided into two smaller groups, namely: (d) *St. Louis Limestone* and (e) *Keokuk*.

(9) *Calcareous or Mountain Limestone.* This group, as its name implies, is made up of principally mountain-making limestones of the harder varieties of limestone of the sub-carboniferous formation. As a general thing, these limestones are not uniformly eroded, and hence they form a rocky or broken surface. Their outcrops are confined, for the most part, to the sides of the mountains or bluffy escarpments of the valleys, under the protecting cappings of hard sandstones and con-

glomerates of the coal measures. Though made up of principally limestone, this group always carries one or more divisions of sandstones, that frequently reach a very great thickness and sometimes form distinct ridges and mountains, as the *rocky coars* of the anticlinal valleys and the *Little Mountain* of the Tennessee Valley. From their prominent development in Little Mountain at and near Lagrange, they have been given the local name of *Lagrange Sandstones*. The limestones vary very much in composition; some of them are almost pure carbonate of lime while others are argillaceous, and others still are silicious. The purer varieties furnish a good portion of the fluxing rocks, and some of the lime-burning rocks that are now being used in Alabama. The impure varieties, it is believed in some instances, would furnish very good lithographic stones and hydraulic cement rocks. The sandstones are commonly of a very pure quality. They are soft and easily cut when first quarried, but harden on exposure. They are used in heavy work, in the foundations of large buildings, culverts, bridge piers, etc. Their outcrops, however, are frequently weathered into deep beds of loose sand that can be shoveled up. This sand is very pure and is well suited for mortars, molds, glass-making, etc. These sandstones are remarkable for the very large fossil coal plants, *Lipidodendron* and *Sagillaria*, which they carry. These fossil coal plants reach a maximum diameter of about four feet. They sometimes show the stubs of roots and limbs, and are frequently very plainly marked.

This group has a maximum thickness in Northern Alabama of some 800 feet.

(8) SILICIOUS. The strata of this group consist mainly of limestone and chert. They are usually, though not always, divisible into two sub-groups of entirely different topographical, geological and agricultural features. The characteristic rocks of these two sub-groups are, however, in many parts of Northern Alabama so blended together as to make such a division of them impracticable. These rocks often carry fine deposits of limonite and some manganese.

The two sub-groups are (d) *Upper Silicious, or St. Louis Limestone* and (e) *Lower Silicious, or Keokuk*.

(d) *Upper Silicious, or St. Louis Limestone*. This sub-group is made up of massive gray limestones that carry interspersed through some of their strata, nodules of fossiliferous chert. In

certain localities, however, some of its strata are very homogeneous and work up well into architectural and monumental stones. They take a fine polish and are durable. The rocks of this sub-group, as a whole, form a gently undulating surface, and are, strictly speaking, valley-making rocks. The Tennessee Valley proper and the *dug-out* and *back valleys* of the anticlinal valleys are in these rocks. They are noted for the fertility, variety and durability of their soils. These soils, however worn, are always susceptible of the greatest improvement. They are most retentive of all kinds of manures, fertilizers, etc., and show their effects for years after application. They, as a general thing, are in cultivation and are adapted to a very great variety of crops. The outcrops of these rocks were originally covered by fine forests of oaks, hickories, etc., as shown by the beautiful groves that are to be seen here and there over the knolls and around the residences of the farmers of the different valleys.

(e) *Lower Silicious, or Keokuk*. This sub-group consists mainly of silicious limestones and chert that is frequently pure hornstone in regularly stratified seams. Its rocks are, therefore, of a very silicious character, and this is true especially of the lower strata, where they are in places nearly all of pure hornstone, with but little interstratified limestone. These hard cherty, or hornstone strata, give rise to an elevated country with deep and narrow water channels, as the highlands of Tennessee and the *barrens* of North Alabama. The purer of these hornstones frequently crack up into cubes on being struck with a hammer. They are the rocks from which the Indians made many of their arrow heads, as shown by the piles of chips left in the cutting of these arrow heads, in many sections of the country. These cherty rocks, from their hardness and indurability, make prominent outcrops, as shoals in the different streams and the *back-bone* ridges of the anticlinal valleys. They give rise to a usually light gray, silicious soil, that is commonly covered with a growth of dwarfed and stunted oaks, and that heretofore has been considered poor, and hence the country formed by it is thinly settled. This country is now, however, being rapidly settled and cleared up, and looked upon as a most desirable country for homes, on account of its pure atmosphere and water and freedom from mud, and even the reputation that its soil is acquiring as being especially suited for certain crops. The inter-



bedded seams of limestone are frequently very pure indeed, and sometimes are a good variety of marble; especially is this true of the white crinoidal kind. In this sub-group, particularly in the lower part, there are often deposits of considerable extent of good limonite and black oxide of manganese. These ores, as fine cabinet specimens, are scattered all over the cherty ridges of the sub-group. The lower cherty rocks of this sub-group also yield, on disintegration, fine deposits of kaolin and fire clay, and beautiful specimens of agate, chalcedony, etc. Its maximum thickness in Northern Alabama must be some 300 feet.

DEVONIAN. (7) *Black Shale*.—This is a most persistent formation, though, as a general thing, it is comparatively poorly developed in Northern Alabama. It consists of a bituminous black shale that is sometimes interbedded with a red ferruginous sandstone. It crops out a few miles south of the Tennessee line, along the creeks, and along near the tops of the *hark-bane* or *red ore* ridges of the anticlinal valleys. It most commonly consists of the black shale alone, and is from ten to twenty feet in thickness, though it sometimes gets to be as thick as 100 feet, and, when it contains the interbedded seams of sandstones, it occasionally reaches a thickness of about 250 feet. Its black shale is very hard, indeed, before exposed, but soon *slacks* or crumbles on weathering. It is always full of iron pyrites and is the stumbling block for the *mineral haulers*, who often take it for stone coal, or the evidences of stone coal, and frequently spend hundreds of dollars in sinking deep shafts into it for silver, copper, etc. It is the source of most of the mineral springs of the State. These springs derive their medicinal, or mineral virtues, mainly from the weathering of the pyrites. These shales could be made to yield, on distillation, lubricating and other oils, but they are, however, of little importance economically.

SILURIAN. This is one of the most important and interesting of the geological formations of Northern Alabama, especially from an economical standpoint. It might be termed the iron ore-bearing formation of Northern Alabama, from its preeminence in this respect. It has furnished, for some years past, all the iron ores that have been mined in Alabama. Its strata crop out a few miles south of the Tennessee line, along the creeks, and occupy the central and much the larger portion of all the anticlinal valleys.

This formation is divided into the *Upper Silurian* and *Lower Silurian*.

UPPER SILURIAN. The only representative of this formation in Northern Alabama is the *Cinton* or *Red Mountain* group.

(6) *Cinton* or *Red Mountain*. This group in Tennessee is known as the *Dyestone* group. It consists of beds of sandstones and shales with interpolated seams of red ore and limestone. The sandstones are fine and coarse-grained, and are usually calcareous. The shales are variegated and also commonly calcareous. The inter-bedded limestone seams are usually impure, being either ferruginous, argillaceous or silicious. The red ore seams vary very much in thickness and purity, and frequently in number. The same seam at different points has been seen to be almost a pure hematite ore, a sandstone and a limestone. The rocks of this group crop out, as stated, near the Tennessee line along the creeks, though their most important outcrops are of the anticlinal valleys where they, with the two next overlying formations and the one just under them, form lines of ridges or mountains. These lines of ridges or mountains usually occur on each side of the anticlinal valleys skirting the bluff escarpments of the coal measures which form the borders to these valleys. Occasionally these ridges or mountains are duplicated on one side of the valleys, and are often much more prominent in places than in others, though they are never wanting unless engulfed in faults. They are known as *red ore ridges*, or *red mountains*, from their deep, red soil, in many localities, over the outcroppings of red ore. This group of rocks is also known as the *Red Mountain Group*, because it occurs in all of the red mountains, and as the *Dyestone Group*, in Tennessee, because its red ore has been, and is still, used in some localities for dyeing purposes, and because it readily stains or dyes anything with which it comes in contact. The rocks of this group, in their outcrops along the anticlinal valleys, always have a considerable dip, and are frequently more than perpendicular or are bent over on themselves. The seams of red ore are usually from two to three in number, though they sometimes dwindle down to only one, and at other times are multiplied into half a dozen. One of these seams sometimes reaches a thickness by itself of about thirty-five feet of ore. This ore is most highly developed in the neighborhood of Birmingham, on the southeast side of

the valley. It, however, has been tested in hundreds of other places, and is now being mined and used on a very extensive scale. The deep red soil derived from its disintegration is very fertile, though it is usually shallow and on steep hill sides.

**LOWER SILURIAN.** This is a most highly developed formation in Northern Alabama. It must be at least 10,000 feet thick. Its rocks are all more or less calcareous with the exception of those of its basic group. They occupy the central portions of the anticlinal valleys, or all of the anticlinal valleys between the bordering red ore ridges, or Red Mountains. Its strata are always highly inclined and are frequently nearly perpendicular. In its calcareous groups there are belts of very silicious strata, either cherty or sandy strata, and belts of very argillaceous strata. The silicious belts, in their outcrops, form a very broken or rocky country of a succession of rocky ridges and hills, while the argillaceous belts give rise to a low and flat country of imperfect drainage that is known as *flat-woods*.

This formation in Northern Alabama is divisible into the following four separate and distinct groups:—(5) *Trenton and Chazy* (4) *Quebec*, (3) *Knox Sandstone* and (2) *Potsdam Sandstone*.

(5) *Trenton and Chazy.* As a general thing, the upper strata of this group are calcareous shales and the lower strata are impure argillaceous limestones and pure blue and gray limestones. The limestone strata predominate. As a whole, these rocks are valley-making rocks. They, however, commonly form the greater part of the inner steep and rocky sides of the red ore ridges, or Red Mountains, and frequently they make low rounded hills and glades that have on their sides the strata of the harder limestones cropping out in step-like edges. The limestones, though usually shaly and argillaceous, contain some strata that are very massive and pure, and that are now being used very extensively for lime-burning and fluxing purposes. The argillaceous limestones are frequently variegated, in certain strata, with red streaks, and are then sometimes called *calico rocks*. Some of the shaly limestones have, in certain localities, irregular, thin seams and nodules of chert which sometimes carry their streaks of *galena*. This galena, however, has never been seen thicker than a knife-blade. This group has a maximum thickness in Northern Alabama of some 400 feet.

**QUEBEC.** This group has the greatest thickness and distribution of calcareous rocks of any forma-

tion of Northern Alabama. It forms the major part of the anticlinal valleys of the State, and must be at least 6,000 feet in thickness. Its upper beds are mainly gray dolomites, that are silicious or cherty, and sometimes sandy, while its lower beds, as a rule, are mostly of variegated shales that alternate with layers of thin sheets of limestone. It is therefore divisible into the following two sub-groups: (b) *Knox Dolomite* and (a) *Knox Shale*.

(b) *Knox Dolomite.* This sub-group consists of beds of blue limestone that are succeeded by thick beds of gray dolomites. The above blue limestones are frequently very impure, and it is very likely that some of them would make very good lithographic stones. The gray dolomites are massive and crystalline. They are sometimes sandy and in their upper part, are usually associated with strata that are very cherty. The cherty portions of these cherty strata, on the weathering away of the calcareous or dolomitic portions, are left as nodules and masses of considerable size, that form rocky, rounded ridges which are characteristic of this group. The chert, therefore, of this formation is of concretionary nature and is not bedded.

The cherty, angular fragments and masses of these ridges sometimes assume the forms of sandstones and conglomerates, and then they more frequently occur as huge boulders and make high hills. These cherty ridges are usually two in number, with a valley between them down into the underlying calcareous rocks, but sometimes there is only one of these ridges, there being no intermediate valley, or the cherty strata not having been cut through in the washing out of the anticlinal valley, and then this single ridge forms a broken, rocky country, frequently a mile or so in width, occupying the central portion of the anticlinal valley. Near the edges of these ridges, or the broken country formed by them, there are numerous outcroppings of silicious and cherty dolomites, and in these cherty ridges, or in this broken country, there are often seen lime-sinks. These silicious, or cherty rocks, on disintegration, form a gray soil that is sometimes of a very fair quality, especially for cotton. These cherty ridges are timbered usually with short-leaf pine, post, black jack and Spanish oaks, and some long-leaf pine, hickory, chestnut, dogwood, etc.

The lower, or more calcareous rocks of this sub-group, in some of the anticlinal valleys, do not come to the surface at all, and in none of them do they

form so prominent a part as the overlying cherty strata. They, however, in the larger valleys, as the Coosa Valley proper, give rise to some of the best farming lands of the State. Their lands are timbered with red, Spanish, post and black jack oaks, hickory, short-leaf pine and dogwood, and in the low grounds, with also sweet gum and sourgum.

This sub-group is, however, of special interest on account of its vast deposits of limonite, by the side of which the limonites of all other formations in Northern Alabama are very insignificant.

(a) *Knar Shale.* The upper strata of this sub-group are made up of thin sheets of limestone, alternating on the outcrop, with seams of clay and thin beds of sandy and aluminous shale; and the lower strata, principally of calcareous variegated shales, alternated with layers of thin sheets of shaly limestones and dolomites. When the shales, or clayey portions of the upper strata, predominate, and the drainage is defective, level tracts, frequently of very large areas, are formed, that are known as *flatwoods*. These flatwoods are usually uncleared, though the timber, principally post oak and short-leaf pine, indicates a good soil.

The lower beds of principally variegated shales of brownish, reddish, greenish and grayish colors, give rise to valleys with ridges. These shale ridges, frequently, are almost bare of soil, or have a soil that is thin and drouthy. The lands formed by these shales are timbered with principally chestnut, red and white oaks, dogwood and hickory.

The only useful materials of this sub-group are some small beds of limonite.

(3) *Knar Sandstone.* This sandstone is of no very great thickness, and, as the strata are highly tilted, its superficial area is small. It is confined to sharp crested steep ridges of no great width. It is sometimes thin-bedded and sometimes thick-bedded and is commonly calcareous. It often has alternating with it, layers of dolomite and sometimes layers of shale of variegated colors. It forms usually a calcareous, sandy soil.

(2) *Potsdam Sandstone.* This is a mountain-making sandstone. It is usually coarse-grained, though sometimes a fine-grained conglomerate or a sandy shale. It forms a broken chain of mountains that contains some of the highest and most picturesque peaks of the State. It is a durable building stone. The soil derived from it is thin and timbered with a stunted growth of oak, chestnut and short leaf pine.

**METAMORPHIC.** (1) *Crystalline Rocks.* These rocks are confined to the central eastern part of the State and cover about 4,125 square miles. They exhibit the greatest diversity as to their chemical compositions and physical characters, and in their topography. They include granite, the different kinds of gneisses, schists and slates, steatite, quartzite, jasper, limestone, and dolomite, or, as has been well said, all gradations of rocks between the almost indestructible quartzose rocks and the easily eroded marble. They form a country of varied scenery, that is made up of high and almost mountainous regions alternating with rolling and sometimes rugged lowlands and valleys.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES.

The natural resources of Northern Alabama, though they appear to be very great to the most casual observers, are greatest to those who know them best. Their character and quality are such that no fears need be entertained from a comparison of them with the natural resources of any other country. They are now attracting the attention and capital of the civilized world, and their development within the last few years has placed Alabama at the head of all progressive States in the growth of its manufacturing and industrial enterprises, or has changed it from, strictly speaking, a cotton and corn-producing State to one of diversified industries. This development of these natural resources has built cities, as if by magic, that present all the evidences of wealth and refinement and have a good commerce; it has made some few enormously rich, and has given to thousands comfortable homes, and to all reduced taxes with plenty of work at good pay. It has increased the property valuation of the whole State from \$173,898,095 in 1886, to \$214,925,869 in 1887, and within the last two years it has decreased the State and county taxes \$125,000, and within the last two months it has increased the capital stock of incorporated enterprises in the State over \$1,000,000.

The natural resources of Northern Alabama, in the order of their importance, are about as follows: I. *Mineral Wealth*, II. *Agricultural Wealth*, III. *Timber Wealth* and IV. *Nature's Advantages*.

#### MINERAL WEALTH

The mineral wealth of Northern Alabama is so

great and so evident that the wonder is not that Alabama has become within the last few years the most progressive of all progressive States in the development of its mineral wealth, or in the growth of its manufacturing and industrial enterprises, but that she did not take the lead in this respect years ago, or that she was ever regarded as exclusively an agricultural State. This untold mineral wealth of Northern Alabama, and the rapidity with which it is being developed, should be a source of very great pride to all Alabamians and not alone to those of the favored sections, for the prosperity of any one portion of the State will not detract from, but will eventually add to, that of the rest of the State. The development of this mineral wealth, though in its infancy, has already assumed magnificent proportions, and gives evidence of a grand future for Alabama. Fifteen years ago the mineral output of Northern Alabama amounted, it may be said, to nothing; in 1889, it will be worth at the least \$20,000,000, and in 1891, it is believed that it will be valued at as much as the cotton crop of the whole State, or some \$30,000,000. This mineral wealth is greatly enhanced by the natural advantages which encompass it, as the manner in which all the raw materials have been thrown together in close juxtaposition and surrounded by exhaustless provision-producing areas. It consists, however, principally in coal, iron ore and limestones, the three great powers of wealth, though Northern Alabama has other minerals that have yielded, and doubtless will yield again, large fortunes, and other minerals still that have never been worked, though their deposits give fair promises of fair returns, as in the case of the marls and phosphates. These marl and phosphatic deposits, as has been said by the State Geologist, may be worth some of these days more to the State of Alabama than its at present three great powers of wealth, or its combined coal, iron and limestone. Should this supposed probability ever become halfway true, then there will be no comparison between the mineral wealth of Northern Alabama and any other section of the Union. The importance and value of any mineral deposit is strictly dependent on its quality, quantity, accessibility and vicinity to fuel and flux. According to this test, the minerals and mineral substances of Northern Alabama, in the order of their present importance, are as follows: 1. Coal; 2. Iron Ores; 3. Fluxing Rocks and Lime-Burning Rocks, or Limestones and Dol-

mites; 4. Building and Paving Stones and Brick Clays; 5. Porcelain and Fire Clays; 6. Marls and Phosphates; 7. Ochres and Mineral Paints; 8. Millstones, Grindstones and Whetstones; 9. Glass, Mortars and Molding Sands; 10. Macadamizing and Ballasting Materials; 11. Ornamental, Curious and Precious Stones; 12. Manganese Ores; 13. Copper Ores; 14. Gold; 15. Tin Ores; 16. Lead Ores; 17. Silver Ores; 18. Zinc Ores; 19. Graphite; 20. Hydraulic Cement Rocks and Lithographic Stones; 21. Natural Gas and Petroleum; and 22. Soapstone, Slates, Emery, Heavy Spar, Mica and Asbestos.

#### COAL, COKE, LIGNITE.

1. **COAL.** Coal, when of sufficient purity and quantity, is, from an economic standpoint, the most important of all mineral substances. It is, as it were, a magnet that draws to it all kinds of manufacturing and commercial enterprises, and, as no country without it can excel now in these enterprises, and as the most prosperous countries are the greatest coal-producing countries, it is evident that coal is the basis of all great commercial and manufacturing prosperity, and that it might safely be termed the key to the great industrial progress of to-day, especially of that of Northern Alabama. Fortunate indeed is the country that possesses a good quality of coal in very large quantities. It is, therefore, a matter of the greatest consequence that Northern Alabama possesses this mineral in such quantities as to be considered almost inexhaustible, and of such quality as to be well fitted for all the uses of soft or bituminous coal, and so accessible as to be easily reached from all directions by railroads and rivers that can be made navigable all the year round for steam tugs and coal barges. There is no doubt but that the present unprecedented degree of prosperity of Northern Alabama is due more to its coal mines than to its every other element of prosperity combined. This is evident from the fact that its true and lasting prosperity has been in an exact ratio to its relative coal output and consumption. This, doubtless, will continue to be the case, and hence the coal of Northern Alabama is worth more to Alabama than is the gold of California to California. These coals, as have been stated, are in the southwest end of the great coal basin of the Ohio, or of the Appalachian coal field, that extends unbroken from Pennsylvania and Ohio to Central Alabama, and is the most important of all

the coal fields of the United States in its extent, and in the number of its workable coal beds and in the quality and variety of its coals. It is productive of the best of workable soft coal, especially near its southwest visible limits, or in Central Alabama, where it is believed to have over fifty seams of coal that vary in thickness from about two inches to over fourteen feet, and have a combined thickness of some 125 feet of coal. About one-half of these coal seams are eighteen inches and over, each, in thickness, and about one-fourth of them are two feet six inches and over, each, in thickness. The thicker of these seams, however, contain interstratified partings of slate, shale, etc., that render it utterly impossible to cleanly mine the coals of some of them. The coals, therefore, of these thick, dirty seams, to be made most useful and valuable, will have to be crushed and washed. The coals of the lower seams usually become thinner and more slaty as the edges of the original great coal basin are approached. The coal seams occur in groups that are separated by a great thickness of comparatively barren strata. These coals are, as has been stated, all bituminous coals, though of almost every variety of bituminous coals. Some of them are bright and hard, and hence are well adapted to handling and stocking, while others are of a duller color and are softer or of a more friable and crumbly nature; some of them, by experiments and uses on a large scale appear to be especially fitted for coking and blacksmithing, and others for steaming and heating, and others still for gas-making. The greater number of these coals, however, have never had applied to them the only sure test of their quality—or actual use—on a large scale and in various operations. Some of these coals have a vertical, flaggy structure, or a regular *face-and-butt* structure, while others are divided up by joints into cubical and rhomboidal blocks, and others still are solid and compact throughout. Those of the flaggy and jointy structure can be mined much more easily and in larger lumps than the solid and compact coals, but then they, as a general thing, crumble much more easily. Some of these coals are very pure, or contain but a very small amount of ash and clinker, while others are bony and slaty. They all, however, as a class, show on chemical analysis, compositions equivalent to the bituminous coals of any other State. Many of them contain thin sheets of mineral charcoal, and they all, as a rule, are free-burning coals. Most of these coals, however, have

been judged of simply by their exposed outcrops, and most of the analyses that have been made of them have been of average samples of the full vertical sections of these outcrops, hence, in many cases, these coals doubtless have been underestimated, for it is a well-known fact that all bituminous coals on weathering lose more or less in the proportional parts of their valuable constituents, volatile matter and fixed carbon, and gain in the percentages of their hurtful ingredients, moisture and ash. Much of this coal, however, stands weathering finely, for it has frequently been known to remain lumpy after thirty to forty years' exposure to the weather. These coals occur in seams that are in long, flat waves, and, even in the same seams, sometimes vary in quality and thickness, though not more so than the well-known coals of other States. They, for many years, in ante-railroad times in Alabama, and from many places, were raised in considerable quantities from the beds of the rivers, and the mouths of the creeks along the rivers, during low stages of the water and floated down the river in flatboats, during freshets. This business, however, was so perilous to both life and property that no considerable capital was ever invested in it and no regular miners ever engaged in it, and so it was abandoned on the building of the central railroads through Alabama. It was not, however, until the year 1872, or until the completion of S. & N. Ala. Railroad, that any coal seams were scientifically opened and worked in Alabama. The coal output of the State for 1872 was about 11,000 tons; for 1885, about 2,325,000 tons; for 1887, near 3,000,000 tons, and will be for 1888 at the least 3,500,000 tons. This increase in the coal output, though most gratifying, is not sufficiently great to meet the additional demands of the many new furnaces and other manufacturing enterprises that have been built lately and are now being built in Northern Alabama. The crying need, and the greatest drawback to the more rapid prosperity of Northern Alabama to-day, is, therefore, the want of more coal mines, and to this want is due the talk and fears of a coal famine in this, one of the richest coal countries. Of the above output of coal for 1887, nearly 2,500,000 tons are consumed in the State, about 1,100,000 tons for coking, and the rest for miscellaneous purposes.

These coals, as a class, have hard solid roofs and soft underbeds, and most of them have either a jointy or a *face-and-butt* structure. They are therefore well adapted to cheap mining: the

greatest obstacles that any of them have to cheap mining is that some of them are highly inclined and others, especially the thicker seams, have interbedded in the coal, partings of slate and shale that sometimes can be separated from the coal only by crushing and washing.

The miners of these coals are of many nationalities; among them are Americans (principally natives), Germans, Irish, Welsh, English, Swedes, French, Scotch, Austrians, Swiss, Bavarians, and Africans (principally natives). These coals are of special value from their nearness to iron ores and limestones of the best quality, and in almost exhaustless quantities. As has been stated and explained, the coal measures or the original coal field of Northern Alabama have been divided by anticlinal valleys into three more or less distinct parts, that are now known as the Warrior, Cahaba and Coosa coal fields. The combined area of these three fields is something like 8,600 square miles. This area places Alabama only eighth in the list of coal-producing States of the Union in the acreage of coal measures; still Alabama takes a front rank in the quantity and quality of its coal. There is believed to be over 100,000,000,000 tons of coal in Alabama in the workable seams, or in the seams that are two feet six inches and over in thickness. This coal, with an annual output of even 5,000,000 tons, would last for 20,000 years, and at the mouths of the mines would be worth now nearly \$120,000,000,000.

This coal in the Warrior, Cahaba and Coosa fields, from the different positions which the areas of these fields had in the original coal basin and from the different degrees of disturbance of the strata of these fields, differ very much in the number and dip of its seams, and perhaps some little in thickness and quality in identical seams which have not as yet been connected in the different fields.

*Coal of the Warrior Field.* The coal of this field is believed to be in fifty-three different seams, that vary in thickness from about two inches to fourteen feet, and have a combined thickness of some 125 feet of pure coal. Of these fifty-three coal seams, twenty-five of them contain eighteen inches and over, each, in thickness of coal; and of these twenty-five seams, fourteen seams have two feet six inches and over, each, in thickness of coal; and of these fourteen seams, nine seams have over four feet of coal, each; and of these nine seams, three seams have over six feet, each, in thickness of

coal. The coal of the Warrior field, under the supposition that its seams retain throughout their whole extent a thickness equivalent to that of their most accurate and reliable measurements, is estimated at over 113,000,000,000 tons. Of this vast amount of coal, it is estimated that over 108,000,000,000 tons are of the seams that are eighteen inches and over in thickness.

The coal of this field can be mined just as easily and cheaply as that of any field, from the fact that the physical features of the field and the small angle of dip and the structure of the coal are all favorable to cheap mining. These physical features are such as will enable good workable seams of coal to be found in nearly all parts of the productive measures at moderate depths below the surface, and, in nearly all cases, will permit of the coal seams being reached by drifts and slopes. The dip, as a rule, is only a few degrees, and hence it is much better adapted to cheap mining than if the coals were perfectly level, as it frequently gives a natural drainage, and in all cases will permit of the mines being kept dry at comparatively small cost. The output of coal from this field for 1887 was about 2,500,000 tons, or about five-sixths of the output for the whole State. This coal is mined at the following localities: At and near Warrior, Jefferson Mines and Newcastle, on the L. & N. Railroad; at Pratt Mines; at Woodward Mines; at and near Coalburg, Day's Gap and Corona, on the Ga. & P. Railroad; at and near Clement's Station and Tuscaloosa, on the A. G. S. Railroad; and at Blue Creek mines, on the Mineral Railroad. It is also mined to some little extent near Huntsville and Guntersville, and at several other places in the plateau region, and soon will be mined on an extensive scale at several points on the K. C. M. & B. Railroad, S. & B. Railroad and T. N. Railroad. The transportation facilities of this field are good. It has now seven different railroads running through and into it, and a river length within its basin of nearly 100 miles, that can be made navigable for steam tugs and coal barges all the year round.

*Coal of the Cahaba Field.* The coal of this field forms forty or more different seams. Eleven of these seams are over two feet six inches each in thickness, and have a combined thickness of about forty feet of marketable coal. These coals, from their steeper dip, crop out in much more limited areas, and are much less above drainage level than are those of the Warrior field. The seams that are

over two feet six inches each in thickness comprise, it is believed, some 4,000,000,000 tons of coal. These coals as a class, appear to be cleaner and harder than those of the Warrior field, though more faulty. They are usually of a bright and shiny lustre, and are of a very fine quality, containing but a small amount of ash and a large percentage of fixed carbon. They are considered especially valuable from the fact that they are the most Southern true coals in the United States. They have one great drawback to cheap mining in their steep dip. They are being mined extensively at or near the following places: Henryellen Mines on the Ga. P. R. R.; Helena on the S. & N. Ala. R. R.; Montevallo and Briertield, on the E. T. Va. & Ga. R. R., and Blockton on the A. G. S. R. R. The coals of all these mines are of fine quality and bring high prices. They furnished about 240,000 tons, or nearly one-fiftieth of the coal output of Alabama for 1887. The coals of this field have three great railroad connections, with the likelihood of getting several others within a very short time.

*Coals of the Coosa Field.* These coals are comparatively little known. They are in at least three seams, of respectively three feet, four feet, and three feet six inches in thickness. The coal in these three seams has been estimated at 600,000,000 tons. It is of a beautiful black color with a shining lustre, and is rather friable for stocking but is exactly suited to coking. It is mined in only the upper part of the field, or in the Broken Arrow region. The mines of this region have an annual coal output of nearly 72,000 tons.

*COKE.* Coke made from Alabama coal was proven in 1876 to be well suited for iron-ore smelting, and since that time, especially during the last few years, its output and its demand have increased much more rapidly than even in the case of the coal. Its output for 1887 was about 700,000 tons, and for 1888 will be near 1,000,000 tons. It is of excellent quality, as has been shown by its uses on a very large scale for iron-ore smelting and foundry purposes. It is consumed principally in the State, and, with the exception of a small percentage, is made from the coal of the Pratt seam of the Warrior field. It is worth about \$1.75 per ton, which will give a value of \$2,750,000 to the product for 1888. The coke industry of Alabama is now next to the greatest of its kind in the world.

*LIGNITE OR BROWN COAL.* This semi-bitu-

minous coal occurs in Alabama in the tertiary and cretaceous formations, it is therefore of more recent age than the true, or pit coal. It usually contains considerable iron pyrites, principally as nodules, and most commonly a large percentage of ash. It can be used for heating and steaming purposes, but not for coking or blacksmithing. It occurs in beds of considerable thickness in Alabama, though it has never been worked any.

#### IRON ORES.

Of all mineral substances, iron is next in importance to only coal. Its manufacture in Alabama, from native ores, in the old Catalan forge and small charcoal furnaces, in a small way, dates back as far as even 1818, but the increase in its manufacture was very slow indeed until 1876, when a great and lasting impetus was given to its manufacture by the successful demonstration that good coke-made iron could be made in Alabama from native materials at a surprisingly low cost. In 1876 there were only ten furnaces in blast in Alabama, all small charcoal furnaces. They had an output of pig iron for 1876 of only 24,732 tons. In 1888, after a lapse of only twelve years, there will be in Northern Alabama some forty-four furnaces in blast, ten charcoal and thirty-four coke furnaces, which will have an output of pig iron in 1889 of near 1,000,000 tons. The increase in the output of pig iron in Alabama during the last decade is represented by the following figures:

In 1878 . . . . .	49,482 tons.
1879 . . . . .	49,841 "
1880 . . . . .	77,190 "
1881 . . . . .	98,081 "
1882 . . . . .	112,765 "
1883 . . . . .	172,465 "
1884 . . . . .	189,644 "
1885 . . . . .	227,438 "
1886 . . . . .	265,000 "
1887 . . . . .	292,662 "

There will be built in this State during the present year some twenty new furnaces, that will have a combined average output of pig-iron of about 2,000 tons per day, or 700,000 tons per annum, but, as none of these furnaces will go into blast before spring, and some of them, perhaps, not until fall or winter, it is impossible, this early in the season, to do more than guess at the pig-iron output of Alabama for 1888; it will, however, be close on to 500,000 tons. These twenty new

furnaces will be all in blast by 1889, and their output, added on to that of the old furnaces, will run up the total output of pig-iron in Alabama for 1889 to about 1,000,000 tons. The above output for 1885 placed Alabama fifth on the list of iron-producing States, that of 1887 ran her up to the third place in this list, with only Pennsylvania and Ohio ahead of her, and the output for 1889 will doubtless enable her to overstep Ohio and to take a rank only second to Pennsylvania as an iron-producing State. The iron output of Northern Alabama for 1887 was worth, at the furnaces, nearly \$5,000,000, and, at the same prices, that of 1888 will be valued at some \$8,450,000, and that for 1889 at \$16,900,000. These are very large sums of money to bring into and scatter over a comparatively small district, especially by an enterprise that can be said to be hardly over ten years old, and must necessarily render that district prosperous. Say that pig-iron can be made in Northern Alabama at an average price of \$10.45 per ton, and that it has a *spot value*, or value at the furnaces, of \$16.90 per ton, it will give a total *spot profit* on the output for 1887 of nearly \$1,600,000, and on the above estimated outputs of 1888 and 1889, respectively, \$2,725,000 and \$5,550,000. At the above rate of increase it will take but a few years more to make the iron output of Northern Alabama equal in value to the cotton crop of the whole State. Within the last few weeks the best grade of steel has been made at Birmingham, by the Henderson process, from the poorest grades of pig-iron of Alabama ores. This glorious result shuts the mouths of the croakers who have been crying out these many years that steel could not be made from Alabama ores, and removes the last obstacle to the future great prosperity of Northern Alabama.

The value and importance of an iron ore, as already stated, is dependent on its quantity, quality and vicinity to fluxing material, fuel and transporting facilities. According to this criterion, the iron ores of Northern Alabama rank as follows: (1) *Hematite or Red Ore*, (2) *Limonite or Brown Ore*, (3) *Siderite or Carbonate Ore*, (4) *Magnetite or Magnetic Ore*, and (5) *Pyrite or Pyrites*.

(1) **HEMATITE OR RED ORE.** This ore is also called *red hematite*, *specular ore*, *oxide of iron*, *anhydrous peroxide of iron*, *fossiliferous iron ore*, *lenticular ore*, *Clinton ore* and *dyes-tone ore*. It

has, when pure, about 70 per cent of metallic iron. It is by far the most important and extensively-used of the ores of Northern Alabama. It yields an excellent grade of iron, and hence is most highly esteemed by the furnace men. In its purest forms, it rivals even the *brown ore* in its per centage of metallic iron. It occurs in Northern Alabama in the (a) Upper Silurian, and (b) Metamorphic rocks.

(a) *Red Ore of Upper Silurian Formation.* This deposit of iron ore is not only the largest in Northern Alabama, but it is regarded by scientific men as one of the mineral wonders of the world. It occurs in the Clinton group, a most persistent group of rocks, that, with its bands of red ore, extends irregularly along the eastern escarpment of the Allegheny Mountains all the way from Canada to Central Alabama, where it becomes covered up by a newer formation, lying unconformable to it. Nowhere, however, in this whole distance is the ore so well developed as here in Central Alabama, near its south-western visible limits. It is reported to be, in New York two feet thick in Pennsylvania, four feet, in Tennessee, seven to eight feet, and in Northern Alabama, it occurs in from one to six different seams that have a combined thickness of from twelve inches to fifty feet. One of the seams in Northern Alabama has, by itself, in places a thickness of nearly thirty-five feet of ore. These different seams of red ore, in Northern Alabama, are separated from each other by calcareous sandstones and shales, and silicious or sandy limestones. They crop out along the tops and valley sides of the *Red Mountains* or *red ore ridges*, that border the anticlinal valleys, and also to a very limited extent near the Tennessee line, along the creeks. These Red Mountains, or red ore ridges, as has been stated, occur on both sides of the valleys, when these valleys are simply anticlinal, separated from the edges of the valleys or the bluff escarpments of the coal measures, by narrow *back valleys*. They sometimes, however, from folds and faults in the strata, are doubled or are wanting, but seldom, if ever, on both sides of the valleys at once.

The ore is in regularly stratified seams, that are well defined between strata of hard sandstones and shales, and which, from their positions, would appear to cover indefinite areas. The ore is commonly oolitic in structure, or commonly consists of rounded, flattened and glazed grains of various sizes cemented together. It is nearly always fos-



siferous and calcareous, though some strata are much more so than others. On the outcrops the calcareous matter is frequently completely leached out, and the fossil impressions entirely obliterated, and the ore comparatively soft and often porous. Without any respect to their solidity or hardness, the leached or non-calcareous ore is called by the miners and furnace men *soft ore*, and the limy ore *hard*, or *glazing ore*. Limy or calcareous matter, in greater or less quantities, is believed to be always present in the unleached ore. It varies very much from place to place in the same seam, especially on and near the outcrop, but, as a rule, it increases away from the outcrop until the innermost point of scapage or weathering is reached. The limits of scapage and weathering are very dependent on the coverings, and hence they vary very much. Though carbonate of lime is the most common impurity of these ores, they are frequently very silicious or sandy, especially in some of the seams, to one of which, in many localities, it has given the name of *sandy seam*. It often gets so great as to render the ore valueless. Besides carbonate of lime and silicious matter, this ore, in phases, has through it seams and irregular streaks of clay, though none of the good ore is known to have this impurity in sufficient quantities to require the washing of the ore. The sand or silicious matter is no very serious objection to the ore, provided it is not in too great quantities, and the carbonate of lime, when its percentage in the ore is uniform, is rather an advantage than an objection, provided it does not exclude a sufficient percentage of iron to justify working, as it is mixed intimately in the ore, and so causes the ore to fuse more readily than fluxing material separate from the ore. This ore in some localities carries as much as 50 per cent of metallic iron, and a specific gravity of nearly 4, and a combined thickness of the different seams of some thirty-five feet of ore. If the different workable outcrops of eighteen inches and over in thickness of red ore in Northern Alabama were connected together in one straight line, they would form an outcropping of ore some 800 miles long, that would have a thickness of eighteen inches, a specific gravity of 3, and 40 per cent of metallic iron. This hypothetical seam of ore would yield for every foot of descent into it over 237,000 tons of metallic iron, and, as it would be supposed to cover an indefinite area, the amount of iron which it would carry might well be considered inexhaustible. This ore has

been, or is now being mined extensively at the following places: In McAshan Mount., near McCalla; between McCalla and Birmingham, at Sloss Mines No. 2, Woodward Mines, Hillman Mines, Smith Bros.' Mines, Redding Mines, Morris Mining Company Mines No. 1, Eureka Mines No. 2, and Eureka Mines No. 1; between Birmingham and Irondale, at Old Irondale Mines and Morris Mining Company Mines No. 2; between Irondale and Trussville, at Sloss Mines No. 1 and Smith and Eastman Mines. It is also mined in diggings near Springville, in mines near Attalla, in diggings near Reesville, Greenwood, Andrews' Institute, Portersville, Fort Payne and Valley Head, and in mines near Eureka and Gadsden. Besides the above there are many small surface diggings into this ore, and, doubtless, by this time several other mines of large outputs.

These mines had, for 1887, a combined output of ore of nearly 500,000 tons. They, and other new mines into this ore, to supply the old furnaces and the new ones that are now being built, will have to have a combined output of ore for 1888 of about 1,250,000 tons, and for 1889 of near 2,500,000 tons. This ore formerly was used in the furnaces only as a mixture with the *brown ore*, but its proportional part grew greater and greater until finally, and for several years past, it has been used alone and has been found to make a better grade of iron by itself than as a mixture with the brown ore. It not only supplies all the coke furnaces of the State, with two exceptions and, one or two of the charcoal furnaces, but it is also shipped in large quantities to the furnaces of Tennessee, etc. This ore, from its leached outcrops, is also ground up and used to a limited extent as a mineral paint and for glazing purposes.

(b) *Red Ore of Metamorphic Rocks.* This ore is commonly called specular ore from its external luster; it is also sometimes called *blood-stone*, from its exhibiting, on being scratched, a deep red colored streak. It is a harder and more compact ore, as a rule, than the *hematite* of the Clinton group. Very little is known as to its deposits in Northern or Eastern Alabama, though it is believed to be in considerable quantities and of very good quality.

(c) *LI-MONITE OR BROWN ORE.* This ore is also known as *hydrrous peroxide of iron*, *brown hematite*, *brown iron ore* and *brown oxide of iron*. It has, when pure, about 60 per cent of metallic iron.

It is the most widely diffused of all iron ores, and there are but few localities and geological formations in Northern Alabama that do not possess it in greater or less quantities. In most of its deposits, it is of fine quality, and as a rule, it is purer, or carries a greater per cent of metallic iron than the *red ore*. On account of its usual large per cent. of metallic iron, it was for a long time the only ore used in the State. It now supplies all of the charcoal furnaces of the State, with one or two exceptions, and several of the coke furnaces. From its mode of occurrence in irregular pockets, it is a very difficult matter to determine its quantity, though this quantity is known to be such as to be considered well nigh inexhaustible. It simply would be impossible to mention all of the localities of its occurrence in Northern Alabama, and the best that can be done will be to treat of the principal of these localities or the localities of its greatest deposits in the different geological formations. These geological formations, in the order of the importance of their brown ore deposits, are as follows: (a) *Lower Silurian*, (b) *sub-carboniferous*, (c) *cretaceous*, (d) *metamorphic*, (e) *drift*, (f) *and coal measures*.

(a) *Brown Ore of Lower Silurian Formation.* This formation is known as the great *brown ore* bearing formation. It carries the most important brown ore deposits of Northern Alabama. These ore deposits occur in principally the sub-group *Knorr Dolomite*. This sub-group, with its thick beds of dolomites and limestones and its vast deposits of brown ore, is a most persistent formation. It extends, along with the Clinton group, or red ore rocks, from Canada to Central Alabama, where it becomes covered up by a newer formation lying unconformably to it. For this whole distance, brown ore deposits are scattered over, at intervals, the outcrops of its strata. They are much greater and thicker in places than in others, and, like the red ore seams, are much the most highly developed in Central Alabama, near the southwestern end of the visible strata of this sub-group. They are confined to the anticlinal valleys, and, as they are due to the decomposition of the underlying ferruginous limestones and dolomites, they are most numerous and extensive where the strata of these underlying rocks have been most disturbed and decomposed. Over these localities of greatest disturbance and decomposition, the ore deposits are not evenly distributed, but are much thicker and greater in places than in others.

In some places they are grouped thickly over areas of hundreds of acres in extent, while in other places they are almost wanting. They occur, principally, in leached knolls, hills and ridges, that occupy, usually, a strip of country from two to three miles wide, running up and down each anticlinal valley near its center. These knolls, hills and ridges are from 50 to 200 feet high, and are frequently continuous for several miles. They are made up of chiefly reddish and orange-colored loams, with brown ore banks cropping out in greater or less quantities over them. They, in some of the richer localities, are almost entirely covered with the loose nodules and boulders of this ore, or have scattered over them piles of these loose nodules and boulders of ore, that have been picked and piled up to get them out of the way of the plough. These ore banks frequently appear to extend entirely through the knolls, hills and ridges, and, though they usually occur in knolls, hills and ridges, they are sometimes found in the low, flat places. They contain the ore as hard, solid, compact ore, as honey-comb ore, and as ochreous and earthy varieties, and as small shot ore to boulders fifteen and twenty feet in diameter and of 3,000 tons and more in weight. This ore is of a concretionary nature. It sometimes breaks with a conchoidal fracture, and is frequently fibrous. It also sometimes has cavities that are lined with a beautiful velvety appearance, and it frequently has mammillary and botryoidal surfaces that have a dark or nearly black glaze. This ore most commonly is of good quality and usually carries from 50 to 60 per cent of metallic iron. The A. G. S. R. R. and the S. R. & D. R. R. run either through or very near the main deposits of this ore. These deposits, with one exception, furnish all the brown ore that is now being mined in the State.

(b) *Brown Ore of the Sub-Carboniferous Formation.* The brown ore banks of this formation are second in importance only to those of the Lower Silurian formation. They are very similar to those of that formation in occurrence, manner of derivation and composition, though they have been derived from entirely different rocks. They have been derived principally from the ferruginous cherty limestones of the Upper Silicious Group, though there are some beds of them of considerable size that have come from rocks of the Lower Silicious Group, and others that now cover outcrops of the Mountain Lime-

stone Group, though these beds are believed to have come from, or to belong properly to the coal measures.

**BROWN ORE FROM THE UPPER SILICIOUS GROUP, OR ST. LOUIS LIMESTONE.** The principal ore deposits of this sub-group are to be found in the Little or Russellville Valley. They occur imbedded in a red loam, that forms hills and ridges. This red loam has commonly in it also cherty pebbles and nodules. The ore banks are distributed not regularly through the hills and ridges, but rather in groups at intervals. They consist of either an aggregated collection of small nodules of ore or of isolated huge boulders of ore scattered through the matrix of red loam, and are irregular and uncertain as to both their extent and richness in ore. Some of them are very prolific in ore and would doubtless yield thousands of tons of ore before giving out, while others would scarcely justify the working. This ore, as a general thing, contains an unusual amount of metallic iron. It once supplied a furnace and made a very fine grade of pig iron, especially for casting. These deposits are now being worked again, since the building of the S. & B. R. R., and will be made to supply the Sheffield furnaces, etc.

**BROWN ORE OF THE LOWER SILICIOUS, OR KNOX GROUP.** The iron ore deposits or the brown ore deposits of this sub-group, though much more numerous, are apparently not near so important, or so great and pure, as those of the overlying or Upper Silicious Group. The principal of these deposits are in or near the *barrons* of Lauderdale and Limestone Counties, and over the tops and sides of the Red Mountains or fossiliferous cherty ridges of the anticlinal valleys. They occur as loose nodules and loose boulders in a matrix of loose nodules and loose boulders of fossiliferous chert. As its nodules and boulders are usually intimately mixed with those of the fossiliferous chert, it would require considerable care and much dead work to collect together this ore, and hence it would be expensive, comparatively speaking, to mine it. Being derived from more silicious or cherty rocks, it is also, as a general thing, though good, more silicious or cherty than the brown ores of the deposits already mentioned. Its varieties are about the same as those of the Knox and Lower Silicious sub-groups. It has never been mined any

in Alabama, though doubtless it will be made to furnish the furnaces that are now being built at Florence, etc.

**BROWN ORE OF MOUNTAIN LIMESTONE OR CHESTER GROUP.** Over the mountainous sides and ridges of the mountain limestone that crop out under the bluffy escarpments of the coal measures bordering the valleys, in a matrix of sandy loam with small rounded flint pebbles and loose boulders of ferruginous sandstones and conglomerates, there are numerous deposits of brown ore, of usually a very good quality and sometimes of considerable extent. These deposits of ore, though they now overlie mountain limestone strata, properly belong to, or have come from the outcroppings of a regular stratified seam of ore of the coal measures. This seam crops out just above the juncture of the mountain limestone and coal measure strata, or just below the bluffy escarpments of the coal measures. Its ore in the outcrops and in the above loose deposits, is a limonite or brown ore, though it is believed to have been changed into such by atmospheric agencies or by weathering, and that the unchanged or unweathered ore in the seam is a carbonate. It is evident that the ore of these deposits over the mountain limestone has come from the above seam, from the fact that the matrix, or the loose pebbles and the loose boulders of ferruginous sandstones and conglomerates with which the ore is intimately mixed, are of the coal measures. These deposits of loose ore, however, are removed sometimes over one-half mile from the outcroppings of the above seam, but they are always on lower ground and doubtless have gradually worked their way by slides, etc., down the steep mountain sides to their present positions. The stratified seam, as well as the loose deposits, are much better developed in places than in others. These deposits are often seemingly wanting, though there is always more or less loose ore along, usually just below the line, or geological position, for the outcroppings of this seam of ore. The loose deposits, like those of the Knox group, appear to be most numerous and extensive in those localities where the parent rocks, or those around the outcroppings of the stratified ore seam, have been most disturbed and disintegrated. The ore has been seen as thick as six feet in the seam, and some of the loose deposits occur over areas of seventy-five to one hundred acres. This ore has never been used or dug any. Its greatest drawback is the uncertainty of the

richness of its deposits, and the fact that it is mixed in these deposits through a mass of much foreign matter, and hence would be expensive to mine.

(c) *Brown Ores of the Cretaceous Formation.* The iron ores or brown ores of this formation are in its lower and upper parts, or in the Tuscaloosa and Ripley sub-groups.

**BROWN ORE OF TUSCALOOSA GROUP.** Iron ore or iron oxide is widely distributed through this sub-group, but though some of the strata are always highly ferruginous, the localities are very few in which the good ore is in sufficient quantity to justify working. The ore occurs in both pockets or patches, and in regular stratified seams. That in patches or pockets is, strictly speaking, limonite or brown ore, while that in the regular stratified seams gives a red streak, or has a deep red powder, and is seemingly intermediate between a brown and a red ore. The pocket ore occurs through, usually, a matrix of a deep red sandy loam in irregular lumps from the size of shot ore to boulders several feet in diameter. In the matrix between the pockets of ore there are frequently pockets of ferruginous conglomerates and sandstones. The ore is usually of good quality, and is mainly porous, with red and yellow ochres filling the cavities. It often contains twigs, small pieces of wood, and other vegetable matter that have been converted into limonite. It has been used in the furnace, and is said to work easily and to make a very fine grade of iron. The principal or most extensive deposits of this pocket ore, the only ones that have ever been worked, are near Vernon, Lamar county, and at near the site of the Hale and Murdock old furnace. The ore in regular stratified seams overlies impervious clayey strata, and shows plainly that its iron has been dissolved from that disseminated through the overlying strata and deposited or precipitated in seams or layers on reaching the impervious strata. This stratified ore is usually shaly or in thin scales, though some of it is massive, with frequently knotty-looking places of concentric rings of ore. It is commonly very silicious, compact, hard, micaceous, and of a light red color. It is often nothing more than a highly ferruginous sandstone or conglomerate, and is, so far as known, too impure to work, though some of the seams might answer very well for ochre. The seams sometimes reach a thickness of several feet.

**BROWN ORE OF RIPLEY GROUP.** The brown

ore deposits of this sub-group are numerous. The ore is of very good quality and is probably of sufficient quantity, in places, to be of industrial value.

(d) *Brown Ore of Metamorphic Rocks.* The brown ore deposits of these rocks are for the most part the resultants of the decomposition of beds of pyrites and form what are known as "gossans." These gossans may be in some instances, of very great extent, as their superficial areas are sometimes great and their depths are unknown. Besides these gossans, this formation has considerable compact limestone of concretionary origin, and of a pure character, scattered over its hornblende rocks. This ore has been worked in the old Catalan forge, but, as a general thing, it is too scattering to be of any economic value.

(e) *Brown Ore of Drift.* Iron oxide or brown ore is distributed universally through this formation. It often acts as a cementing material and sticks together the sands and pebbles of this formation into hard compact masses of highly ferruginous sandstones and conglomerates, that might occasionally be regarded as siliceous or sandy limonites. This oxide, however, in some localities, is collected together into concretionary masses of very good ore. It is not known to be in any one place in sufficient quantity to be of any practical value.

(f) *Brown Ore of Coal Measures.* There crops out near the base of the Coal Measures a seam of ore that, as has been stated, is limonite on the out crop but which is believed to be a carbonate within. This seam sometimes gets to be as thick as six feet, and the ore, though usually silicious, is frequently of a very good quality. This is the seam of ore from which the deposits of brown ore overlying the mountain limestone strata are believed to have come. There are very likely other seams higher up in the coal measures that are limonites on the outcrops and carbonates within. There are also scattered through the shales of the coal measures, at many horizontal positions, nodules of very good limonite that have been formed by the weathering or decomposition of concretionary masses of clay, iron, stones and pyrites. These brown ores of the coal measures have never been used or dug in any way.

(3) **SIDERITE OR CARBONATE OF IRON.** This ore, though it occupies a third place among the iron ores of Northern Alabama, is the ore from which England's preponderating amount of iron has been produced. It occurs in only the carboni-

ferous formation or coal measures, and in only two varieties; namely, (a) *The Black Band Ore*, and (b) *The Clay Iron Stone*.

(a) *The Black Band Ore*. This is a coaly carbonate of iron. It occurs in Northern Alabama in several known seams, that vary from one to four inches in thickness. It has been dug some little from two of these seams in the Warrior field, and, in both instances, it worked very well in the furnaces with a mixture of more silicious ores.

(b) *The Clay Iron Stone*. This is an impure argillaceous carbonate of iron. It occurs usually as balls, nodules and kidney-shape concretions, disposed in layers and interstratified through the shales of the coal measures, at many horizontal positions. It occurs sometimes also in stratified seams in the shales. In certain localities the quantity is apparently large, and the quality is sufficiently good for economical purposes, though it has never been worked any in Northern Alabama.

(4) **MAGNETITE OR MAGNETIC IRON ORE**. This ore occurs to a considerable extent in regular layers and masses in the metamorphic or crystalline rocks of East Alabama. It is sometimes of a crystalline, sometimes of a granular and sometimes of a slaty texture. It is usually gray in color and mixed with more or less foreign matter. It is believed, as a general thing, to carry only a small percentage of phosphoric acid and to be titaniferous.

(5) **PYRITE OR PYRITES**. This ore occurs in greater or less quantities in all the geological formations of Northern Alabama. It is, however, especially abundant in the metamorphic and Devonian rocks. Unchanged, it is never used for making iron, but the "gossans" resulting from its decomposition are frequently used for this purpose. Its chief use, in the pure state, is for the manufacture of sulphuric acid, which is largely used in the arts and in the preparation of commercial fertilizers. Its deposits in Northern Alabama have never been used for even this purpose, from doubtless the fact that the greater of these deposits are far removed from any transporting facilities.

(3) **FLUXING ROCKS AND LIME BURNING ROCKS, OR LIMESTONES AND DOLOMITES**. These rocks of the very best quality and in inexhaustible quantities, occur in several of the geological formations of Northern Alabama. They are, however, purest and most highly developed in the

sub-carboniferous and lower silurian formations. They make up the greater part of all the valleys of the State. Those of the sub-carboniferous formation in the Tennessee Valley have a thickness of some 1,500 feet, while those of the lower silurian formation in the Coosa Valley must have a much greater thickness. These rocks are now being quarried extensively in Northern Alabama for both fluxing and lime-burning purposes, the supply coming principally from the groups, mountain limestone of the sub-carboniferous formation, and Trenton of the lower silurian formation. The silicious knox of the sub-carboniferous rocks and the Knox dolomite of the lower silurian formation, however, furnish no small supply for both of these purposes. These limestones are often very constant in their composition, and frequently carry as much as 98 per cent. of carbonate of lime. They are, therefore, well adapted to fluxing and lime-burning purposes. They readily burn into quick-lime, that is of the very best quality as to color, cohesive power and ability to stand the extremes of heat and cold. These rocks, as a general thing, are most favorably located for cheap quarrying and cheap transportation. Their outcrops usually occupy, topographically speaking, high positions in the valleys or sides of the mountains, ridges and hills, and hence they can be easily and cheaply quarried, without any trouble from water, and easily and cheaply handled or loaded into cars, that can be easily and cheaply run along the base of their outcrops. These abound with these pure limestones, especially in the sub-group Knox dolomite of the lower silurian formation, dolomitic limestones of the very best or purest quality, that are also well suited for fluxing purposes and for making the whitest of quick-lime and the hardest and best of mortars.

(2) **BUILDING AND PAVING STONES AND BRICK CLAYS**.—Building and paving stones of beauty and durability occur in unlimited quantities in many of the formations and in many parts of Northern Alabama. They consist principally of almost every variety of limestone and sandstone, though they embrace also some granites, soapstones, gneisses and roofing-slates, that are invaluable to the architect and builder for many purposes. The limestones are of all grades, from very good hydraulic cement rocks and lithographic stones to pure marbles that will take a fine polish. The sandstones are massive and flaggy,

and, though they sometimes split into thin, tough sheets, they most often work with equal ease in any direction. Both these limestones and sandstones are comparatively soft on being first quarried, but they harden on exposure. The paving stones are abundant and are of the very best quality. They are durable; being compact and impervious to water, they do not crack and scale off in freezing weather. They are of uniform thickness—from, say, two to eighteen inches—and are perfectly smooth and beautifully rippled marked, and require only to be squared to be ready for their many uses. They are most abundant, as well as best and most beautiful, in the coal measures and Lower Silurian formations.

Besides the above building and paving stones, there are excellent clays, for making ordinary bricks, in nearly all of the formations and in nearly all parts of Northern Alabama. Those of the drift and cretaceous formations, however, are of the best quality.

(5) **PORECLAIN AND FIRE CLAYS.** Light and gray colored plastic and silicious clays, that are well suited for making potteryware and common fire bricks, abound in several of the geological formations and in many parts of Northern Alabama. They are, however, most abundant and purest in the coal measures and in the Tuscaloosa and lower silicious sub-groups, though they occur in considerable beds in the drift and lower silurian formations. Those of the coal measures usually are of a gray color, and form the underbeds to the coal seams. They have been worked in only a few localities and to a limited extent, only for making potteryware, to which purpose they are well suited. They doubtless, in many instances, would make good fire bricks. They occur in seams from a few inches to ten and twelve feet in thickness. Those of the Tuscaloosa group, in some of their beds, are very pure, and have a greasy, halloysite feeling. They have been worked also only to a limited extent, and in only a few places, and so they have never been given a fair test. Some of them, it is believed, would make nice porcelain ware, while others are well suited for fire bricks. They are the same clays, in geological position, etc., as the famous fire clays of New Jersey, and may prove, some of these days, in some instances, to be of just as good quality as the New Jersey clays. Those of the lower silicious group occur along the tops of the red ore ridges and mountains, just over the outcroppings of the black shale. They are derived

from the disintegration of the cherty or hornstone strata at the base of this sub-group, and are frequently, in the outcrops, of a chalky whiteness. Their beds are sometimes from thirty to forty feet in thickness, and are of various strata, that differ in appearance and composition. Some of these strata are of a chalky whiteness, while others are of a dark gray color, and others still are stained more or less reddish and yellowish. Some of the strata are very silicious or gritty to the feeling, so much so as to be frequently very friable, and hardly, properly speaking, clays, while others are greasy to the feeling and are very plastic on being thoroughly wetted. In these different light colored strata there are numerous very hard nodules of very pure halloysite of a beautiful crystal appearance. These clays are being mined extensively in DeKalb county, the different varieties separately, and shipped to Chattanooga to be made up into fine potteryware and fire bricks. The purer varieties were shipped once to the large porcelain works of Trenton, Ohio, where they brought about \$10 per ton, but the distance was found to be too great, or the freight too much to make this traffic pay. In Chattanooga, the gritty or friable strata are made into fire bricks and the plastic strata into porcelain ware. A full set of fine table ware, made at Trenton, Ohio, from this clay, was on exhibition at the New Orleans Exposition, and its beauty and excellence, in every respect, attracted special attention and drew forth unqualified remarks of praise from all. It is to be hoped these and all similar clays of Northern Alabama will soon be consumed at home or made to supply home manufactories.

(6) **MARLS AND PHOSPHATES.** The marls and phosphates of Northern Alabama are in considerable quantities and are of the greatest interest and value. They occur in only the cretaceous and tertiary formations, and hence those of the cretaceous formation alone come within the scope of this treatise. Those of the cretaceous formation are of the same formation as those of England, while those of the tertiary formation are of the same formation as the deposits of South Carolina. Some of the cretaceous formation in Alabama are to be found principally in two well-defined belts that are made up of the transition beds at the bottom and top of the rotten limestone, though shell marls and phosphatic casts of fossils and phosphatic nodules occur in or over the rotten limestone, and hence it is probable that this rock may contain marly and phosphatic strata at intervals

all the way through it. These marls and phosphates, in the majority of cases, are valued almost solely by their percentages of phosphoric acid. The marls include not only the marls proper, but also the green sands and other materials which may be valuable as fertilizers. They are nearly always phosphatic. The phosphates occur in irregular nodules of almost pure phosphate of lime, in green sands and in silicious limestones. In the nodules, the average contents of phosphoric acid is about twenty-five per cent. If these nodules, therefore, could be found in sufficient quantity and could be easily or cheaply collected together, they would be of great commercial value. The phosphatic green sand is in sufficient quantity and contains phosphoric acid enough to make it a most valuable fertilizer. It carries on an average about ten per cent of phosphoric acid, which is equivalent to nearly twenty-two per cent of bone phosphate, and is therefore in fertilizing effect about equal to the New Jersey green sand, which has wrought such a revolution in the agriculture of that State. The phosphatic silicious limestones disintegrate in places into a phosphatic marl and doubtless holds phosphoric acid enough to justify the burning of the rock for agricultural purposes.

Marls and phosphates, either raw or treated with sulphuric acid, constitute the chief bulk and cost of nearly all manipulated fertilizers, and Alabama, instead of making or at least attempting to make, her fertilizers out of her own raw materials, pays out annually to other States nearly \$2,000,000 for fertilizers. It is true that the commercial value of these raw materials in Alabama have not as yet been fully determined; still, enough is known of them to cause a belief that they will make good fertilizers and that they will eventually add very much to the manufacturing and agricultural wealth and prosperity of the whole State.

(7) OCHRES AND MINERAL PAINTS. Red and yellow ochres of very good quality occur in several of the geological formations of Northern Alabama. They are, however, most common in the metamorphic and lower cretaceous formations. Mineral paints that are excellent for outdoor work are made by grinding up not only these red and yellow ochres, but also the *soft red ore*.

(8) MILLSTONES, GRINDSTONES AND WHISTONES. Millstones of very good quality, with and without pebbles, are made, principally for home uses, from the conglomerates and coarse-grain sand stones of the drift, coal measures and

lower silurian formations. In all of these formations, the above materials are abundant and the millstones made from them are said to be especially suited for grist mills or for grinding corn. Grindstones and whetstones, particularly of coarse grit that is very sharp and good for ordinary edge tools, can be easily and cheaply made from many of the flagstones of the coal measure and upper silurian formation. These articles are transported now for hundreds of miles to this State, when just as good, and perhaps often a much better quality for many purposes, could be made more cheaply right here at home from home materials.

(9) GLASS, MORTARS AND MOLDING SANDS. Pure sands that are good for all the purposes for which sands are used are to be found in nearly all of the formations of Northern Alabama. These sands, in the drift and cretaceous formations, occurred originally as regular loose strata; in the other formations they occurred originally as regular stratified sandstones, of greater or less hardness and compactness. The outcroppings of these loose strata and of the sandstones have given rise to, on weathering, loose beds or heaps of sand that, in many cases, are removed miles from the outcroppings of the loose strata or sandstones from which they were derived. The purest and best of these sands perhaps have been derived from, or form the La Grange sandstone of the sub-carboniferous formation. These sandstones, as have been stated, form the Little Mountain of the Tennessee Valley and the *rocky roams* of the antilinal valleys. They furnish most of the sand that is now used in the State for mortars and for molds, and will supply sand for the different glass works when completed.

(10) MACADAMIZING AND BALLASTING MATERIALS. The rounded flint and cherty pebbles of the drift are the very best of materials for macadamizing walks and drives and for ballasting railroad tracks. They are to be found in the greatest quantities along several of the railroad lines of Northern Alabama, and, as they occur in loose strata or beds, they can be easily and cheaply shoveled up and loaded on the cars. They are much better adapted to the above purposes than the angular cracked up limestones, etc., that are usually used, as they are much easier on the feet of both man and beast, and on the wear and tear of vehicles, and do not give off any disagreeable and injurious impalpable dust, and can be packed much better, or will make a much firmer road.

(11) ORNAMENTAL, CURIOUS AND PRECIOUS STONES. Among the most important of these stones in Northern Alabama are to be mentioned white and variegated marbles, beautiful stalactites and stalagmites, clear and translucent quartz, crystals and pebbles, curiously shaped concretionary masses, well preserved and distinctly marked fossil coal plants of great beauty and wonderful size, and beautiful specimens of silicified wood, agate, chalcedony, etc. The marbles occur in several of the geological formations, but the most beautiful varieties are of the metamorphic or crystalline rocks, through the white and variegated marbles of the sub-carboniferous and Silurian formations are very good quality. These marbles have been quarried to some extent and used for monumental and architectural purposes.

(12) MANGANESE ORES. Manganese, as pyrolusite or black oxide of manganese, is widely diffused, in seemingly small quantities, throughout Northern Alabama. Fine cabinet specimens of it can be picked up in most of the formations, but perhaps it is in the greatest quantities and of the greatest purity in the sub-carboniferous, lower silurian and metamorphic rocks. It is of concretionary origin, and occurs in patches or pockets, like the *brown ore* with which it is intimately associated. It has been mined to some little extent for making ferro-manganese and *spiegel eisen*. Little, however, is known as to its quantity, though it is not believed to be great enough to be of any great commercial value.

(13) COPPER ORES. The copper ores occur in only the crystalline or metamorphic rocks. They consist in Northern or Eastern Alabama of *chalcocypite* or *copper pyrites* or *yellow copper ore*, of *melanconite* or *black oxide of copper* or *black copper* and of *covellite* or *indigo copper*. These ores have been worked very successfully in East Alabama, and likely will be worked again.

(14) GOLD. Gold occurs in regular quartz veins and in surface gravels and sands in and over the metamorphic rocks of East Alabama, and as fine washed or placer gold, disseminated through the sands and flint pebbles of the drift of Northwest Alabama. The metamorphic rocks of East Alabama are the most southern true gold formation of the Atlantic States. The gold-bearing quartz veins are now being developed in several localities, and they give evidence that they can be worked with profit, especially by the use of the improved appliances of the present day for mining and

crushing ores. The loose gravel and sand beds over the metamorphic rocks were worked in a rough and wasteful way, on an extensive scale, some forty to fifty years ago, and yielded considerable fortunes. They doubtless will be worked again. The loose gravel and sand beds of the drift of Northwest Alabama were also worked some little years ago for their placer gold, but they likely did not make any one very rich.

(15) TIN ORES. Tin ore or tinstone, as cassiterite, occurs in the metamorphic rocks of East Alabama, in several localities. It is not known, however, to be in sufficient quantity to be of any commercial value.

(16) LEAD ORES. Lead ore, as galena, occurs *in situ* in several localities in the silurian rocks of Northern Alabama, and in the metamorphic rocks of East Alabama. It is also found scattered over all parts and over all the formations of Northern Alabama, as loose lumps from the size of small bullets to fifteen and twenty pounds in weight. These loose lumps are particularly numerous around the *Indian mounds*, and, perhaps, were brought to this country by the *mound builders*. The lead ore *in situ* is not known to be in any place in Northern Alabama in sufficient quantity to be of any commercial value, notwithstanding the thousand and one Indian tales of its great purity and abundance in hundreds of localities.

(17) SILVER ORES. Most of the galena of Northern Alabama carries some silver, and when this silver gets to be as much as several per cent, the ore is called a *silver ore*.

(18) ZINC ORE. Zinc ore, as sphalerite or zinc blende, is found associated with the copper ores of East Alabama.

(19) GRAPHITE. Graphite, or plumbago, or black lead, occurs in many localities in East Alabama, in small quantities, associated with the schists of the metamorphic rocks.

(20) HYDRAULIC CEMENT ROCKS AND LITHOGRAPHIC STONES. Impure limestones and fine-grained, compact limestones, that would doubtless make very good hydraulic cement and lithographic stones, abound in the sub-carboniferous and silurian formations of Northern Alabama. The quality of these limestones for these purposes, however, have not as yet been fully determined.

(21) NATURAL GAS AND PETROLEUM. Natural gas is now and has been known for several years to be constantly escaping from between the out-



crops of strata in several parts of Northern Alabama. There is not believed to be, however, from the geological structure of the country and from the physical nature of the strata, any great repositories of it in any of the formations of Northern Alabama. Petroleum, or mineral oil, impregnates rocks in many parts and in several of the geological formations of Northern Alabama, and, as a soft asphaltum or pitch, it fills cavities in some of these rocks and exudes from cracks in others as a semi-liquid bitumen or mineral tar, forming what are known as *tar springs*. It is to be hoped that an almost inexhaustible reservoir of this valuable mineral product will be struck some of these days, in Northern Alabama, but, as yet, as with the natural gas, little is known, outside of mere conjecture, as to its true supply.

(22) SOAPSTONE, steatite or talce; SLATES, or roofing slates; EMERY, or corundum; HEAVY SPAR, barytes or barite; MICA, or muscovite and ASBESTOS, all occur in the metamorphic or crystalline rocks of East Alabama, in many localities.

#### AGRICULTURAL WEALTH.

Northern Alabama, as a whole, is a great agricultural as well as a great mineral country, notwithstanding that it is still, in many sections, covered by an unbroken forest, and that, only a few years ago, when it was, strictly speaking, an agricultural country, a large proportional part of its lands were looked upon as almost worthless for agricultural purposes. The increase in the variety and valuation of its agricultural products, or the products of its fields, gardens and orchards, for the last ten years, has been most gratifying, indeed, even when compared with that of the richest and most prosperous of, strictly speaking, agricultural countries. Its agricultural wealth consists, primarily and mainly, in the great capabilities of its soils and in its equable and uniform climate and rainfall. Its soils, though in certain sections they show a remarkable degree of uniformity in the relative proportions of their constituents, are prolific in every agricultural product that gives sustenance and wealth to its cultivators, or are so various as to be able to furnish an especially suitable soil for each one of the many great agricultural products to which the climate is adapted, and to grow, without cultivation, over one hundred and fifty species of grasses. Some of these soils are so fertile that at one time their lands produced more of agricultural value than any

acres of like extent in the United States. The same lands can be made to produce again as much of agricultural value as any areas of like extent in the United States; for their soils, as well as those of other sections of Northern Alabama, are so durable that, after fifty and more years' abuse and cultivation in cotton and corn alone, without ever having received a single drop of manure or fertilizer of any kind, still yield remunerative returns in these crops for the labor bestowed in cultivation. These crops, cotton and corn, up to a few years ago, may be said to have constituted the only productions of Northern Alabama; but now, however, the indications of progress in diversified farming in Northern Alabama is most flattering, indeed. Its cotton crop is on the wane, while the food crops and live stock raising are proportionally on the increase. This decrease in the cotton crop and increase in food crops are indicated by the following figures of total productions in Alabama of cotton, corn and oats for the years 1880 and 1885:

PRODUCTS.	1880.	1885.
Cotton Crop (bales)	700,000	650,000
Corn Crop (bush)	2,200,000	31,000,000
Oat Crop (bush)	3,000,000	5,000,000

The cotton crop, though thus annually falling off in quantity, is bringing and keeping in the State more money, year after year, from the increase in the home cotton factories and oil mills. The increase in the other food crops, or those crops which are grown principally for home consumption, as hay, vegetables, fruits, etc., and in the raising of live stock, is equally as gratifying as in the case of the corn and oats. The increase in live stock raising, though most gratifying, is, however, not what it ought to be, considering the many natural advantages of Northern Alabama for this most profitable business. The most perceptible and greatest of these advantages is that Northern Alabama grows spontaneously over fifty different kinds of plants, of more or less nutritive value, that are relished by stock and that are suitable for forage and hay crops. In connection with the above pleasing fact that the food crops and stock raising are rapidly on the increase in Northern Alabama, it is also pleasant to note that the home markets for these home-made food products are also rapidly on the increase. This is due principally to the daily increase in the home consump-

tion of the home-made food products, which goes to show that the people are fast learning the great art of living well or living at home on fresh and wholesome food.

The farmers, as a class, are also becoming much better educated in their vocation. They are abandoning the primitive methods and implements of culture of their forefathers and are rapidly improving their breeds of stock by importation. They are also taking a much greater and growing interest in their calling, and hence, are well organized into State, county and beat clubs. They have a State Agricultural Department and two experimental farms, that are supported by a tax of 50 cents on every ton of commercial fertilizer sold within the State. This tax gave to them the last fiscal year nearly \$25,000.

#### TIMBER WEALTH.

More than one-half of Northern Alabama may still be classed as timber lands. In many sections of it there are unbroken forests of heavy timber of many square miles in extent that are as yet untouched by the woodman's ax. These forests comprise, as has been stated, over 125 species of arborescent growth, and include in their heavy timber almost every kind of tree of any economical value. The prevailing timber, however, of most of these forests is yellow pine, though some of them are of the hardwoods, or of oak, hickory, gum, beech and cedar, with, in some localities, a considerable sprinkling of ash, poplar, cypress and walnut. The prevailing timber, however, of any one locality is closely dependent on the nature of the soil or the geological strata from which the soil is derived. So true is this, that the timber belts of the State closely correspond to the outcroppings of certain geological formations, and hence the different geological formations can frequently be recognized and mapped off, approximately, by their peculiar growth. In a general way, the prevailing timber is of hard woods over a calcareous or limey soil, and of the soft woods over a silicious or sandy soil. The prevailing timber, therefore, over the sandy plateaus is yellow pine, and in the limestone valleys, oak, hickory, etc.

There is believed to be enough timber standing now in Northern Alabama to last over 150 years, not allowing any for natural growth, at the present rate of cut, which is valued at nearly \$1,500,000 per annum. Lumbering will, therefore, be for many years to come, as it has been in the past.

one of the most important industries of Northern Alabama. The lumber mills, and hence the lumber outputs, are rapidly increasing, though there are now in the State 420 saw-mills, with an output that is worth \$3,246,000 per year.

#### NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

The natural advantages of Northern Alabama are, in many respects, wonderful, and they are so numerous that it would be a difficult task to mention them all. They are self-evident alike to the capitalist and to the day-laborer, and to the manufacturer, miner and farmer. They offer to all a temperate and equable climate, a dry and invigorating atmosphere, pure and health-giving waters, a cheap rate of taxation that is being constantly diminished, and cheap homes, with peaceable and contented neighbors and with good church and school facilities. Particularizing, they offer to the capitalist investments that cannot be excelled by those of any other country; and to the day laborer, be he skilled or unskilled, plenty of work at good pay; and to the manufacturer cheap power and cheap raw materials, in close proximity to each other and to good transporting facilities; to the miner plenty of steady work in the many newly opened mines and quarries; and to the farmer cheap and rich lands, with varied soils and early springs, long summers and late falls for the planting, maturing and gathering of his crops.

#### FUTURE POSSIBILITIES.

The future possibilities of Northern Alabama are believed to be greater than the conceptions of even the most sanguine. The great waves of industrial progress may be said to have just fairly struck Northern Alabama, and their resultants, the huge billows of prosperity, that have just commenced to roll over it, will doubtless continue to roll over it until they have made of it one of the most prosperous and wealthiest of countries. The time or day will have come when the combined outputs of all of its old furnaces and of all of its new furnaces that are now being built are used up in home industries, or are converted into the most profitable of home manufactured goods, or when every cent of profit that can be gotten out of the development and productions of its natural resources is retained at home. Judging from the unprecedented increase within the last few years, in the development of its natural resources and in the quantity and kind of its

manufactured goods, and from the fact that all of its industrial enterprises are now running on full time with a good profit, and from the great probability that these industries will increase, both in number and kind, during the next twelve

months, at a much greater ratio than they have ever increased in the past, it would seem that the above gala day, or day of greatest prosperity for Northern Alabama is not very far in the future.



## PART II.

### SUMMARY OF THE STATE'S HISTORY FROM ITS EARLIEST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT DAY.

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The climate of Alabama is one of its chief attractions. It is wonderfully equable. The extremes of heat or cold are rarely ever experienced. Snow is rarely seen except in the most northern parts. The streams of the State are never frozen over. The spring is early and wonderfully balmy, and as a result vegetation is rapid and luxuriant in its growth. The summers are even and regular in temperature and there is never a great or sudden change. The extreme of heat rarely ever reaches the height which is often marked in the cities of the North, in the low country or the flat regions of the States lying north of the Ohio river, or on the plains of the great Northwest. The autumn is late, and the crops have a greater length of time to mature than in any portion of the distinctively farming section of the North or West, and the winter is of so slow approach, that the crops need not be removed from the fields until late in November.

To the manufacturer Alabama offers inducements unrivaled by any section of this country. If he desires to operate by steam, the fuel to generate the power lies in the greatest abundance under the hills of the State. It abounds in quantities practically inexhaustible and is susceptible of being mined at the minimum cost. The coal beds of the State are greater in extent and in capability of output, than probably the like deposits of any other State in the Union, with possibly the exception of Pennsylvania. If a manufacturer desires to operate by water power, he would find in any section of the State thousands—yes, hundreds of thousands—of horse power, rushing madly to waste, idle, because the hand of man has not been laid upon it, to turn its course to practical usefulness. The streams of Alabama, ever running, have power sufficient to operate the mills of New England over and over again. A single stream would for miles and miles along its banks, furnish sites and power enough for millions of spindles or looms. In fact, an unlimited number of industries sus-

ceptible of being operated by water power might find sites along the streams of Alabama where the conditions for their operation would be most highly favorable and where the expenses of the operation would be reduced to the lowest possible cost.

The miner, the man engaged in taking from the earth its riches, would find work, and steady work, in Alabama. Its coal mines just being developed—barely yet producing enough for home consumption, are being enlarged—new mines are being constantly opened, and in a thousand fields there is room for experienced men. The ore mines employ already thousands, and the opening of new ore beds will call for thousands more. Marble, granite and slate quarries are being worked and others are soon to be worked, and men will be wanted to work them. The field is here, and the future promises much for the right men. The day laborer will find in this State thousands of enterprises on which labor is in demand, with fair wages and with surrounding circumstances such that he can work every day in the year if he chooses. He will lose no time in Alabama because it is too cold to work, nor need he lose a day because it is too hot.

The farmer of the North or West will find in Alabama a series of soils, which for richness cannot be surpassed in the world. He will find sections adapted to the cultivation of everything which he raised in his Northern home, while at the same time it is adapted to many others which would not grow with him. He will find lands which will, year in and year out, produce a yield of wheat or corn equal to the average production of any wheat or corn State of the North or West. He will find this land excellently well adapted to the cultivation of the other small grain grown in those States. He will find lands which will produce tobacco, in quantity and in quality, equal to that produced in Connecticut, Pennsylvania or Wisconsin. He will find land which will yield hay crops as abundantly as the crop of any State in the

Union. He will not find a country devoted exclusively to cotton; or rather, he will not find a country in which cotton alone can be raised. He will find that he can raise wheat, rye, barley, and in fact, anything that he produces at home, and in addition he will be able to raise cotton, potatoes and vegetables, and the two latter he will be able to ship home something like a month or two before the same articles are ready for market there. He can seek the southern portion of the State, and there he will be able to raise early vegetables, as well as many of the fruits of the warmer zones. To the agriculturist, the State of Alabama presents a greater variety of features than any other State of the Union. It presents opportunities which, if seen, would be appreciated, and being appreciated, would be eagerly accepted.

To the capitalist seeking a safe investment, Alabama presents as many opportunities, if not more, than any State in the Union. Its mineral fields abound in chances for safe and profitable investments. Farming lands in all parts of the State may now be purchased at a very low figure, and in the course of a few years they will be greatly enhanced in value. Transactions in city property, in the many growing cities of the State, have enriched hundreds, and only the outside has been touched. There are scores of cities in all quarters of Alabama which have not yet been the subject of marked increase of value or great enhancements, which offer inducements and have resources, that will most certainly cause them to come rapidly to the front when the spirit of development becomes, as it surely will, more widely spread.

As a home, Alabama offers a congenial climate, and healthfulness which will compare favorably with any section of the country; immunity from the terrible scourges of the colder portions of the country and a death rate record below the general average of the country at large.

The State of Alabama is situated south of Tennessee, west of Georgia and a portion of Florida, north of a part of Florida and the Gulf of Mexico, and west of Mississippi. It has an area of 50,722 square miles. In 1880 its population numbered 1,262,595, but the increase since that time has been such that it is safe to say its population now numbers over one and a half millions.

Alabama was first seen by white men, when the Spanish cavalier, De Soto, with his followers

reached its territory, on their march westward in search of the vast treasures which they had been told were to be found in the land of the setting sun. De Soto found the State peopled by a hardy and warlike race of Indians, who lived with comparative comfort in villages throughout its borders. These people were brave, but they mistrusted the mission of the gallant cavalier and his mail-clad followers, and De Soto found that savages though they were, they knew the arts of war and they fought with such a daring and such a desperation against his well-armed and well-protected troops, that although he defeated them, the victory was well nigh a defeat, and the blood of many a proud Spanish nobleman stained Alabama's soil, and the bones of many a Spanish soldier were left to bleach with the bones of the slain savage, and De Soto's party leaving Alabama was not near so large as when he entered it.

By virtue of De Soto's discovery, Spain claimed the southern half of the present States of Alabama and Mississippi as portions of the Florida possessions. France also laid claim to the same territory, under a settlement of a portion of it by a French expedition under Bienville. France sustained its claim to the territory in question as a portion of its Louisiana possessions. The title of both of these countries to this particular territory was denied by Great Britain, and that country finally obtained and held possession of it until the matter was formally settled by France ceding to England all of its Louisiana possessions east of the Mississippi river, and about the same time Spain ceded Florida to Great Britain; thus that government consolidated all conflicting titles and became the owner of this entire country south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi rivers.

England divided its possessions thus acquired into three parts—Florida, West Florida and Illinois. From a line drawn across the present States of Alabama and Mississippi just north of Montgomery, from the Chattahoochee to the Mississippi, to another drawn along the northern boundary of the present State of Florida from and to the same points, was the portion of the territory which comprised the division known as West Florida. The remainder of the State north of the northern line, was a portion of Illinois. During the occupation of the country by the British, the first cession of lands to whites was made by the Indians, who relinquished all the lands between the Pascagoula river, in what is now Mississippi and Mobile Bay,

from the coast, north to a given point on the Tombigbee river, thence west to the Pascagoula. This cession was confirmed to the United States Government after the close of the Revolutionary War.

During the struggle of the American colonies for independence, the people of Alabama remained loyal to the British government, and when the Spaniards espoused the cause of the colonies and sent a force to attack Mobile, the white residents of Alabama responded to the call and so reinforced the garrison at Fort Charlotte, that for several days they resisted the attack of the colonists' allies.

On the conclusion of peace between Great Britain and the American colonies, that government ceded to the victorious colonists the territory east of the Mississippi and north of the 31st degree of latitude. Spain claimed the portion of this territory south of latitude 30-28, as having been ceded to that government by England, after the cession of the territory to England by France. Spain held possession of a portion of the disputed territory, and it was only settled after the visit of Gen. Thomas R. Pinckney in 1795, to Madrid, for that purpose, when Spain relinquished its claim in favor of the young government, but it held nominal possession of the section in controversy, until 1798.

Georgia, which was one of the thirteen colonies, claimed the territory now comprised in the States of Alabama and Mississippi, and within a year or so after the close of the Revolutionary war, that State began preparations for the colonization of the territory, for the purpose of bringing it unquestionably under its control, and to this end in 1784, the legislature of Georgia authorized the sending of a party of settlers into the wilds of Alabama to organize counties. This party, in 1785, organized all of that portion now in the State, lying north of the Tennessee river, into a county which was called Houston, in honor of Gov. John Houston, of Georgia. The seat of government of this, the first American governmental organization formed in Alabama, was located at or near Muscle Shoals, on the Tennessee river. The life of this county was of short duration. The offices necessary for government were established, but the wildness of the country and the fear of the Indians, who were being incited to offensive acts by the Spanish authorities, together with the slowness of the arrival of immigration

caused the abandonment of the enterprise and the return of the party to Georgia.

In 1798, the congress of the United States by an act created the Territory of Mississippi. This Territory embraced that portion of the present States of Alabama and Mississippi which lies north of an east and west line, along the northern boundary of Florida from the Chatahoochee to the Mississippi, and south of a similar line drawn between those two rivers and passing a little north of Montgomery. The seat of government of the new territory was located at Natchez on the Mississippi river. John Adams was then President of the United States, and he appointed as governor of the newly created territory, Winthrop Sargeant, of Massachusetts, who proceeded to Natchez and organized the territorial government.

In 1800, Governor Sargeant, by proclamation, created the county of Washington, and defined its limits as all the area in the territory of Mississippi east of Pearl river as far as the Chatahoochee. The census of the territory was taken in that year, and the returns showed Washington county's population to consist of 733 whites, 494 negro slaves and 23 free negroes. At this time what is now the counties of Baldwin and Mobile were under the domination of the Spanish government, and it is estimated that their population equaled that of Washington county. In 1801 the people of the territory became dissatisfied with the ministration of Governor Sargeant and petitioned his removal from office, which petition was granted by Thomas Jefferson, who had succeeded to the presidency, and William C. C. Claiborne, of Tennessee, was appointed to succeed him as governor of the territory.

Georgia maintained its claim to the northern portions of the States of Alabama and Mississippi, contending that it held a title to the territory under a grant from the British government. This dispute was finally settled in 1802, by the State of Georgia ceding to the United States all of the territory in question, for, and in consideration of the sum of one and a quarter million of dollars. After the purchase of the title to this land from the State of Georgia, the limits of the territory of Mississippi were extended so that it all was comprised therein. The next step taken by the general government was the negotiation of treaties with the Indian occupants of the lands of the entire Territory, that they might be thrown open

to settlement. An important treaty was concluded in the latter portion of 1802, between commissioners representing the United States and the chiefs of several tribes inhabiting the territory, by which the Choctaws renewed their grant of land to the British in favor of the United States government.

In 1805 Robert Williams, of North Carolina, succeeded Governor Claiborne as Governor of the Territory, and the pending negotiations with the Indians were concluded, and new negotiations opened, which resulted in acquiring large grants of lands from the savages, all of which were thrown open and settled; the tide of immigration began to flow in the State, and in a short time the population had increased materially. In 1808, Governor Williams created by proclamation, from the Chickasaw cession, the county of Madison, and opened up that portion of the Territory to settlement by white immigrants. In the succeeding year, 1809, the county of Baldwin was organized. Mobile was still in the hands of the Spaniards, and there was a continual warfare between them and the settlers. In 1809 Governor Williams was succeeded by David Holmes, of Virginia, and at that time the three counties of the Territory of Mississippi lying within the present State of Alabama were: Washington, Madison and Baldwin. According to the census of 1810 the population of these counties consisted of 6,422 whites and 2,624 negroes, about half of whom resided within the limits of Madison county.

The Spanish Government ceded Louisiana back to France in 1801, retained Florida, and claimed as a portion of it the strip of coast lying south of the 31st degree of latitude, directly south of and adjoining the Territory of Mississippi. In 1803 France sold Louisiana to the United States, but Spain still claimed and held possession of the strip of coast.

Before the breaking out of the war of 1812, the Spanish managed to incite the Indians living in the Territory to mischief, and they made frequent attacks on settlers and immigrants, and committed outrages and depredations which brought on a state of hostilities, which ended only after a long and bitter war.

On the opening of the War of 1812 Spain was an ally of Great Britain, and the United States Government thought it best to dislodge the Spanish soldiers garrisoning the forts south of Mississippi Territory, to prevent them falling into the hands of the foes, and with this end in view, General

Wilkerson, with a large force, moved from New Orleans and laid siege to Fort Charlotte, which, after some days of resistance, capitulated, and thus the United States became the possessor of one of the best harbors on the Gulf coast, and was in a position to prevent an inroad by the enemy to the interior by way of the Mobile and tributary rivers.

Later in this year, 1813, occurred the celebrated fight of Burnt Corn, between a force of less than two hundred settlers and about twice their number of savages, in which, owing to discreditable action on the part of a large portion of the whites, the Indians were victorious. The repulse received at the hands of the Indians in the Burnt Corn engagement had the effect of disheartening the settlers, and at the same time their success elated the savages; they were ripe for other deeds of violence, and began an indiscriminate attack on the settlements, murdering all who fell into their hands without regard to age or sex, burning down the homes of the whites and laying their fields waste with fire. The destruction was general—none were spared.

This state of affairs caused the erection throughout the disturbed section of the State, numerous block houses, or as they were called, stockades, where the people retired for security when the attacks of the savages became too frequent, and in these stockades the people found comparative security; but in one of them there occurred the most terrible massacre which has marked the annals of savage warfare in this country. Such a fort was erected at the residence of David Mims, in the northeastern portion of Baldwin county, and after the Burnt Corn fight, the whites for some distance around, fearing the spirit of reprisal in the savages, gathered in this fort, prepared to defend themselves against any number of Indians that chanced to attack it. The people in the fort, according to the most accurate of the State's historians, numbered 245 men capable of bearing arms, who were under the command of Maj. Daniel Beasley, and 308 women, children and friendly Indians.

For many days during the latter part of August, 1813, rumors reached the fort of the approach of an army of Indians, but as often, investigation by scouts sent out for the purpose, proved that the report was without foundation. This occurred several times, and as might naturally be supposed, it was soon regarded as the fabled cry of the wolf, and the occupants of the fort rested easily, conscious

of the possession of an apparently secure place of safety.

The Indians were enraged by the attack on them at Burnt Corn. The warlike spirit in the tribes living in the Coosa and Tallapoosa valleys had been roused during the preceding winter by the fiery speeches of the great Shawnee chief, Tecumseh, whom, it is said, the British sent from his home on the banks of the Ohio, among the Indians of the Mississippi Territory for the purpose of rousing them to war. The council fires burned throughout the country along those rivers, and the eloquent chief poured hot words of wrong, of robbery, of death and of devastation into the ears of the Indians assembled about him, and he stirred up in their bosoms a fire which could only be quenched by the blood of the whites; his words awakened a hatred which clamored loudly for revenge. The peaceably disposed chieftains of the tribes endeavored to stay the tide which had set in. They endeavored to arrest the current which would madly tear on to rapine and murder, and which they foresaw would result in the destruction of the tribes by the whites, whose superiority in warfare would render them in the end invincible. In this they failed, and the hills were enlivened by the war dance, while the defiant war-whoop uttered by a thousand throats, sounded over the hills, through the valleys and awoke echoes from the mountain dells. The savage boiled. The Burnt Corn attack was the event which unchained the tiger of revenge. After its occurrence, the restraining influence of the peaceable chieftains, which had at least caused delay, was brushed aside, and the men who cried out vengeance! vengeance! gathered thousands of the dusky warriors about them. A party was organized under the leadership of Weatherford, Peter McQueen and Prophet Francis, for a descent upon the white settlements along the bottoms of the lower Alabama and Tombigbee. The army numbered a thousand strong and its march to the scene of its greatest carnage was as stealthy as the creeping of a cat to a position of vantage from which to spring on its prey. This band of warriors surrounded Fort Mims by daylight, and at high noon they had crawled up to its very gates. The inmates of the fort had been deceived often about the enemy's approach, and they had grown careless. When the savages arrived, they were at their ease; the approaches were unguarded; the stockade gates stood open;

there was not a sentinel in place. With one wild cry of expectant victory, the maddened savages poured in like demons hungering for carnage. They swarmed in on the unprepared and unsuspecting inmates of the fort, and there ensued the most horrible massacre which has ever stained with its blood a page of the country's history. The tomahawk and the scalping knife were greedy for gore, and though the inmates of the fort, roused to a sense of their danger, fought with desperation the battle of self-preservation, the slaughter was complete, and the declining sun sent his setting rays over the smouldering ruins of Fort Mims, around which lay the dead bodies of about 500 of its inmates, and the dead bodies of over 200 of its assailants. Of the 553 souls in the fort at the time of the attack, all historians writing on the subject, agree that less than fifty escaped alive. Men, women, and children, all alike, fell victims to the revenge of the savages. The news of this terrible slaughter spread like wild-fire, and Gen. Andrew Jackson was sent from Tennessee, within forty days after the Fort Mims disaster, with 3,000 volunteers raised in that State to wreak vengeance on the bloodthirsty savages. In November a portion of this body attacked the Indian town of Tallasseehatchee, located within the limits of what is now Calhoun county, and after a brief but bloody struggle, all the warriors, 186 in number, were killed, and General Jackson, in making his report of the engagement to Governor Blount, tersely wrote: "We retaliated for Fort Mims." Later in the same month, he attacked the Indian town of Talladega, and there inflicted a crushing defeat, the Indians leaving 299 warriors dead on the field. The remnant retired across the mountains to the town of Hillahee, and proceeded to open up negotiations with Jackson for peace. A few days later, General White, in command of another body of Tennessee volunteers, surprised the town and killed sixty of the warriors.

Georgia sent out volunteers to the aid of the settlers of Mississippi Territory, and the battles were frequent and fierce throughout the Territory, and were fought with varying success. The Muscogees were a brave tribe, and though attacked from every point of the compass, they fought desperately and fought well, and it was not until their overwhelming defeat by Jackson's re-inforced



army, at Horse Shoe Bend, were they defeated, broken and scattered race. This engagement was practically the death-blow to the tribe, as its loss footed up probably more than 600 warriors slain.

General Jackson built Fort Jackson on the ruins of Bienville's old Fort Toulouse, in what is now Elmore county, and here he concluded treaties of peace with the various tribes, whereby they surrendered more or less of their lands, and after the lapse of a few years they exchanged the pitiful remnant left to them, for a home beyond the "Father of Waters."

After spending some time at Fort Jackson General Jackson moved his headquarters to Mobile, and on the arrival of volunteers from Tennessee, he captured Pensacola from the Spanish, after which he left the army in charge of Maj. Uriah Blue, and proceeded to New Orleans to take command there. Major Blue was kept busy hunting up and crushing out predatory bands of Indians, and after a short time the mighty Muscogee was a race of the past. Driven to the woods and swamps, with nothing on which to subsist, the weather compelled the scattered members of the tribe to come with out-stretched hands begging food, peace and protection at the hands of those who had in battle proven the conqueror.

The lands of the Chickasaws and Choctaws were obtained from those tribes by treaties, on the payment by the Government of a stipulated sum of money. Thus was the red man pushed out of the choicest portions of the territory. By force of arms, and at the price of blood, and when these failed, or the Government concluded that the war would be too obstinate, American gold bribed the red man to surrender a domain rich enough in its resources to purchase kingdoms for a hundred kings. These treaties were concluded in 1814, and the Indians having been crushed out, or bought off, the country began to rapidly fill up with immigrants, and as the richness of its soils became known, the dissatisfied in the older States packed up their farming implements and in wagon trains traveled, over the rough roads, seeking a home on Alabama's virgin soil.

#### THE DIVISION OF THE TERRITORY AND THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TERRITORY OF ALABAMA.

By an act of Congress, dated March 1, 1817, the Territory of Mississippi was divided, and by

another act of Congress, adopted two days later, the western portion of the divided Territory was organized into a new Territory, to be called Alabama; defining its boundaries and providing for its government. The act fixed the seat of government of the new Territory at St. Stephens, in Washington county, and directed the president to appoint a governor for the new Territory, who should have authority to call a session there of such members of the Territorial council (the same as the senate of to-day) and house of representatives of the Territory of Mississippi as resided within the boundary of the new Territory. President Monroe appointed as governor of Alabama William Wyatt Bibb, of Georgia, who accepted the position and entered on the discharge of his duties shortly after his appointment. Governor Bibb called the first session of the Territorial Legislature together in January, 1818. The session commenced on January 19, when it was discovered that ten members of the house of representatives resided within the boundaries of Alabama, while Mr. Titus, of Madison, was the sole member of the legislative council entitled to a seat, and throughout the entire session he occupied a chamber and adopted or defeated the legislation arising in the other house as he saw fit; enacted such legislation as he thought necessary, and with due formality forwarded it to the lower house for ratification or rejection.

The ten members of the house elected Mr. Gabriel Moore of Madison, chairman, and the following counties were represented: Baldwin, Clarke, Madison, Mobile, Monroe, Montgomery and Washington. There was some excitement about this time occasioned by a petition of the constitutional convention of Mississippi Territory, praying congress to extend the limits of that Territory to the Tombigbee river and Mobile bay, so as to include the city and county of Mobile as a portion of that territory. Counter petitions were sent up from all parts of Alabama, and feeling ran high on the question.

The second, and what proved to be the last, session of the Territorial Legislature, assembled at St. Stephens in November, 1818. The most important act of this body was to change the location of the seat of government from St. Stephens to Cahaba, on the Alabama river at the point where it is entered by the Cahaba river. This body also provided for the erection of public buildings at Cahaba, and for the temporary location of the seat

of government at Huntsville until the completion of the public buildings at Cahaba.

On March 2, 1819, just two years after the organization of the Territory, Congress authorized the inhabitants to form a state constitution and provided that when that constitution was framed the State should be admitted into the union on the same footing as the original States. The act authorizing this donated to the prospective State the sixteenth section of every township of the public lands for the maintenance of schools; all salt springs in the State and the land adjoining necessary to work them to the extent of thirty-five acres; five per cent. of the net proceeds of the sale of public lands within the State to be applied to works of internal improvements; three-fifths under the direction of the State Legislature, and the remaining two-fifths under the direction of Congress; seventy-two sections of public lands for the use of a seminary of learning, and 1,620 acres to be reserved for a seat of government.

The act authorized an election to be held on the first Monday and Tuesday of May, 1819, for delegates to a convention, to assemble in Huntsville on the first Monday in July following, which was on the 5th day of that month.

The convention provided for in this act met in Huntsville on the 5th day of July, 1819, with the following delegates representing the counties named present:

- Autauga—James Jackson.
- Baldwin—Harry Toulmin.
- Blount—Isaac Brown, John Brown and Gabriel Hanby.
- Cahaba (now Bibb)—Littlepage Sims.
- Clarke—Renben Saffold and James McGoffin.
- Conecuh—Samuel Cook.
- Cataco (now Morgan)—Melkijah Vaughn and Thomas D. Crabb.
- Dallas—William R. King.
- Franklin—Richard Ellis and William Metcalf.
- Lauderdale—Hugh McVay.
- Lawrence—Arthur F. Hopkins and Daniel D. Wright.
- Limestone—Thomas Bibb, Beverly Hughes and Nicholas Davis.
- Madison—Clement C. Clay, John Leigh Towns, Henry Chambers, Samuel Mead, Henry Minor, Gabriel Moore, Jno. W. Walker and John M. Taylor.
- Marengo—Washington Thompson.
- Marion—John D. Terrell.

- Mobile—S. H. Garrow.
- Monroe—John Murphy, John Watkins, James Pickens and Thomas Wiggins.
- Montgomery—John D. Bibb and James W. Armstrong.
- St. Clair—David Connor.
- Shelby—George Phillips and Thos. A. Rodgers.
- Tuscaloosa—Marmaduke Williams and John L. Tindall.
- Washington—Israel Pickens and Henry Hitchcock.

The convention elected John W. Walker, of Madison, chairman, and John Campbell secretary.

The constitution adopted by this body was modeled after the spirit of the age. It guaranteed to the citizen the fullest liberty; the declaration of rights set out so much of the Magna Charta as was consistent in the constitution of a Republican State government; slavery, then existing, was recognized; suffrage was accorded to all white males of the age of twenty-one and upwards; the governor, legislature and county officers were made elective by the popular poll; judicial officers, it was provided, should be chosen by the general assembly. The term of office of the governor was limited to two years, and one successive re-election to that office was allowed; terms of judicial officers were fixed at six years, senators three years and representatives one year. The judges of circuit courts collectively were constituted a supreme court of appeals, with equity jurisdiction, but the constitution provided for separate supreme and chancery courts. The work of the convention was concluded on the 2d of August, and a copy of the constitution was prepared to be forwarded to Congress for its ratification by that body.

An election ordered by the new constitution for governor and members of the legislature was held shortly after the adjournment of the convention, and resulted in the choice of William Wyatt Bibb, first and only Territorial Governor of Alabama, as Governor of the new State. Governor Bibb was opposed in the race for this position by Marmaduke Williams, of Tuscaloosa, who was one of the delegates to the constitutional convention from that county. The election for members of the legislature resulted in the choice of twenty-two senators and forty-five representatives.

The first session of the State Legislature of Alabama met in Huntsville, Oct. 25, 1819, and

remained in session until Dec. 19, of that year. Governor Bibb was inaugurated as first Governor of the State of Alabama, in Huntsville, on the 9th of November, 1819.

#### THE CONSTITUTION

of the State of Alabama was approved by Congress and a joint resolution admitting the State into the Union was adopted, and receiving the approval of President Monroe on the 14th of December, 1819, became law.

Immigration began to flow into the State, and according to the census of 1820, its population, exclusive of Indians, numbered 127,901, of which 85,451 were whites and 42,450 were negroes. With the growth of the population a disposition to improve the country was fostered, and, as a result, roads were cut, steamboat companies and overland transportation companies were organized, but the facilities were so limited that the greater portion of the supplies for the interior of the State were brought from the coast by the rivers in flat-boats, and a trip from Mobile to either Montgomery or Demopolis was a matter of from two to four months. This means of transportation was used on the river for some years after 1820.

The first newspaper published in Alabama was established in Huntsville by a Mr. Barham in 1812. Thomas Eaton, who became the first public printer of Alabama Territory, established a paper at St. Stephens in 1814.

Mobile's first newspaper was printed by a Mr. Cotton in 1816, and Thomas Davenport printed a paper in Tuscaloosa in 1818. In 1820, besides the places mentioned, newspapers were printed in other parts of the State as follows: One in Florence, two in Cahaba, one in Montgomery and one in Claiborne.

The constitution, to facilitate trade and improve the financial condition of the people, provided for the establishment of a State bank. For the greater convenience of all, it provided that a main or principal bank should be established at the seat of government, and that branch banks could be located throughout the State at points where their location would prove the most advantageous. Under this system the State guaranteed the issue of the bank, retaining two-fifths of its stock as security. The parent bank of this system was established at Cahaba in 1820. The seat of government was removed in 1820 to Cahaba, and here the second session of the

general assembly was convened. Governor Bibb, the first Governor of the State, died in July of this year, and his brother, Thomas Bibb, of Limestone, who was president of the senate, succeeded to the position and filled out the unexpired term. The act to establish the State university was passed by the legislature on December 18, 1820. This legislature also elected the three electors to represent Alabama in the electoral college, and who were instructed to cast the vote of the State for James Monroe, of Virginia, for President, and Daniel D. Tompkins, of New York, for Vice-President. The electors selected were John Scott, of Montgomery; Henry Minor, of Madison, and George Phillips, of Dallas.

In 1824, Alabama was visited by General La Fayette, who was entertained as the State's guest at the capital, then Cahaba, by Governor Pickens. General La Fayette remained several days at Cahaba, after which he proceeded on his trip to New Orleans by way of Claiborne and Mobile.

In 1856, by a vote of the General Assembly the seat of government of the State was removed from Cahaba to Tuscaloosa, where it remained about twenty years. The government of the State for the first ten years of its existence had been highly satisfactory, and as a result, the population was more than doubled. The people were prosperous, and as a natural result they were happy and contented. The census of 1830 fixed the population of the State at 309,527, divided as follows: Whites, 190,406; negro slaves, 117,549; and 1,562 free negroes. Educational and religious development kept pace with the increase in the number of people, while on every hand there was to be seen an increased spirit of internal improvement. The vast bodies of fine lands yet in the possession of the Indians were acquired and opened to settlement by purchase and by treaty; one by one the tribal remnants of the once great nations which owned this State were gathered together and sent to a new home in the far West.

During the term of Governor Moore, which was begun in 1829, the construction of a canal around Mussel Shoals in the Tennessee river was commenced, and about the same time the building of a railroad between Tusculum and Decatur was begun, which was the first railroad constructed in Alabama, and was completed in 1832. The road ran between those points by Courtland, and was forty-four miles in length.

The State University at Tuscaloosa was opened

April 18, 1831, about eleven years after the passage of the act establishing it. A spirit of manufacturing began to develop itself in the State about this time, and in 1832 the General Assembly passed a bill incorporating Bell's Cotton Factory, which was located in Madison county and was the first cotton factory erected in the State.

In 1835 a treaty was concluded with the Cherokees, the last remaining of the four great tribes of Indians whom the whites found in possession of the territory of this State. This tribe, for and in consideration of \$5,000,000 and 7,000,000 acres of land in the West, ceded to the Government their lands lying in Alabama and Georgia, and shortly after were removed by the general Government to their new homes in Indian Territory.

A financial panic was threatened in 1837, being occasioned by an accumulation of bank issues—a flooding of the country with money, which tended to create a feeling of false prosperity, and induced the people of all classes to plunge into debt. Property of all kinds appreciated far beyond actual value, and the anticipations of prosperity not being realized, debts fell due, and there was everywhere an inability to meet them. Business became stagnant; runs were made on the banks, until in the early summer of this year, all of them suspended specie payment. Values depreciated and in consequence many of the State's citizens were reduced to poverty. The exigency demanded action, and a special session of the Legislature was called, which devised measures whereby the general condition was ameliorated and the pending disaster checked.

The Legislature of 1839 established separate courts of equity and chancery; adopted a penitentiary system and provided for the erection of the necessary buildings at Wetumpka. The boundary question, which had long been in dispute between Georgia and this State, was settled in this year, by a joint commission of the two States. The Alabama members of that commission were: W. B. Benton, of Benton; Alexander Bowie, of Talladega, and John M. Moore, of Barbour.

The year 1840 found the State of Alabama wonderfully prosperous. It owed no debts and had levied no taxes since the year 1836, the expenses of the government being defrayed by the State bank and its four branches, but that institution, which had received the most of the Legislature's attention, had from bad management, incurred the ill-will of the people and the end of

its existence was fast approaching. The State in 1840 was composed of forty-nine counties with a total population of 590,756, divided as follows: white, 335,185; negro slaves, 253,532, and 2,039 free negroes.

The General Assembly, in 1842, passed an act placing the branches of the State bank, located in Mobile, Montgomery, Huntsville and Decatur, in liquidation, and provided for winding up the affairs of those banks. This act was followed the succeeding year by one making the same disposition of the mother bank at Tuscaloosa, and the method by which the State had supplied its citizens with currency for over twenty years was discontinued, and there was hardly a voice raised against this action. Owning stock in the bank, the State felt bound for the payment of obligations issued by it, and in consequence the legislature passed a bill, ordering an issue of State bonds to provide the means of making this payment. The debts of the bank, owing to mismanagement and the indiscriminate endorsement of the worthless paper of individuals, largely exceeded its assets, and the State appointed a commission, consisting of F. S. Lyons, of Marengo, C. C. Clay, Sr., of Madison, and William Cooper, of Franklin, for the purpose of adjusting the affairs of the banks and making a settlement with the creditors. The issue of bonds for the purpose of settling the indebtedness of the State bank was the foundation for the present bonded debt of the State.

The question of removing the capital was one which was continually coming up, and, to settle it definitely, it was submitted to a popular vote of the State in 1845. The leading points striving for selection as the seat of government were Tuscaloosa, Wetumpka and Montgomery, and the result of the election was the selection of Montgomery as the future capital of the State. The people of that city immediately built a capitol building on an eminence reserved for that purpose, at the head of what was then known as Main or Market Street. The State archives and public offices were transferred from Tuscaloosa to the new capitol at Montgomery in 1846 and 1847. In 1849 the people voted on and adopted an amendment to the constitution, changing the title of county judges to that of probate judges, and transferring their election and the election of circuit judge from the General Assembly to the people. On the 14th of December, 1849, while the Legislature was in session in the new

capitol at Montgomery, the building was discovered to be on fire, and, notwithstanding the efforts made to save it, the structure was destroyed, but the progress of the fire was so slow that all the important records and documents contained in the offices were saved. The governor secured apartments in the Exchange hotel, at Montgomery, and the session of the Legislature was continued in that building. It provided means for the erection of another State-house, to replace that destroyed by fire, which was ready for occupancy by the time of the re-assembling of the next session.

The growth of Alabama continued steadily, and everywhere it was noticeable that the State had made great progress in all things pertaining to civilization. In 1850, the population numbered 771,633, divided as follows: whites, 426,514; negro slaves, 334,844, and 2,265 free negroes.

The year 1850 and the five years following are memorable as times when the subject of internal improvement was uppermost in the minds of the people of the State, and among the great enterprises then under consideration was the construction of the following lines of railway: Mobile & Ohio, Memphis & Charleston, Selma & Rome, Alabama & Mississippi Rivers railroad (westward from Selma), Montgomery & Pensacola, Mobile & Girard, Alabama & Chattanooga, and the Columbus branch of the Western railroad.

The discussion of the great advantage these roads would be to the State at large, in opening all quarters of it up to immigration, led also to discussing the question of the advisability of lending to the companies controlling these and other roads the credit of the State to aid them in procuring the means to carry out their enterprises. This discussion caused several companies having money invested in such schemes to go to the Legislature and seek relief, or the aid which would come should the State lend them its credit, by becoming responsible for the obligations in the financial centers, or by the endorsement of their bonds, or by the issue of bonds in their favor. The Legislature was composed of members who came from localities which would be largely benefited by the extension and completion of these enterprises, and as the local interests would be subserved, there was something like a demand sent up to the General Assembly from such localities, that action affording the relief, or aid prayed, be taken.

John A. Winston, of Sumter, then Governor of the State, was a statesman who regarded such action inconsistent with the true object of government, vetoed all measures passed by the General Assembly subsidizing such enterprises.

In his message of Jan. 9, 1856, vetoing the act making a loan to the Memphis & Charleston road, he says:

"Experience teaches us that any departure from the legitimate and simple purposes of government brings, as inevitably as a departure from physical and moral law, a speedy punishment, and admonishes those who have fixed ideas of public policy of the danger of any abandonment of principle, in legislation and matters of government. The experience of Alabama is fruitful of the bitter consequences of making expediency paramount to principle."

The insane asylum at Tuscaloosa was built in 1856, but was not opened until some years later. The asylum for the deaf, dumb and blind, at Talladega, was completed and put in operation in 1860.

In 1860 the census showed Alabama with a population of 964,201, of which the whites numbered 526,211; negro slaves, 435,080, and free negroes 2,690. The State had grown in people, in wealth, in enlightenment, and in all things which tended to the happiness of its citizens, and every one saw an outlook of great brightness and rich promise just ahead.

Notwithstanding the bright outlook of the State at this time, there must have been some who regarded the situation with concern if not alarm. Slavery was an institution in the State, as it was an institution in adjoining States. Slaves were property recognized by the constitution, and special acts commanded for them humane treatment, careful attention in time of sickness, proper apparel and sufficient and wholesome food at all times. The question of slavery was being discussed at the North. Enthusiasts preached abolition, and the doctrine began to gain converts until its adherents numbered thousands. A new party grew up with the theory of abolition of slavery as its foundation. The question of slavery was the rock on which the North and the South in the old parties threatened to split. The leaders on both sides of the sectional line differed widely in their views, and one would not recede from an opinion, for fear it would be regarded as the surrender of a principle. Thus the South stood at the opening of the

year 1860—on the eve of what proved to be the most critical epoch of the country's history. The growth and seeming strength of the new party—the Republican, or rather “black Republican” party—filled some of the Southern leaders with apprehension that that party would be successful in the election for the presidency which would occur in the winter of 1860.

With this fear in view, a resolution was passed by both houses of the General Assembly, in February, 1860, requiring the governor, in the event of the election of the candidate of the Black Republican party, to the presidency of the United States, to order elections to be held throughout the State for delegates to a constitutional convention of the State. The contingency feared occurred, and after the count by the electoral college, Governor Moore caused writs of election, for the purpose specified, to be issued in the several counties of the State. After the election and pending the meeting of this convention, news was received of the secession of South Carolina, and following the reception of this news, Forts Morgan and Gaines, the defenses of Mobile Bay, and Mount Vernon arsenal on the Mobile river were seized by the State troops, to prevent the general government from strengthening and holding them in the event the complications led to a war between the slave holding States and the Government of the United States.

The State of Alabama also appointed commissioners to visit the other slave-holding States to confer with them “as to what was best to be done to protect their interest and honor in the impending crisis.”

The constitutional convention, provided for by the joint resolutions of Feb. 24, 1860, met in the city of Montgomery on the 7th day of January, 1861, and on the 11th of that month the body adopted, by a vote of sixty-one to thirty-nine, an instrument entitled, “An ordinance to dissolve the union between the State of Alabama and other States united under the compact styled ‘The Constitution of the United States of America.’”

The ordinance was signed by William M. Brooks, president of the convention, and the following members: A. J. Curtis, W. H. Davis, John W. L. Daniel, E. S. Dargin, H. G. Humphries, O. R. Blue, Franklin K. Beck, Samuel J. Bolling, A. P. Love, B. H. Baker, of Russell; Thomas Hill Watts, A. A. Coleman, Thomas H. Herndon, David P. Lewis, Lyman Gibbons, William H.

Barnes, George Rives, Sr., Archibald Rhea Barclay, Daniel F. Ryan, Samuel Henderson, of Macon; John R. Coffey, Albert Crumpler, George Taylor, James S. Williamson, John Tyler Morgan, Gappa T. Yelverton, Thomas T. Smith, Nicholas Davis, W. E. Clarke, of Marengo; George Forester, John W. Inzer, M. G. Slaughter, Julius C. B. Mitchell, David B. Creech, John Green, Sr., Richard J. Wood, William A. Hood, Arthur Campbell Beard, R. Jemison, Jr., Jefferson Buford, DeWitt Clinton Davis, William S. Earnest, James F. Bailey, N. D. Johnson, H. E. Owens, Henry M. Gay, Ralph O. Howard, John P. Ralls, James McKinnie, J. P. Timberlake, of Jackson; James G. Hawkins, J. M. McClannahan, John B. Leonard, Jere Clemens, Eli W. Starke, O. S. Jewett, John M. Crook, G. C. Whatley, James G. Gilchrist, William S. Phillips, James W. Crawford, James S. Clarke, S. E. Catterlin, J. D. Webb, W. L. Yancey, George D. Shortridge, J. A. Henderson, John McPherson, James F. Dowdell, James L. Sheffield, George A. Ketcham, John Bragg, Lewis M. Stone, John Cochran and Alpheus Baker.

Twenty-four members of the convention did not sign the ordinance, as follows: John S. Brashear and W. H. Edwards, of Blount; Henry C. Sanford, W. L. Whitlock and John Potter, of Cherokee; W. O. Winston and J. H. Franklin, of DeKalb; B. W. Wilson and E. P. Jones, of Fayette; John A. Steele and R. S. Watkins, of Franklin; S. C. Posey and H. C. Jones, of Lauderdale; J. P. Cowan and T. J. McClellan, of Limestone; Lang C. Allen and Winston Steadham, of Marion; Jonathan Ford, of Morgan; A. Kimball, M. J. Bulger and T. J. Russell, of Tallapoosa; William R. Smith, of Tuscaloosa; Robert Guttery, of Walker, and C. C. Sheats, of Winston.

The ordinance directed that copies of it should be prepared and forwarded to the various slave-holding States, with the invitation that each of them send delegates to a convention to meet in Montgomery on the 4th of February, 1861, for the purpose of forming “a provisional and permanent government, upon the principles of the Constitution of the United States—and for the purpose of consulting with each other as to the most effectual mode of securing concerted and harmonious action in whatever measures may be deemed most desirable for our common peace and security.”

Delegates were chosen by this convention to represent Alabama in this provisional congress of

the slave-holding States. After this the convention took a recess to await the action of the congress of the seceding States. The Alabama members of the national congress withdrew from their respective houses on the day following the adoption of the ordinance of secession.

Delegates representing seven Southern States assembled at the capitol in Montgomery on the 4th day of February, 1861, and proceeded to organize the government of the Confederate States of America. This body adopted a constitution embracing all the salient points contained in the Federal constitution, which it submitted to the various Southern States for adoption. It elected Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, as president, and Alexander H. Stephens of Georgia, as vice-president of the Confederate States of America, and located, temporarily, the seat of government of the Confederate States at Montgomery.

The constitutional convention of the State of Alabama, which had recessed after the adoption of the ordinance of secession, met again after the organization of the Confederate States, and changed the sessions of the Legislature from biennial to annual, ratified the constitution of the Confederate States which had been submitted to it, and after making some other changes in the State constitution, adjourned *sine die* on March 21, 1861.

An extra session of the State Legislature was called in March, 1861, on account of the changed condition of affairs, and after its adjournment another session was called in October of the same year.

War was formally declared by President Lincoln in a proclamation issued April 15, 1861, and at once Alabama regiments began to take up their march to the front, until it was estimated that by October of that year, this State had furnished fully 37,000 soldiers, and by the same time of the following year fully 60,000 citizens of Alabama were bearing arms in the service of the Confederate government.

The State was by no means a unit on the question of secession, as was evidenced by the vote of the convention on the measure, and further, by the failure or refusal of a portion of the delegates to affix their signatures to the ordinance, and the fact is worthy of note that almost every one of those who failed or refused to sign that instrument resided in counties lying in the northern portion of the State, the most southerly county whose

delegates did not sign being Tallapoosa. The result of this was that between the adoption of the ordinance and the declaration of war by President Lincoln, the matter of organizing the northern portion of Alabama into a loyal State was freely and openly discussed in that section of the State.

The name of the proposed new State had been decided on, and had not the proclamation of war followed so speedily on the adjournment of the constitutional convention, it is probable that the State of "Nickajack" would have been brought into existence.

Within a year after the declaration of war the northern portion of Alabama was occupied by the Federal troops, and the Tennessee valley was the scene of war almost continuously from that time until the cessation of hostilities. The battles were fought with varying success, first one side being in control of the ground and then the other. The contests there were fierce, and the advances and retreats left a blood-stained trail through the valleys and over the hills of North Alabama. Some of the Federal commands occupying this section of the State were guilty of the greatest excesses and a savage brutality in their treatment of the defenseless people whom they found there. Robbery and wanton destruction of property was a common occurrence, and Federal occupation blighted many a growing village in the Tennessee Valley.

In May, 1863, Forrest captured Col. A. D. Streight, with 1,700 men, in the eastern part of Cherokee county. The remainder of the State was not the scene of actual hostilities until later in the war, though occasional raids were made from Georgia during the year 1863, and in July, 1864, General Rosseau, with a party of about 1,500 cavalry, entered the State from the mountains and penetrated as far as Loachapoka, en route to Columbus, Ga. He destroyed a great deal of property on this march.

In August, 1864, the federals, being in possession of both Pensacola and New Orleans, turned their attention to the capture of Mobile, the approach to which was strongly guarded by Forts Gaines and Morgan at the entrance of Mobile Bay. To accomplish this, on the 31 of August, 1864, 1,500 Federal infantry were landed on Dauphin Island and moved on Fort Gaines, which was situated on the eastern point of that island. Two days later eighteen war steamers, having 2,700 men on board and carrying 202 guns, under the command of

Admiral Farragut, made an attempt to run the gauntlet between the forts and enter Mobile Bay. The guns from both forts opened on them and one of the vessels, an iron-clad, the "Tecumseh," was sunk by a torpedo, going down with her crew of 120 men. The remaining vessels succeeded in passing into the bay, where they engaged the Confederate fleet stationed there, which consisted of a ram and three gunboats, carrying twenty-two guns and about 500 men.

The engagement which ensued is said to have been one of the fiercest naval combats on record, and it ended in the capture of the ram and one of the gunboats and the retreat of another, while the third took refuge under the walls of Fort Morgan. The assault on Fort Gaines by land and water was such that on the 8th of August it capitulated. The combined forces at Farragut's control were then disposed to capture Fort Morgan. Thirty-five hundred men were landed on the mainland in rear of the fort, and the siege was commenced. The terrific bombardment by the fleet finally resulted in the surrender of the fort. The operations about this section were kept up until the Federals had forced the evacuation of Spanish Fort and its protecting outposts, and had captured the garrison at Blakey, after which the Confederate forces withdrew from the city of Mobile, which was occupied by the Federals on the 12th of April, 1865.

During the operations about Mobile, Forrest was active in North Alabama, and in September, 1864, he captured nearly 2,000 Federal infantry near Athens, in Limestone county. While the Federals were assaulting the forces about Mobile, General Wilson advanced from the northern part of Franklin county with an army of 15,000 troops. His route lay by Russellville, Jasper and Elyton. After passing the latter place he was met by Forrest, and after some severe skirmishing with him, the great number and superiority of Wilson's command forced Forrest to fall back towards Selma. Here Forrest, with a command of about 3,000 men, many of whom were raw, made a stand, and for a time resisted the desperate onslaught of the Federal cavalry, but without avail, and Wilson captured Selma with 2,500 of its defenders.

At Elyton General Croxton was detached with a force of men and moved in the direction of Tuscaloosa, which place he captured after a severe skirmish on the 3d of April. This command burned down the State University building.

General Wilson, after the capture of Selma, moved on towards Montgomery, which city he entered without resistance on the 12th of April, 1865. The surrender of Gen. Richard Taylor, the commander of the military department, of which Alabama was a part, to General Canby, on the 4th of May, 1865, was the occasion of a cessation of hostilities throughout the State.

The flag of an Alabama regiment floated on every battle field from Pennsylvania to Missouri, and the bravery of Alabamians won for the State a renown which is a proud heritage to transmit to coming generations. It is estimated that fully 122,000 of this State's sons took up arms in the cause of the Confederacy, and of this number one-fourth gave up life at the front: their blood flowed on every battle field of the war, and their bones lie bleaching on the hill-tops and in the valleys of every State in which the contending forces met.

The clouds of war lifted—the smoke of battle disappeared, leaving blackened ruins in Alabama, and vacant chairs at many firesides. The echoes of the groans of the wounded and dying wrung the hearts of many Alabamians for years. Cruel war had filled the homes of the State with black-robed mourners, who in sorrow awaited the summons which would call them to meet their loved ones on the other shore. The slaves who had toiled to produce that which supported their owners and themselves were, by the result of the war, free. The land owners still owned their lands, but lacked the means of cultivating their property. The soldiers who returned from the front, arrived at their homes sore in body, in spirit, and impoverished in purse. They had followed the banner of their State through all the varying fortunes of war, and when the final disaster overwhelmed that banner and the cause for which they struggled, they appreciated their condition, and though the out-look was gloomy, they determined to bend their energies to the recuperation of their resources and the up-building of their homes.

Buoyed up by this spirit, those who returned to Alabama immediately after the cessation of hostilities, found affairs in a most confused condition.

Civil government was deposed. A military master ruled in place of a ruler selected by the people from among themselves. Military courts dispensed a justice peculiarly their own,



after their own fashion, and these courts felt themselves paramount to all law. The civil government which the Federals found in charge of the State when the capital was captured on the 12th of April, 1865, was at once abolished, and from that time until June 21 of the same year, there was no civil authority in the State. On the latter date President Johnston appointed Lewis E. Parsons provisional Governor of Alabama, and by proclamation authorized him to call a convention of loyal citizens to make such alterations in the organic law of the State as would make it conform with the United States, under the new order of things brought about by the war. The test of loyalty which should determine a right to participate in this convention would be subscribing to an oath of allegiance to the United States Government. In pursuance of this proclamation, Mr. Parsons took charge of the State's affairs, and by appointment filled the various offices throughout the State. The convention provided for in the President's proclamation met in Montgomery on the 12th of September, 1865. The body was a representative gathering, and at the session, which lasted until the 20th of September, ordinances formally abolishing slavery, annulling the ordinance of secession, and annulling all ordinances of the convention of 1861 in conflict with the Constitution, were adopted. This convention, before its adjournment, provided for the election of State and county officers throughout the State in November following, and the outlook led all to believe that the bright promises of peace would soon be attained.

At the election held in November, 1865, Robert M. Patton, of Lauderdale, was chosen governor over William R. Smith, of Tuscaloosa, and Michael J. Bulger, of Tallapoosa. A Legislature was chosen at this election as well as the representatives to Congress. The latter were not permitted to take their seats. The Legislature met at the appointed time and Governor Patton was duly inaugurated into office as Governor of the State. Congress had passed what is known as the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, which conferred the privileges of citizenship on the freedmen of the Southern States; repudiated their debts incurred in support of the war; disfranchised all Southern men who held State or Federal offices and afterwards espoused the cause of the Confederate States, and abridged the representation of the Southern States in Congress, in proportion, as their citizens were deprived of their voting privilege,

This amendment was submitted to the legislatures of the various Southern States for ratification, and on the 17th day of September, 1865, the Legislature refused to ratify the amendment. The consequence of this refusal to ratify the proposed fourteenth amendment, by the Alabama Legislature, Congress, on March 2, 1867, passed a law over President Johnston's veto, placing Alabama, with other Southern States, under military rule, the law providing that the military department, of which this State was made a part, should be under the command of a regular army officer, not of lower rank than brigadier general, who was, by the law, vested with all power. He was to take charge of the department, and if he saw fit, had the authority to remove all civil officers, and appoint in their places such officials as he chose. Courts were abolished and their places taken by military tribunals, presided over by officers holding appointment from the department commander, and these courts had jurisdiction in all matters, civil and criminal, and could inflict any punishment they chose, except that of death. The law provided that this regime should terminate when the State held a constitutional convention which should draft a constitution embodying the points covered by the fourteenth amendment, and which constitution should, after adoption, be submitted to the people for ratification, which should be by popular vote and would require the votes of a majority of the registered electors for ratification. The convention was chosen and met in the fall of 1867. The body, after several days' session, adopted a constitution, which was submitted to the people for ratification in February, 1868, at which election the party favoring the views of Congress, voted for the adoption of the constitution, and for candidates for State and county offices. This party was in the minority, and as the party which opposed the views of Congress refused to vote on the question, the constitution failed to receive a majority of the registered voters, and consequently failed of ratification.

The result of the election was reported to Congress and although the constitution had not been ratified, as provided in the law authorizing the convention and its submission to the people, Congress, by act, declared it the constitution of the State of Alabama, and ordered that the candidates voted for at the election held in February, be installed in the offices for which they ran.

R. M. Patton, who was elected to the office of

Governor in November 1865, was practically deprived of office by the act of Congress of March, 1867, placing the State under military authority, but he nominally filled the office until July, 1868, when Wm. H. Smith, of Randolph, who was voted for for that position in February, 1868, was inaugurated, which was on the 13th of July of that year. The Legislature, which was convened at once, was composed of men, many of whom were not citizens of the State, and many of its members were ignorant negroes who had no idea of statesmanship, beyond the collection of their per diem. The body contained very few representative citizens of Alabama. Tricksters, lobbyists and monopolists and jobbers swarmed down on the capitol building during the session, and bribery and corruption were the order of the day. Another session of this assembly was held in October, 1868. An immense indebtedness was saddled on the State by this body, through its indiscriminate grants of subsidies to railroads, and for many years the State's honor and credit were sorely involved and its resources drained to meet the obligations which had been fastened on it by men who plundered and pillaged for the sake of the individual profit in the exercise of the duties of misrepresentation.

Notwithstanding the war and the terribly unsettled state of affairs following its termination, the census of 1870 showed that Alabama's population was still increasing. That census fixed the population of the State at 996,992, of which 521,384 were whites and 475,510 were negroes. An election for State officers was held in November, 1870, which resulted in the election of Robert B. Lindsay, of Colbert, as governor, over W. H. Smith, who had served in that capacity since July, 1868. Governor Smith refused to surrender his office to his successor, and procured an injunction restraining the president of the senate from counting the returns of the election for the office of governor, alleging that the returns were illegal. The members of the senate held over from the previous election, and that body was presided over by R. N. Barr, who, by virtue of his position, proceeded to count in a joint session of both houses, the election returns, except for the positions of governor and State treasurer. A majority of the house of representatives were composed of good men, men who were representative citizens of the State, and this action of the president of the senate was objected to by them, and on the conclusion of the first count these representatives,

with two members of the senate, procured the election returns from the office of the secretary of State, to which they had been returned by the president of the senate. The members of the house and those of the senate present installed Hon. Edward H. Moren, of Bibb, lieutenant-governor-elect, in his office, after which, he, in his official capacity, proceeded to count the returns, and declared Robert B. Lindsay elected as governor, and James F. Grant, of Calhoun, State treasurer. Governor Lindsay was immediately inaugurated as chief executive of the State, and at once assumed the functions of the position. Governor Smith refused to vacate the capitol and obtained from the Federal garrison at Montgomery a detail of United States soldiers for the double purpose of sustaining him in his claims to the office of governor, and aving his contestant in relinquishing his right to discharge the duties devolving on him by virtue of his election by the people. This period is what is known as the "Bayonet Legislature," and continued some two or three weeks, the senate recognizing ex-Governor Smith, while the house recognized Governor Lindsay as the chief executive. Legal steps to oust Governor Smith were taken, and, in obedience to a writ issued by the circuit court of Montgomery county, he vacated the office on the 8th of November, 1870.

Governor Lindsay found the affairs of the State in a deplorable condition on entering office, and set about the work of straightening them up. He was a man of excellent education, a polished gentleman, a most desirable companion, and highly entertaining, but he did not possess the ability to grapple practically, and successfully handle the grave questions which were involved in the administration of the State's government at the time that duty was in his hands. His friends clung to him, and rendered him all the aid possible, but his critics were observant, powerful and merciless, and the good qualities he possessed were not sufficiently strong to condone the faults of, or the failures which marked his administration, and at its close his party nominated Thomas H. Herndon to succeed him. Mr. Herndon was opposed by David P. Lewis, of Madison, the nominee of the Republican party, who, with the entire State ticket of that party, was elected in 1872. The administration of Governor Lewis is classed with that of the other Republican administrations which followed the close of the war as a recon-

struction administration. The majority of the officers of the State were men who had drifted to the South at the war's close for the purpose of picking a competency out of the troubles of the people, and were known as carpet-baggers, while their State-born-and-reared associates, who aided and abetted them in obtaining and keeping control of the government against the evident interests of the State, were termed by the opposition, scallawags. This administration of Governor Lewis was marked by an indisposition to do anything to rescue the State from the fate to which it was fast hurrying. Its debt was large and being increased. Its credit was at the lowest ebb. Its obligations were hawked about and offered for a song. Its revenues, if at all, barely paid the expenses of extravagant and reckless government, and the interest on the State debt was met by borrowing the amount which the treasury would be short. Taxes were becoming onerous, and the people looked to the future with dread. Other Southern States similarly situated were discussing the disgraceful resort of repudiation to relieve them of indebtedness for which they received no benefit. This matter was discussed to some extent in this State, but the popular voice was against it, and the leaders set themselves the task of redeeming the State from the thralldom which had involved it so deeply, and a continuance of which threatened it with absolute bankruptcy.

In 1874 a vigorous campaign was opened in all quarters of the State. The watchword of the Democratic party was retrenchment and reform, and the convention of that party which assembled in the summer of that year, selected as its standard bearer Hon. Geo. S. Houston, of Limestone. The contest was spirited and brilliant, resulting in the election of Mr. Houston, in November, 1874. His inauguration into office, which followed within a short time, was the occasion of rejoicing throughout the State, and was celebrated at Montgomery as an event which would mark the era of new and better times. The citizens erected in Montgomery a splendid fountain as a monument to this occasion, which has been styled the redemption of the State. The leading public men of Democratic convictions throughout the State contributed to the success of this campaign, the practical details of which were in the master hand of Hon. Walter L. Bragg, of Montgomery, now a member of the United States Interstate Commerce Commission.

When Governor Houston took charge of the affairs of the State he began at once to inaugurate a system of economy in expenditures at the capitol, a thing unknown for years in that building. His views on this subject were strictly carried out, and by some it was said his economy was carried to a degree of stinginess not befitting the dignity of the State. The previous administrations had dispensed money with a lavish hand, and now the flow from the treasury received a check. The leaks were all stopped up, and not a dollar passed from the treasurer's hands unless there was ample warrant of law for its payment. The constitution of the State at the time of Governor Houston's election was the instrument which had been prepared by the convention of 1867, and which failed of ratification in February, 1868, because it did not receive the affirmative votes of a majority of the registered electors, but which was forced on the people by an act of the Federal Congress. It was a constitution which did not please the people of Alabama, as they felt that they had no hand in its making, and they certainly had none in its being put into effect. The subject of holding a constitutional convention was discussed widely during 1874, and a majority of the Democratic party favored it, but some of the leading men of the party, among whom was Governor Houston, opposed the movement; but those favoring the convention were in the majority, and the legislature, which met in 1874, passed a law authorizing the question of convention or no convention to be submitted to a vote of the people of the State in the summer of 1875, and at the same time vote for delegates to represent them should the convention receive a majority of the votes cast. The election was ordered, and the convention assembled in the summer of 1875. It was for the most part an excellent body of men. Some of the best and truest men of the State held seats in the body which assembled in the capitol at Montgomery, and proceeded to organize by electing Hon. Leroy Pope Walker, of Madison, chairman. On taking his seat, Mr. Walker delivered an address to the convention marked for its eloquence and its ability. It was quoted from by the press all over the country, and the views expressed were pronounced to stamp him with the quality of statesmanship. Mr. B. H. Sewers, of Montgomery, was elected as secretary of the convention.

The labors of the convention extended over

several weeks, and resulted in the adoption of a constitution, which was afterwards submitted to the people, by whom it was ratified, and which is still in force. The constitution was framed with a view to the reduction of the State's expenditures. Useless offices were abolished and salaries were reduced. The terms of State officers were made of an equal length, it changed sessions of the Legislature from annual to biennial, and limiting them to fifty days, and other changes of more or less importance were made.

The most important of all changes was the introduction of a clause prohibiting legislatures to lend the aid of the State, or to authorize any county, city, town or village in the State to lend its aid, to any railroad, canal or other enterprise or corporation of like nature. The members of the convention had seen the evil effects of the State granting its aid to railroads, and the body which met to take the initiatory steps in bringing the State out of the turmoil, thought it well to throw that safeguard around the State treasury to prevent the recurrence of a similar state of affairs. To look back over the past, the great value of this clause is readily seen. Had it not been passed, every county, city, town and village in the State, and most likely the State itself, would be hopelessly involved to-day.

The discussion of the debt question began to take shape during Governor Houston's administration, and a bill was adopted by the Legislature, providing for the appointment of a commission for the purpose of making a settlement with the bondholders. This most important act, providing for the appointment of this commission, to whom would be entrusted a matter in which the State at large was so vitally interested, was prepared by Hon. Peter Hamilton, then representing the county of Mobile in the State Senate. Mr. Hamilton gave the subject most careful consideration, and the bill passed by the Legislature bears on it the handiwork of his superior intellect. The commission created by this act consisted of Governor Houston, Gen. Levi W. Lawler, of Mobile, and Hon. T. B. Bethea, of Montgomery. These gentlemen at once opened negotiations with the holders of Alabama bonds and securities, and after making to them a detailed statement of the condition of the State, and of what it was hoped would be the result of the settlement could they agree on terms, the holders of the bonds consented to the commissioners' proposition, and old bonds

to the value of something over \$30,000,000 were surrendered, and the holders received in lieu new bonds to the value of \$10,000,000, drawing a low rate of interest at first, but gradually increasing as the bonds neared maturity. The settlement was entirely satisfactory to all parties concerned, and the State regularly met the interest when it fell due, and in consequence the credit of the State began to revive, and it was not a great while before its bonds were quoted in financial centers at par and above. During administrations preceding that of Governor Houston, State obligations had been issued in the form of money, which, from a design on the backs of the bills, was popularly known as "Horseshoe money." This money drew 8 per cent interest, and was receivable as taxes due the State. It was affected by the decline of State obligations, and was sold often as low as 60 cents on the dollar. After the settlement of the bonded indebtedness, and the consequent revival of the State's credit, this issue of money felt the effect, and before it was finally called in by the State, it readily brought its par value and was receivable currently in the ordinary channels of trade at that value.

The commission failed to come to a satisfactory settlement with the holders of some State bonds issued in favor of the Selma & New Orleans, the Selma, Marion & Memphis, and the Selma & Greensboro Railroads. It is stated that the amount of the bonds issued in aid of these roads, and outstanding, is between one and two millions of dollars. The bondholders, some time since, made an effort by mandamus proceedings in the United States District Court, to collect interest on these bonds, but found that their only avenue of relief was through the Legislature, and in consequence the proceedings were discontinued. The settlements of these claims will be the work of future Legislatures.

Gen. John T. Morgan, of Dallas, was elected by the Legislature of 1875 as United States senator, to succeed Senator Goldthwaite. Governor Houston occupied the position of governor two successive terms, going out of office in November, 1878. He was succeeded by Hon. R. W. Cobb, of Shelby, who served as Governor until November, 1882.

Gov. Houston was elected by the Legislature as United States Senator, to succeed George Spencer in 1878, but died within a year after his election, and was buried in Athens, which place was his home. Governor Cobb appointed

Hon. Luke Pryor, of Limestone, as United States senator, to serve until the assembling of the Legislature, when the vacancy would be filled by an election. The Legislature of 1880 elected Hon. James L. Pugh, of Barbour, to fill the unexpired term.

The ten years ending with 1879 had witnessed a wonderful growth in Alabama. The State was on the eve of a career of development which was but little suspected even by its most enthusiastic citizens. The vast deposits of iron, coal, marble and other articles of nature, highly valuable, had begun to attract the attention of the world. The citizens of the State had by energy and saving accumulated means which they were beginning to use in the development of mines and in the establishment of manufacturing enterprises. The growth of manufactures alone in the ten years preceding this date was wonderful, but subsequent events have shown that it was only the awakening. New cities began to spring up in localities specially favored, and many of these held out great promise for the future.

The census of 1880 fixed the population of the State at 1,262,505.

Governor Cobb was succeeded in November, 1882, by Gen. E. A. O'Neal, of Lauderdale, a man of excellent qualities, a sound head and a kind heart — a man who had won distinction as an orator and the renown and glory which is accorded to the heroism of a brave soldier. Governor O'Neal brought to the executive chamber a ripe knowledge of men and affairs, gained by the experience of daily association under all conditions and circumstances, and a sound judgment, supported by a clear judicial mind. As governor, he was quick to act in the discharge of the duties of the position, and stood firmly and unflinchingly by the acts performed in the discharges of his official duties. His two administrations, which closed Dec. 1, 1886, have been more or less the subject of criticism, but as the brunt of the present wears off, and the official acts are viewed as matters of past history, the administration of Governor O'Neal will compare favorably with that of any official who has filled the position. During his time in office Governor O'Neal was called upon to fill several very important offices made vacant by death or resignation, and in this matter his selections have challenged the admiration of all thinking men in the State, on account of the superior fitness of the appointees for the positions to which they were appointed.

The most important matter of public interest which occurred during the administration of Governor O'Neal, was the defalcation and flight of Isaac H. Vincent, State treasurer. Mr. Vincent was elected State treasurer in 1878, and served two terms, but was a candidate and received the nomination for a third term at the hands of the Democratic convention, which assembled in 1882, and was, for a third time, elected to the office in August of that year. When the new officials elected at the same time were installed in their offices, Mr. Vincent held over. The Legislature which met that year appointed its usual committee to examine the books and accounts in the offices of the auditor and State treasurer, and to count the money in the vault of the State treasury. This committee proceeded with its work in the auditor's office, completing it in the latter part of January, and were preparing to perform their duty in the office of the State treasurer.

On Monday, the 28th of January, Mr. Vincent left the city, informing his family that he was going to New York on a hurried visit and that he would return on the following Friday. He sent by a member of his family, a note to his chief clerk, Mr. Crawford, and a package of money containing about \$15,000, which belonged to the State and had been collected by him from a bank in Montgomery that afternoon. Nothing was heard directly or positively from Mr. Vincent from that day until the 15th of March, 1887, when he returned a prisoner as unexpectedly as he left.

The committee appointed to examine the books in his office and count the cash in the treasury, found a shortage amounting to something over \$230,000. A description of Vincent was telegraphed to the police of the principal cities of the country, and a reward of \$5,000 was offered for his capture, but in spite of the efforts of police and detectives, he evaded arrest for about four years.

After the fact of the defalcation had been ascertained, steps were being taken to proceed against Mr. Vincent's bondsmen. He had made no bond for the third term, having offered one which was not accepted, and when the auditor looked for the bond given for his second term, he found that it was missing from its place in the safe where it was kept. This being the case, that official applied to the office of the Secretary of State for the bond book in which that bond was recorded, and on a search, this too, was found to be missing. The names of the signers of Vincent's bond could not

all be recalled, so the State proceeded to negotiate with Messrs. M. E. Pratt, of Autauga, Daniel Crawford, of Coosa, and J. J. Robinson, of Chambers, who were known to have signed the instrument, and effected a settlement with the parties, whereby a sum of something like \$50,000 was recovered.

After Vincent's flight the grand jury of Montgomery county found thirty-nine indictments against him, charging him with embezzlement. On his arrival in Montgomery in March, 1887, he was lodged in the county jail to await trial. The trial of one of the cases against him was commenced on the 8th of August, 1887, and continued for almost one week, and ended in the jury finding him guilty with a recommendation to mercy. Another case was taken up and concluded in a few days with a like verdict. The prisoner was defended by Gov. T. H. Watts and Capt. J. M. Falkner. The prosecution was in the hands of Solicitor Lomax, prosecuting officer of Montgomery county, Attorney-General McClellan and Hon. H. C. Tompkins.

The court sentenced Vincent to ten years' imprisonment in the two cases. The remaining thirty-seven cases against Vincent will be disposed of at a future term of the city court of Montgomery county. The \$5,000 reward offered for his arrest was paid to a Mr. Ray, of Texas, who captured him near Big Sandy Springs, in that State, and delivered him to the sheriff of Montgomery county.

Governor O'Neal was succeeded by Hon. Thos. Seay, of Hale, the present Governor of the State, who was inaugurated on the 1st of December, 1886.

The years which have elapsed since 1880 have been fruitful of great results for Alabama. They have been marked by a steady growth in the older cities and towns, and a growth in newer cities, advantageously situated, so marvelous and rapid that it almost challenges belief.

In the matter of transportation facilities Alabama is well supplied. Important trunk lines traverse the State in all directions, afforded ample transportation for almost every quarter. The following railroads are being operated in Alabama:

Alabama Great Southern; Anniston & Atlantic; Birmingham, New Orleans & Selma; Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile; Columbus & Western; East Alabama; East and West Alabama Narrow Gauge; Eufaula & Clayton; Georgia Pacific; Memphis & Charleston; East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia; Mobile &

Birmingham; Mobile & Gerard; Montgomery & Eufaula; Montgomery & Florida Narrow Gauge; Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis; South Western; Talladega & C. V.; Tuskegee Narrow Gauge; Western, West Point Division; Western, Selma Division; Birmingham Mineral; Mobile & Montgomery; Nashville & Decatur; New Orleans, Mobile & Texas; Pensacola; Pensacola & Selma; South & North; Sheffield & Birmingham. Some of these roads are not completed, but portions of such as are not are being operated. Besides these lines several other companies have been organized, and many of them have been surveyed, and active preparations are made to begin construction. The railroad mileage of the State is at present about 2,300. This figure will be materially increased within the next five years and at least a thousand miles will be added within the next ten years.

Besides this means of transportation by rail, Alabama possesses a river system equaled by few States, and surpassed by none, having navigable rivers in almost every quarter of its area, and in addition to this its sixty miles of coast is indented by bays which afford excellent harbors, and which will aid materially the State's shipping interests.

Mobile, the principal bay, is a valuable body of water which affords communication to the Gulf of Mexico. It is now being improved under appropriation from the General Government, and the opening of the channel in the bay to a mean depth of twenty-three to twenty-five feet will do more for the development of the southern portion of the State than any other improvement.

Probably the most important river to the State is the Alabama. It is about 480 miles in length and is navigable to Montgomery the year round, and in high-water seasons as far up as Wetumpke on the Coosa. It is given the first place in point of importance, because of the fact that through its channel the waters of the Coosa seek the gulf and when that river is freed from its obstructions there will be opened up a great water way, extending from Mobile into North-western Georgia, a distance by river of over 800 miles and over which the products of one of the richest sections of the country will be transported to the sea.

The valley through which the Coosa river flows is one of unexampled productiveness, yielding cotton, corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, potatoes, fruits—in fact, any article of agriculture produced elsewhere in the country. In addition to the fer-

tility of the lands lying along its sides, the Coosa flows through a country rich in the possession of valuable minerals. Coal, iron and marble abound in the hills which slope down gradually till they reach the waters of the Coosa. The river is now navigable from Rome, Ga., to Greenport, Ala., but between the latter place and Wetumpke there is a distance of 137 miles, locked in by rapids, rocky obstructions and falls. These obstructions will probably be removed by the next Congress.

Another important river to Alabama is the Tombigbee, which is formed near Demopolis by the junction of the Little or Upper Tombigbee, which enters the State through from Mississippi through Pickens county, and the Warrior river. It is an important river, for the reason that over it a large portion of the output of the Warrior coal field may reach the Gulf coast. It is navigable from Mobile to Fulton, Miss., a distance of about 600 miles *via* the Little and Mobile Rivers, and *via* the Mobile and Warrior to Tuscaloosa. Like the opening of the Coosa, the improvement of the Warrior is demanding attention, and no stone will be left unturned to secure the necessary aid from Congress to put these rivers in navigable condition.

The Cahaba is one of the rivers of the mineral section of Alabama, and were it opened to navigation would become an important factor in the water system of the State. It rises in the northern portion of Shelby county, flows a southeasterly and southerly course through the counties of Shelby, Bibb, Perry and Dallas, and empties into the Alabama river at the town of Cahaba. During the seasons of high water, steamboats have ascended this river to Centerville, in Bibb county, within a short distance of the famous Cahaba coal field. In its present condition the Cahaba, as a factor in the development of Alabama, is practically valueless. The river can and should be made navigable.

The Tennessee river is one of paramount importance to the people of Northern Alabama. It flows almost through the entire northern portion of the State, furnishing several counties with unlimited water transportation to the West and to Chattanooga.

The opening of Mussel Shoals, now nearing completion by the United States Government, will give uninterrupted navigation from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Paducah, Ky., and will afford furnace men and miners of Northern Alabama a desirable

outlet to all parts of the world for their immense quantities of coal, iron, lumber and manufactured articles, and will enable them to place their products in Northern and Eastern markets in successful competition with those immense manufacturers who have hitherto held a monopoly of these things.

Mobile river, which is formed by the junction of the Alabama and Tombigbee, forms an important part in the river system of the State, and as it is a key to the bay, is an avenue over which all the products of the interior must reach the gulf. The Mobile river, being both wide and deep, requires but little attention and expense to keep it in perfect order at all seasons of the year.

The Chattahoochee river, which flows along the eastern border of the State, affords the people of Russell, Barbour and Henry counties ample communication with the gulf. The principal rivers of Southeast Alabama are the Choctawatchie, Pea, Conecuh, Yellow and Escanaba. Of these streams the Choctawatchie is probably the most important, as it furnishes the only means of transportation to a large portion of Geneva, Dale and Coffee counties. This river, under favorable conditions, is navigable as far up as Newton, in Dale county. The other rivers in this section are more important to Florida than to Alabama. The Perdido river forms the eastern boundary of Baldwin county, dividing that county from Escambia county, Florida. Other rivers, of no general importance, are to be found in Baldwin and in Mobile counties.

In addition to Alabama's mineral resources, the State possesses a wealth of timber lands, embracing the counties of Washington, Mobile, Baldwin, Clark, Monroe, Escambia, Conecuh, Butler, Covington, Crenshaw, Pike, Coffee, Geneva, Dale and Henry. The forest in this section of the country is now attracting as much attention as the mineral wealth of the northern portion of the State. The principal product of this section is the famous long-leaf pine, which here grows to a perfection known nowhere else on the continent. Oak, hickory, gum, poplar, cypress, juniper, dogwood, and other varieties useful in building trades and in the manufacture of furniture, also abound in these forests.

The soil in this section is peculiarly adapted to raising vegetables, which may be here produced from one to two months earlier than in the latitude of Ohio. This section is also well adapted to

stock raising, and sheep growing may here be made especially profitable.

The climate of the timber belt is probably the pleasantest of the State, while the health of this quarter is remarkable. The people here are hardy, thrifty and honest.

An important industry along the coast is the fisheries, and in this several hundred boats of all kinds are engaged. The product is marketed in Mobile, and fish and oysters from that point are found several miles inland. The oysters obtained in Mobile bay are noted for size and flavor, and as high rank as any oysters taken on the gulf coast.

A great industry of Southern Alabama is the manufacture of turpentine and rosin, and it is rapidly growing from year to year.

The following is a list of governors who have filled the executive office from the formation of the Territory of Alabama to the present time:

William Bibb, first governor of the Territory of Alabama, a resident of Georgia when appointed—1817 to 1819.

William Wyatt Bibb, of Autauga—November, 1819, to July, 1820.

Thomas Bibb, of Limestone, was president of the senate and succeeded to the governorship on the death of Gov. W. W. Bibb, July, 1820, to November, 1821.

Israel Pickens, of Greene—November, 1821, to November, 1825.

John Murphy, of Monroe—November, 1825, to November, 1829.

Gabriel Moore, of Madison—November, 1829, to March, 1831, when he was elected to the United States Senate. The President of the Senate, Samuel B. Moore, of Jackson, succeeded, and served out the unexpired term to November, 1831.

John Gayle, of Greene—November, 1831, to November, 1835.

Clement C. Clay—November, 1835, to July, 1837, when he was elected to the United States Senate. Hugh McVay, of Lauderdale, President of the Senate, served out the unexpired term to November, 1837.

Arthur P. Bagby, of Monroe—November, 1837, to November, 1841.

Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Autauga—November, 1841, to November, 1845.

Joshua L. Martin, of Tuscaloosa—November, 1845, to November, 1847.

Reuben Chapman, of Madison—November, 1847, to November, 1849.

Henry W. Collier, of Tuscaloosa—November, 1849, to November, 1853.

John A. Winston, of Sumter—November, 1853, to November, 1857.

Andrew B. Moore, of Perry—November, 1857, to November, 1861.

John Gill Shorter, of Barbour, November, 1861, to November, 1863.

Thomas H. Watts, Sr., of Montgomery—November, 1863, to April, 1865, when the Federal troops occupied the capital of the State, and two months followed in which there was no governor.

Lewis E. Parsons, of Talladega—Appointed provisional governor, by president Johnson, June, 1865, to December, 1865.

Robert M. Patton, of Lauderdale—December, 1865, to July, 1868.

William H. Smith, of Randolph—Appointed governor by an act of Congress, July, 1868, to November, 1870.

Robert B. Lindsay, of Colbert—November, 1870, to November, 1872.

David P. Lewis, of Madison—November, 1872, to November, 1874.

George S. Houston, of Limestone—November, 1874, to November, 1878.

Reuben W. Cobb, of Shelby—November, 1878, to November, 1882.

Edward A. O'Neal, of Lauderdale—November, 1882, to November, 1886.

Hon. Thomas Seay, of Hale—Inaugurated December 1, 1886.

Since the admission of Alabama into the Union twenty-seven men have filled the position of governor. Madison county leads in the number of governors, four of the residents of that county having filled the executive chair. Lauderdale follows, having furnished the chief executive three times. Two governors have been furnished by each of the following counties: Autauga, Limestone, Greene, Monroe and Tuscaloosa. One governor has been furnished from each of the following counties: Jackson, Sumter, Perry, Barbour, Montgomery, Talladega, Randolph, Colbert, Shelby and Hale.

The four northern counties of State—Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison and Jackson—have furnished ten governors, more than one-third of the total number who have filled the chair. Of this number three succeeded to fill vacancies, and except in one instance—Thos. Bibb, of Limestone,



succeeded Gov. W. W. Bibb, of Antauga — the governor who was succeeded was a citizen of one of the four counties named.

Of the governors of Alabama, one, the first, W. W. Bibb, of Antauga, died in office. Two, Gabriel Moore, of Madison, and Clement C. Clay, of the same county, left the office before the expiration of their terms to take seats to which they had been elected in the Senate of the United States.

The only other governor elected who failed to serve a full term was Thomas H. Watts, of Montgomery, whose term began in November, 1863, and was concluded in April, 1865, on the occupation of the capital by the Federal troops. Thomas Bibb, of Limestone, who succeeded W. W. Bibb, of Antauga, and Hugh McVay, of Lauderdale, who succeeded C. C. Clay, of Madison, each filled the position from July to the November following. The next governor, in shortness of the duration of his term, was Lewis E. Parsons, of Talladega, appointed provisional governor by President Johnson. He held the position from June to the December following. R. M. Patton, of Lauderdale, served the longest single term, being nominally

governor from December, 1865, to July, 1868, two years and seven months.

Ex-Governor Israel Pickens, of Greene, was appointed in February, 1826, by Governor Murphy, United States senator to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Henry Chambers, of Madison, until the Legislature met to elect a successor. He served until November, 1826, when the Legislature elected John McKinley, of Lauderdale.

The following occupants of the executive office were elected to the United States Senate after the expiration of their terms as governors. Arthur P. Bagby, of Monroe; Benjamin Fitzpatrick, of Antauga; J. A. Winston, of Sumter (elected in 1867, but was not admitted to his seat), and Geo. S. Houston, of Limestone. No governor who succeeded to fill a vacancy was afterwards elected to the position. Two governors were named Bibb and three bore the name of Moore.

Two governors, W. W. Bibb, of Antauga, and J. A. Winston, of Sumter, have been remembered by the bestowal of their names on counties. Pickens county was named for Gen. Andrew Pickens, of South Carolina, and before Gov. Israel Pickens became governor.



## PART III.

### HISTORICAL RESUME OF THE VARIOUS COUNTIES IN THE STATE.

# CEREAL BELT.

## I.

### MARSHALL COUNTY.

Population: White, 14,000; colored, 700. Area, 560 square miles. Woodland, all.

Aeres—In cotton, approximately, 16,500; in corn, 27,100; in oats, 3,400; in wheat, 5,800; in rye, 150; in tobacco, 48; in sugar cane, 50; sweet potatoes, 243.

Approximate number of bales of cotton in round numbers, 5,500.

County Seat—Guntersville; population, 500.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Democrat*.

Postoffices in the County—Albertville, Arab, Bartlett, Bean Rock, Blue Rock, Cedar Ridge, Cottonville, Fowler, Friendship, Grassy, *Guntersville*, Henryville, Hillian's Store, Hyatt, Kennamer Cove, Lot, Lumpkin, Marshall, Martling, Meltonsville Mill, Minorville, North, Oleander, Pendergrass, Peters, Preston, Raggsdale, Red Apple, Red Hill, Reedbrake, Sidney, Southern, Swearingin, Warrenton.

One of the first white men to settle in this county was John Gunter, a Scotchman, who located among the Cherokee Indians and married a beautiful Indian girl. The Cherokee's originally owned the section of the State whereof Marshall county now forms a part. They had a village near the present site of Red Hill, a point about twelve miles southeast from Guntersville.

John Gunter had three sons. Of these, Edward served with Gen. Andrew Jackson at the battle of Horseshoe, and was with that warrior throughout

the whole war. Sam, another son, died on Town Creek about 1835. The third son, John, became, with Edward, a leader among his people and they both went with the Cherokees about the year 1837, where they both died.

Another early settler was Hugh Henry, who came to Marshall county in 1838 from Upper East Tennessee. He sold goods at Gunter's landing on the south side of the Tennessee river. He was successful in merchandising and accumulated some wealth which the vicissitudes of fortune in some measure depleted before his death.

Hugh Henry was the father of the present heads of the house of Henry. Messrs. Albert G. and Patrick Henry, whose fame as reliable and safe merchants, is second to none in the eastern wholesale markets.

Among the early pioneers who were prominent men were William Black, Arthur C. Beard, James M. Macfarlane, and others.

About the year 1835 the country had become sufficiently settled to cause the organization of Marshall county, which event was properly celebrated in 1836.

Among the prominent citizens now living who were here about this time are: Samuel K. Rayburn, Washington T. May, Judge Lewis Wyeth and Albert G. Henry. These gentlemen are still (March, 1888) in excellent health, although in each case past "three-score years and ten."

At the time of organization and for some years

afterward there was considerable rivalry in the location of the county seat, that matter having been, on three several occasions, left to the will of the people. The first election made Claysville, two miles opposite Guntersville, across the river, the place selected. Here court was held during the years 1836-7-8.

In the latter year the seat of government was changed to Marshall, a place immediately in the center of the present town of Wyeth City, and about one mile from the present court house in Guntersville. Here, for the years 1839-40-41 the seat of justice remained. Still another election changed the county seat to Warrenton, a beautiful village five miles away to the West. Here it was suffered to remain six years.

In the year 1848 the town of Guntersville was

growing and increasing her trade to such a point that it became an incorporated town.

Through the far-sightedness of Judge Louis Wyeth, this place captured the county seat during the year 1849, the change being made principally because Judge Wyeth offered to donate a handsome brick court-house to the county on condition of the seat of government being permanently located at Guntersville. This was done, the court-house was built, and Guntersville has since been enjoying uninterruptedly the honor of being the seat of government for Marshall county.

The officials who constituted the first county court which met at Claysville were as follows: county judge, Washington T. May; county clerk, Richard S. Randles; sheriff, Percival M. Bush; circuit clerk, J. M. Macfarlane.



## II.

### MADISON COUNTY.

County Seat—Huntsville; Population, 8,000; located on M. & C. R. R.

Madison county, Alabama, is at the head of the famed Tennessee valley, and has an area of 872 square miles, with a frontage on the Tennessee river of thirty miles. The salubrioness of its climate, fertility of soil, abundance and purity of water, agricultural resources, beautiful, grand and picturesque scenery, educational advantages, cultured and refined society, and noted healthfulness, give it such substantial charms as make it one of the most desirable sections for residence in the South. Madison is the banner county of the cereal belt. It leads all others in wealth and the production of cotton. The soils of the county vary, but generally are of the red clay subsoil. Its shape is almost square. The county is remarkably well watered, there being twelve creeks and rivers running through it from the north to south. These are Barren Fork, Indian, Pries' Fork, Beaver Dam, Frier's Fork, Mountain Fork, Hurricane, Aldridge, Limestone and Huntsville Spring

creeks, and Flint and Paint Rock rivers. In the mountainous portion of the county, eastward, and on the Whitesburg pike to the Tennessee river south of Huntsville, are found farms which are devoted to raising clover, small grain and stock with great success. This county occupies medium ground between the tropical and temperate producing regions, with many characteristics peculiar to both. Its soil yields cotton, but is most naturally adapted to the raising of grasses, grain, corn and stock.

The average annual yield of cotton is 20,000 bales, but there is a growing disposition on the part of the farmers to forsake cotton, and to adopt stock raising and the production of cereals exclusively. The lands being of red clay subsoil, are susceptible of the highest state of fertility, and being generally level, are easily cultivated. Madison is one of the largest corn-producing counties in the State. The raising of wheat is annually increasing, and twenty-five or thirty bushels per acre is not considered an unusual crop on good

land. The soils of the county are especially adapted to corn, cotton, wheat, tobacco, oats, rye, barley, peas, potatoes and millet. Orchard grass, Herd's grass, Timothy and all the clovers grow here to perfection, producing as much as three tons per acre. The cotton crop is estimated at \$1,000,000; corn crop about the same; peas and beans, \$50,000; potatoes, \$100,000, and horses, cattle and sheep, nearly \$1,000,000. Being well watered, with clear running streams the entire year, the county is admirably adapted to the raising of horses, mules, cattle, sheep and hogs; all these thrive, and this has proven a most profitable business. Importations of stock of all kinds have been attended with great success, this climate proving remarkably healthy for them. There is in this county now, at least 100 registered Jersey cattle (a recent business), and several head are direct from the island of Jersey. They are as healthy and prolific a herd as anywhere in the United States.

There are also two or three herds of Holsteins, in which are represented some of the finest milk strains in the world. They have fine health, and thrive remarkably well. Madison has, perhaps, the finest horses and jacks in the entire country, and stock-raising is becoming a chief and very profitable business. Perhaps in no county in the State is more attention devoted to the matter of education than in Madison. Schools of excellent grade are to be found throughout the county. Men of thrift, energy and enterprise, whether with or without capital, will be cordially welcomed in this county. Adjacent to the mountains, the soils are admirably adapted to the cultivation of vineyard and orchard products. Great and rapid strides have already been made in the direction of horticulture. In this county is the largest nursery in the United States, and its business has proven eminently successful. Its name is "Huntsville Wholesale Nurseries," and as that name implies, the trees grown are intended for the wholesale trade. The tract of land devoted to the business is over a thousand acres. Orders received are mostly from distant nurserymen. The production is confined to pears, plums, cherries and peaches. The plants that will be ready for setting next spring will be over 3,000,000,000, which with the large crops of trees already growing, yield supplies for an extensive business. Shipments of trees are made to all parts of the United States and Canada.

Varieties of fruit trees suited to the most Northern or Southern limits are propagated here. The products of these nurseries have given satisfaction wherever sent, and the demand for them is constantly increasing.

The immense water power of this county, its abounding timber, and its splendid climate are attracting repeated accessions of population. Its various advantages are unequalled. No causes for local disease exist, and the elements of wealth are in close proximity. The timber is chiefly post, black, white, Spanish oaks, and beech, poplar and sugar maple. A world of the finest cedar is in the adjoining county of Jackson, through which the Memphis & Charleston Railroad runs. Labor is abundant and cheap. Lands are cheaper than anywhere in the South, considering their intrinsic value, though they are gradually increasing in value.

There are fine pikes in the county and the public roads are excellent most of the year. Madison county is out of debt, and does not owe a dollar. Taxes are low. There is every substantial indication that this valley of remarkable beauty, unequalled health, and wonderful fertility, will, at an early day, reach the highest state of development, and an era of the greatest prosperity will reign. So high an authority as Commodore Maury states, in his celebrated work on geography, that this valley, all things considered, is the garden spot of the United States. And such is the verdict of all who see it. Coal has been discovered in the Northern portion of Madison, and iron is also believed to exist in valuable and paying quantities. Gas is believed, by experts, to exist in the vicinity of Huntsville, and that if the test was made by boring, it would be discovered in abundance, and of a fine quality. The partial boring of a well near the city developed evidences of oil and gas such as to warrant the above opinion.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Democrat* (democrat), *Gazette* (colored republican), *Independent* (democrat), *Mercury* (democrat), *New South* (republican), *Normal Index* (educational).

Postoffices in the County—Bell Factory, Berkeley, Bloomfield, Brownsborough, Carmichael, Cluttsville, Dan, Fisk, Green Grove, Curly, Haden, Hayes' Store, Hazel Green, *Huntsville*, Lowe, Madison Cross Roads, Madison Station, Maysville, Meridianville, Monrovia, New Market, Owen's Cross Roads, Plevana, Poplar Ridge, Rep, Triana, Whitesburgh, Wiley.

MADISON is an incorporated town of about 500 inhabitants, in Madison county, ten miles west from Huntsville on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad.

Its prosperity depends mostly upon the fertility of the soil in the surrounding country, and the cotton, of which about 2,000 bales are shipped from its station annually.

It has eight or nine general stores; a post, telegraph and express office; Methodist, Baptist, Christian, and three colored churches, and a good academy; a very healthful place; has fine freestone water, and its society is highly moral.



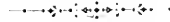
**C. W. MARTIN** was born near Madison in 1820, and has spent his entire life in Madison county. In business he has been a farmer and merchant, in the last of which he has been very successful.

At the close of the late war he, like almost everybody else at the South, was financially a wreck, but by close and persistent application to business, he has retrieved his loss. He was a son of Richard and Lydia (Fitts) Martin, who came from Virginia to Alabama about 1810.

Richard Martin was a farmer, and served in the War of 1812. They had eleven children, of whom but four are living. Two of their sons were in Ward's Battery (Confederate States army), and both served through the war, spending a great part of the time at Mobile.

Mr. Martin was married, in 1849, to Miss Nannie Leeman, of Madison county, and they have seven children living, of whom two are merchants,

one is railroad agent at Madison, and once a farmer in Limestone county. Mr. Martin is a member of the Methodist church and a F. & A. M.

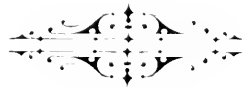


**G. W. and J. A. WISE**, merchants, Madison, Ala., sons of Samuel and Sarah A. (Line) Wise, who came with them from Virginia to this place in the fall of 1872. The senior Wise died on his farm near Madison, in 1876. He reared seven sons to manhood, and two of them, John M. and William, served through the late war in the 1st Virginia Cavalry, under Fitz Hugh Lee. They now reside in Kansas. Of the others, Samuel is in Iowa, Henry A. in Virginia, David L. died in 1862. The only daughter is in Virginia.

G. W. Wise was born in Virginia, Nov. 20, 1854, there grew to manhood, and followed farming a number of years. In 1882 he began the life of a merchant at Madison, in the firm of Wise, Hertzler & Co. In January, 1887, that firm was dissolved, and the present one of G. W. & J. A. Wise was organized. They deal in general merchandise and trade in cotton. Wise Bros. & Harper is a firm including G. W. and J. A. Wise and B. F. Harper, who is a clerk in the store of the Wise Bros.

G. W. Wise is a steward in the Methodist Episcopal church.

J. A. Wise was born in Virginia, on the 2d day of August, 1860, and was married, Feb. 28, 1884, to Miss Lucy Harris, of this State. Her father, Thomas Harris, received a wound at the battle of Manassas, from which he afterwards died. Dr. A. S. Harris, of Madison, her grandfather, was a Virginian. J. A. Wise has two living children.



### III.

## MORGAN COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,000; colored, 4,500. Area, 700 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measures of sand mountains and sandy land of Little Mountain, 415; valley lands, red lands, coves and stoops, 570.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 18,828; in corn, 35,610; in oats, 4,704; in wheat, 7,005; in rye, 135; in tobacco, 52; sweet potatoes, 365. Approximate number of bales of cotton in round numbers, 6,500.

County Seat—Somerville: Population, 1,000. Postoffices of the County—Apple Grove, Bashams Gap, Blue Springs, Cedar Plains, Cotaco, Crowton, Danville, Decatur, Falkville, Flint, Fort Bluff, Gandys Cove, Hartselle, Hulaco, Laey's Springs, Lawrence Cove, Leesdale, Priceville, Slipup, *Somerville*, Stringer, Trinity Station, Whisenaut, Winter, Woodland Mills.

The county of Morgan was established in the year 1818, and named for General Daniel Morgan, of Pennsylvania. It lies directly south of the Tennessee river, and is one of the most important counties in north Alabama.

Proceeding southward from the Tennessee river, which forms the northern boundary of Morgan county, there are met four terrace-like plains, each with characteristics peculiar to itself. The first of these would be the bottoms, which lie in close proximity to the Tennessee river. The soils here are porous and productive, but liable to overflow. For this reason they are planted almost altogether in corn. Occasionally, however, where the soil is not so much exposed to overflow, there is cotton planted.

Then comes the land of the valley of the Tennessee proper. This is elevated above the bottoms about seventy-five or one hundred feet, and possesses the red or brown soils, which mark the great valley from limit to limit. Because of the generous soil possessed by this valley, the lands are almost wholly cleared. The valley in this county varies very greatly. In some parts it is but a mile or two wide, while in others it is fully eight,

Ascending to the next natural formation one is from seventy-five to one hundred feet above the valley, and is upon the summit of a range known as Little Mountain. The lands along this broad, natural shelf are not so fertile as those in the valley for purposes of farming, but are superior in pasturage qualities. Grasses in the greatest variety and luxuriance grow along this lofty plateau. Here we find the stock-producing section of the county. Of course from this it will not be understood that the soils of this section are incapable of producing only grasses. In this portion of Morgan are found many thrifty farms, surrounded by all the comforts of life. It is more distinctively adapted, however, to stock-raising than to agriculture.

From this elevated plain, which commands the view of the Tennessee Valley, and going southward there is a perceptible descent to the foot of Sand Mountain. This is the fourth distinct division of the county. The width of this terrace varies from one to twelve miles. Along this we find a great variety of soil, the fertility or thinness of which is indicated by its peculiar hue. In some portions the lands are black, while in others they are red and gray. That part of the county which is now being described is a portion of the great Warrior coalfield. Thus it will be seen that Morgan possesses, to a greater or less degree, all the advantages, agriculturally and otherwise, which are possessed by the surrounding counties of the great Tennessee Valley. All the grains are produced here that are produced elsewhere in this North Alabama region. And the hardy fruits, such as apples, peaches, pears and the various berries are grown abundantly, and are usually of superior quality. The water supply of the county is superior. The Tennessee river forms the whole of the northern boundary of the county, while Flint creek, and its two forks, Cotaco, No Business, Cedar, Shoal, Six Mile, Crowabout, Gandy's fork, penetrate every portion of it, and not only supply it with water, but contribute greatly to the enrich-

ment of the soils. The county is also well watered with superior springs. In the northeastern portion are the Valhermoso and Lacy springs, which enjoy a local reputation. The different streams afford excellent fish.

There is an abundance of wood for all purposes in the county. Vast districts of the county have scarcely been touched by the woodman's axe. Principal among the timbers which throng the forests are the post oak, white oak, red oak, black-jack, hickory, poplar, walnut, maple, sourwood, cherry, cedar and short-leaf pine. There are large milling interests which are engaged in the conversion of much of this timber into lumber for home consumption and for shipment to distant markets.

Facilities for transportation are found in the Tennessee river, which forms the northern boundary line of the county; the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which runs entirely through, and the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which penetrates the northern end of the county and crosses the Louisville & Nashville system at Decatur. Other railway lines are in contemplation, which are expected to pierce other portions of the county, and thus greatly enlarge facilities for the shipment of products; but sufficient outlet for transportation is already afforded in the lines which now penetrate the county. Unusual advantages for the shipment of produce is afforded the inhabitants of Morgan, as the competing lines of railway cross at Decatur, and there also cross the Tennessee river, the navigation of which will soon be open in both directions.

The county is being rapidly peopled and correspondingly developed. Minerals exist in different parts of the county. These are chiefly coal and limestone, though there is the evident presence of gold, and the indications are that it is in large quantities. Asphalt also exists, being the first trace of it discovered in America. Oil and natural gas has also recently been found at Hartselle. Direct effort has been made to develop these mineral resources, and the investigations have been satisfactory beyond the expectations of the most sanguine.

The moral tone of the population of the county is healthy, and excellent school and church facilities abound in towns and country alike. The schools at Mountain Home, near Trinity, at Hartselle and at Decatur are regarded the equal of any institutions in this portion of the State.

Of the towns, Somerville is an interior village, with a population of several hundred, and and it is the seat of justice of the county. Decatur, with a population of 4,000, is the point of greatest interest in the county, and is a place of growing business importance.\*

Trinity, Hartselle, Leesburg, Danville and Valhermoso Springs are points of chief importance, and possess valuable educational interests.

Lands in this county may be purchased at prices ranging from \$5 to \$40 per acre.

Considering the competing lines which cross each other in the county, its superior soil, its climate and medicinal waters, together with its numerous social advantages, Morgan county is the peer of any other in the great cereal belt. The people regard with favor and encouragement the settlement of men of studious, industrious and frugal habits in their midst.

The county embraces within its limits government land to the extent of 35,280 acres.



**EDWARD J. ODEN**, editor *Hartselle Index*, was born in Morgan county, Ala., in 1840, and grew to manhood and received his education there. He responded to the first call to arms in the recent civil strife, and became a member of Company E, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, of which company he was made captain in regular order of promotion from the ranks. He was with Forrest in his campaigns in Alabama, the Valley of the Tennessee, and Georgia; in the pursuit and capture of General Streight, when, by their pluck and well-devised stratagem, Forrest succeeded in capturing a Federal force of more than five times the number of his own. The audacity of Forrest's scheme, and the chagrin of the prisoners when, too late, they discovered the ruse, will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it.

Captain Oden was in battle at Decatur, Ala., Athens, Sulphur Trestle, Tenn., Pulaski, Tenn., Corinth, Tupelo, Miss., and many others.

He was with Johnson's army at Dalton, Ga., and in the running fight from Dalton to Atlanta. From the battle of Peach Tree creek he returned to the Valley of the Tennessee, and saw his last fight at Selma, Ala., where his regiment, and in fact, nearly the whole army, were captured, but Captain Oden, accompanied by General Forrest and about one hundred others, cut their way out

\* See history of Decatur, this volume.

through the lines and escaped. They proceeded soon afterwards to Wheeler's Station, near Decatur, and surrendered in May, 1865. After the war Captain Oden farmed in Franklin county, Ala., and taught school one year. Since 1868 he has had an interest in a store at Falkville, and another at Coal Hill, Ark. He has been county superintendent of education for ten years consecutively. In 1884 he became interested in a bank in Decatur, in connection with C. C. Harris and W. W. Littlejohn, and is now a director in the First National Bank, of Decatur, into which the Bank of Decatur was merged.

In 1886, Captain Oden bought a half interest in the Hartselle *Index* from E. H. Rolfe, with whom his brother, A. A. Oden, had previously been associated, and since that time has edited that paper. He was married, in 1862, to Miss Carrie E. Sherrill. They have two sons, Arthur L. and Walter L. The Captain is a member of the Christian church, a Free Mason, Knight of Pythias and Knight of Honor.

Edward J. Oden is a son of Elias Oden, and grandson of Hezekiah Oden, of East Tennessee, who was a soldier of the Revolutionary War; brought his family to Alabama in 1819, and died in 1848.

Elias Oden was born in 1812, spent his life in agricultural pursuits, was a Baptist, and made his religion the prominent feature of his life. He was married, in 1834, to Miss Mary E. Stringer, of Kentucky, and raised three sons and five daughters.

The oldest, W. H. Oden, is a merchant of Bangor. The third son, A. A. Oden is agent of L. & N. R. R., at Hartselle, and has held that position ever since it was opened. He is also editor and proprietor of the Hartselle *Index*, the oldest paper in the county except the Decatur *News*.



**ALBERT G. MCGREGOR**, President of Hartselle College, is a son of William and Elizabeth (Carpenter) McGregor, and was born in Lawrence County, Ala., March 1, 1835. He was educated primarily in Lawrence County and subsequently at La Grange, that once beautiful college and location on the spur of a mountain in Colbert County, this State. This was a very prosperous and popular institution of learning in antebellum times, but was burned during the war by the ruthless invader, because, forsooth, many of Ala-

bama's sons had received their military training there. It has never been rebuilt. At this college Albert McGregor graduated in the classical course in 1854, and was elected to the chair of mathematics of his Alma Mater in the following year. This institution was subsequently known as La Grange Military Academy, having received the patronage of the State, which authorized each county to keep two cadets in attendance at her expense. Professor McGregor taught at La Grange until he joined the Confederate Army in 1861. He became Quartermaster in Col. Jeff. Forrest's regiment, and served with Gen. P. D. Roddy and General Forrest most of the time in North Alabama, North Mississippi and West Tennessee. After returning from the war, Professor McGregor raised cotton for four years, then at the request of friends, returned to La Grange, where he taught school in a church building for about six years. He then took charge of the academy at Tusculum for one year, but on account of poor health, was compelled to quit teaching and return to the farm. In February, 1885, he took charge of the college of Hartselle, and is still there. Professor McGregor was married December 23, 1858, to Miss Celia King, daughter of Robert King, an extensive planter, of Lawrence County, and they have seven children. He and his family are Methodists. He is a member of the Masonic Order, and has been an educator all his life.

William Carpenter, Professor McGregor's maternal grandfather, served in the War of 1812.

The McGregors are, as the name would indicate, of Scotch blood, but came from North Carolina to Alabama and became farmers in Lawrence County. Professor McGregor had one brother killed and one wounded at the battle of Franklin.

The "Union Male and Female College," of Hartselle, Ala., was founded March 3, 1883, by Rev. Thomas Morrow, the object being to establish a school of high grade at this place, at which the students might attend and complete a thorough collegiate course. The building comprises five recitation rooms, and the schools employ four teachers. The school teaches all that is included in a thorough academic course, but as a college, is as yet, somewhat embryotic. It has hopes for development and better days. It is under religious influences, but is in no sense denominational. It is attended by about fifty pupils at the present time. It has a musical department and teaches both vocal and instrumental music.



**DABNEY A. BURLESON**, Hartselle, Ala., was born near Decatur, February 15, 1835, and reared in this county. He was educated at Union University, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and at Baylor University, Independence, Tex. He began his business life as a merchant at Danville, Ala., and went into the Confederate Army in 1861 as a member of Col. Joe Patterson's Regiment. He was for some time at Grenada, Miss., in the Quartermaster's department, but served mostly in the Tennessee valley under General P. Roddy. He was once captured but escaped after a few hours, and was at Selma at the time of the surrender. He is a farmer and has been successful.

He was married February 11, 1857, to Miss Sallie, daughter of Jonathan Orr, and of one of the most prominent families in this county. They have five living children, viz.: Jonathan, Kitty, Betty, Florence and Ellen Byrd.

Mr. Burleson is a Baptist, and an Odd Fellow. He takes a great interest in any enterprise which tends to help or develop the agricultural interests of the country.

D. A. Burleson is a son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Byrd) Burleson. His grandfather, John Burleson, was a pioneer from North Carolina, and settled at the Spring at Huntsville in 1817, and helped expel the Indians from the country. He died in Lawrence County, this State. His brother Joe was a captain in the Indian wars. Jonathan Burleson was a native of Kentucky. He was in many fights with the Indians, in company with his uncle Joe, and fought in the War of 1812. He came to Alabama in 1818, and settled nine miles south of Decatur, where he remained until his death, in 1867. He was a county commissioner, justice of the peace, a wealthy planter, and a man of much local influence. He was twice married and had fourteen children, of whom twelve lived to maturity.

It is related that before 1820 a gang of horse thieves infested this part of the country and committed many depredations. A body of citizens who desired to be rid of them met in convention in a cave in this county and passed resolutions which partook of the nature of laws: that convention has been called "the first legislature." They chose Joe Burleson for their president, and Jonathan Burleson for secretary. "They quickly cleaned out the horse thieves."

Jonathan Burleson's first marriage was to Elizabeth Byrd, daughter of William Byrd, a Baptist

preacher. She bore him thirteen children. The second was to Ann Humphreys, widow of Dr. Humphreys, of Souverville. Her maiden name was Roby, and she bore him one child. The eldest of this family, Aaron A. Burleson, was the first white child born in Morgan county; he was a physician in Decatur for many years, and is now in Arkansas. Rufus C. Burleson is the most prominent member of the family. He is a Baptist preacher, a famous educator, and is now president of the Waco University, Waco, Tex. He entered the ministry when but eighteen years of age, and has led a life of ceaseless activity in Texas for a third of a century. It is recorded in history that Rufus C. Burleson has done more for the cause of education than any other man in Texas, and he has been called the "Nestor of Texas preachers and teachers." He was a pioneer of that country in his profession, and he has educated thousands who have gone forth to success in all the learned professions. He is proficient in ancient languages and lore; is eloquent in the pulpit; kind and industrious in the class, and much beloved at home.



**WILLIAM H. SIMPSON**, attorney-at-law, Hartselle, Ala., was born at Danville, this State, July 15, 1857, and attended school there until he went to college at Tuscaloosa, where he was graduated in the law department of the State University in 1879. Prior to his entering college he read law four months at Tusculumbia under Governor Lindsey, was admitted to the bar in October, 1879, and licensed to practice in the Supreme Court of the State in February, 1886. He was elected to the Legislature on the Democratic ticket in 1886.

Mr. Simpson seems to have things very much his own way in Hartselle, being the only lawyer there, and his practice, which is mostly in common law and equity, gives him about as much work as he can do. He was married March 26, 1882, to Miss Mary Daniel Johnson, a daughter of Daniel Johnson, who was killed in the battle of Shiloh when Mary was an infant, and she was given his full name in honor of his memory.

Stephen and Malinda (Stovall) Simpson, our subject's parents, were residents of Danville, where Stephen Simpson was a merchant for more than thirty years. He was postmaster at various times, before, during and since the war. He accumulated

a fortune, but lost heavily by the war and by the credit system. He was a Baptist and a Mason.

He died at Danville in June, 1884. Malinda Stovall (William's mother) was a daughter of Drew Stovall, one of the pioneers who helped expel the Indians from the country. He accumulated a large fortune in land and slaves, and died just before the late war.

Moses Simpson (William's grandfather) and his sons, James and Thomas, came down the Tennessee river on a flat boat, from the Sequatchie Valley, Tenn., in 1823, and made a corn crop where Decatur is now located. In the fall of that year, he brought his family there, and afterwards

entered land near Danville and there located permanently.

He raised a family of eight sons and four daughters: James, Thomas, Abington, William, George, Reuben, Stephen, Moses, Matilda, Polly, Betsy, and Emily.

Stephen reared four sons and one daughter. They are Walter T., now of Texas; Wm. H., our subject; Claud, who died in 1883, and Edgar, now near Selma. Orrie, the daughter, married W. V. Echols, a merchant of Hartselle.

William H. Simpson is a popular and prosperous young man, and received the largest vote for the Legislature that was ever cast in his county for one man.



#### IV.

### LAWRENCE COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,650; colored, 8,400. Area, 790 square miles. Woodland, all. Red Valley lands, 260 square miles. Calcareous slopes, 220 square miles. Mountain lands, 150. Coal measures, 160.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 42,800; in corn, 54,600; in oats, 5,700; in wheat, 6,000; in rye, 125; in tobacco, 100; in sweet potatoes, 400. Approximate number of bales of cotton in round numbers, 14,000.

County Seat—Moulton: Population, 800; located fifteen miles south of Memphis & Charleston Railroad.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Advertiser* (Democrat).

Postoffices in the County—Avoca, Brick, Camp Springs, Concord, Courtland, Gum Pond, Hatton, Hillsborough, Jesson, Kinlock, *Moulton*, Mount Hope, Oakville, Ora, Pitt, Pool, Progress, Spangler, Town Creek, Wheeler Station.

Lawrence was established by the first Territorial Legislature, Feb. 4, 1818. It was formed out of the Cherokee and Chickasaw, cessions of 1816, and still retains its original dimensions. \*It lies in the

northwest quarter of the State, contiguous to Landerdale and Limestone on the north, Morgan on the east, Winston on the south, Franklin and Colbert on the west. It was named for Capt. James Lawrence, of the United States Navy. His last order was: "Fight her till she sinks."

The county is penetrated from east to west by two extensive valleys, known as Courtland and Moulton Valleys, the former of these being in the northern and the latter being in the southern portion of the county, while the center is occupied by a detached mountain known as Little Mountain.

The Little Mountain region, which occupies the central portion of the county, has a light sandy soil, which in point of fertility falls far behind those of the two valleys. But no portion of the county is more inviting than this as a place of residence. Elevated three or four hundred feet above the valleys, supplied with a profusion of freestone and chalybeate springs, with a soft, healthful atmosphere, with extensive reaches of grazing lands for herds, this section is most inviting to many who come to Lawrence County in search of homes. A small colony of Quakers has recently located in this

region, midway between the towns of Courtland and Moulton,

The county is traversed by numerous streams, large and small, which afford abundant supplies of water to every portion. The northern boundary of the county is formed by the Tennessee River, and more than half this boundary is occupied by the Great Mussel Shoals, which are not navigable. The upper boundary, however, is on the open portion of the Tennessee River, which will soon be opened to the largest packets. In other portions of the county are Town and Nance Creeks, a fork of Flint River and Sipsey Fork. Springs of great coolness and of increasing flow issue from the hilly portions of the county.

Timber is not in sufficient quantities for commercial purposes. In the past the Little Mountain region furnished great quantities to the two valleys between which it is situated; but the forests have been sufficiently depleted to create care and protection against future depletions. For home consumption there is still a sufficiency of pine, white oak and poplar. The islands in the Tennessee are densely wooded with poplar, white oak, ash, red gum and black oak; but this timber is inaccessible to a great degree, and will remain so until the canal shall have been opened around the Mussel Shoals.

The mineral resources of the county, as far as discovered, are limited. A few thin seams of coal are found on the high escarpments of the mountains, but it is not in sufficient quantities for practical purposes. Almost every kind of fruit seems to do well in Lawrence County. The productions have been the most satisfactory. Grape culture has received more attention than any other.

The facilities for transportation will be restricted to the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which runs through the Courtland Valley, east and west, until the Tennessee River shall have been opened by the completion of the Mussel Shoals Canal.

The chief towns of the county are Moulton, the county-seat, Courtland and Leighton.

Good common schools exist in every section of the county, and a female academy of high grade in the town of Moulton.

In almost every region of the county are the evidences of thrift and progress. Along the high, healthful ridges are found many handsome homes, adorned with flower gardens and surrounded with spacious orchards.

In some regions of the county, where coves are formed, there are oftentimes found scenes of great wildness and beauty.

The prices of land vary in the county, and are controlled by the fertility of the soil and the location of the land. Lands vary in prices from \$5 to \$50.

Thrifty, wide-awake, progressive immigrants will be greeted by the good people of Lawrence County. Farmers, fruit-growers, and stock-raisers could not find a more inviting section. The county embodies 67,200 acres of land belonging to the government, some of which is subject to entry.



**JOSEPH WHEELER** of Lawrence County, present member of Congress from the Eighth Alabama district, and distinguished in the history of the country as the greatest cavalry commander of the Southern Confederacy, was born at Augusta, Ga., Sept. 10, 1836, and graduated from West Point as brevet second lieutenant of dragoons, class of 1859. His first assignment to duty was at the Cavalry School for Practice at Carlisle, Pa. From here he was transferred to New Mexico, where he was commissioned second lieutenant. About this time he began to study in earnest the science of war. His greatest ambition was to become a gallant cavalry commander, and his success in the prosecution and accomplishment of this desire must be read in the authenticated annals of the bloodiest war of which history gives an account. For four long years his brilliant achievements crowded upon the heels of each other like the revolving views of a panorama, and while many a chieftain whose heroic valor canonized him in the hearts of a glorious people, drank oft of the bitter cup of defeat, when the penant of Wheeler was lowered and the hilt of his sabre was turned, it was when resistance was no longer war; it was when the notes of the bugle summoned the cavalier no more to the charge, but in tones, saddened indeed, though sounding a pean to peace, signaled him from the field of carnage and of strife; it was when the curtain had fallen upon the last act of the terrible tragedy; it was when the Civil War was ended!

As has been seen, Wheeler was in New Mexico at the outbreak of the war between the States, and the following letter written by him to his brother, Capt. William H. Wheeler, of Georgia, early in

1861, gives something of an insight of the spirit that actuated many a brave man, and contradicts the oft-repeated charges of disloyalty and treason at heart, to the Union: "Much as I love the Union, much as I am attached to my profession, all will be given up when my State, by its action, shows that such a course is necessary and proper. If Georgia withdraws and becomes a separate State, I can not, with propriety, and justice to my people, hesitate in resigning my commission."

Lieutenant Wheeler's resignation was dated at Fort Fillmore, February 21, 1861, and he reached Augusta in person early in the following March. He was at once commissioned first lieutenant of artillery in the regular army and stationed at Pensacola, Fla., where he busied himself erecting batteries and fortifications, drilling regiments, instructing companies in artillery practice and various other duties. While there he attracted the attention of the Hon. James L. Pugh and other gentlemen, who, without his knowledge, indited the following to Mr. Davis: "We feel it our duty to call your attention to a young officer at this place, Lieutenant Wheeler of the regular army. Our observation of him convinces us that he would be of great value as the commander of volunteer soldiers. His qualifications are unquestioned." Similar recommendations were forwarded by Gen. Bragg and others, and early in the summer of 1861, Wheeler was promoted to the rank of colonel and assigned to the command of the Nineteenth Alabama Infantry. At the head of this regiment he won his first distinction at Shiloh. Division Commander Withers, in his report of that engagement, says: " \* \* \* Colonel Wheeler, throughout the fight, proved himself worthy of all trust and confidence—a gallant commander and an accomplished soldier." Col. Wheeler was immediately promoted to brigadier-general, and from that hour, his star, which had never waned, was, to the close of the conflict, particularly in the ascendancy.

How he fought the enemy at Farmington and checked his advance upon Corinth; covered the retreat of Beauregard from the latter place, and deceived federal General Pope; took charge of the idle, neglected and almost decimated cavalry of the Army of the Mississippi; organized it, thrust it inside of the well-established lines of the enemy, destroyed his communications, whipped his cavalry, captured his trains, burned his cotton, and sped back to cover of safety without the loss

of a man, are all given in detail by the historians of the war, and commented upon as opening the eyes of army commanders to the hitherto unthought of possibilities in cavalry service. There is no doubt but what Wheeler's tactics, as practiced by himself, revolutionized cavalry warfare and developed it into the important branch of service it soon became and will forever remain.

On the march of the Southern army into Kentucky, Wheeler's cavalry struck many a well-aimed blow at the flanks of the retreating enemy; at Mumfordsville he won the admiration and compliments of the Northern army "for gallantry and brilliancy in action," and at Perryville he was the exposure of both armies, as he held the enemy in check, or charged him again and again at the head of his brigade, finally putting him to rout. Upon retiring from Kentucky, General Bragg appointed Wheeler chief of cavalry, and as such he covered that retreat into Tennessee. We next see him harassing the enemy about Nashville, making life a burden to Rosecrans' foragers, and fighting, in quick succession, twenty-eight distinct battles and as many skirmishes—historic events that flashed with the rapidity and changes of the kaleidoscope before the eyes of the world.

Pages upon pages have been written and might be repeated by us to tell only a partial history of Wheeler's command. In our mind's eye we follow his phantom-like movements about Stone River, where for five days he slept not to exceed so many hours; where, at the head of his gallant followers, he dashed into the enemy's rear, his right, his left, his center—here, there, everywhere, borne with the speed of the wind from point to point during the memorable conflict, encircling Rosecrans' entire army, charging him in detachments, plunging into his battle lines, stampeding his wagon trains, destroying his stores, terrifying his guards, capturing his prisoners, firing depots—round and round he glides with the charm of a wizard, till summoned again to cover the retreat of the army.

And of such was the life of Wheeler, from the beginning of the war to its close; never idle, always on the alert, he was by far the most distinguished cavalry commander developed by the American conflict. In the spring of 1865 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general of cavalry, and as such retired from the profession of war to that of peace.

Less than twenty-nine years of age, he had, by acknowledged merit, risen from the rank of a sub-

ordinate to that of eminent command. Though small in stature, it was with giant strides he rose to exalted position. Under him, from time to time, fought many men whose distinguished achievements added bright luster to the renown of American soldiery. Nor did he ever forget them. Their names, many now recorded upon marble and ashlar that mark the sodded mound beneath which they finally rest, are engraven upon the entablature of his heart, and, as in retrospect, he calls up in long review the heroes of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Knoxville, Ringgold, Rocky Face, Dalton, Resaca, Cassville, New Hope, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Decatur, Atlanta, Savannah, Ayersboro, Bentonville, and literally the thousand and one other conflicts of arms through which they followed him, it is with the emotion of a generous acknowledgment of deeds performed that redounded so much to his own glory.

With his sad farewell to his soldiers, we close this brief sketch of General Wheeler's military career, leaving to others the pleasant duty of adorning the literature of war by giving it in full:

“HEADQUARTERS CAVALRY CORPS, I  
“April 29, 1865. A

“GALLANT COMRADES:—You have fought your fight; your task is done. During a four years' struggle for liberty, you have exhibited courage, fortitude, and devotion; you are the sole victors of more than two hundred severely contested fields; you have participated in more than a thousand conflicts of arms; you are heroes, veterans, patriots; the bones of your comrades mark battle-fields upon the soil of Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi; you have done all that human exertion could accomplish. In bidding you adieu, I desire to tender my thanks for your gallantry in battle, your fortitude under suffering, and your devotion at all times to the holy cause you have done so much to maintain. I desire also to express my gratitude for the kind feeling you have seen fit to extend toward myself, and to invoke upon you the blessings of our Heavenly Father, to whom we must always look for support in the hour of distress.

“Brethren in the cause of freedom, comrades in arms, I bid you farewell!

“J. WHEELER.”

Leaving the army, General Wheeler spent three

years in New Orleans in the commission business, and in 1869 located upon his plantation at what is now known as Wheeler's Station, and turned his attention to agriculture and the practice of law. In 1880, he was elected to Congress from the Eighth District, was re-elected in 1881, and again in 1886.

His election in 1880 was contested by Mr. Lowe, and Wheeler was unseated in June, 1882. In Congress, as in the army he has exhibited the same active, energetic, intrepid and fearless character, and it is safe to say that no member of that body has performed more labor and with better results than he.

General Wheeler was married at Wheeler's Station, February 8, 1866, to Miss Ella Jones, the accomplished daughter of the late Richard Jones, one of the pioneers of Lawrence County, a native Virginian and an extensive planter, and has had born to him two sons and four daughters.



**JAMES E. SAUNDERS**, a distinguished citizen of Lawrence County, was born in Brunswick County, Va., May 7, 1806, and was two years of age when his parents migrated to Williamson County, Tenn. He was educated under private instructors and at the University of Georgia. Immediately after graduating, he began the study of law, in the office of Foster & Fogg, Nashville, Tenn., and entered the practice during the twenty-first year of his age.

In 1826 he located at Moulton, this county, where his superior qualifications as a lawyer were at once recognized. Three years later, he removed to Courtland, and entered into partnership with John J. Ormand. This arrangement continued until the elevation of Judge Ormand to the supreme bench of the State.

In 1840, Mr. Saunders was elected to the Legislature, and was assigned to the chairmanship of the judiciary committee.

From Mr. Garrett's "Public Men of Alabama" we quote the following as *appropos*:

“In the first discussion which arose, relative to the election of United States Senator, the rank assigned him (Saunders), by general consent, was that of leader on the Democratic side. He was calm as a May morning, never permitting the exciting scenes around him to ruffle the perfect equanimity of his temper. His thoughts appeared so well arranged, and his facts so connected, that

he seemed only to make a statement in order to carry a point by the force of deduction. He bore himself with so much ease and yet with such force in debate, that, while he astonished all by the strength of his logic, it seemed that he held himself back, and never darted his heaviest bolts. Congress would have been a more suitable arena for the exhibition of his true character and eminent abilities. The laurels he gained never withered, but each successive performance added lustre to his victories."

Mr. Saunders was for many years a Trustee of the University, and contributed to that change of administration which took place in 1837, when the Rev. Alva Woods retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by the Rev. Basil Manly. In 1843, he changed his residence to Mobile, where he carried on a commission business. In 1845, Mr. Polk appointed him Collector of the Port of Mobile, which office he held for four years. In 1852 he served on the Electoral Ticket which cast the vote of Alabama for Pierce and King. He possessed a large fortune, having married Mary F., daughter of Maj. Robert H. Watkins, formerly of Georgia. Mr. Saunders dispensed a liberal hospitality, and gave freely of his wealth to charitable objects and the support of the ministry. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and has faithfully performed the duties imposed by that relation. He has acted well his part as a Christian philosopher, and is

now enjoying that retirement and universal respect so well merited by his spotless character.

Colonel Saunders opposed secession, and was president of the Douglas Convention, held at Montgomery in 1860; but when Alabama withdrew from the Federal Union, he recognized the State's first and greatest claim upon his allegiance, and at once threw himself actively into her defense. He was connected with the army from the beginning to the close, and rendered the cause much valuable and highly appreciated service. He is honorably mentioned many times in "The Life of Albert Sidney Johnston," the "Campaigns of Lieut.-Gen. Forrest," and other popular works.

After the war, Colonel Saunders resumed his favorite pursuit, agriculture, and is now living a life of comfortable, not to say elegant, retirement at his magnificent country seat, near the little town of Courtland. Here, in his ripe old age, he continues to dispense Southern hospitality in keeping with the time-honored customs of a glorious people.

He was married, July 14, 1824, to Mary Francis Watkins, the handsome and accomplished daughter of Maj. Robt. A. Watkins, of this county, and formerly of Virginia. The children born to this happy union, and that grew to adult age, are named as follows: Robert T., Elizabeth Dunn, deceased, Mary Louise, deceased, Dudley Dunn, Sarah Jane, Prndent, deceased, Lawrence Watkins, deceased, and Ellen Virginia.



## LIMESTONE COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,000; colored, 9,340. Area, 590 square miles. Woodland, all. Red Valley lands, 175 square miles. Barrens, 415 square miles.

Ceres—In cotton, approximately, 45,000; in corn, 47,000; in oats, 4,200; in wheat, 7,900; in rye, 250; in tobacco, 125; in sweet potatoes, 450. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 17,000.

County Seat—Athens: Population, 4,300; located on Nashville & Decatur branch of Louisville & Nashville Railroad, 107 miles south of Nashville, and 195 north of Montgomery.

Newspapers published at County seat—*Alabama Courier and Democrat*, both Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—*Athens*, Belle Mina, Carriger, Center Hill, Elkmont, Elk River Mills, Estaville, Gilbertsborough, Good Springs, Greenbrier, Hyde Park, Mooresville, Mount Roszell, O'Neal, Peltey, Pettusville, Quid Nunc, Rowland, Sand Springs, Swaneott, Veto, Westmoreland, Woolley Springs.

Limestone was created out of the lands purchased from the Chickasaws and Cherokees, by an act of the Territorial Legislature, passed February 6, 1818.

This county lies directly north of the Tennessee River. It is one of the first counties formed in the State.

Limestone has all the varieties of soil which belong to the Tennessee Valley.

The southern portion of the county exceeds in fertility that of the northern. The southern has a more uniform surface and is capitally adapted to the growth of all the cereals. The lands in this section are almost entirely cleared and are in a fine state of cultivation. The bottom lands which skirt the numerous streams are exceedingly fertile. Notwithstanding Limestone has long been recognized as one of the chief cereal counties of the State, and still is, the farmers are turning their attention more every year to the growth of grasses and breeding of thoroughbred horses and blooded

cattle, hogs and sheep. This change has proven to be the best thing our farmers have ever undertaken.

The grasses usually grown for stock are produced here in the greatest perfection, and the most sanguine expectations of stock-raisers have been realized. The finest pasture lands can be had here, the value of which is greatly enhanced by the multitude of streams which penetrate every part of the county. Great encouragement has been given stock-raisers, year by year, to improve the character of their breeds.

Except upon the lowlands and near the rivers, the county is wonderfully healthy, and along the ridges adjoining these basins excellent places of residence can be had. Formerly these ridges were dwelling places of the wealthiest farmers in the county, while they cultivated the land in the bottoms. Along these knolls, as almost in every part of the county, fine water is found, together with a salubrious climate.

In many parts of the county are forests of timber in which are found hickory, poplar, chestnut, red and white oak, beech, maple, red and white gum, ash, walnut and cherry.

Along the southern border of the county runs the Tennessee river, several of the large tributaries of which penetrate the territory of Limestone. Elk river flows through the northwest, and at certain seasons is navigable for light crafts. This stream will be of vast local advantage when the obstructions are removed from the Tennessee. Big Poplar, Round Island, Swan, Piney, Limestone, and Beaver Dam creeks streak the county in every section with waters of perpetual flow. These are reinforced by many large springs in the mountain and hill regions. Mineral springs also exist and are said to be equal to any in the State. The streams abound in remarkably fine fish, vast quantities of which are caught every year.

No great public industries have as yet been established, but a number are in contemplation at

Athens, on the Louisville & Nashville railroad. Energy, skill and capital are needed to make Limestone what it is by nature fitted to become—a great manufacturing as well as an agricultural region.

As yet but little attention has been given the mineral products of Limestone. Valuable specimens of lead have been discovered in the Elk River hills. In some portions of the county there have been discovered out-croppings of iron ore, as well as fine specimens of coal. Slate has been found to exist in vast quantities, though it has failed thus far to attract public attention. Silver ore has also been discovered, but it is not known to what extent it exists.

The county is highly favored in its facilities for transportation. It is divided in twain from north to south by the great Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which brings it into easy and rapid communication with New Orleans on the south and the great cities of the West on the north.

Fruits grown along these valleys find a ready market in the cities of the Northwest, into commercial relations with which this section is brought by means of its excellent railroad facilities.

Along the southern portion of the county runs the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which affords a competing line to the producers of the county.

The social advantages of Limestone are those which belong to the best regulated society of the South. The people are hospitable and are prompted by a most generous disposition. Schools of varying grades exist in different parts of the county. In Athens, the county seat, which has a population of about 1,500, there are several schools of high grade. Churches usually of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist denominations prevail.

The other chief towns are Mooresville and Elkmont. The last named point is a town with promising importance. Lands may be purchased in some sections for 85 per acre; in others they will cost much more, being dependent upon the fertility and location.

**ATHENS.**—Athens, the seat of justice of Limestone county, was first incorporated November 19, 1818, and the courthouse was located here at once. A seminary of learning, for females, was early established.

The corner stone of the Masonic Hall was laid in March, 1826, it being the second brick building in the town.

There are four brick churches, the Baptist being

the first one built and was used by all denominations. The Methodist was the next one, which was built in 1836. The Cumberland Presbyterian Church was built early in 1850; owing to its proximity to the railroad, the congregation has sold it and purchased a lot for a new one. The Episcopal Church has been recently built, and is a very handsome one.

There are two colleges, male and female, the latter an imposing brick structure, with ample and beautiful grounds. Under the supervision of Prof. M. G. Williams it has very rapidly increased in the number of pupils and is now one of the finest schools in the State. The male college is a large and roomy frame building, situated in a beautiful grove at a sufficient distance from the public square to make it quiet. Splendid brick pavements lead to both colleges from any portion of the town.

The earliest records of the town we have been able to find, is April 27, 1824, at which time Samuel Tanner was mayor.

Among the members of the bar the most prominent were Daniel Coleman, Egbert J. Jones, William Richardson, Thomas Hobbe, George S. Houston, Luke Pryor, Elbert English, William H. Walker.

In the medical profession were such distinguished men as T. S. Malone, J. F. Sewell, Joshua P. Coman, Frank Malone, P. Capshaw.



**GEORGE SMITH HOUSTON** was the grandson of John Houston and Mary Ross, who, in 1760 migrated from County Tyrone in the north of Ireland and settled in Newbury District in North Carolina.

David, their fourth son, and the father of George Smith Houston, married Hannah (Pugh) Reagan, whose mother was of Welch extraction, being of the family of Pughs, who were noted for their love for, and promotion of education.

He removed to Virginia, and afterward settled near Franklin in Williamson County, Tenn., where on the 17th of January, 1808, the subject of this sketch was born in 1824 or 1825, the family settled twelve miles west of Florence, in Lauderdale County, Ala., and engaged in agriculture. His father considered manual labor essential to mental and physical perfection, and reared his sons to work. In his boyhood, educational facilities were





*Gen. Hampton*



not as good as now. Though not possessed of the advantages necessary to the thorough and finished scholar, he received an elementary education in an academy in Lauderdale County. Ambitious and fond of books, he daily added to this foundation, by the close study of standard works.

As a boy he was happy-hearted, bright, high-toned, industrious, self-reliant and noted for his devotion to his mother.

He read law under Judge Coalter, in Florence, and completed his studies in the law school at Harrodsburgh, Ky. In 1831 he was admitted to the bar, and in 1832, was sent to the Legislature. He was there twice elected Circuit Solicitor, in which position he made a decided reputation, being considered one of the ablest prosecutors in the State.

He removed to Athens, Limestone County, Ala., and, in 1835, married Mary I. Beaty, the daughter of Robert Beaty. They had eight children, all of whom died before 1860, except David, George S., John P. and Mary E. Houston. David entered the service as captain of a company of the Ninth Alabama regiment. He was afterward a member of General Roddy's command. He died, unmarried, September 7, 1880.

George S. entered the service as a private in Johnson's regiment of General Roddy's command, and was afterward lieutenant of General Roddy's escort. He married Maggie Irvine of Florence, Ala., and now resides on a farm near Mooresville, in Limestone County.

John P. is engaged in the practice of law in Memphis, Tenn. Mary E. resides in Athens, Ala.

In April, 1861, he married Ellen Irvine, of Florence, Ala., a daughter of James Irvine, one of the leading lawyers of the State. They had two children, Emma and Maggie Lou. Emma is now living with her mother at Athens. Maggie Lou died November 24, 1877.

In 1841 George S. Houston was elected to Congress on the general ticket. With the exception of one term, when he declined to make the race, he served in Congress until January 21, 1861. He was recognized as one of the leaders of the House. He took an active part in the debates on important measures. He was a strict constructionist, or a State's rights Democrat, believing all legislation should be left to the States "over subjects where they could as amply and beneficially legislate as Congress."

He was opposed to the tariff system, and held the public land to be a trust for the people, and

not for speculative greed. He was so economical and watchful of the public funds, that he was known in Congress as the "Watch-dog of the Treasury."

His reputation and influence were by no means local. He was particularly influential with Presidents Pierce and Polk. It is stated on good authority that it was the intention of Mr. Tilden to offer him a Cabinet position, had he been declared President in 1876.

Perhaps no member was ever more complimented with committee appointments than he; not only was he placed on the most important committees, but was chairman of Military Affairs, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary, an honor rarely, if ever, accorded to any other member. He was several times chairman of Ways and Means, which is perhaps the most important committee in the House. While a party man, he was not such for selfish motives. He did not study to ride into power on a popular wave. He was fearless in his convictions, and, while keeping party lines, he directed rather than followed it. He was earnestly opposed to secession, and probably made the last Douglas speech ever made in Alabama. While in Congress and when secession seemed almost a certainty, he boldly advocated and became a member of the famous committee of thirty-three to devise means to save the Union; but when Alabama seceded, he drafted and presented to the speaker the formal withdrawal of the Alabama delegation from the Federal Congress. He retired to his home, and, though not in the active service, he repeatedly refused to take the oath of allegiance demanded by the Federal authority, and was thoroughly in sympathy with the Confederacy, and contributed to its support. He was never defeated when before the people, and was regarded one of the ablest stump speakers in the South. He was gifted with a commanding person, a deep, full and clear voice, keen repartee and a flow of humor and logic. Though he lacked the nervous and electric current of eloquence, his efforts were always ponderous and convincing, often grand and eloquent. In 1865 he was elected to the Senate of the United States, but not allowed a seat, because his State was denied representation.

In 1866, he was again offered for the Senate, but was defeated by ex-Governor Winston, the vote being Winston 65 and Houston 61. In 1872, he was again an applicant for the Senate. At this time it was extremely doubtful whether the one

ected would be allowed a seat, the Legislature being divided and in session in two places. After many ballots all the names before the Democratic wing of the Legislature, by agreement of the candidates, were simultaneously withdrawn, and the Hon. F. W. Sykes, who had not been before it, was elected.

In 1874 the Radical party had control of this State. Efforts to dislodge it had been repeatedly made, but were fruitless. After a careful survey of the field, George S. Houston was deemed by far the most available man to make the race against David P. Lewis for Governor.

Some of Houston's more intimate friends urged him not to make the race; they said the success of the party was extremely doubtful; that he had earned sufficient reputation as a statesman, and had served the people long enough to be entitled to a discharge from further service.

At that time the State's indebtedness amounted to about \$32,000,000; the rate of taxation for State purposes was not less than three-fourths of one per cent.; her treasury was empty; her people were impoverished; her obligations were almost worthless, and the State was entirely without credit—so much so, it is said, the funds necessary to hold the constitutional convention of 1875, could not be raised until Governor Houston pledged his honor that the same should be repaid.

To protect the honor and credit of the State, and not confiscate the property of her citizens, seemed a herculean task. He was told it would be impossible; that the people could not and would not pay the indebtedness as it was then; that the creditors would not accept less, but would consider any effort to settle at less than the full amount claimed, repudiation; that it would be impossible to satisfy both the creditors and the taxpayers, and that whoever tried it would find himself politically dead. Though warned that this rock would wreck the vessel laden with the fruits of his earlier years and labor, and at his time of life he could not hope to repair the injury which would be wrought by a failure to satisfactorily handle this perplexing problem, he was not deterred but accepted the nomination which the convention by acclamation tendered him.

The State was thoroughly canvassed and the leading issues discussed and fairly put before the people by the ablest speakers in the party. The Radical majority of ten to fifteen thousand was overcome, and the Democratic ticket elected by a like majority.

As Governor, he advocated a policy which converted the penitentiary, that had previously been a considerable charge to the State, into a source of State revenue. He favored aiding the public schools to the full capacity of the State, but not to the extent of crippling her ability to meet her just obligations.

He urged economy in every department of state, setting the example by saving more than \$10,000 of the \$15,000 set apart for contingent expenses.

While Governor, he was in thorough accord with the Legislature, having confidence in the honesty and ability of the members, and inspiring their confidence. So thoroughly were they in accord, the veto power was not used oftener than four times during one term, if so often.

The most important measure for their consideration was the State debt. In a message to the Legislature, he recommended the appointment of a committee to investigate and make some adjustment of it. The committee was composed of T. B. Bethen, Levi W. Lawless and George S. Houston, who was chairman.

Their management of it is considered one of the grandest achievements of the age; the creditors were fairly dealt with and were satisfied; the State's honor was not tarnished; the taxpayers were protected, and now her bonds are far above par; the interest is paid with perfect regularity; property has greatly enhanced in value; the rate of taxation has been greatly reduced, and taxes are cheerfully paid.

In 1876, and shortly after his re-election as Governor, Geo. S. Houston was balloted for in the caucus for United States Senator. He developed a strong following, but meeting with considerable opposition he determined to withdraw his name, serve another term as Governor, and come before the Legislature at the expiration of his second term.

His successful competitor, the able and generous John T. Morgan, thus spoke of his candidacy: "At the expiration of his first term as Governor, the people were ready to honor him still further by electing him a second time to the Senate of the United States, but they had again chosen him Governor of the State and they would not consent to relieve him of that service until he had completed fully, the wise course of policy inaugurated during his first term."

At the expiration of his second term he was sent to the United States Senate. He served in the





Luke Pryor

extra session of 1879, but did not return to Washington on account of ill health. On the 31st day of December, 1879, he died at his home in Athens.

The Hon. Luke Pryor, his former law partner, bosom friend and successor in the Senate, thus spoke of him: "He was a man free from deformity of mind, body and heart. He was a man impressive and imposing in his personal appearance. His mind was vigorous, analytical, quick of perception, sufficiently inquisitive, detective and discriminative—a mind that came to conclusions slowly but certainly; not because of its dullness, but because of its caution, its prudence, its sense of rectitude, and when reached, never found unjust, prejudiced, biased or partial, and rarely incorrect, standing and withstanding the severest tests.

"Added to this was a judgment sound, well-defined and trustworthy, and which, when once formed, was firm and immovable. He was a man of foresight and judgment profound. He was a safe counselor, sagacious, well-trained, and admirably versed in the principles of wise-statesmanship and public policy; an instructive, judicious and adhesive friend, unselfish, never withholding his views, but promptly and fully disclosing the same to his associates. His industry in search of truth was rarely equalled. He could not be mindfully persuaded, and was beyond seduction to do a wrong.

"As a debater he was sagacious, ponderous and convincing; a man emphatically of argumentation. He had no superiors and few equals when dealing with questions of facts; his powers of separation and condensations of facts and their application were wonderful.

"On questions of law, discriminating clearly and forcibly, with great capacity to present singleness of point. In debate his manner was courteous, becoming, earnest, attractive and respectful, especially toward his adversary, with a marked toleration in respect to those differing with him in views or sentiments.



**LUKE PRYOR**, distinguished lawyer, legislator and citizen, Athens, Ala., was born in Madison County, this State, July 5, 1820, and his parents were Luke and Ann B. (Lane) Pryor, natives of the State of Virginia, and descendants of English ancestry.

The senior Luke Pryor married in his native

State; came to Madison County, Ala., in 1820, and into Limestone County in 1822. He was a planter by occupation; a quiet, unassuming gentleman; a good citizen, and died, mourned by all who knew him, in 1851, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His widow survived him several years, and died at Athens, in 1854. They reared but two sons, John B. Pryor, now resident of New Jersey, and a distinguished turfman, and the subject of this sketch.

It was at the common schools of Limestone County, Luke Pryor acquired the rudiments of an English education which he subsequently augmented at an academy at Washington, Miss. He studied law under Daniel Coleman, at Athens; was admitted to the bar in 1841, and gave to that profession forty years of his life. His first law partner was Robert Brickell, now the distinguished Alabama jurispudent. He was afterward at different times associated with Egbert Jones, General Walker, and lastly, the Hon. George S. Houston.

Since coming to man's estate, Mr. Pryor has been identified prominently with every important interest and industry of his community, and every good work has received his heartiest encouragement and support. As early as 1854, he made himself conspicuous as the friend and advocate of what is now known as the L. & N. R. R., then, we believe, spoken of as the North & South Railroad. It is of history that that enterprise, in its inception, met with much strenuous opposition at the hands of some of the leading men of North Alabama, and particularly of Limestone County. This should not be construed into meaning that those men opposed the construction of the road as such, but they objected to the means proposed, to-wit: that of subsidizing the corporation by taxation to be levied upon the common people. Stock was issued for the involuntary subscription or county taxes to the tax payer. Upon the other hand, Mr. Pryor and other gentlemen associated with him, took the ground that no moneyed company would find it sufficiently to their interest to induce them to invest the large amount required for the construction of such line of road at that early day; for it was known that the product of the country was then insufficient to make it a paying investment, and that it would probably remain so for many years. Therefore, he argued, that as the road was to rebound to the immediate advantage of the people of that section of the

country by giving them an outlet to the world, and access to markets, thus enhancing the value of their property, and increasing the price of the product of the plantation, it was but right that the people, as a whole, should bear a part of the necessary expense. It was upon this question that the people differed; and the history of the North & South Railroad shows that Mr. Pryor and his friends were successful, and that a majority of the people of Limestone were with him to the extent that they voted in aid of the enterprise \$200,000. It then became a question as to whether the legislature would pass a bill for this purpose, and Mr. Pryor and Thomas H. Hobbs were sent to the Legislature particularly in the interest of the enterprise. The bill as introduced and passed, was vetoed by the Governor, but it was immediately passed over his head by the required two-thirds majority, under the leadership of Mr. Pryor.

Mr. Pryor remained with this railroad company, and as its friend and champion, for many years, until, in fact, it became a through line of road from Nashville to the Tennessee River, and thence onward in the direction of Montgomery. As this was one of the most important enterprises of the South, and resulted in so much good to the whole people, it is just that we should say that there were associated with Mr. Pryor, and in its behalf, many other good and true men, and among them may be mentioned specially, Major Thomas H. Hobbs, James Sloss, Geo. S. Houston, — Gilmer, — Belser, et al. These men were, many of them, identified later on with what was known as the "Mountain Contracting Company," organized for the purpose of constructing this road between Decatur and Calera. It is now known that the road was in process of construction at the outbreak of the late war. It is also known that the three per cent. levy due from the State to the trust fund established for the purpose of connecting the Tennessee River and Mobile Bay, was appropriated to the North & South Railroad Company, and undoubtedly hastened the construction of this road, which finally led on to Birmingham and made that city possible. The bill providing for this appropriation was largely the work of Luke Pryor.

In 1880 (January) Governor Cobb appointed Hon. Luke Pryor United States Senator, to fill the unexpired term of the late George S. Houston. This appointment was made not only in consideration of the warm friendship existing between

Messrs. Pryor and Houston during the lifetime of the latter, but was also in response to a demand on the part of people that the great Houston be succeeded by one most familiar with his methods and his purposes, and by the man most fitted in every way to prosecute them to completion. How well Mr. Pryor discharged this great duty is now known to the intelligent reader, and forms a part of the history of the nation.

At the expiration of the term for which he was appointed, Mr. Pryor refused to allow his name to go before the Legislature for re-election. In the fall of 1882 the people of his district, in convention assembled at Decatur, without any knowledge or solicitation on his part, nominated Luke Pryor, by acclamation, as the Democratic candidate for the United States Congress. Mr. Lowe, who was at that time the Greenback Republican candidate, died quite suddenly during the canvass, and the Hon. David D. Shelby was placed in his stead upon that ticket. Though at the preceding election Mr. Lowe had been returned by a handsome majority, Mr. Pryor was elected by over 800. At the end of the term Mr. Pryor again declined further nomination.

Mr. Pryor, now in the sixty-eighth year of his age, the possessor of a sound physical constitution, in the enjoyment of robust health and the exercise of every God-given faculty, promises yet to live many years of usefulness in a community where he has spent a long life, and where he is known and loved by all who can appreciate true worth in a noble citizen. Kindhearted, generous to a fault, never purposely inflicting a wound upon any heart, Luke Pryor, when he shall have been gathered unto his fathers, will leave behind him a name and reputation to be honored by those who knew him, and worthy of emulation by the greatest to succeed him.

Mr. Pryor was married in Limestone County, August 20, 1845, to a daughter of John H. Harris, a native of Virginia, and her given name was Isabella Virginia. To them has been born one son, William Richard Pryor, now an extensive farmer in this county. Their daughters are: Aurora (Mrs. Robert A. McClellan), Memory (widow of the late William S. Peebles), Ann P. (Mrs. Maclin Sloss), Mary (Mrs. Thomas Leslie), Fannie Snow and Hattie.

The family are somewhat divided in their church relations, some of them being Presbyterians and others Methodists.



**JOHN N. MALONE**, Attorney-at-law, Athens, Ala., was born in Sussex County, Va. His parents, George and Sallie (Moyler) Malone, natives of Virginia, and of Irish descent, came to Limestone county in 1823, and here spent the rest of their lives, the old gentleman dying in 1847, at the age of sixty-two years; his wife having preceded him to the other world by about four years. They reared a family of three sons and three daughters, of whom John N., and a sister are the only ones living. One of the sons was a doctor, another a farmer.

The subject of this sketch graduated from La Grange College, Franklin County, Ala., as A. B., in 1839, and subsequently in due course received from the same institution the degree of A. M. He studied law with J. W. McClung, Huntsville; was admitted to the bar in 1841, and practiced law for ten years. Then for the next succeeding ten years, though maintaining his office at Athens, he devoted his time to planting. In 1851, he was elected to the State Senate and was kept there for six consecutive years. After the war, he resumed the practice of law, and farming, and in 1881, was appointed probate judge to fill out an unexpired term of five years, the office having been vacated by the death of John M. Townsend.

Judge Malone was one of the trustees of the Alabama University from 1851 to the outbreak of the war, and has been one of the trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical School of Auburn since its organization in 1854. Thus we find that he has nearly all his life been interested in the cause of education. He was a delegate to the National Convention at Baltimore in 1852, and supported Franklin Pierce and William R. King. He took an active part in the memorable presidential campaign of 1860; supported Stephen A. Douglas for the presidency; was opposed to secession because he feared it would be followed by coercion and war; but after Alabama seceded, he cast his fortunes and fate with her, and was intensely Southern in his sentiments and in full sympathy with the Southern Confederacy.

John N. Malone was married in Lauderdale County in 1844, to Mary Lucy Kernachan, who died in 1848, leaving one son, Robert, now a planter in Limestone County. His second marriage took place in the same county in 1854, to Miss Rebecca Simmons, and to this union have been born two sons and three daughters. The youngest son, Henry, is a farmer; George is a

merchant; two of the daughters are married to merchants in Arkansas, and the third one is at home.

The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal church and Judge Malone is a Mason.



**JOHN J. TURRENTINE**, prominent Attorney-at-law and Deputy District Solicitor, Athens, Ala., was born in Lawrence County, this State, June 10, 1849; and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Stephens) Turrentine, natives of North Carolina and Alabama, respectively.

Mr. Turrentine was educated at Athens; studied law under Judge Walker; admitted to the bar April, 1860, and embarked at once in the practice of his profession. Early in the outbreak of the war between the States, heen listed in H. H. Higgins' Company at Athens, and at Memphis was mustered into the "Walker Fortieth" known afterward and in history as the Fortieth Tennessee Infantry. He served with that regiment up to the time of his capture. After being held about five months as prisoner he was exchanged at Vicksburg. In the Fortieth Tennessee he held the rank of first lieutenant; he went into the service as a second junior lieutenant. The Fortieth Tennessee, which did not have a Tennessee company in it, was afterwards re-organized, and the Alabama companies helped form the Fifty-fourth Alabama Regiment, commanded by Alpheus Baker, colonel in General Tillman's brigade up to the battle of Baker's Creek. Just before this battle the command was transferred to Brigadier-General O. A. Buford. Mr. Turrentine remained with the Fifty-fourth through General Buford's Mississippi campaign, and under Lowring through the Jackson campaign. In 1863 he was detailed Assistant Quartermaster of his regiment, which position he held until the spring of 1864, at which time he organized a company of skirmishers from the Fifty-fourth Alabama Regiment. He participated in all the Georgia campaign, and on August 16, 1864, was seriously wounded before Atlanta. He had under him about 172 men at one time, and with them, in the early part of August, near Atlanta, fought two Federal regiments for over two hours a hand-to-hand conflict, in which some of the men distinguished themselves as skirmishers, among whom was Mr. Lania, of Choctaw County, Ala. After the Georgia campaign, on account of some

difference with the colonel, he withdrew entirely from his old regiment and proceeded to organize a company to be composed of the great surplus of commissioned officers that, through the destruction of men, had been virtually deprived of commands. It appears that this company, if ever fully organized, was not afterwards engaged in battle, as the final surrender succeeded shortly after. In January, 1866, he removed to Arkansas; there practiced law for five years and returned to Athens in 1871. He was elected county solicitor in 1872, and held the office until the law providing for a district solicitor went into force. The only other civil office held by Captain Turrentine appears to have been that of general administrator. He held this position about six years. He married while in Arkansas (1866) Miss Elizabeth Sanders. She died at Athens in May, 1881, leaving one son. His second marriage was to a daughter of Dr. J. M. Collins, of this county.

The Captain is an active Democratic worker; was chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee in 1882; is a good lawyer, a forcible speaker, a citizen of the highest repute, a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**BENTON SANDERS**, Merchant, Athens, Ala., was born in this county, November 10, 1829. His parents, William and Sarah (Fox) Sanders, natives, respectively, of the States of Georgia and Virginia, were married in Madison County, this State, and came to Limestone in 1844.

The senior Mr. Sanders was a soldier in the War of 1812, and along in the thirties, represented Limestone County several sessions in the Legislature. In 1834-5, he was in the banking business at Decatur. He died at his home, twelve miles east of Athens, in 1840, at the age of 47 years. His widow survived him several years, and died at the age of 67. They reared three sons, the eldest, Dr. W. T. Sanders, eminent in his profession, died in 1865, and Oliver Perry, an extensive planter, died at Grenada, Miss., in 1868.

Benton Sanders was educated at La Grange College, studied law with Fred Tate, at Athens; was admitted to the bar in 1850; served the county three years as sheriff, and was in mercantile business afterward, until the beginning of the war. Soon after the close of hostilities, he was

appointed register in chancery, a position he filled until 1874, when he was elected Judge of Probate, for the term of six years.

Much to the regret of the people of Limestone County, Judge Sanders, at the end of his term, declined a second nomination for the probate judgeship, and the sentiment of the public may be inferred from the following quotation from a newspaper editorial of that date:

"Judge Sanders retires to private life without a blur or blot on his administration. No one has ever filled that highly responsible office with more satisfaction to our people, and in vacating the office he carries with him the best wishes of the people of Limestone County."

In 1880, he resumed mercantile business, at the head of the firm of Sanders & Richardson, and has since devoted his time to it.

Mr. Sanders is president of the Athens Male College, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Athens Female Institute.

In casting about over the State for a suitable person to investigate, as an expert, the various public offices, Governor O'Neal at once settled upon Benton Sanders, of Athens, and in an urgent letter, under date of March 24, 1883, tendered him the appointment as follows:

"The Legislature ordered me to have the offices of auditor, treasurer, secretary of State, superintendent of education, and warden of penitentiary examined by a competent person at least twice each year, and to this end appropriated a sufficient sum out of which to pay the expense. You have been recommended to me by Chief Justice Brickell and others as the man to do this important work, and I hereby tender you the place."

Though recognizing this as a compliment of a very high order, Mr. Sanders' private business was such as compelled him to decline the duty.

[Afterward, Colonel Lapsley received the appointment, and discharged the duties with marked ability.—Ed.]

Mr. Sanders was married at Athens, January 27, 1853, to Miss Eliza Thach, daughter of Thomas H. Thach, planter and merchant, of Mooresville, and of the five children born to him we make the following notice: His only son, W. T., is a student at Vanderbilt University; one of his daughters is the wife of Thomas J. Turrentine, another is the wife of J. W. Woodruff, Jr., a planter of Mooresville, and he has two daughters at home.

Mr. Sanders' family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**ROBERT A. McCLELLAN**, Attorney-at-law, Athens, was born in Lincoln County, Tenn., December, 1842. His father was Thomas J. McClellan, a native of Tennessee, and of Scotch descent, and his mother's maiden name was Martha Beattie, also a native of Tennessee.

The senior Mr. McClellan came into Limestone County in 1841, located upon a farm ten miles east of Athens, and there followed planting until 1884, when he retired, and, we think, moved into Athens. He died October 14, 1887. He was a member of the Secession Convention of 1860, and voted against that movement. He was a member of the lower house, State Legislature, in 1862, and of the Constitutional Convention of 1865. He was not, of choice, a politician. He was an old line Whig; a plain, common-sense man; honest, above all things; entertaining and forcible in conversation. It was this latter accomplishment probably that forced him into discussions and, finally, into politics. He had the reputation of being one of the best posted men on public questions in the county. He reared four sons to manhood. John B., the eldest, is a farmer in this county; has served in the Legislature, and was probate judge at the time the Reconstruction party came into power, when he was ousted. The second son, William C., died in this county, December 11, 1869, at the age of thirty-two years. He was four years in the Confederate Army; was captured two days before Appomattox, and kept in prison until August, 1865. The youngest son, the Hon. Thomas N. McClellan, is now Attorney-General of the State.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the common schools, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1868 at Athens. In the fall of 1862 he joined the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, and served to the close of the war, holding the rank of lieutenant, and most of the time was in command of his company. He participated in the campaigns of Middle and East Tennessee, Georgia, and the Carolinas, and in many battles.

He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1875, and in November of that year was elected to the State Senate to fill out an unexpired term. His name was before the Congress-

sional Convention in 1880, when Wheeler was nominated, and received a flattering vote—a majority on the first ballot.

He was married in 1872 to Miss Aurora Pryor, a daughter of Hon. Luke Pryor.



**WILLIAM R. FRANCIS, Jr.**, Attorney-at-law, and editor and proprietor of the Athens *Democrat*, a live democratic weekly paper, published at Athens, was born in Franklin County, Tenn., September 25, 1843. His father, William R. Francis, Sr., a native of Virginia, is now a planter in Franklin County, Tenn.

The great-grandfather Francis was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and Mr. Francis' grandfather fought in the war of 1812.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the public schools of Tennessee; studied law under John Frizzell, at Winchester, and was admitted to the bar in 1867. He first began the practice of law at Winchester, and remained there until 1879, and in the fall of that year came to Athens, where he has since been in the practice. In 1886 the Limestone County Publishing Co. established the *Democrat*, and Mr. Francis was made its editor.

At Winchester, Tenn., in the fall of 1861, Mr. Francis enlisted as a private in Company I, Forty-first Tennessee Infantry, C. S. A., and served through the war. At Chickamauga, September 20, 1863, a mine ball crushed the upper section of the left femur, resulting in crippling him for life. While not thereafter in active service, he was in the Retired Corps to the close of the war. Before Chickamauga, he had participated in the battles of Raymond, Miss., Port Hudson, Jackson, Black River and Corinth. His regiment was captured at Fort Donelson, but he being sick, he was allowed to escape. After that time, he served in the Seventeenth Tennessee. He was paroled in May, 1865, and in August of that year returned to Tennessee, and thence, as has been seen, came to Athens.

Mr. Francis is a wide-awake, active democratic worker, and runs a red-hot paper.



**WILLIAM H. WALKER**, son of John F. and Eliza Walker, was born near Mooresville, Lime-

stone County, Ala., March 2, 1822, and died March 4, 1876.

Mr. Walker, one of the leading lawyers of his day, was left an orphan at the age of four years. He was educated at La Grange, began the practice of law when a young man, and with the exception of a part of a term, served by appointment, as Probate Judge, devoted his life thereto.

He was married July 7, 1859, to Miss Sally E. Ryan, of Baltimore, and had born to him eight children, seven of whom are living at this writing (1888): Mary Eloise (Mrs. R. H. Richardson), William Ryan, Ada, John Fortman, Maria Richardson, and Robert Henry.

Mr. Walker was an able lawyer, a highly respected citizen, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**WILLIAM R. WALKER.** Attorney-at-law, Athens, son of William H. Walker, a prominent jurist, who died at this place in 1876.

Mr. Walker was educated primarily at Athens' schools and Auburn, Ala., and graduated in the law department of Vanderbilt University in 1882. He began the practice at once at Athens, and in September, 1885, moved to Guntersville, and there, associated with B. Coman, edited the Guntersville *Democrat*, in connection with the practice of law, up to January, 1887. Since that date he has been practicing law at Athens. He was born, in this town, November 10, 1861.



**JAMES E. HORTON.** Judge of Probate, Limestone County, Ala., was born near Huntsville, this State, May 20, 1833. His parents, Rodah and Lucy (Otey) Horton, natives of Virginia and England, were married in Madison County, this State, where their three sons and three daughters were born. Of the six children, Judge Horton and a brother only are now living. The others all moved South, where it seems their lives were materially shortened.

The senior Mr. Horton died in 1846, at the age of fifty-four years. He was an extensive planter, and represented Madison County once or twice in the State Legislature.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the University of Alabama, and the University of

Virginia. He came into Limestone County in 1857, settled on the Elk River, and engaged in farming. At Bardstown, Ky., in the fall of 1862, as aid-de-camp to Gen. Daniel S. Donelson, he entered the Confederate service. He was with General Donelson until the death of that gentleman, which occurred at Knoxville, Tenn., in the latter part of 1863. From that time to the close of the war, Major Horton was Acting General Quartermaster, and was on the Florida coast when the war closed.

Returning to Limestone County at the close of the war, he resumed his planting operations, which he followed up to August, 1886, when he was elected Judge of Probate. Sometime before this he had served one term as county commissioner, which appears to be the sum of his office, holding. He was married in Tennessee, near the "Hermitage," October 18, 1860, to Miss Emily Donelson, the accomplished daughter of Daniel S. Donelson, a nephew of Mrs. Gen. Andrew Jackson. To this union four daughters and a son have been born, the eldest of the former is now the wife of John B. Tanner, of Athens.

Judge Horton's family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is of the Masonic fraternity.



**JAMES BENAGH,** Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public and Register in Chancery, Athens, was born at Lynchburg, Va., February 23, 1828, and his parents were James and Elizabeth (Richardson) Benagh, the first a native of Ireland and the latter of Virginia. They lived and died at Lynchburg, the old gentleman in 1861 at the age of 74, and his widow in 1868 at the age of 68.

The senior Mr. Benagh was a lawyer by profession, and was for many years Clerk of the Court at Lynchburg and Master in Chancery. He came with his parents to America in 1792.

James Benagh was educated at Lynchburg, there studied law and was admitted to the bar, but did not actively enter the practice. At the outbreak of the late war, he was speculating and taking the world easy. He went into the army as Captain and Assistant Adjutant-General on General Kirby Smith's staff. He was in the war from the beginning to the close, and is probably the last man that ever received an order from the Confederate Government. At Washington, Wilkes County, Ga., and on the day that President Davis

and his Cabinet left that town, orders came through Quartermaster-General Lawton, to Captain Benagh, to take charge of all stores accumulated at different depots and turn them over to the Georgia Railway Company. This was for the purpose of enabling the road to run, that they might carry paroled men toward their homes. The Captain was also ordered to see to the delivery of certain silver coin then being sent in bags to a distinguished ex-official. The orders were carried out as far as in Captain Benagh's power lay. But the timid gentleman refused to receive it, and the supposition is that the boys who had the silver bags in charge realized the whole. After the war, Captain Benagh returned to Virginia, and later on to Athens and followed planting in Limestone County up to 1875, since when he has been engaged in the practice of law. He was appointed Registrar in Chancery, in 1886, by Hon. Thomas Cobbs.

He was married in Baltimore, Md., in 1872, to a Miss Ryan.



**JOHN THOMAS TANNER.** Real Estate, Immigration Agent and Dealer in Exchange, Athens, was born in Madison County, this State, August 25, 1820. His father, Samuel Tanner, a native of Virginia, came to Alabama in 1818, and to Athens in 1825. He was a merchant all his life. He died in 1871, at the age of 87 years. He was an active business man to the very day of his final sickness. He reared four sons, one of whom, W. P. Tanner, deceased, was secretary and treasurer of the Cotton Seed Oil Mill at Montgomery.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Athens; began clerking for his father at the age of thirteen years, from which time, it may be truthfully said, he has been an active business man. In 1842 he engaged in the cotton business in New Orleans; two years later he removed to Shreveport, and in 1847 returned to Athens and was with his father in mercantile business up to 1852. He at that time engaged in banking, at which business we find him at the outbreak of the war, and to which he returned at the close of the war. In 1866 he was appointed Revenue Collector (United States); held that office about eighteen months, and was succeeded by a gentleman from Pennsylvania.

As secretary and treasurer of the North & South Railroad, during the war, Mr. Tanner was

exempt from Government service, and the fact of his not having participated in any manner in the cause of the South led to his appointment by the United States Government to the office of Collector of Revenue.

Associated with the Hon. Luke Pryor and others, Mr. Tanner was conspicuous in the organization and construction of the North & South Railroad, and was officially connected with it for twenty-five years. [This road was first called the Tennessee & Alabama Central.—Ed.]

Since 1871, Mr. Tanner has devoted his time to the business indicated at the introduction of this sketch. He has been connected officially with the Athens Female College for the past thirty years, a great deal of the time as vice-president, and at the death of Senator Houston was made president, a position he has since continued to fill. He has been five years Mayor of the city of Athens, and always identified with her best interests. He is probably the most conspicuous advocate of Prohibition in the State, if not in the South. The first State Temperance Alliance was held and organized at his office, in 1881. He was chairman of the first State Convention called in Alabama in the interest of prohibition. In 1884 he was a delegate to the convention at Pittsburgh, and in the roll-call of States placed the Hon. John P. St. John in nomination for the Presidency of the United States. In 1886, Mr. Tanner was nominated at Birmingham for Governor, on the Prohibition ticket, made the race, and distinguished himself as a powerful and sincere worker in the cause of temperance. He is now one of the vice-presidents of the National Temperance Society, whose headquarters are in New York City, and is also chairman of executive committee of the Prohibition party for the State of Alabama.

At this writing (1888) Mr. Tanner is prominently spoken of in connection with the vice-presidential candidacy of the Prohibition party, his name having been indorsed for that place by the State Prohibition Convention, December 15, 1887. [Mr. Tanner's was presented to the convention at Indianapolis, June, 1888, for Vice-President of the United States on the Prohibition ticket, and received a flattering vote.—Ed.]

He was married at Greenwood, La., November 26, 1846, to Miss Susan Owen Wilson, a native of Jackson, Tenn., and has had born to him four sons and four daughters, to-wit: John B., who is a cotton

broker, Athens; Jason S., deceased, aged nineteen years; Stephen, deceased, and Maria, deceased; Margaret Elizabeth (Mrs. Dr. W. R. McWilliams); Mary Ruth (Mrs. J. L. Thompson), and Susan O. (Mrs. C. F. Carter.)

Mr. Tanner and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**LAWRENCE RIPLEY DAVIS.** Postmaster at Athens, was born in Limestone County February 27, 1819, and his parents were Nicholas and Martha (Hargrave) Davis, of Virginia.

Nicholas Davis came to Alabama in 1817, settled on Limestone Creek, this county, and followed planting the rest of his life. He died in 1856, at the age of seventy-six years. He was a public-spirited man, and one of the first men of distinction in this county. Prior to 1817 he was a United States marshal in Virginia, and, after coming here, was a member of the first Constitutional Convention (1819), and was a representative in the lower house of the first Legislature after Alabama was admitted to the Union as a State. From 1820 to 1828, inclusive, he was a member of the Senate, and for five sessions was President of that body. He was the Whig candidate against Chapman for Governor in 1847, and ran for Congress against C. C. Clay in 1829, and was defeated by only eighty votes, though the district was known to be largely Democratic. He was a captain in the War of 1812.

Another writer, in speaking of Captain Davis, says: "That he was a man of great experience in public affairs, and of the highest personal worth; that he occupied a high rank in the estimation of all parties as a citizen, and for faithful public services; and in the councils of the Whig party his views were received with confidence."

In 1844, he was at the head of the Whig electoral ticket, and in speaking further of him in this connection, the author above referred to says: "In his speech at the close of the convention, in taking leave of his fellow Whigs he was very impressive; he was truly the 'old man eloquent.' He was a great lover of his country, and in alluding to its future under a good government, and the visions opened up to him in the distance, and the important influence his party was destined to exert in developing the energies and greatness of the country, he was overpowered

with emotions, which brought relief in a flood of tears as he took his seat."

The subject of this sketch was educated in Limestone County, read law, and was licensed to practice, but never went to the bar. He followed farming up to the beginning of the late war, and probably up to 1863. In 1873 he came into Athens, and started the *Limestone News*, conducted it for one year, and sold it out. It was in this year that he was appointed private secretary to Governor Houston, which took him to Montgomery. In 1849, to recur to a much earlier period in his life, he ran for the Legislature on the Whig ticket against W. H. Harrison, and, notwithstanding the great Democratic majority to be overcome, he was elected by about 500. In 1855 he was again a candidate for the Legislature, and was opposed by the Hon. Luke Pryor and the late Major Hobbs. The leading question before the people at that time was in reference to the aid, by taxation, of the North & South Road. Mr. Davis, as an anti-taxation man, was defeated. In 1859 he was again elected, and was a member of the Legislature when the State seceded. He was opposed to secession at the beginning, but yielded gracefully to the will of the majority, and at the request of the Governor he canvassed Northern Alabama, urging the people to a peaceful acquiescence in the result of the Secession Convention. It will be remembered that there was much bitter opposition in the Tennessee Valley to secession, and particularly was this the case in Limestone County; so when Mr. Davis reached this part of the State, he encountered the most intense excitement. In 1860 he was the elector for his District on the Bell and Everett ticket, and took an active part in that heated contest.

Mr. Davis was appointed Register in Chancery in 1876, and was still holding that position when appointed postmaster by President Cleveland, October, 1885. He has always been recognized as an active worker, and a man of far more than ordinary influence in the ranks of the Democratic party. He edited the *Post* in 1882; has represented his party in the various State and Congressional Conventions from time to time, and has delivered more stump speeches than any other man in Northern Alabama. His last important canvass was in support of the Hon. Luke Pryor for Congress, as against D. D. Shelby.

Mr. Davis was married first in Russell County,

Ala., to Miss Mary Abercrombie, March 27, 1851. She died in 1859, and in 1861 Mr. Davis was married to Miss Sarah A. McClellan.



**J. R. HOFFMAN, M. D.**, Athens, was born at Kingsport, East Tennessee, August 13, 1830, and is the son of Aaron and Mary Ann (Richardson) Hoffman, natives of Virginia and Tennessee, and of German and Irish descent, respectively. He was educated at Jonesboro, Tenn., Academy; came to Athens in 1856; read medicine with Dr. Yarbrough; graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1858; came at once to Limestone county; practiced three or four years in the southern part of the county, and removed to Athens in 1865. In 1861 Dr. Hoffman enlisted as a private soldier in Ward's Battery, and served about eight months in that position. At the end of this time he was appointed Assistant-Surgeon, and as such saw much service in Georgia and Virginia. At the close of the war he returned to East Tennessee, and directly to Athens. From 1866 to 1874 he was in the drug business with Dr. Coman, at the same time, however, giving attention to his practice. He was a member of the State Board of Health from 1882 to 1887; has been chairman of the Board of Censors of Limestone County, and was County Health Officer from 1884 to 1886.

Dr. Hoffman was married in this county December 29, 1859, to Miss Fannie C. Jones, who died April 12, 1878, leaving one son and two daughters.



**THEOPHILUS WESTMORELAND, M. D.**, Athens, was born in Giles County, Tenn., November 21, 1831, and was educated primarily at Pulaski, graduating at Nashville, in 1855, as a Doctor of Medicine. He began practice first, and at once after leaving college, in Giles County, subsequently locating at Pulaski for a few years, and came into Athens in 1879. In 1880 he established a drug store in connection with his practice.

In the summer of 1861 Dr. Westmoreland went into the army as Surgeon of the Fifty-third Tennessee Infantry, and afterwards was made Chief Surgeon of General Quarles' brigade, in which position he remained to the close of the war. He was captured at Fort Donelson, and when the

Federals were removing the sick, he and two other physicians got permission to take a trip up the river, and, not being under any parole, made their escape.

The Doctor was in the Western Army and on duty at the battle of Port Hudson, Dalton, and many other places during the war, and finally at the last conflict of arms, Bentonville, N. C.

Aside from his profession and drug business he is largely interested in agriculture. He takes no interest in politics particularly, is no office-seeker, though a reliable Democrat, and has served the town one term as Mayor.

He was married in 1862 at Gilbertsborough, this county, to a daughter of Louis Nelson, an old citizen, merchant and planter of that place. Mrs. Westmoreland died in 1877, leaving two daughters and a son. One of the daughters, an accomplished young lady of seventeen years, died in 1884. The other is Mrs. Vandegrift of Athens. The Doctor's second marriage occurred at Athens, where he wedded Miss May F. Lane, daughter of Judge George W. Lane, of Huntsville, July 29, 1879. [George W. Lane was some years Judge of the Circuit Court, and was appointed by Buchanan United States District Judge, and held the office over, under Mr. Lincoln.—ED.] By his last marriage Dr. Westmoreland has two children, Frank Grant and Pattie Lane.

The Doctor stands high in his profession, is a member of the various medical societies, and is one of Athens' most popular citizens.



**MARCUS G. WILLIAMS**, President of the Athens Female College, was born at Boonville, Mo., October 25, 1831, and is a son of the Rev. Justinian Williams, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, late of the Tennessee Conference.

The Rev. Mr. Williams was placed in charge of Huntsville Station, in 1837, and spent most of the remainder of his life in Alabama, preaching, and died in 1859, at the age of seventy-two years.

Professor Williams was educated at La Grange College, Alabama; studied medicine awhile, but feeling that it was his duty to preach, turned his attention to theology, and was licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in March, 1851. During the following fall, he entered the Tennessee Conference on trial, and

remained there until the outbreak of the war, when he was made Chaplain of the Third Tennessee Infantry. At the end of the first year, his commission as Chaplain having expired, he raised a company of cavalry for the Ninth Alabama, and, as Captain, commanded it about a year and a half. He left the service on account of an injury received at Murfreesboro, and returned to Lawrence County and taught school for a short time. In 1867 he was transferred to the Arkansas Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, going thence, at the end of two years, to the Southwest Missouri Conference. He remained in Missouri eleven years, devoting his time to the ministry, and to the advancement of education. He resigned his Professorship in the Central Female College, Lexington, Mo., to come to the North Alabama Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South (1880). Since coming here he has had charge of New Market Circuit and New Market High School, Madison County; Tusculum Station and Tusculum Male Academy, and Leighton Circuit, and came to his present position by election, January, 1884. He preaches at Elkmont and State Line gratuitously, and fills the pulpit at Athens in the absence of the regular pastor.

Professor Williams was married in Lauderdale County, Ala., October 23, 1856, to a Miss Coffey, and has reared two daughters, one of whom is adopted, but is as near to him and as dear to him, seemingly, as his own child. Both his daughters are teachers in the college over which he presides.



**RICHARD W. VASSER** was born in Amelia County, Va., in September, 1800. His father, Peter Vasser, moved to Halifax County, Va., during the infancy of his son, and being a man of extravagant and somewhat dissipated habits, wasted a handsome estate. This induced his son Richard, in 1816, to join his cousin Ed Dandridge Jones in a move to Middle Tennessee, and they afterward settled in Giles County. Young Vasser came to Northern Alabama the next year, and decided to make his home henceforth in Limestone. By persevering energy and the exercise of an indomitable will which possessed the magic of moulding circumstances to his purposes, he in a few years accumulated sufficient means to bring

his parents and sisters to his new home. The death of his father, a year or two after their arrival, left the mother and sisters entirely dependent on his personal efforts for their support, and never did son or brother more faithfully discharge this sacred duty. His fine intellect, wonderful business capacity, and well-known integrity, made him a leading spirit in those early days of our young Commonwealth. He was president of the board of directors of the first Huntsville bank, and used to take a monthly trip to the then infant town, on horseback, astride his saddle-bags filled with papers, currency and coin. Throughout his life his memory was marvelous, and his friends in Philadelphia, Pa. (to which city he made a yearly trip, even when it took six weeks to get there), have told the writer of some of his feats of memory, especially in dates and figures, not unworthy of Parr or Bradford. In 1833 he married his second cousin, Elizabeth Dandridge Jones (she being the great-granddaughter of the Peter Jones who, about 1720, assisted Colonel William Byrd, then commissioner of the English Crown in this country, to lay off the cities of Richmond and Petersburg, Va., and the latter city was named for this Peter Jones, (and not for Petersburg in Russia, as many erroneously suppose.) She bore him thirteen children, nine sons, of whom William Ed. Vasser was the youngest, and is the sole survivor. Mr. Vasser died in Athens, Ga., in 1864, and in 1886 his remains (with those of his son, Lieutenant Harry Vasser, who was killed in Johnston's retreat from Atlanta, just one month after his father's decease), were brought to Athens. They lie side by side in the old town cemetery, on ground taken from the garden of the old home, where the surviving members of the family still keep their resting-place fragrant with roses and lilies, planted by hands long since returned to mother earth.



**WILLIAM EDWARD VASSER**, son of Richard W. and Elizabeth B. (Jones) Vasser, natives of Virginia and North Carolina, respectively, was born March 19, 1855. He was educated at the Military Institute, Lexington, Va., and at the University of Virginia, graduating from the first in 1875, and from the latter in 1876. In 1878, he made a tour of Europe, for the purpose



of observation and study; returned to Athens, and for the succeeding three years, turned his attention to farming.

During the years of 1882-3, Mr. Vasser conducted the editorial columns of the *Alabama Courier*, and in 1886, the people of the county, chose him as against six competitors to represent them in the lower house of the State Legislature, and it is worthy of remark that at the primary election, he received a decided majority of the entire vote cast. At the general election, there was no opposition to Mr. Vasser. As a member of the Legislature, he was chairman of the Committee on Education, and an active member of the Committee on Public Roads and Highways. In the first named committee, and before the House, he took a prominent stand in favor of the Normal School system, and maintained it successfully against the combined opposition of its enemies, and it is to his efforts that the people of Alabama are indebted for the improvement and increase of the Normal School privileges, if not indeed its present existence. It was his committee that introduced the law, compelling county superintendents to cover public money coming into their hands, into the State Treasury, instead of disbursing it as they had hitherto done. As under the old system, defalcations had been for many years more or less frequent, a change in the law is at once recognized as salutary. It was his committee that separated the Deaf and Dumb from the Blind Institution, established different schools for them, and procured separate appropriations for each institution. He also advocated successfully an appropriation for the Auburn Polytechnic School.

Mr. Vasser is a cultured, educated gentleman, with a decidedly literary cast of mind. His eulogy in verse on the distinguished Honston, was quoted by Congressman Williams in his eulogy upon the dead Senator before the United States House of Representatives, and his volume of poems entitled "Flower Myths and other Poems" (1884) has attracted much favorable comment from literary critics in almost every State in the Union, and many of his poems have been published and republished by the leading papers of the country.



**THOMAS HUBBARD HOBBS**, Athens, was born in Limestone County, Ala., April 19, 1826, and died in Lynchburg, Va., July 24, 1862. His

parents were Ira E. and Rebecca E. (Maclin) Hobbs, natives of Brunswick county, Va., and of Scotch-Irish extraction. His mother was a daughter of Thomas Maclin, a captain in the War of 1812, and his uncle, Hubbard Hobbs, was a lieutenant in the United States Navy, and an officer on the Vincennes, the first vessel sent by the United States Government to circumnavigate the globe. Lieutenant Hobbs spent most of his life at sea, though he occasionally visited Alabama, and probably erected the first cotton-mill in this State. It was at Falton, and in the year 1827.

The subject of this sketch received his academic education at La Grange College; graduated from the University of Virginia as Bachelor of Arts in 1853, and subsequently from the law department of the University of Pennsylvania. He practiced law but a short time at Athens, this State, when, finding his plantation requiring most of his attention, he abandoned the profession almost entirely.

He was one of the prime movers of the North & South Railroad, and was associated with the Hon. Luke Pryor in the establishment and final success of that enterprise.

He was elected to the Legislature in 1856, as favoring the railroad appropriation, and was sent by that body to represent his Congressional district at the Cincinnati Convention of that year. He was in the Legislature continuously from 1856 to 1861, and was a Breckenridge elector in 1860. Though quite a young man, he was prominently spoken of in connection with the gubernatorial chair.

In speaking of him after his death, the *Memphis Appeal* says: "Among Alabama's brightest and purest sons was Major Thomas H. Hobbs, of Limestone County. He was of the cavalier stock of the Old Dominion. His education was thorough, varied and polished. He wielded a facile pen, and in writings showed his refined and tacit taste. He was gifted with a clear, cogent and convincing eloquence. Calm, dignified, self-poised, he discussed the most difficult questions with eminent ability. As a member of the Legislature, he devoted his time and talents to the development of the resources of his own State. He was foremost in all noble enterprises. In her system of popular enterprises, Alabama owed more to Thomas Hobbs than to any other one man. A politician of the old Democratic school, he was the courteous and gentlemanly opponent, never condescending to

low and unmanly tricks to gain his point. Pure, and as gentle as a woman, he was the embodiment of masculine energy and heroic valor. With a courage cool, calm and daring, he was among the first to enter the army."

An original Secessionist, he was opposed by some of the leading men of his country. He entered the army in 1861 as the Captain of Company F, Ninth Alabama Infantry, and proceeded at once to Richmond.

While the battle of Manassas was being fought he was at Piedmont, and reached the battle-ground the next day, where, as he said, "I saw for the first time the awful result of war." After going through all the battles in which his regiment had participated, in the first day of what is known as the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond, he was wounded by a gun-shot in the knee. This wound, though slight, resulted in his death. While in the army Captain Hobbs was asked to become a member of the Confederate Congress, but declined the honor.

He was first married at Richmond, Va., August 4, 1852, to Indiana E. Booth. She died at Athens in 1854. His second marriage was at Lynchburg, Va., February 17, 1858, to Anne Benagh, a daughter of James Benagh, of that city. She died at Athens in 1872, leaving two sons: Thomas Maclin and James Benagh. The latter died in 1883 at the age of 24 years. Thomas Maclin Hobbs was educated at the Virginia Military Institute and the Alabama State University. He lives now upon the plantation once owned by his grandfather, Thomas Maclin, and is the sole successor and heir to the estates of that family.



**JOHN R. MASON**, the second son of William and Rebecca Mason, was born in Greenville County, Va., 1803, and died at Iuka, Miss., in April, 1862. He was educated in his native State, came with his parents to Limestone County; and at Athens was many years engaged in the mercantile business, in addition to which he was an extensive farmer and stock grower. He took a prominent part here in the agitation of the question of aid, by taxation, in the construction of the North and South Railroad, bitterly opposing the proposition to subsidize. However, after the road was put under way, we find that he was equally as earnest in having it pushed forward to comple-

tion, and that he was for years a member of its Board of Directors.

He was first married in Limestone County in 1833, to a daughter of Gabriel Smith, who died in 1844, leaving one son, William Mason, who died in Waco, Texas, in 1878. John R. Mason was again married at Athens, March 27, 1845, to Miss Glorvina Beaty, a daughter of Robert Beaty, one of the early settlers of this place. Robert Beaty came from Ireland when he was but a child, grew to manhood in the State of Virginia, and there married Sallie Parrott. He was one of the pioneers of Limestone County, and took an active part in having the county site established at Athens, as against the claims of the then pretentious village of Cambridge. He was an influential and public-spirited citizen. He donated to the town the famous "Athens Springs," with several acres of land, with the understanding that it should be devoted to the public use forever. Mr. Beaty was familiarly known as Captain Beaty. He died in Missouri, where he had gone on a business trip.

John R. Mason, by his second marriage, had two sons, Robert Beaty and John Ormond; the latter died at Athens in 1884, at the age of thirty-six years. Robert B. Mason, the elder son, was born June 27, 1846; educated at Athens, Ala., and Pittsburgh, Pa.; entered the Confederate Army as a member of Gen. P. D. Roddy's escort, served to the close of the Civil War, and surrendered at Pond Springs. After the war he devoted some time to the mercantile business, but afterward turned his attention entirely to farming and stock raising.

He married at Fayette, Tenn., in 1870, Miss Mollie P. Garrett, who died in 1882, leaving four children, Clyde Ormond, Robert Beaty, John Greer and Mary Elice.

John R. Mason was a self-made man, starting out in life with little of this world's goods, but by dint of persistent effort, close application to business, and the exercise of sound discretion, he accumulated and left to his family a handsome competency. He was universally popular and was beloved by all classes. Everybody knew, and enjoyed the society of "Captain Jack Mason."

It was while visiting his son William (in Mississippi, after the battle of Shiloh), who was a Confederate soldier under General Bragg, that he was taken sick, and died at Iuka, without again reaching his home, which was occupied just at this

time by the Federal forces. The Federal officers made his residence their headquarters, and prohibited the Mason family from leaving town, even for the purpose of bringing him home before he died.

He was a strong Douglas Democrat and a Union man until his State seceded, then he went with his people.



**DANIEL COLEMAN** was born in Caroline County, Va., August 2, 1801, and died at Athens November 4, 1857. When sixteen years old he left his home to make his way in the world, the death of his father having reduced the family from affluence to poverty. He taught school at the Kanawha Salt Works a year, and used the money thus obtained to graduate at the Transylvania University. He then obtained employment as a scribe at a court in Frankfort, Ky., and read law while so engaged under the eye of Judge Bledsoe. In 1819 he came to this State and located at Mooresville, this county. The following year he was chosen by the Legislature (through the influence of Hon. Nich. Davis Judge of the county court. He was only nineteen years old, but the gravity of his deportment led no one to question his majority, and he held the office several years. In 1829 he represented Limestone in the Legislature. In 1835 he was elected by the Legislature a judge of the circuit court. This dignified and responsible position he filled for twelve years. How satisfactorily he performed his duties may be inferred from the compliment paid him in June, 1851, when Governor Collier selected him to fill a vacancy on the supreme bench. He served till the following winter, when he declined a candidacy before the Legislature, feeling that his enfeebled health would not permit him to undergo the labors of the post.

Judge Coleman left a character for spotless integrity, piety, decorum and sobriety. As a judge he was dignified, laborious and impartial. In appearance he was slender and tall, with a light complexion. In manner he was grave to austerity. He married Miss Peterson of this county, and left several children.

Of these we have the following data: Rev. James L. Coleman is a graduate of La Grange College, Ala.; Daniel Coleman is a graduate of Wesleyan College (or University), Florence, Ala., and after-

ward of the Law Department of the University of Virginia; John Hartwell Coleman graduated at Florence with first honors, and afterward likewise took the Law Course at the University of Virginia; Richard H. Coleman was attending High School in Virginia when the war broke out, and he joined the army at about seventeen years of age; Dr. Rutlin Coleman obtained his collegiate training at the Southern University, Greensboro, and studied medicine at the University of Nashville, Tenn.

Judge Coleman was a conspicuous and zealous member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. His wife, a native of South Carolina, was noted for beauty of face and character. She was a brilliant conversationalist and a noted hostess. She survived her husband many years, and died at Athens, February 14, 1885.



**JOHN TURRENTINE**, Merchant, Athens, was born at Hillsboro, N. C., May 25, 1811.

His parents were John and Nancy (Wilson) Turrentine. The Turrentines came from Ireland in the Colonial days, and some of them fought with distinction in the Revolutionary War, and afterward, held important trusts in the civil government. The senior John Turrentine entered the United States Regular Army soon after the battle of New Orleans, and served five years, lacking three months, and died. His wife in the meantime had removed, at his request, from North Carolina to Tennessee, settled in Lincoln County, and there received the news of his death. He was a non-commissioned officer, and was the father of four daughters and two sons. Through the influence of General Houston, Congress passed a bill granting a bounty to his heirs in consideration of his services. Mrs. Turrentine removed to Morgan County, Ala., in 1820, and there died in 1826, at the age of forty-five years.

The subject of this sketch was brought up on a farm and acquired such education as was possible to his limited circumstances. He lived in Lawrence County twelve years, coming from Courtland, where he had been a sub-man, with a small stock of goods, to Athens in 1841. He has now been forty-four years a merchant in this town.

For twelve years preceding the war, he held the office of Justice of the Peace, and for three or four years after the war was General Administrator.

He was opposed to secession, and did what he could to prevent it, but when the South withdrew from the Union, he espoused the cause of his State, and it cost him the whole of his property, for the Yankees burned up everything he had.

Mr. Turrentine was married while in Lawrence County (May, 1837), to Susan Ann Stevens, who died in November, 1842, leaving one son, now the Hon. John J. Turrentine, of this city.

Mr. Turrentine married his second wife, Amanda Melvina Francis Higgins, in this county, and she died July 16, 1884. Of the seven children born to her, six were living at the time of her death, and one has since died. The living are: Thomas J., a merchant; William H., a lawyer; Nancy Elizabeth; Sarah Louisa (Mrs. James William Bridgforth), Martha Ann, died August 1, 1870, and Jane died March 9, 1885.

Mr. Turrentine is a Master Mason and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**WILLIAM A. HINE**, Hardware Merchant, Athens, was born in Limestone County January 29, 1822. His father, Silas Hine, was a native of Connecticut, from whence he removed to Virginia, and in 1818 to Alabama. Here he was a planter, and died in 1850. In Virginia, he married Miss Temperance Harrison, who bore him three sons and one daughter, who grew to man's and woman's estate.

William A. Hine was the second son born, and is the only one living. He received his education in the Athens schools; followed planting many years, and engaged in mercantile business in 1843.

The senior Mr. Hine was a merchant in Athens in connection with his planting interests, and it was with him that the present Mr. Hine took his first lessons in merchandizing.

During the late war, Mr. Hine was commissioner of revenue and roads. He has never been in politics, and with the exception of the period of the war, he has devoted his time and his talents to business, and has been successful.

Mr. Hine is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a Mason. He was married, in Lauderdale County, in February, 1845, to Miss Letitia Sloss, who bore him three children that grew to man's and woman's estate. She died in 1865, leaving three children: Clara (Mrs.

Dr. Borroum, Corinth, Miss.), William A., Jr., died in February, 1879, at the age of twenty-two years; and Ernest, a farmer, now in this county.

Mr. Hine's second marriage occurred in Corinth, Miss., in 1867, where he wed Eva, a younger sister of his first wife.



**WILLIAM B. RUSSELL**, of the firm of W. B. Russell & Co., wholesale and retail grocers, and cotton dealers, was born November 28, 1851, at the town of Athens, and is the son of John G. Russell, deceased. He was educated in the Athens schools; began clerking when fifteen years of age, and at the age of twenty-three, entered into business for himself. The present partnership was formed in January, 1887; the concern has been doing a jobbing business since 1879. It is the largest retail house in Athens, and the only wholesale store of any kind.

Mr. Russell was married at Winchester, Tenn., January 18, 1881, to Miss Jessie Houghton, daughter of Dr. S. W. Houghton, of that town, and has had born to him four children. The family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Russell is an active worker in the cause of temperance. Devoting his entire time to his business, he cares but little for politics and less for office holding. The only official position he has filled, we believe, has been that of councilman from his ward.

Mr. Russell, in addition to being a shrewd, successful business man, gives some time and thought to literature, and some of his contributions to current papers have attracted considerable attention.



**CHARLES W. RAISLER**, native of Pennsylvania, son is of Frederick William and Elizabeth (Himeberger) Raisler, of Württemberg, Germany.

In early life he learned the cabinet maker's trade, in New York City, and from there went to New Orleans, from which place he joined Company F, Second Regiment, Louisiana Volunteers, and served through the Mexican War, under General Taylor. At the close of the Mexican War he returned to New Orleans, and from there worked his way North, stopping, *ad libitum*, at various cities between the Gulf and the Ohio River, and finally landing at Triana, Ala., where he en-

gaged in the manufacture of furniture. In 1856, after having his furniture factory at Triana burned, he came into Athens, and here was engaged in the cabinet-making business, at the outbreak of the late war. In May, 1861, he raised a company of volunteers for the Fortieth Tennessee, and was with it until the capture of Island No. 10. As an officer he was taken to Johnson's Island, held thirteen or fourteen months, and exchanged. His command was re-organized into the Fifty-Fourth Alabama Infantry, with Raisler as Captain of Company B. He was with this regiment at Baker's Creek, and was again captured, near Jackson, and returned to Johnson's Island, where he was kept until within one month of the fall of Richmond. He returned home, June 15, 1865, and out of the 127 men that went with him to the front, only eighteen survived.

Captain Raisler was the first representative to the Legislature, from Limestone County, after the cessation of hostilities, and he served in that body, sessions of 1865, '66, '67, '70, '71, '82, and '83. He served one term as mayor of Athens, in 1848, and is the present incumbent of that office. He is a member of the Masonic order, Knights of Honor, Golden Rule, Knights and Ladies of Honor, and a communicant of the Episcopal Church.

He has always been an active political worker, and was for many years chairman of the democratic executive committee, though recently it has been charged, and probably rightly, that his independence has taken him somewhat out of the line of stalwart democracy, though probably not into the enemy's camp.

While in the Legislature, he introduced several bills, that became laws, of more than ordinary importance.

Captain Raisler was a gallant soldier during the war, and afterward, undoubtedly, rendered the people of Alabama much valuable service.

He is now engaged in the drug business.

**C. A. ARNETT**, Real Estate Broker, born at Triana, Madison County, Ala., March 12, 1838, and his parents were Thomas and Mathilda (Cole) Arnett, of Virginia, and descended from the French.

The senior Arnett married before leaving Virginia, and died in Alabama, when the subject of this sketch was an infant.

Mr. Arnett was educated in Madison County and lived there until 1869. When a young man he began the study of medicine, but gave it up, and, in 1854, engaged in mercantile business at Triana, where he was at the outbreak of the war. He came to Athens in 1875 and engaged in business; was elected Mayor of the city in 1887; has been secretary of the Limestone Agricultural Association since 1884, and has served the town many years as its clerk and treasurer. He was appointed by Gov. Houston, July, 1877, assistant commissioner of emigration, and proved himself of great efficiency in that department.

**ROBERT M. RAWLS**, Editor and Proprietor of the *Alabama Courier*, a Weekly Democratic paper, published every Wednesday at Athens, was born in Lincoln County, Tenn., Jan. 6, 1861. He was a son of Luke H. Rawls, who was a merchant during his life, and who died in 1873 at the age of sixty-six years.

Robert M. Rawls was the youngest of twelve children. He received his schooling at Jackson, Tenn., and at the age of sixteen years, entered a newspaper office in that town and learned the printer's trade. From the office of the *Fayetteville Observer*, where he had worked about eighteen months, he took charge of the *Lynchburg (Tenn.) Sentinel*, going thence, within a few months, to a position upon the *Nashville World*, then a new paper, and upon which he set the first line of type ever placed in a "stick" for its columns. He remained upon the *World* until January, 1883, when he came to Athens and in partnership with J. J. Turrentine, purchased the *Courier*. Mr. Turrentine withdrew from the paper in 1884, since which time Mr. Rawls has been sole proprietor.

Mr. Rawls is now and has been since May, 1886, treasurer of the Alabama Press Association.

He was married in Athens, May 8, 1883, to Miss Fannie Black, daughter of the late John W. Black, and has had born to him two children, a son and a daughter. Mr. Rawls is a wide awake, public spirited, progressive young man, and gives the people of his county one of the best papers they have ever had.

## VI.

### LAUDERDALE COUNTY.

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Population: White, 15,000; colored, 6,000. Area, 700 square miles. Woodland, all; barrens, 400 square miles; Red Valley land and gravelly hills, 300 square miles. Acres in cotton, approximately, 26,600; in corn, 43,000; in oats, 4,600; in wheat, 8,500; in rye, 250; in tobacco, 100; in sweet potatoes, 450. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 9,500.

County Seat—Florence; population, 3,000; located on the North bank of the Tennessee river; noted for its manufactures, elegant schools and superior class of society. (See History of Florence, this vol.)

Newspapers published at Florence, *Banner*, *Gazette*, *Wave*—all Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Anderson Creek, Arthur, Baly Springs, Centre Star, Comer, Covington, Florence, Gravelly Springs, Green Hill, Lexington, Oakland, Pruitton, Rawhide, Rogersville, Saint Florain, Smithsonia, Sugar, Waterloo.

Lauderdale is one of the most fertile counties in the State. It is situated in the northwestern corner of Alabama, and is joined on two sides by the States of Mississippi and Tennessee. It was one of the first sections of Alabama settled by the whites, and was organized as a county before the State was constituted. It was established in 1818, and named for the famous Indian fighter, Col. Lauderdale, of Tennessee, who fell in the battle of Talladga, December 23, 1814.

It has a diversity of soil, as is abundantly indicated in the variety of crops grown. In the northern portion of the county the surface is somewhat more uneven than is that in the southern end. The prevailing soil in the northern portion is of a grayish hue, but yields quite readily. In the south the lands are reddish in character. This is due to the presence of iron. These lands are quite fertile, and though some of them have been in cultivation seventy-five years, they are still productive without the aid of fertilizers. West of Florence, in a great bend of the Tennessee river, is a large body of valley lands known

as the Colbert Reservation. It is overspread in different directions by some of the finest farms found in this section of Alabama. These valley lands, when fresh, will produce as much as one thousand pounds of seed cotton to the acre. The most of the cotton grown in the county is raised upon the red valley lands, and the product per acre is considerably above the average.

The chief crops of the county are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, sorghum and sweet potatoes. Apples and peaches are grown in vast quantities in the orchards. These are the chief fruits, though other fruits are grown with success when they receive proper attention. This is especially true of the grape. Wild fruits, such as hickorynuts and berries grow in large quantities.

The chief pursuits of the people are farming, stock-raising and manufacturing, to all of which the county is admirably adapted. For many years the single pursuit was that of planting; but the superb water power of the county and the abundant fuel suggested the establishment of manufactories long before the beginning of the war. Cotton and wool factories were accordingly established, as well as manufactories of leather. At this period Lauderdale was, perhaps, in advance of any other portion of the State in its manufactories. It is believed to be the pioneer county in establishing manufacturing interests. These industries perished amid the ravages of the war, but are now rebuilt to some extent, and in the town of Florence, particularly, manufacturing is assuming important proportions.

The country is abundantly supplied with perpetual streams of water. Shoal, Cypress, Blue Water, Bluff and Second creeks flow through the county from the north.

Striking the southwestern boundary of the county is the Elk river. Besides these there are many bold mountain springs, containing both limestone and freestone water. There are springs in several parts of the county that have medicinal properties, the most noted of these being Bailey's

Springs, but a short distance from the town of Florence: though Taylor's Springs have a local reputation. In every part of the county are to be found local industries, such as gins, and grist, and saw mills.

There are forests of valuable timber in every part of Lauderdale County. These comprise several varieties of oak, poplar, chestnut, beech, hickory, walnut cherry, and short leaf pine. The forests, in many places, are heavily wooded with these valuable timbers. Facilities for transportation of products to market are already good, but are destined to be greatly increased at no remote period. The Memphis & Charleston Railway runs a branch road into Florence from Tusculumbia; the Louisville & Nashville taps the same town with a road known as the Nashville & Florence, from Columbia, Tenn., and other roads are proposed and in process of construction.

The educational advantages of the county are superior. Throughout the entire county there are good local schools, affording all the educational facilities necessary for common school instruction. These schools are supported by all the moral influence that comes of long established and well-regulated society. The people are law-abiding and thrifty, and the tone of society is elevating.

In the northern portion of the county, adjoining the State of Tennessee, are to be found excellent deposits of iron ore. The extent of the prevalence of this ore is not known, as it has been only partially developed. In the southeastern part of Lauderdale, on Elk River, is a valuable cave of saltpetre.

The chief towns of the county are Florence (the county seat), Lexington, Rodgersville and Waterloo.

With water power from the hills and mountains, with a climate, the brace of which cannot be excelled, even in midsummer, with superior society and schools, Lauderdale offers rare advantages to those seeking homes. Land may be purchased at prices ranging from \$5 to \$15 per acre.

The population of the county has increased seventy per cent, in the past decade, and is still more rapidly advancing.

The conical artificial mound at Florence, is one of the largest and best preserved of the many left by that mysterious and unknown pre-historic race in so many parts of our country.

In 1819, voting places were established at the houses of Wm. S. Barton and Thomas Barnett, and in 1821, at the houses of Joel Burrows, Andrew McMicken and William Howe.

Haywood's History of Tennessee says that the portion of Alabama, north of the Tennessee, was organized into a county by the Georgia Legislature in 1785 and called Houston, in honor of John Houston, governor of that state in 1778 and 1784. A party of eighty men came down the Tennessee shortly after, and effected a settlement at a point on the Muscle Shoals within the present limits of this county. They opened a land office, elected one of their number to the Georgia legislature, and performed other right of citizenship. But within a fortnight the settlement was abandoned in dread of the warlike Chicasas.

The region now embraced within this country was the scene of several bloody skirmishes between the Tennesseans and Chicasas about the years 1787-90.

During the war between the States a cavalry fight occurred two miles east of Florence, in which the cavalry regiment of Col. Wm. A. Johnson, of Colbert, scattered a federal command with some loss to it. Near the same spot the army of Gen. Hood lay encamped for several weeks just before entering on the disastrous campaign which culminated at Franklin and Nashville. Lauderdale, then in common with the other counties of the Tennessee valley, suffered fearfully in consequence of its exposed position.

Probably no single county in the State can boast a higher order of citizenship than Lauderdale, while her past history is replete with the names of men whose brilliant achievements illumine the annals of a nation. The brave old soldier, Gen. John Coffee, Jackson's most trusted lieutenant, lived and died here; Robt. Miller Patton, one of Alabama's greatest governors, made this his home, while the distinguished soldier, statesman and citizen, Edward Asbury O'Neal yet resides at Florence. Caroline Lee Hentz, whose memory is so dear to every lover of a pure literature, spent nine years of her life here, Judge John Edmund Moore, Wade Keys, Hugh McVay, Sidney C. Posey, James Jackson, James Irvine, and many others whose names are identified with the history of Alabama, were citizens of this county.

## VII.

### JACKSON COUNTY.

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Population: White, 21,074; colored, 4,040. Area, 990 square miles, woodland all. Valley lands, (of which 190 square miles are in the Valley of the Tennessee), 500 square miles. Coves and slopes, 310 square miles. Mountain lands, 490 square miles. Acres in cotton, approximately, 19,685; in corn, 60,285; in oats, 8,241; in wheat, 10,051; in rye, 347; in tobacco, 99; in sweet potatoes, 592. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 6,984.

County Seat—Scottsborough; population, 1,500. Located on Memphis & Charleston Railroad, forty-two miles from Huntsville, and fifty-five miles from Chattanooga. Newspapers published at county seat: *Citizen*, *Progressive Age* and *Alabama Herald*, all Democratic; at Stephenson, *The Chronicle*, democratic.

Postoffices in the county—Atto, Bass Station, Bellefonte, Berry's Store, Big Coon, Bridgeport, Coffey's Store, Dodsonville, Dorans Cove, Dry Cove, Emmert, Estill's Fork, Fabius, Fackler, Fern Cliff, Francisco, Garth, Gray's Chapel, Greerton, Hannah, Higdon, Holly Tree, Kirby's Creek, Kosh, Langston, Larkin's Fork, Larkinsville, Lime Rock, Long Island, Maynard's Cove, Paint Rock, Park's Store, Pisgah, Press, Princeton, Samples, Santa, Scottsborough, Stevenson, Trenton, Tupelo, Wallston, Wamsville, Widows, Woodville.

This county takes its name from the hero of New Orleans. It was organized in 1819, the same year of the admission of Alabama into the Union. Jackson County is the extreme northeastern county in the State. It is bounded on the north by the State of Tennessee; on the east by the State of Georgia and De Kalb County, Ala.; on the south by De Kalb and Marshall Counties, on the west by Marshall and Madison Counties. It is about sixty-five miles long, by thirty miles wide. Scottsboro is the county seat of Jackson, and is a pleasant little town, situated on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad,

about the center of the county, and four miles from the Tennessee River. It is a new town, built up since the county seat was located at that point, which was done in the year 1868. It has a population of about 1,000; has a new courthouse and jail, which cost \$37,000, and are of good architectural design. The town is regularly laid out, and has many commodious business houses, built around the court house square, and on other streets, with many new and attractive residences, besides five comfortable churches, and two commodious hotels, a college building, which is quite sufficient to accommodate from 300 to 400 pupils, with college ground of six acres, on which the building is situated, which for beauty of location and grounds, cannot be surpassed in the South. Scottsboro is also noted for the healthfulness of its location, being situated at the highest point of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, between the eastern boundary line of the State of Alabama and the city of Memphis, Tenn., and at a distance of 285 miles from Memphis, Tenn.; indeed, the entire county of Jackson has an elevation above any other county west of it toward Memphis, its valley lands being at the highest point 602 feet, and at the lowest point, at Paint Rock, 595 feet above Mobile Bay. The altitude diminishes gradually toward the west, until you reach Memphis, Tenn., where it is only 245 feet; add to the elevation in Jackson, from 600 to 1,000 feet, and you have the elevation of our mountain lands above the sea-level; for this reason people living west of us often speak of our county as High Jackson. The destructive malarial fevers and epidemic diseases, such as yellow fever, cholera, etc., which are so common in the warmer temperatures and low lands south and southwest of us, have never been known in this county, and in all human probability, never will be. The general appearance of this county is much more broken, and its scenery greatly diversified. It is made up of high mountain tracts of level lands,



extending for many miles. These mountains are cut back into by many beautiful coves and valleys of level and fertile lands, some of which are three or four miles wide, shut in by steep mountain slopes, covered with forest growth of valuable timber; indeed, the whole of the valley lands are said by geologists to have been cut out of what was at one time, a level mountain surface, by the flow of the Tennessee River and its numerous tributaries. This mountain surface at that time was all the Cumberland Mountain, but is now cut in two by the river, at the point known as the Boiling Pot, this side of Chattanooga, and has cut out the Tennessee River Valley in which this county is situated; leaving that part of the mountain north of the river known as the Cumberland Mountain, and that part of the mountain south of the river, known as the Raccoon Mountain, or Sand Mountain, as it is called by the natives. Both these mountains extend through north Alabama, and have an average width of about twenty miles; hence the main valley lands lie along the Tennessee River, and are as fine farming lands for all kinds of farming purposes, as can be found in the South. Cotton, corn, oats, wheat, rye, tobacco, sweet potatoes, wool, sorghum, honey, and butter are chief among its manifold productions. Pears, apples, peaches, grapes, and berries grow almost to perfection.

Along the slopes of the hills of Jackson county are found splendid orchards of peaches. There is a steady growth of interest in stock-raising. Along the high table lands of the county are numerous small farms which are surrounded with all the evidences of plenty and contentment. The streams are the Tennessee and Paint Rock rivers, and Big and Little Raccoon, Mud, Wido, Big Crow, Jones' Santa, Big Lanne, and Williams' creeks, and Hurricane and Larkins' forks. Besides these, numerous mountain springs abound, the water of which is pure and perpetual. The county is unexcelled in its water supply. The hills and mountain flanks are densely wooded, while some of the alluvial valleys are still uncleared and are covered over with valuable timber. On the uplands are found black and red oaks, pine, cedar and hickory. Along the valleys are found poplar, ash, maple, beech, walnut, sweet gum, cherry and giant white oak. Indeed, both upon the table lands and in the valleys, many of the forests remain in their virgin state. They extend along the broad and deep streams of the county, and timber hewn from

them may be easily rafted. The inclination of the different water course is such as to favor the erection of manufactories, and for local demands such do exist.

The mineral products of Jackson are coal and iron, while the supply of marble and limestone is unlimited. Coal abounds both in the Cumberland and Sand mountains. These ranges travers the county twenty or thirty miles. From one of the numerous caves in the county is obtained saltpetre. It was used by the confederate authorities during the civil war. In several parts of the county are mineral springs, containing waters of superior quality.

There are several industries in the county which have attained considerable local prominence. Among these are the Belmont mines, situated twelve miles west of Scottsboro. In the town of Scottsboro are numerous steam and saw mills, and a hub, spoke and felloe factory. There are facilities of industry afforded in Jackson county, the variety of which, perhaps, is not surpassed by that of any other county in Alabama.

The valuation of property in Jackson county for the year 1887 is \$3,396,283.27, as shown by the abstract of assessment filed with the auditor.



**GEORGE B. CALDWELL** was born in Belfont, Jackson county, April 2, 1861, and is a son of Hamlin and Mary J. (Snodgrass) Caldwell. His early life was spent on his father's farm, and his education was acquired at the schools of Springfield, Ohio, and at Lookout Mountain academy. From nineteen to twenty-five years of age he was in business in Louisiana, and there in April, 1875, married Miss Sarah E. Hair, daughter of J. B. and Ann (Brone) Hair, natives respectively of the states of Ohio and Tennessee. In 1876 he returned to his native county and resumed farming. He came to Scottsboro, merchandised a few months, was burned out, and is now, in addition to his farming, running a saw mill. The only official position that he appears to have held is that of justice of the peace, and he filled that office one term.

Hamlin Caldwell, father to the subject of this sketch, was born in New Hampshire in 1812. His parents moved to Portsmouth, Ohio, in 1814, and when twelve years of age he took up his abode in Cincinnati, making his home with a sister. For

awhile, when a young man, he was in mercantile business at Chillicothe, Ohio, and from there, in 1837, came to Alabama and located in Jackson county. At Belfonte, this county, he established a store, having brought his stock of goods with him from Ohio. He was among the first merchants, if not the very first, at Belfonte, and he continued there until 1850. For the then next succeeding thirty years he followed farming, and in 1880 moved into Scottsboro, where he has since made his home. He reared a family of six children. Mr. Caldwell is a self-made man. He started in the world poor, without even the advantages of schooling, but he rounds up a ripe old age with a handsome competency, and with the knowledge that in the accumulation thereof he has wronged no man. His father was Europe Caldwell, a native of New Hampshire, and his mother's maiden name was Hamlin, a relative of Hon. Hannibal Hamlin.



**REV. MILTON P. BROWN**, son of James D. Brown, who in early days, preached on Sunday and farmed through the week, is the oldest of a family of seven. He was left an orphan at the age of nine, took charge of his father's farm when but eleven, and conducted it with a reasonable degree of success until he was seventeen, attending schools in the neighborhood at such times as he could be spared from his duties on the farm. He was licensed to preach in the M. E. Church, South, in October, 1848, and served as an itinerant in the Tennessee Conference until 1858. In that year he located in Scottsboro and conducted a farm and taught school in that vicinity until 1861.

He joined the Confederate army and was severely wounded in the hip at the first battle at Manassas.

He was elected Probate Judge in 1862, and held the office until 1868, in Bellefonte, which was then the county seat of Jackson. Since 1868, he has conducted a mercantile business in Scottsboro.

In 1854, Mr. Brown was married to Mary Elizabeth Parks, daughter of W. D. Parks, of Scottsboro and they have been the parents of eight children, namely: Julian C., who was educated at Vanderbilt University, is a preacher in the M. E. Church South, and is now at Francis street charge, St. Joseph, Mo.; Idella H., wife of M. D.

McClure; Eva R., wife of W. J. Robinson; Kittie E., wife of S. M. Bains; William Davis, Annie E., Hattie M., and Mary P.

Having lost his first wife, Mr. Brown was married May 7, 1876, to Mrs. Annie E. Williams, a widow, and daughter of Hiram Read, originally of Eatonton, N. C., but late of Auburn, Ala.

Mr. Brown is a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight of Honor. He has been Councilman and Mayor of Scottsboro, President of the Board of Trustees of Scott Academy and Superintendent of Education of Jackson County.



**JAMES ARMSTRONG**, Editor of the Scottsboro *Citizen*, was born September 7, 1855, at Hillsboro, Lawrence County, this State, and is the son of the late Hon. James Armstrong, who was well known as a lawyer and legislator from Lawrence County, and as one of the Franklin Pierce electors in 1852.

The subject of our sketch moved to Scottsboro on the 3d of March, 1869. He attended the common schools of that place, and afterwards the East Tennessee University at Knoxville. Soon after attaining his majority he embarked in the newspaper business, established the Scottsboro *Citizen* October 5, 1877, and has conducted it ever since with considerable success, giving it high rank among democratic journals of the State. He was married May 18, 1880, to Miss Malie R., daughter of Rev. P. L. Henderson, of Decatur, Ala. They have three living children, Phillip H., Andrew and Harry Cheatham. James, the youngest child, died September 10, 1887, aged three weeks.

Mr. Armstrong and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and he is a member of the K. of H.



**JOHN BENTON TALLY**, Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, son of John Benton and Sarah E. (Price) Tally, was born June 28, 1851, near Stevenson, Jackson county, Ala.

His parents were born in East Tennessee in 1815, and Jackson county, Ala., in 1817, respectively.

John B. Tally, senior, was brought to Jackson county by his parents in 1819, and located near

Stevenson, where he received a common school education and became a well-to-do farmer. He was in the Florida War from this State, and held the rank of Orderly Sergeant. He served in the Alabama Legislature in 1856-7, and again in 1860-1. He was a staunch Union man, and a Douglass Democrat. He raised a family of three sons and one daughter, and died February 11, 1881. His father, Jacob Tally, was born in East Tennessee, and married Mary Mourning Roberts of Virginia. Her father was killed by the Indians before she was born, and her mother named her Mourning in memory of that sad event. Jacob Tally was an Irishman, and his wife was of Scotch extraction.

John Benton Tally was reared on a farm, and received a common school education, which was limited on account of the war. In January, 1867, he was matriculated at Cecilian College, Hardin county, Ky., and graduated from that institution as A. B. in 1870. He spent two years farming and teaching, and began the study of law. He entered Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tenn., and graduated from the law department in February, 1873. After this he located in Scotsboro, and actively engaged at his profession.

He was elected Judge of the probate court of Jackson county in August, 1880, and in August, 1886, elected Judge of the circuit court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, a position which he has filled until the present time with marked ability.

Judge Tally was married November 8, 1877, to Miss Sidney M. Skelton, of Scotsboro, a daughter of James T. and Charlotte C. (Scott) Skelton, both natives of Jackson county. Mr. Skelton was a merchant. He died in December, 1882, at the age of 57 years. Charlotte C. Scott is a daughter of Robert T. Scott, who represented Alabama in a negotiation with the United States Government, and settled certain claims growing out of the depredations of the Indians.

This branch of the Scott family came to America in the person of William Scott (as a stowaway) away back in the last century. He subsequently became a lieutenant in the Colonial navy, and served through the Revolutionary War under Paul Jones on the flag-ship *Bonhomme*. He was afterwards United States agent in the settlement of some sort of French claims.

Judge Tally has two sons, Walter H. and John B. Tally, and he and his wife are members of the

Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The Judge is a public-spirited man, and fully in sympathy with every legitimate enterprise tending to advance and build up Northern Alabama. He is probably the youngest man ever placed on the Bench of the Circuit in the States.



**DANIEL W. SPEAKE**, County Solicitor of Jackson county, son of James B. Speake, was born July 8, 1856, in Lawrence county, Ala.

James B. Speake was the son of a German family. He was born in 1803, and is now living in Lawrence county. He came from Washington county, Ky., to Alabama soon after completing his education, and taught school for a time in Lawrence county. He soon secured a small farm, and kept adding unto it until he had a large plantation and a number of slaves. He was for many years superintendent of education in Lawrence county; was once a candidate for the State Senate, and in 1865 was a member of the Constitutional Convention. In 1870-2 he was a representative to the General Assembly from his county, and was returned there in 1876-7. He had three sons in the army. Since he was last in the Legislature he has lived on his farm.

He was married June 4, 1833, to Miss Sarah Brooks Lindsey, who was born August 1, 1818, and was the first white girl child born in Lawrence County.

James B. Speake and wife had eight children, of whom six were sons and two daughters. Four of the sons only are now living.

H. C. Speake, born June 17, 1834, now Circuit Judge of the Eighth Circuit, resides in Huntsville; John Marshal Speake, Dennis Basil Speake (who was a soldier in Forrest's Cavalry, and died in prison at Chicago), James Tracker Speake and Charles W. Speake.

Daniel W. Speake worked on a farm in his early days, and attended the common schools of the county until seventeen years of age, when he began teaching, by which means he paid his own way at the University of Alabama, which institution he entered in 1877, and from which he graduated in the classical course in July, 1878. During the succeeding year he took his degree of LL.B. at the same institution. He was admitted to the bar in September, 1879, in Franklin County, this State. He practiced law for two years at Moul-

ton, formed a copartnership with Gen. Joseph Wheeler, and practiced three years at Courtland. He came to Scottsboro January 1, 1885, and is now county solicitor.

Mr. Speake was married December 14, 1881, to Miss Caro McCalla, of Tuscaloosa, a daughter of Maj. R. C. McCalla, a prominent railroad man, chief engineer of construction of the E. T., Va. & G. Railway system, also chief engineer of the Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad Co., now better known as the A. G. S. Railroad.

D. W. Speake has two living children and one dead—Richard McCalla, born October 30, 1882, died July 24, 1884. Bessie and Charles Louis.



**ROBERT C. ROSS**, son of Robert and Ellen (Nugent) Ross, was born in Clark County, Wis., September 21, 1853.

Robert Ross was born on the Island of Mauritius, formerly called the Isle of France (East Indies), in 1819. He located with his parents in Quebec, about 1836. He married in Canada; located in Clark County, Wis., in 1848, and did an extensive lumber business for many years. Our subject's grandfather, Robert Ross, was born in Scotland; became a lieutenant in the British army, and served last in Canada. He lived to be about ninety years of age, and was the father of twelve children. Our subject's mother was also born in Canada.

Robert C. Ross received a common-school education, and began his business life as a lumber dealer.

He married Miss Ida W. Ross in June, 1866. She was a daughter of James Ross, of Eufaula, Ala. They have but two children: Alice and Graham.

Mr. Ross came to Scottsboro in March, 1887, and organized the Jackson County Bank, the first institution of that kind ever operated in the county.

Mr. Ross and wife are members of the Episcopal Church, and he is a Mason and a Knight of Honor.



**JAMES ALFRED KYLE**, Register in Chancery, Scottsboro, is a son of Nelson Kyle, was born February 28, 1862, in Bellefonte, this State.

Nelson Kyle was a son of John Kyle, and a native of Alabama. He was a farmer and subse-

quently a merchant at Bellefonte, and has been Sheriff, Clerk of the Probate Court, County Treasurer, Probate Judge from 1874 to 1880, and was Register in Chancery at the time of his death, September 19, 1886. He was married, first, to the widow of Henry Walker, of Bellefonte, daughter of Nelson Robinson, and one of a family of five. They were the parents of three sons and one daughter, viz.: William; James A., the subject of our sketch; Sallie B., wife of W. B. Hunt; and Chas. E.

James A. Kyle was educated at the Agricultural and Mechanical School at Auburn. He assisted in the Probate Judge's office in Jackson County for some time previous to 1880, clerked in stores until 1883, became a partner with his father, and was a merchant for two years. After his marriage, he went to Texas and remained there about a year. He returned to Jackson County in 1886, and has been Register in Chancery ever since.

He was married to Miss Vula Sanders on March 24, 1885. She is a daughter of C. B. Sanders, a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They have two interesting children: Mary Du and Vula Sidney.

Mr. Kyle is a member of the Knights of Honor.



**JOHN H. NORWOOD**, Probate Judge of Jackson County, was born in Bellefonte November 23, 1828.

He was a son of Henry and Aletha (Caperton) Norwood, natives of South Carolina and Virginia, respectively. The senior Mr. Norwood was in the War of 1812, and held the rank of lieutenant. He came to Jackson County in 1820, and here was an extensive planter and slave owner. He took a prominent part in the Indian wars of his time, holding the rank of captain in the Creek War and colonel in the Seminole War. He subsequently served several terms in both branches of the State Legislature, where he acquitted himself with the highest honor, and to the entire satisfaction of his constituency. He died in 1840, holding the rank of major-general of the militia.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, received such education as could be obtained in the schools of the country, and spent three years in Irving College. He read law in the village of his nativity, and was admitted to

the bar in 1852. After having practiced three years he was appointed Probate Judge, and served under that appointment twelve months. He was then elected to the office and held it until March, 1861, when he resigned and entered the Confederate Army as first lieutenant in Captain Bradford's company, Second Alabama Regiment. During that summer he resigned this position, returned to his home and raised five companies, and with them joined the Forty-third Tennessee Regiment, of which he was elected lieutenant-colonel. He was captured at Fort Donelson, imprisoned at Fort Warren, and, in July of the same year, exchanged at Richmond, Va. After this he went to Vicksburg in General Loring's Division, participated in the fight at Port Gibson and the bombardment of Vicksburg. After the fall of that city he went to East Tennessee and was subsequently engaged at Ringgold, Resaca, and all the fights of the Atlanta Campaign. In 1864, under the direction of the War Department, he recruited a brigade in Alabama, and commanded it to the close of the war. At White's Landing he surrendered, leaving the service with the rank of brigadier-general.

Returning to his native village, he resumed the practice of law, and in 1865 was elected to the State Senate, where he took an active part in the legislation of that important session. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1875, and took a prominent part in the proceedings of that assembly. In 1886 he was elected Probate Judge. His term will expire in 1892. When not in the discharge of the duties of the various offices to which his people have called him, the Judge's extensive law practice has been diversified by the attention given his farming interests.

Judge Norwood was married December 25, 1856, to Miss Margaret, daughter of John Netherland, who came to Alabama in 1820. The family are communicants of the Presbyterian Church, and the Judge belongs to the Masonic order.



**JESSE EDWARD BROWN**, son of Jeremiah and Mary Ann (Williams) Brown, of Scottsboro, was born May 1, 1845, in Jackson County.

Jeremiah Brown is one of a family of North Carolinians who gave its name to Brownsboro. He was a planter in Jackson County and died here.

He was a man of firm convictions and great stability of character. He was married three times.

His first wife was a Miss Moore, and by her he had two sons and one daughter: Bridges, who was a soldier and died at the battle of Corinth; John A., and Nancy, who married a Mr. Yates, of Birmingham. Mrs. Yates, a fluent speaker and writer, has edited various papers, at different times, both in this State and Mississippi.

Jeremiah Brown was married the second time to Miss Mary Ann Williams, a daughter of a Samuel Williams, one of the pioneers of this county, who accumulated a goodly estate in land and slaves. She was one of a family of six children, and herself was the mother of four, viz.: Mary wife of Col. John Snodgrass, of this place; Jesse Edward, of whom we now write; Margaret, wife of William H. Payne, druggist; Charles W., a lawyer, graduated at the University of Alabama, and now in the office of the superintendent of education.

Jesse E. Brown was educated at Georgetown, Ky., and Lebanon, Tenn., where he studied law. He was admitted to the bar in August, 1869, at Huntsville, and began his practice in Scottsboro, where he has remained up to the present writing. He represented his county in the State Legislature in 1872-3, and was one of the framers of the present Constitution of Alabama.

Mr. Brown became a member of the Confederate Army, in Frank Gurley's company, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, and served throughout the entire war. He was in battle near Farmington, wounded and captured at the second battle of Fort Donelson, and a prisoner at Louisville and Baltimore for about two months. He fought at Murfreesboro, Chickamanga, and Kenesaw Mountain, where he lost a leg, and was confined to the hospital for a long time thereafter. Having returned home, he studied law, as before mentioned.

Mr. Brown was married November 5, 1873, to Miss Virginia E. Wood, of Winchester, Tenn. She was a daughter of Dr. Ira G. Wood, and they have three children, viz.: Zaida, Lawrence Edward; Clifford, who was born in 1878 and died in 1880; and Jesse E.

Mr. Brown is a member of the Episcopal Church and of the fraternity of Odd Fellows. His position as one of the most prominent members of the bar in Northeastern Alabama is well known throughout that portion of the State, and his practice is extensive and lucrative.

**JOHN R. COFFEY**, of Fackler, Jackson County, son of Rice and Sallie (Bradford) Coffey, was born at Wartrace, Bedford County, Tenn., March 27, 1814.

Rice Coffey was born in Pennsylvania in 1766. When a young man he removed to North Carolina and became a gunsmith. He married and again removed to Tennessee about 1801, and settled on a farm of a thousand acres of land which he bought of General Jackson, and on which his son, John R. Coffey, was born. He died in 1853, and his wife in 1840. He was a son of James Coffey, of early times, who raised a large family, all of the older sons of whom served as soldiers in the Revolutionary War. The Coffey family are Baptists.

John R. Coffey spent his early days on a farm attending the common old-field schools. When he was thirteen years of age he went to a high school at Shelbyville, Tenn., and remained there twelve months. After this, he came to Bellefonte, without an acquaintance in the county or a dollar in his pocket, and became a clerk in a store. At the age of twenty-two, he established a mercantile business of his own in that village, and continued it until 1846. In 1840, he was elected Sheriff of Jackson County. At the breaking out of the Mexican War, he enlisted in the army in a company commanded by Capt. Richard W. Jones. He afterwards acted as lieutenant, lieutenant-colonel, and major-general in the militia; went to Mobile and organized the First Alabama Regiment and was elected its colonel, and as such, participated in the siege of Vera Cruz. After the war with Mexico, he became a general of the militia. He had now returned to his farm and devoted his attention to its cultivation until 1853, when he moved to Stevenson and engaged in the mercantile business, which he prosecuted with considerable success until the beginning of the late war, when he again closed his store and returned to his farm of 4,000 acres, on the banks of the Tennessee River.

In 1861 he was elected a delegate to the convention which passed the ordinance of secession. He was bitterly opposed to that ordinance, but, being overpowered, he submitted with the best possible grace, and thereafter gave moral and substantial support to the Confederacy.\*

General Coffey was married January 21, 1849, to Miss Mary Ann Cross, daughter of Col. Chas. and

Eliza (Clark) Cross, of Jackson County. They were natives of North Carolina and came to Alabama about 1826. He was a soldier in the Indian wars, and was drowned in the Tennessee River about 1848.†

General Coffey is the father of six children, of whom four grew to maturity, namely: Eliza, wife of Wm. J. Tally; Sallie B., wife of C. W. Brown, chief clerk in the office of the State Superintendent of Education; John B. and Clark MacIn. General Coffey's wife died September 6, 1887. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Masonic order. General Coffey is a man of commanding presence, being over six feet in height and having apparently the vim and energy of a youth. He is one of the best known men of the State and one of the most influential men in Northeastern Alabama.



**JAMES HARRISON COWAN**, of Princeton, Jackson County, son of Samuel M. Cowan, was born near Stevenson, this county, March 17, 1837.

His father, Samuel M. Cowan, was born in Kentucky in 1798; came to Jackson County in 1824, and settled at Bolivar, two miles north of Stevenson. He served as captain in the Florida War, in 1837. In 1819, he was married in Franklin County, Tenn., to Elizabeth Caperton, from Virginia. He was one of a family of eight children, four boys and four girls, and was father of twelve children. Of these, Eleanor married T. Boyd Foster, a prominent man, who has been County Surveyor of Jackson for forty years, and was in the Florida War; Jane married Dr. Wm. Mason, who was a major in the Florida War and afterwards a member of the Legislature—he was a cousin of Gen. Winfield Scott; Hugh C. was a lawyer, a member of the Legislature in 1852, a delegate to the National Convention which nominated Jas. Buchanan, and an elector of the college which elected him—he died in 1860; John F. was a lawyer, well educated and brilliant, but died of consumption in his early manhood; Samuel C. was one of the first merchants in Stevenson—he died in 1858; Geo. E. went into the Confederate Army in 1861 as lieutenant, and became a major in the Thirty-third Alabama Regiment.

\* General Coffey's grandmother was a sister to Col. Ben, Cleveland, who commanded a regiment at the battle of King's Mountain.

† His wife's great-grandfather, Col. Wm. MacIn, and her grandfather, Robert Clark, were in the Revolutionary War; the latter was wounded in battle at Eatwau Springs, from which he died. Her grandfather, MacIn Cross, was in the battle at Nick-a-Jack, Indian Nation.

Mr. Cowan's grandfather was an Irishman; served in the War of 1812, and in most of the Indian wars; was a major under General Jackson, and died in Franklin County, Tenn.

James H. Cowan attended Burritt College in Van Buren County, Tenn., and was a merchant before the war. He entered the army in 1861 and served one year as commissary with the rank of captain. He was captured at the battle of Fort Donelson in 1862, and confined in prison at Camp Chase and Johnson's Island for several months.

After his exchange, he served as captain of infantry in the Fifty-sixth Alabama Regiment until the close of the war. He was in battle at Baker's Creek, Port Hudson, Jackson, Miss., and all of the Georgia campaign from Resaca to Peach Tree Creek. He was wounded three times at the latter battle, and incapacitated for further service thereby.

In 1870, J. H. Cowan was elected to the Legislature, re-elected in 1872, and served until 1873; since that time he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits. His wife was Miss Sophia E. Taliaferro, daughter of Richard H. Taliaferro, a minister of some note in the Missionary Baptist Church, at Princeton. Mr. Cowan has six children: Geo. W., Elizabeth, Sophronia, Angie, Sophie T., and Samuel C.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowan are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and he is a Freemason.



**R. C. HUNT.** Attorney at Law, was born February 3, 1850, in Franklin County, Tenn. His father, William Hunt, was born in the same place in 1812. He was a substantial farmer, and served as a captain in the Florida War. He died in 1862. He married Miss Annis Clayton, a native of Jackson County, Ala., and daughter of R. B. Clayton, of North Carolina, who came to Alabama about 1820. R. B. Clayton was the first Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jackson County. He died in Baldwin, Miss., in 1872, at the age of 82 years.

R. C. Hunt received his early education in the common schools of Tennessee. In 1870 he began the study of law, and in 1871 was admitted to the bar at Winchester, Tenn. He commenced the practice of his profession in Texas, but located in Scottsboro, in 1875, where he has since established a very successful practice.

Mr. Hunt was married in April, 1877, to Miss Annie Scruggs, a daughter of Frederick and Margaret (Kimbrough) Scruggs, of East Tennessee.



**ALEXANDER SNODGRASS.** Postmaster, Scottsboro, son of James D. Snodgrass, was born in Washington County, Va., October 1, 1820.

James D. Snodgrass was born in the same place about 1790. He was a weaver by trade, as was his father before him, and he was also a farmer. He married Abigail Dunlap, of Scotch descent and they had nine children.

Alexander Snodgrass was born in the ancestral home; educated at the common schools and Dunfield Academy, Elizabeth, Tenn., and at Abingdon, Va. He came to Alabama in 1843; has been tax assessor, and was receiver of public money at the land offices at Lebanon and Centre for six years. He represented Cherokee County in the State Legislature two years, and was State agent for shipping salt for a year or two during the war. After the war, he established the *Alabama Herald* at Scottsboro.

In 1872 he was elected to represent Jackson, Marshall and DeKalb counties in the State Senate, and served there four years. He continued the publication of the *Herald* until January 16, 1887, when, on account of his appointment as postmaster by President Cleveland, the paper was discontinued.

In 1843, Mr. Snodgrass was married to Miss Lucetta Byrd, of this vicinity, by whom he had one daughter, Mary A., married to C. W. Daughdrill, and now living in Gadsden. In 1853 the first Mrs. Snodgrass died, and in December, 1854, Mr. Snodgrass was married to Miss Susan Jane Hill, a lady related to a family of that name well known in Georgia and Tennessee. The children of this marriage are John Nathaniel, who died in infancy; Fannie V., now widow of F. R. King of New Orleans and for some time known as junior editress of the *Herald*. She has become quite famous throughout the State as a writer under the *nom de plume* of "Rex" in the *Birmingham Age*; Susan Cornelia, wife of D. K. Caldwell, of this county, and living in Scottsboro; Jesse Alexander, wife of Dr. Beech, a dentist of Scottsboro; Irene and Minnie, yet at home.

Mr. Snodgrass is a member of the Episcopal Church and the Masonic fraternity.

**JAMES K. P. ROSEX, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon, son of David and Sarah A. (Wilkinson) Rorex, was born the 3d of March, 1845, in Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tenn.

His father, David Rorex, was born in East Tennessee October 16, 1806. He was a merchant; moved to Alabama in January, 1858, and died in Scottsboro March, 1880. His wife, Sarah Ann Wilkinson, died in March, 1863. They had six children, two boys and four girls.

Dr. Rorex received a common-school education at Stevenson in the ante-bellum days. He entered the Confederate Army at the age of fifteen, in the Sixth Alabama Infantry. He was in the Seven Days' Fight before Richmond in 1862; at the battle of Chancellorsville, where he was wounded; at Gettysburg, and the second battle of the Wilderness, where he received a wound which crippled him for five or six years. After the war he attended school at Stevenson for one year. Then he went to the University of Virginia, after which he came home and taught school for three years, studying medicine in the meantime. He attended two courses of lectures in Nashville; took his degree of M. D. at Mobile, in March, 1875; attended Louisiana State Medical College in New Orleans in 1884; and has practiced medicine in Scottsboro since 1875. He is a member of the State Medical Association and a counsellor therein since 1881; was County Health Officer five years, and is President now of the Jackson County Medical Society. He is a member of the Christian Church and of the Odd Fellows fraternity.

Dr. Rorex was married November 6, 1876, to Miss Ella Lou Whitworth, a daughter of Wm. Whitworth, of Tennessee. The Doctor has three children: Louis Wyeth, Fannie Polk and William David.



**JOHN RICHARD HARRIS**, son of Richard B. and A. H. Clopton Harris, of Virginia, was born near Huntsville, May 5, 1841. Richard B. Harris was born in 1806, educated in the country schools, in early life was a merchant, and afterward a farmer. He was a captain of militia at Huntsville for many years and served also as a justice of the peace. He reared two sons and five daughters.

John R. Harris was reared on a farm, and when eight years old removed with his parents to Larkinsville, Ala., and received his education at

Irvin College. In March, 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate Army, in Capt. Hal. Bradford's company; went to Fort Morgan, where he and his company were merged into the Second Alabama Regiment; remained there for ten months, was transferred to Fort Pillow, and after a short time discharged. While Mr. Harris and his comrades were on their way home he joined an Alabama regiment for the occasion and participated in the memorable battle of Corinth. Having reached his home, he remained there but a few days, and went out as an independent with Colonel Stearns, of the Fourth Tennessee Cavalry, and there was organized into Company K., Commanded by Capt. Francisco Rice, of Madison County, Ala., Forrest's old brigade. While here he declined an office which was tendered him. After this he participated in all the engagements in which his brigade fought; was never excused from duty at any time; was in Bragg's campaign in Kentucky; fought with Kirby Smith's command, and himself commanded the extreme advance guard of Smith's division till he reached Barbersville and Cumberland Ford. When his squad had only crossed the Kentucky line a short distance, they were fired on by bushwhackers, when they dashed into the hills and captured some of them; then met a Federal lieutenant with twenty scouts, and killed and captured together, fourteen of the same. Here Mr. Harris was slightly wounded on top of his head. He was engaged at Richmond, Perryville, second battle of Fort Donelson, Parker's Cross Roads, Huntington, Lexington and Dresden, where his brigade captured General Fry's command. He was afterward in the battles of Thompson Station, Tenn., Knoxville, Chickamauga, Resaca and the campaign of Atlanta, Ga.; was slightly wounded several times; was with Gen. Joe Wheeler in the East Tennessee campaign, in the winter of 1863-4. After Hood's raid he was on detached duty as a secret scout, in which duty he again had command of a small squad of men, and had numerous fights with an independent Alabama company, and Federals in Middle Tennessee and North Alabama, often successfully fighting five and ten to one; and thinks he, with five others, made the last fight of the war near Larkinsville, Ala., killing seven out of sixteen of the enemy. This engagement was on horseback, the enemy getting in first fire. A short time before this Mr. Harris, with Lieutenant Haveren and eight men, boarded a Federal steamboat some



miles below Chattanooga, on the Tennessee River, and captured the crew and destroyed the vessel, with several cannon.

After the war he engaged in farming, which he has continued till the present time. In 1871, he was elected Sheriff, and served one term. It is said by his countrymen that he made a most excellent sheriff. In 1880, he removed to Scottsboro, where he owns considerable property.

In 1869, he was married to Miss Mollie F. Winbourn, of West Tennessee. He had one daughter by this marriage—Mollie F. His wife died in 1870; was married again in 1874 to Miss Maria W. Kinkle, daughter of Lafayette and Agnes (Jones) Kinkle, of Huntsville. They have several children—Robert K., John R., Fannie T., Emma P., Jennie P., Maria W., Lulu G. and George W. Mr. Harris and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a Mason and Knight of Honor.



**JOHN P. TIMBERLAKE**, Contractor, Stevenson, son of Joel and Martha (Perkins) Timberlake, was born in Louisa County, Va., August 13, 1817.

His parents were both natives of Louisa County, where his father was born, in 1776. He was a farmer, and died in 1831, leaving five children. His widow died a few years later.

Philip Timberlake, grandfather of John P. Timberlake, was also a native of Virginia, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The Timberlakes came from England.

John P. Timberlake was reared on a farm, and received a common school education. When twenty years of age, he took a contract on the James River & Kanawha Canal. After this was completed, he came to Georgia (in 1838), and took contracts in the construction of the Western & Atlantic Railway. He followed the business of contracting, in Georgia and Alabama, until 1857, and was successful in accumulating a considerable fortune.

In 1852, he located at Stevenson, where he has since resided, and has been a merchant and farmer, besides continuing his business as a contractor, in pursuance of which, he was interested in erecting all the principal buildings of Stevenson, including the William and Emma Austin College, which was finished in 1873.

In 1861, he was a delegate to the Secession Con-

vention, and gave his entire influence against the ordinance of secession.

Mr. Timberlake was married, in 1858, to Sarah T. Roach, of Jackson County, Ala., a daughter of Rev. Charles L. and Sarah (Bradford) Roach, of Virginia and Tennessee, respectively. Charles L. Roach was a minister of the Missionary Baptist Church. Mrs. Timberlake died in 1867. Mr. Timberlake is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Masonic fraternity.



**JAMES P. HARRIS**, Proprietor of the Harris House, Scottsboro, son of Richard B. Harris, and grandson of a soldier in the Revolutionary war, was born April 4, 1847, near Huntsville.

Mr. Harris was a weakly youth until he had served awhile in the army. His father had plenty of slaves, and he did nothing in his boyhood days but go to school. He joined the Confederate Army in 1861, being then but sixteen years of age, and was mustered into Company K, Fourth Alabama Infantry, under Col. Egbert J. Jones. He was in the battle of Bull Run, July 21, 1861, but was discharged from the infantry service on account of his extreme youth. He returned to his home and remained there about a month, when he joined Forrest's Cavalry in the Fourth Tennessee Regiment; was in the battle at Jamestown, the seven days' fight before Richmond, and in all Forrest's West Tennessee campaigns, including eight or ten heavy battles and many skirmishes; was at the second battle of Fort Donelson, the battle of Thompson's Station and the capture of Streight, whom Forrest pursued from near Tusculum until within a few miles from Rome, Georgia, riding and fighting day and night for three or four days.

Our subject was engaged in the battle of Tullahoma, a most severe fight, in which Colonel Starnes of his regiment was killed. He was also in the battle of Chickamauga, and after that went to East Tennessee and participated in the siege of Knoxville, and was continuously fighting most of the winter. In the spring his regiment came through the Carolinas and joined Johnson's army at Dalton, Georgia. This regiment was placed in the rear guard on their retreat from Dalton to Atlanta, and participated in the battles of Rosaca, Calhoun, Kenesaw Mountain, and Peach Tree Creek. Before the battle of Peach

Tree Creek they captured Stoneman and his command south of Atlanta, and made a raid through Middle Tennessee. After the battle at Atlanta they fought a most severe one at Franklin, Tennessee, and then retreated to North Carolina, where Johnson surrendered.

He was married October 31, 1866, to Miss Jennie Robertson, of Jackson County, and four children have been born to this union: William S., Anna B., Mary S. and James P.

Mr. Harris and lady are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is an Odd Fellow.



## VIII.

### FRANKLIN COUNTY.

Population: White, 10,456; colored, 1,699. Area, 610 square miles. Woodland, all. Red Valley and other calcareous lands, 220 square miles. Sandy soil and gravelly hills, 240 square miles. Coal measures, 150 square miles.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 10,368; in corn, 21,038; in oats, 320; in wheat, 1,650; in tobacco, 17; in sugar cane, 96; in sweet potatoes, 137.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 3,000.

County Seat—Bel Green: Population, 500; located 23 miles from Tusculmbia.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Franklin News*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Alamthus, *Bel Green*, Barleson, Ezzell, Fordton, Frankfort, Isbell, Mountain Springs, Nelsonville, Newburgh, Pleasant Site, Russellville, Spruce Pine, Waco.

Franklin is one of the northwestern counties of the State, and adjoins the State of Mississippi. Its history as a county antedates the history of the State, it having been organized in 1818, by the first Territorial Legislature. The county perpetuates the memory of Benjamin Franklin, the great American philosopher. It is one of the oldest counties in the State, and has long been noted for its richness in minerals as well as the fertility of its soils. At Russellville, which was once the county-seat, there was established the first iron furnace erected in the State; but, owing to superior facilities of transportation in other quarters, its operation has long since been discontinued, and now its existence is only a memory of the past.

The principal mineral resources of the county consist of coal and iron ore, both of which are found in apparently inexhaustible quantities. The presence of these minerals bids fair to bring Franklin County into prominence and materially increase the value of its lands. The want of facilities of transportation, in the past, has been the cause which retarded the development of the resources of this county; but this condition is somewhat changed now, as the county is penetrated by the Sheffield & Birmingham Railroad, which will soon be completed through to the latter city. In addition to this road, others highly important to the interests of Franklin are projected, and no doubt the work of constructing some of them will be commenced at an early date. This is what Franklin has long awaited, and when the time arrives the county will enjoy an era of prosperity greater than is now dreamed of.

The surface of the county is marked by a series of ridges, and taken as a whole is more or less broken, but has frequent valleys notable for their fertility, which furnish excellent lands sufficient to support a large population of small farmers. The soil on the ridges is thin and cultivation of it yields poor return; but in the valleys the results will compare favorably with sections which are strictly classed as good agricultural regions. The principal products of the county are corn, cotton, wheat, oats, rye, tobacco, sorghum, potatoes and the usual field crops. Probably the leading crop of the county is corn, although it produces nearly

4,000 bales of cotton per year. This crop was placed at 2,072 bales by the Census of 1870, while the Census of 1880 shows a yield of 3,603 bales.

The conditions of the county especially adapt it to the cultivation of grain, in which it will compare favorably with leading counties of the cereal belt.

The matter of stock raising is receiving much attention, and Franklin County's wool product bids fair to be a most important feature at an early day.

The county is fairly well wooded, the principal of its timbers being red, white, post and black-jack oaks, dogwood, chestnut and hickory. Considerable quantities of the more valuable timbers—

black locust, cedar, walnut and cherry—are found in many portions.

Bear River, Little Bear, and other smaller and unimportant streams give the county an ample supply of water. Until changed at the last session of the Legislature, Bear River was known as Big Bear Creek.

The County Seat is Bel Green, a pleasant little town, located about the center of the county. The other principal towns are Russellville, Frankfort, Nelsonville and Center Line. The educational and religious facilities of the county are up to the standard. Fine private schools are kept up in almost every town, while every township has its public school. Meeting-houses are found in all portions of the county.



## IX.

## COLBERT COUNTY.

Population: White, 9,203; colored, 6,950. Area, 570 square miles, Woodland, all. Gravelly hills and sandy soil, 420 square miles; red valley and other calcareous lands, 150 square miles.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 25,000; in corn, 31,575; in oats, 3,846; in wheat, 1,794; in rye, 69; in tobacco, 34; in sugar-cane, 15; in sweet potatoes, 286.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 10,000. County Seat—Tuscumbia; population, 2,000; located near the Tennessee River, on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Dispatch* and *North Alabamian*, both Democratic. At Sheffield—*Enterprise*, Independent.

Postoffices in the County—Allsborough, Barton, Beeson, Bishop, Cheatham, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Dickson, Dug, Ingleton, Leighton, Littleville, Margerum, Mand, Mountain Mills, Pride's Station, Rock Creek, Saint's Store, Sheffield, South Florence, Spring Valley, Tharp, Tuscumbia.

Colbert County, named for a famous chief of

the Chickasaws, who once lived within its limits, was created from territory cut off from the northern part of Franklin County in 1867. "Though one of the youngest counties in the State," says a recent writer, "it is rapidly coming to the front as one of the most progressive." It is one of the most highly-favored counties in Alabama, taking into consideration its climate, soil, farm products, water-powers, timbers, minerals, and transportation by river and rail.

The county lies east and west, in the shape of an irregular parallelogram (twenty by thirty miles), much compressed in the middle by a southward flexure of the Tennessee River, which washes its whole northern border. It contains 570 square miles.

Population in 1840, 12,537; in 1880, 16,153; in 1887 (estimated), 22,000, of whom fifty-nine per cent. are white, and forty-one per cent. are colored.

The principal farm products are cotton, corn (in the production of which, per acre, the county ranks first in the State), oats, wheat, clover, the

grasses, sorghum, sweet and Irish potatoes, hay, rye, and tobacco in limited quantities. Peaches grow to perfection in the mountains, and all other kind of fruit and vegetables thrive in the valleys.

A range of hills called the "Little Mountain" runs east and west through the county, north of which lies the Valley of the Tennessee, and south Russel's Valley, in Franklin County. Toward Russel's Valley, the hills slope gradually, and are covered with pebble beds of considerable thickness, while toward the Tennessee Valley, the mountain sinks down abruptly, leaving escarpments of rock from 75 to 175 feet in height.

But two geological formations, the sub-carboniferous and the stratified drift, are represented in the county. These, though lying in contact, are divided chronologically by the mighty gap which separates palaeozoic from quarterman time. The sub-carboniferous is composed of limestone and sandstone; the drift of angular fragments of clod sands, clay, and rounded pebbles. The latter is found chiefly in the southern and western part of the county.

The drainage of the county is northward all the streams flowing into the Tennessee River, and all, except Bear River, in the west, having their sources in the Little Mountain. The streams flowing north are Spring Creek, Little Bear Creek, Cane Creek, Buzzard Roost Creek and Bear River. The first four have cut deep gorges or cañons into the sandstone, which forms the upper stratum of the Little Mountain. These cañons abound in mineral springs and are wildly picturesque and beautiful. After leaving the mountains streams flow through a comparatively level valley to the river. The St. Louis or coral limestone underlies this valley.

The most striking topographical features of the county are the bluffs of coral limestone, 50 to 100 feet high, along the south bank of the Tennessee River, the level and beautiful valley, thirty miles in length by ten miles in breadth, lying parallel, and the bold escarpment of the Little Mountain visible from every part of the valley, forming a mighty wall of stone to the southward.

The lands of the county may be classified agriculturally as follows: Fifty-seven square miles of alluvial lands—these are "made lands" along Tennessee and Bear Rivers, subject to overflow, but astonishingly fertile, producing maximum crops of 100 bushels of corn and 1½ bales of cotton to the acre; 153 square miles of red lands of the valley lying between the coral limestone bluffs of

the river and the limestone escarpments of the Little Mountain—these lands are not subject to overflow, have a red to dark brown soil, a deep red sub-soil, are easily renovated when worn, and are exceedingly rich and productive; the bad class of land—380 square miles of "mountain" lands—about one-half of which has a light sand soil, not very productive, but covered with the fine forests of pine and oak, and the other half of caves and rich, rounded hills covered with growth of walnut and poplar, and producing fine crops of corn, cotton and small grain. Lands vary from \$5 to \$50 per acre in price, according to character, location and surroundings.

The spontaneous and exuberant growth of grasses in Colbert County marks it specially for a stock country. The efforts heretofore made at raising horses, mules, cattle, hogs, etc., and improving breeds of live stock, have been eminently successful. Few counties in the State could make an exhibition of live stock that would rival that of this county.

Colbert is rich in valuable timbers. Forests of short leaf pine, cutting from 400,000 to 500,000 feet, board measure, to the square mile, abound. All varieties of oak are found. Thousands of cords of tan bark are annually shipped by river to northwestern cities. Red gums of great height and beauty grow in all parts of the county. Chestnut grows everywhere upon the mountains, and cypress is abundant along the streams.

The mineral wealth of the county is very great. Beds of silica, hydraulic limestone, ochre, fire-clay and kaolin are found in various parts, particularly in the west. Good beds of iron ore (limonite) are found near Tharptown in the southeast and near Chickasaw in the northwest portion of the county. Gray marble, approximating statuary marble in the polish it takes, is quarried at Ingleton near the Mississippi line. Samples of this stone may be seen in the Confederate monument at Montgomery, and the soldiers' monument at Mobile. Sandstone of superior quality abounds. Keller's quarry, near the center of the county, and Holsapple's quarry, near Cherokee, are among the best. The cleavage of this stone is perfect, any size and thickness being obtained.

Among the industrial and manufacturing enterprises of the county are the stone quarries above mentioned, the lime works of Dr. Pride, near Pride Station, and of Mr. John A. Denny, near Margerium, the cotton factory of Messrs. Cheney

& Brandon, near Barton, and quite a number of steam saw and grist mills in various parts of the county.

At Sheffield, preparations for making and working iron on the most extensive scale are being made, and shipments of ore have begun. Five blast furnaces of a combined capacity of 600 tons of iron daily, are completed, or in process of construction. The limits of this article forbids any enumeration of the various manufacturing enterprises at Sheffield and Tuscumbia, which include plow factories, ice factories, planing mills, brick yards, sash and blind factories, etc.

The first railroad in the South, a horse-car railway, was built from Tuscumbia, in this county, to Decatur, in Morgan County. These points are now connected by the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, which runs through Colbert County from east to west. A branch of the the same road connects Tuscumbia with Florence. The Sheffield & Birmingham Railroad runs through Colbert County from north to south, connecting Sheffield with the iron and coal deposits in Franklin, Winston, Walker and Jefferson Counties. Besides these roads the following railroads, all to pass through this county, are projected and in process of construction: The Louisville & Nashville extension, from Columbia, Tenn., to Sheffield, Ala.; the Illinois Central extension, from Aberdeen, Miss., to Sheffield, Ala.; the Florence & Tuscaloosa Railroad from Tuscaloosa to Florence, *via* Sheffield; and the Paducah, Chickasaw & Birmingham Railroad from Chickasaw to Birmingham.

Leighton, lying partly in Lawrence County, Brides, Barton, Cherokee, Dickson and Margerum are stations and thriving towns surrounded by a fine country and have good churches and schools.

Chickasaw, the head of summer navigation on the Tennessee River, is below Colbert Shoals. It is the most northwesterly town in Alabama, and during low water stage goods may be billed to it cheaper than any other town in the State. Allsboro is a prosperous village on the Bear River twenty miles below its mouth.

Ninety per cent. of the population of Saint's, Camp Smith, Wheeler's and Seygley beats, which constitute the mountain precincts are white. The farmers of this section are the most independent and self-sustaining in the county.

The Tennessee River secures to dwellers on its banks water connection with all the river cities of

the north, west and south. The navigation from Paducah, Ky., to Chickasaw, Ala., is equalled in this country only by that of the lower Mississippi and the Hudson. The distance is about three hundred miles. An additional three hundred miles will be added to the navigation of this river as soon as the Mussel Shoals Canal is completed and obstructions removed from Colbert Shoals, for which work there has been an appropriation of \$50,000.



**FRANK R. KING**, born at Leighton, Ala., October 30, 1857, is a son of Hartwell P. and Mary Henderson (Smith) King.

The senior Mr. King was born near Raleigh, N. C., in 1820. He entered the army as a member of Captain Rand's Company, with which he served until the close of the war. He had born to him eight children, viz.: Henry, Hartwell, Richard, Duncan, Paul, William, Frank R. and Susie. The three first named died when quite young.

The grandfather of our subject, Hartwell King, was a native of North Carolina. He reared a large family and died before the war. His widow died in 1871, at the extreme old age of 88 years.

The subject of this sketch engaged in mercantile business with his brother Paul, which business they are still conducting. This firm is one of the oldest in Leighton, and has the largest trade of any of its kind in that section of the country.

Mr. King was married in June, 1876, to Imogene White, daughter of James White, of Memphis, Tenn. The union has been blessed with one child, Walter. Mr. King and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches, respectively.



**B. R. KING, M. D.**, born near Leighton, Ala., in 1836, is a son of Oswald and Martha (DeLone) King.

The senior Mr. King was born in North Carolina in the year 1785; came to Alabama with his parents at the age of seventeen years, and died in 1876. He was a well educated man, a thorough instructor, and one of the leading citizens of the county. He taught school when quite young, and also was a successful planter, in which avoca-

tion he accumulated a large fortune. He reared a family of eleven children, of whom we make the following mention: Edward H., deceased; Robert, a planter; B. R., our subject; Burchert, planter; Margaret F., wife of F. Hubbard; the rest of the family died at an early age. The King family came originally from England.

The mother of our subject was also born in North Carolina, and was a daughter of Capt. E. B. DeLone, a native of Virginia, and of French Huguenot ancestry. Capt. DeLone came to Alabama in its early history, located at Huntsville, where he became an extensive trader, and thence removed to Arkansas, where he died before the war.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, and received his education at La Grange College, from which institution he was graduated. He also attended a military school at Marietta, Ga., ten months. About 1857 he began the study, of medicine with Dr. Kumpie, and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1861. Immediately after his graduation he located in the practice of his profession at Leighton. In 1863, he entered into a contract with the Confederate Government as Surgeon of the Thirty-fifth Alabama Regiment, with which command he served about two years. He then acted as Surgeon of Warren's Battalion for a short time.

After the war, Dr. King settled at Leighton, where he has been engaged, more or less, in the practice of his profession ever since. He also conducts a large farm. He stands high in the estimation of the community, and is regarded by the profession as one of the most skillful physicians in Northern Alabama.

**DR. GEORGE E. KUMPIE** was born near Castle, Germany, September 7, 1819. He received his education in his native country, and in early life was connected with the Lutheran Church. When quite young, he and his brother, John, came to the United States, locating at Tusculumbia, Ala.

The Doctor took his first course in medicine at Louisville, in 1847, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. After his graduation, he located at La Grange, Ala., where he found a good field for his profession, and in which he labored, with much success, until 1876. He

then moved to Little Rock, Ark., where he lived a few years, coming thence to Leighton, where he lived until his death, which occurred August 29, 1887.

Being a man of much popularity, a skillful physician, an active worker in the church, and a public-spirited citizen, his death was regretted by a large circle of friends. He was a prominent Mason, and stood at the head of his profession. He served as president and vice-president of the State Medical Association, and was deeply interested in all matters pertaining to the advancement and edification of the medical profession. He left an interesting family, of six sons and one daughter, who comprise some of Northern Alabama's best citizens.

**PARKER N. G. RAND** was born at La Grange, Colbert County, Ala., in October, 1829, and is a son of John and Martha (Curtis) Rand, natives of Wake County, N. C.

Mr. Rand's parents moved to La Grange in 1826; purchased two farms, one in Lawrence and the other in Franklin County, and were successful in accumulating a large amount of land. They reared four sons and five daughters, namely: Louise, wife of William Mullens of Alabama; Pemantha, widow of Robert A. Lampkin; Martha, wife of Reece Cook, of Vicksburg, Miss.; Jackson C., deceased; John W., physician; William H., farmer; Molsey A., wife of F. C. Vinson; Parker N. G., our subject; Mary A., wife of Dr. William Stephenson—she died in Texas. The elder Mr. Rand died in 1863, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife died in 1845, aged fifty-six years. He was a very active and industrious man while in North Carolina. Beginning in life apparently a poor man he succeeded in accumulating a fortune of at least \$50,000. The Rand family were originally of Irish and Scotch ancestry. The mother of our subject was a daughter of John Curtis, a native of Wake county, N. C. He was a lineal descendant of Irish parentage.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm; received a common-school education, and in 1845 entered La Grange College, from which institution he was graduated as A. B. in 1849. After his graduation he was engaged with his father farming until February, 1855, when he was married to Martha A. Smith, daughter of John Smith, of Lawrence

County, Ala. They reared a family of six children, namely: Pattie; Parker, book-keeper for F. R. King & Co.; Leighton, Hall, John and Mary.

After marriage Mr. Rand located in the neighborhood of his birth where he was engaged at farming. He was elected magistrate, which office he has held for thirty years or more. In the spring of 1863, he raised a company of soldiers; was elected captain, and entered a battalion under Major Williams of the Confederate Army. This company remained a part of the battalion until its major was killed, after which it was merged into Company H, Eleventh Alabama, commanded by Col. James Burtwell, a graduate of West Point.

Mr. Rand remained with this regiment until the close of the war. He was mostly engaged as a scout and participated at the battle of Tishomingo Creek and at the fall of Selma. He surrendered at Pond Springs, after which he returned home and resumed farming. Having lost considerable of his fortune, he went to work with energy and has succeeded in replenishing his coffers.

Mr. Rand and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been steward for many years. He is also worshipful master of the Masonic lodge, and has taken an active interest in all that pertains to the advancement and progress of his section of the country.



# MINERAL BELT.

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## I.

### BLOUNT COUNTY.

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Population: White, 14,310; colored, 1,159. Area, 700 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measures, 460 square miles; valley lands, 240 square miles: Brown's and Murphree's Valley, 240 square miles.

Acres in cotton, approximately, 12,500; in corn, 29,161; in oats, 4,551; in wheat, 10,087; in tobacco, 48; in sweet potatoes, 371. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 5,000.

County Seat—Blountsville: population, 300; located fifty miles south of Huntsville and forty-eight miles north of Birmingham.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Blount County News*, democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Anderton, Arkadelphia, Balm, Bangor, Blount Springs, *Blountsville*, Brooksville, Chepultepec, Craigie, Dineston, Garden City, Garrison Point, Gum Springs, Hanby Mills, Hanceville, Hendrick, Huldah, Liberty, Little Warrior, Lowery, McLarty, Murphree's Valley, Nectar, Ogee, Remlap, Snead, Strawberry, Summit, Village Springs, Viola, Wynnville.

This county was formed in 1818, and named in honor of Governor William G. Blount, of Tennessee. It is noted for the abundance of its minerals, the diversity of its soils, the variety of productions, and mineral waters. In its progress,

it is keeping pace with the surrounding counties, and is ranked among the best in the State.

The face of the country in Blount is rather peculiar. It is penetrated through the center by a plateau which occupies a belt from eight to ten miles in width. On one side of this mountain plateau, running parallel with it, is Murphree's Valley, while on the opposite side is Brown's Valley. Along this belt of plateau are found excellent farming lands, which have been wonderfully assisted during the last few years by the moderate use of fertilizers. Cotton grows most readily upon this broad upland, especially if a little assisted with fertilizers.

Excellent school and church facilities exist in almost every portion of the county. Blountsville, the seat of justice, Bangor, Summit, Hanceville, and Garden City are places of importance. The industries of the county are varied. Extensive limeworks are seen at Blount Springs. Limestone, dug from the quarries here, is daily shipped in large quantities to Birmingham, where the manufacturers hold it in repute above any other available limestone. It prevails in inexhaustible stores, in hills about Blount Springs. Coal and iron are abundant in the county. Petroleum is also found. Enjoying, as it does, facilities for transportation to



the markets of the South, North, and all points in the far Northwest, nothing prevents Blount from taking rank with the foremost counties of the State.

Here, as in the adjoining counties which lie

along the railroad, the value of the lands diminishes as they recede from the line of communication. Land can be purchased in the county at prices ranging from 85 to 835 per acre. There are 34,320 acres of government land in Blount County.



## II.

### BIBB COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,000; colored, 3,000. Area, 610 square miles. Woodland, all. Hilly lands, with long-leaf pine, 310 square miles. Cahaba coal fields, 125 square miles. Romp's Valley, 100 square miles. Valley lands south of Cahaba coal fields, 75 square miles. Gravelly hills, with long-leaf pines, 110 square miles.

Acres in cotton, approximately, 15,737; in corn, 18,816; in oats, 2,935; in wheat, 3,125; in rye, 151; in tobacco, 36; in sugar-cane, 36; in sweet potatoes, 368. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 5,921.

County Seat—Centerville: population 300; located on Cahaba River.

Postoffices in the County—Abererombie, Affinee, Ashby, Bibbville, Blocton, Brierfield, *Centerville*, Furnace, Green Pond, Harrisburgh, New Marrs, Pondville, Randolph, River Bend, Scottsville, Six Mile, Slick, Timms, Woodstock.

Formerly, Bibb County was one of the largest counties in the State; but a great deal of its area has been cut off to make up the surrounding counties established later on in the history of the State.

In the first days of its settlement, and for a long time, agriculture was the only pursuit of its citizens; but along in the days of the Confederacy the industries began to be diversified, and some attention was given to her minerals. But her inhabitants soon settled again into the tilling of the soil, and not until a few years ago have her great resources of mineral and timber wealth been discovered; and while she stands to-day among the richest and most wonderful of the

counties of the great Commonwealth, she has not lost much of her agricultural value.

Very little corn is bought by the farmers, and they could easily raise it all. Besides this, the soil produces with ease and in abundance oats, rye, potatoes, peas, rice, sugar-cane, and in fact almost everything except wheat. The forests and fields afford excellent pasturage for cattle and hogs, though as yet not much attention is paid to either, as a rule. A most important crop is grass, which can be raised at a considerable profit; and in many parts of the county the farmers are turning their attention to stock-raising. The fertility of the lands can not be too highly spoken of.

The entire country in the eastern portion of the county is full of iron of the finest quality. Within a short distance lie beds of limestone, and coal is near by. Iron can be made at a small cost. Many varieties of marble are found which could be easily utilized. The finest fire-clay exists in many places, and is being worked at two points. Fine brick are made. Yellow ochre is found and some gold-bearing quality. There are also manganese, asbestos, saltpetre, and some other inferior minerals.

Great forests of pine timber offer a rich harvest to mill men, and some of them are being worked. The county is shaded by the finest of timbers, embracing hickory, oak, gum, maple, beech, poplar, walnut, chestnut, elm, persimmon, cottonwood, and the finest of cedar; all of this timber could be put to use, and the county abounds in good openings for wooden manufactories.

Anywhere on the banks of the beautiful streams

may be found fine water-powers, where small manufactories could be run. The most important of those streams are the Cahaba and Little Cahaba Rivers, and Haysov, Shultz, Shades, Ockmulgee, Sandy, Six Mile, and Mahean Creeks. On most all of them are found mills and gins, and many sites for others.

The established industries of Bibb are limited for a county of so much material wealth, but they are important. A great many saw-mills are running, which ship quantities of lumber to other markets. Notable among these are Harrison's, at Randolph, Carter's, at Brierfield, Martin Strickland's, at Blaston, besides the many smaller ones.

The Brierfield Coal & Iron Company own the most extensive manufacturing plant. They mine coal, make coke, make pig iron, run it through rolling mills, cast it at the foundry, make nails, and put up some machinery. The Cahaba Coal Mining Company, at Blaston, are mining immense quantities of coal, which they make into coke and ship to Anniston. The Edwards Iron Company, at Woodstock, will be running very soon. At Ashley and Bibbville there are large fire and machine made brick works, which ship large quantities. At Scottsville, there is a flouring mill and wool-carding mill.

The places of importance are—Centerville, the county seat, Randolph, Brierfield, Six Mile, Blaston, Woodstock, Green Pond and Scottsville.

The county is skirted by two railroads, the

East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia on the east, and the Alabama Great Southern on the west. Two others are projected through the center. The Mobile & Birmingham has been located, and will strike Ashley Furnace, Blaston and Woodstock, and will run directly through the coal and iron fields. The Selma & Cahaba Valley is a proposed line through the timber, marble and coal regions. Boats have run as high up the Cahaba River as Centerville, and that stream can easily be made navigable, thus giving an outlet by water.

The water and climate is fine, and health good. Good schools are accessible at all points. The morals of the people are above the average, there being little business in the courts—churches are well supported.

Trade is good and many merchants have made fortunes. The people only lack enterprise to some extent, though they are awakening to a due sense of the value of their county. Lands can be bought cheap, and there is a great deal of public land subject to entry.

A minute description would require a large volume, and the above are only a few points touching the true status of the county. There is an inviting field for those who desire to invest, and in this age of advancement and progress we soon expect to see our county put down among the first of the State. The county is entirely out of debt, and only imposes a tax of forty-five cents on the \$100.



### III.

## CALHOUN COUNTY.

Population: White: 14,872; colored, 4,921. Area, 640 square miles. Woodland, all. Coosa Valley and Coosa coal fields, 640 square miles.

Acres in cotton, approximately, 26,435; in corn, 33,714; in oats, 8,852; in wheat, 10,745; in rye, 287; in tobacco, 29; in sweet potatoes, 283. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 11,927.

County Seat—Jacksonville: population 5,000; on East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Republican*, democratic; at Anniston, *Hot Blast*, *Watchman*, and *Southern Industry*, all democratic; at Cross Plains, *Post*, democratic; at Oxford, *Echo*, local.

Postoffices in the County—Adelia, Alexandria, Allsup, Anniston, Beasley, Bera, Bruner, Bynum, Cane Creek, Choocolocco, Cross Plains, Davisville, De Armanville, Duke, Eulaton, Francis, Germania, Grayton, Hebron, *Jacksonville*, Jenkins, Ladiga, Mack, Marthadell, Martin's Cross-roads, Merrellton, Morrisville, Nance, Obatchee, Ottery, Oxanna, Oxford, Peaceburgh, Peek's Hill, Rabbit Town, Randall, Weaver's Station, White Plains.

Calhoun County, in the northeastern part of the State, is bounded on the north by Etowah and Cherokee Counties, on the east by Cleburne, on the south by Cleburne and Talladega, and on the west by St. Clair. It was organized December 18, 1832, out of territory ceded the March before by the Creek Indians.

Exclusive of town lots, railroad rights of way, and public lands, 324,216 acres of land are assessed for taxation at a valuation of \$1,461,722, town lots and improvements are valued at \$1,469,671, and personal property at \$2,066,978; in all \$4,997,471. Since these values were fixed on the first of January last, there has been something like a "boom" in Anniston and other parts, and they would now be not less than fifty per cent. greater.

The county tax for all purposes is forty cents on the \$100, one-third less than last year and pre-

vious years. Except about \$14,000 for the new court-house, the county is out of debt.

There are 116 miles of railway in the county, as follows: The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, 37.73 miles; the East & West Railroad, 36.58 miles; the Georgia Pacific Railroad, 30.50 miles; and the Anniston & Atlantic Railroad, 11.42 miles. These are valued at \$855,978. In addition, the Jacksonville, Gadsden & Atalla Railroad is partly graded; and the Anniston & Cincinnati Railroad, from Anniston to Atalla, will be open for traffic by the first of February next. These will increase the railroad mileage of the county nearly forty miles. The Georgia Central Railroad extension, projected from Carrollton, Ga., to Decatur, Ala., has been surveyed through the county.

There are about 100,000 acres of improved lands in the county, which, in 1880, were divided into 1,206 farms, the annual products of which were worth more than \$1,000,000 then, and are worth much more now.

Except the western slopes of the hills forming its eastern boundary, the county lies wholly in what is known as the Coosa Valley, which is a continuation of the valleys of Virginia and East Tennessee, and has the same physical and geological characteristics. It is a trough between the metamorphic area and the coal fields, broken by considerable sandstone elevations, with wide, beautiful, and fertile valleys, abundantly wooded and watered. These valleys, gently rolling, not swampy or subject to overflow, are finely adapted to cotton, corn, small grains, red clover, and all the grasses, and the whole county is specially suited for stock-growing.

The county is rich in minerals—perhaps the richest in the State. Almost everywhere brown hematite iron ore abounds, and around the bases and on the sides of the sandstone hills it is in amazing quantities and of the greatest richness. From Oxford to Cross Plains, in the Choocolocco and Alexandria valleys, and in the Colvin Moun-

tains, there are the greatest masses of it everywhere exposed on the surface, and everywhere seemingly inexhaustible. There is not probably one single section of land in the county without ore. In the Colvin Mountains, in close proximity to the brown ores, there are veins of red hematite scarcely inferior in extent, and not inferior in quality, to those of the famous Red Mountain in Jefferson County.

Manganese, in greater or less quantity, is found in many of the brown hematite beds, and independently in large deposits. Limestone, and marble of excellent quality, are abundant, as, also, kaolin, sandstone, barite, and fire-brick clay, with some copper, lead, and lithographic stone. The Choceolocco, Terrapin, Tallasahatchie, Ohatchee, and Cane Creeks, and the Coosa River, furnish never-failing and almost limitless water-power. For all domestic and agricultural purposes, water abounds in every part of the county.

Attention has only recently been turned to the vast mineral wealth and unequalled manufacturing advantages of this county, and industrial development has only fairly begun. In 1873 the first furnace was erected in Anniston, which was followed six years later by a second, both owned by the Woodstock Iron Company, and two others are being erected there by the same company. Anniston has now in operation, in addition to the furnaces, car works with \$50,000 capital; car-wheel works and rolling mill, \$200,000; compress and warehouse, \$100,000; pipe works (in construction), \$300,000; cotton mills, \$250,000; steel bloomery, \$50,000; fire-brick works, \$25,000; boiler shops, machine shops, planing mills, etc., \$250,000; three banks; land company, \$3,000,000;

and claims a population of over 9,000, with water-works, electric lights, costly churches, first-class schools, well-graded streets, a large general merchandise business, and the finest hotel in the State. The capital of the Woodstock Iron Company is \$3,000,000. Jacksonville, twelve miles north of Anniston, with mineral resources, manufacturing facilities, and location unsurpassed, has just organized a land and improvement company, with large capital, which has entered into negotiations for the early inauguration of several large industrial enterprises that will be under way by the close of the year. Oxford, four miles below Anniston, with 1,200 inhabitants, and Cross Plains, twelve miles north of Jacksonville, with 800 people, have situations in all respects as good as those of Anniston and Jacksonville, and are built up in the midst of the richest mineral deposits of this section. Alexandria, in the loveliest valley in the county, is on the line of the Anniston & Cincinnati Railroad, and has a bright future. There are other thriving villages, as White Plains, Germania, Oxanna, Morrisville, Cane Creek, Choceolocco, etc.

There is a State Normal School at Jacksonville, excellently conducted high schools at Anniston, Oxford, Cross Plains, and Alexandria, and good public schools and churches in every neighborhood. There are thirty-eight postoffices in the county, about half of which have daily mails. No person in the county lives more than five or six miles from a railroad. There is a good deal of government land subject to homestead entry. Improved lands can be bought at from \$5 to \$50 an acre, the cheaper lands being more or less broken, but well wooded and watered and fertile.



## OXFORD.

**THOMAS CARTER HILL**, prominent Physician and Surgeon, son of Thomas H. and Miranda (Gregory) Hill, natives, respectively, of the States of Virginia and North Carolina, was born in Green (now Hale) County, this State, November 14, 1839. After acquiring a thorough preliminary education at some of the leading colleges of the

State, he, at the age of nineteen, began the study of medicine, and pursued it successively through medical institutions of learning in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, graduating from Jefferson Medical College, in the latter city, in 1860.

Early in 1861, young Hill enlisted as a private soldier in the Fifth Alabama Regiment, and was

in a short time promoted to Assistant-Surgeon. In 1864, after having followed the fortunes of his regiment through its various campaigns, he was transferred to the Valley District of Virginia, as Medical Director, with the rank of a full Surgeon, and remained in that department to the close of the war.

Returning to Alabama, at the close of hostilities, Dr. Hill first located at Dayton, Marengo County, in the practice of medicine, and remained there until 1884, at which time he moved into Oxford. Since coming here, he has devoted his time to real estate and other business enterprises, to the exclusion of the profession. As a physician, Dr. Hill stood very high. He was, probably, as well taught in the science of *materia medica* as any man in Alabama. Not satisfied with the most thorough training possible at the finest institutions of learning in America, he, in 1870, studied arduously under the greatest instructors in Europe; and it is to the loss of the profession, that he has withdrawn from the practice.

Dr. Hill was married in Marengo County, May, 1870, to Miss Margaret Lee, daughter of Columbus W. and Elizabeth (Parker) Lee, and has had born to him five children: Columbus L., Thomas C., Margaret, Myra C. and Harry.

The Hon. Columbus W. Lee, native of Georgia, was many years a member of the Alabama Legislature, and was one of the most prominent men of his day. He was a Pierce and King presidential elector in 1852 and a Douglas elector in 1860. He opposed secession and canvassed the State for Douglas, although he went with his State in her subsequent efforts in behalf of the Southern Confederacy. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1865, and made the race for Congress that same year against Joseph W. Taylor, and was beaten. He was an original speaker and the master of thought and sarcasm. He died in 1868.

Thomas H. Hill, father to the subject of this sketch, migrated in early manhood to North Carolina, there married, and in 1812 settled in Green County, Ala., where he became an extensive planter. He reared a family of two sons and three daughters. He died in 1860, at the age of seventy-eight. His father, Joseph Hill, was a native of England, and came to America prior to the Revolution and settled in Culpeper County, Va.

**JOHN L. DODSON**, President of Oxford Male and Female College, Oxford, is a native of Georgia, and was born April 10, 1837. His early life was spent on his father's plantation, in his native State. His education was acquired at some boarding school, the County Academy, and at Davidson College, North Carolina. He came to Alabama in 1860, and at Jacksonville taught school one year. From Jacksonville, as professional educator, he taught successfully at various places in this State and in Georgia, during the period of the war. After the declaration of peace, he returned to Calhoun County, and at Brock's school-house taught two years. In 1868, he located at Oxford and, associated with Mr. W. J. Borden, founded Oxford College. One year later he became sole owner and proprietor of this popular institution of learning, and to it has since given his time and talents.

Professor Dodson, as will be seen by this brief recital, has given almost his entire life to the cause of education, and of him it may be truthfully said, that that great cause has appreciated as much from his efforts as from that of any one man. The success of Oxford College attests at once his superior ability as an organizer, disciplinarian, and educator, and the people of this vicinity are justly proud of him and his institution.

July, 1883, Professor Dodson, at Oxford, led to the altar Miss Fannie S. Gladden, the accomplished daughter of James A. and Martha (Kelley) Gladden, of this place. The Professor and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Masonic fraternity.

Samuel and Rebecca (Gardner) Dodson, the parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives, respectively, of Green and Morgan Counties, Ga. The senior Mr. Dodson, a farmer by occupation, was born in 1788, and participated in the war of 1812. He was partially reared in South Carolina, and spent a portion of his early manhood in Mississippi. His father, Joshua Dodson, was a native of Virginia, and his grandfather came from England. He reared a family of six sons and four daughters. One of his sons, James W., now a farmer in Texas, took part in the Florida War and the Confederate War; another son, Joshua M., was in the Confederate service during the late war as quartermaster in the Trans-Mississippi Department. He died in Texas. Christopher C., another son, was in the Mexican War

from Texas, as a lieutenant, and during the late war commanded a troop of Indians from Arizona. He died in Tucson, Ariz. The fourth son, Samuel P. died in Texas; Elijah M. was major of the First Confederate Georgia Regiment, and is an attorney-at-law at Chattanooga, Tenn., and George W. was in the Fifty-first Alabama Regiment, and is a farmer in Georgia.

The Gardner family, in the person of the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, Christopher Gardner, on account of political troubles, came from Ireland away back in the eighteenth century, settled in Virginia, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was severely wounded at Brandywine. He died in Georgia, after having reared a large family of daughters and two sons.



**WILLIAM W. WHITESIDE**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Oxford, is a native of what is now Calhoun County, this State, where he was born February 13, 1858. His early life was spent on his father's plantation and in attendance at the old-field school, completing his education, however, at Oxford College, from which institution he was graduated in 1879. Prior to his graduation he taught school and, in the meantime, read law. He completed his law studies at Cumberland University, Tenn., in 1881, and located immediately in the practice at Oxford, where he has since remained. In the practice of his profession he has met with much success, and, though a young man, he is at this time regarded as one of the brightest lights at the Calhoun Bar. In 1884 he was elected to the lower house of the Legislature, and in that body took a conspicuous part, acquitting himself with much credit and to the entire satisfaction of his constituency.

Mr. Whiteside was married at Alexandria, December, 1884, to Miss Alice Cooper, the accomplished daughter of W. P. Cooper, Esq., and has had born to him two children: William Cooper and Kenneth Whittington. Mr. Whiteside and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is identified with the order of the Knights of Honor and the Masonic fraternity.

Josiah W. Whiteside, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of North Carolina, and came with his parents in 1837 to Alabama; his wife was Elizabeth J. Small, a native of McMinn County, Tenn. She died in 1873, leaving four

children, viz.: Lizzie, James M., Joseph, and William W.

His second wife, Amanda Little, of Calhoun County, to whom he was married in the fall of 1875, is the mother of one child: Worth.

The Whiteside family are probably of English origin, and came into North Carolina at a very early date in the history of our country. John Whiteside, the grandfather to the subject of this sketch, was a native of North Carolina, and his wife was a Miss Hemphill; they reared a family of six sons and two daughters: J. W. Leander, Adolphus, Thomas, William J., James M., Mary, and Ellen. Mary married Dr. S. C. Williams; she and her husband are both dead.

William W. Whiteside's grandfather, Matthew Small, was a Cumberland Presbyterian minister. He married a Miss Buchanan, at McMinn, Tenn., and settled in Alabama about 1835. In 1845 he moved into De Kalb County, and in 1855 located at Sulphur Springs. He died in 1883. He reared a family of four sons and two daughters. His sons were all soldiers in the Confederate Army. The Small family came originally from Scotland.



**ROBERT P. THOMASON**, Merchant and Banker, Oxford, was born in Harris County, Ga., December 21, 1851, and is the son of John Thomason, a planter, who came to Alabama in 1853, lived in Tallapoosa County till 1868, and removed thence to Elmore County, where he now resides.

The subject of this sketch spent the first seventeen years of his life on his father's plantation in Tallapoosa County, and by dint of perseverance and application to study, without the aid of professional instruction, acquired something like an elementary education. He began life for himself as a salesman, at the age of seventeen years, and at the age of twenty-one embarked in business.

From 1879 to 1883, he "drummed" for a New York grocery house, and in the latter year established the wholesale grocery business over which he now presides at Oxford.

This was the first jobbing concern opened up in this part of the State, and from a limited affair, with a capital of \$16,000, it has grown until its trade reaches throughout Northeastern Alabama and into Georgia, and now employs a capital of \$100,000. The style of the company at present is C. J. Cooper & Co.

In addition to his mercantile business, Mr. Thomason is largely interested in real estate at Oxford and Anniston, and in the banking house recently established in connection with his grocery concern.

Remembering the fact that young Thomason came to Oxford penniless, the preceding details need no comment at our hands to elaborate his success as a business man.

Mr. Thomason, in July 1875, at Talledega, married Miss Mary Scott, the accomplished daughter of Wm. Scott, Esq.

The senior Mr. Thomason was a gallant Confederate soldier during the late war; his father served through the war with Mexico, and his grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier. His great-grandfather, Cooper Thomason, came from Scotland prior to the War for Independence, and settled in Virginia, where he lived to the remarkable age of 104 years. Old Cooper Thomason had eight or nine sons in the Colonial Army during the Revolution.

It might be remarked that the war record of the Thomasons is also a matter that needs no elaboration at the hands of the writer.

They all appear to have been well-to-do planters.



**THOMAS H. BARRY**, Merchant and Manufacturer, Oxford, son of Reese and Ann S. (Manson) Barry, natives, respectively, of Virginia and Maryland, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, May 4, 1836, and in that city received his education. Accompanying his mother, in 1855, he moved to San Antonio, Tex., and was there engaged in mercantile business until the outbreak of the late war. Early in the spring of 1861, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company G, Eighth Texas ("Terry's Rangers"), and remained in the service until the close of the war, participating in the battles of Woodsonville, Ky., Shiloh, Murfreesboro, and all the engagements from Chickamauga to New Hope Court-House. At the latter engagement he was wounded, and fell into the hands of the enemy, but escaped while *en route* to Rock Island, rejoined his command, and took part in the battles around Atlanta. At Waynesboro, November 28, 1864, he was severely wounded, and from that date to the close of the war remained in hospital. Returning to Texas in 1865, he engaged at his former business, and was there until 1872, when

he came to Oxford. Here he has since been, in the mercantile business, and was one of the organizers of the Barry & Draper Manufacturing Co. This company was organized in 1874, and Mr. Barry has been its president from the beginning. He is also president of the Oxford Building & Loan Association, and is otherwise identified with various other industries.

Mr. Barry was married March 6, 1865, to Miss Emily F. Gray, of Georgia. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Knights of Honor, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and of the Masonic fraternity.

The senior Mr. Barry moved to Cincinnati when he was a young man, and was engaged at steamboating the rest of his life. He died in 1840, leaving three children, to-wit: William D., Thomas H., and Caroline E. His father, Daniel Barry, was a farmer in Virginia, where he lived and died. The family came originally from Ireland, and the Mansons appear to be of French origin.



**DANIEL P. GUNNELS** was born in Franklin, Ga., near Bold Spring, October 6, 1823, and his parents were Nathan and Nancy (Hunt) Gunnels, natives of Wilkes and Franklin Counties, Ga., respectively.

The senior Mr. G. moved to Franklin County at an early day, and there subsequently made his home. He was a planter by occupation, and died in 1870 at Atlanta, at the age of seventy years. He was an officer in the War of 1836, and was a member of the Georgia Constitutional Convention. He was quite a politician in his day, of the Clay and Webster faith, and a man of no little influence in the vicinity where he lived. His children were—Daniel P., Sarah F. (Mrs. J. M. Alexander), Joel D., Nathan C., Mary E. (Mrs. Shephard), Elmira (deceased), and John H.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, receiving an academic education, and in 1845 located at Boiling Springs, in Calhoun County, Ala., where he was several years clerk in a mercantile establishment. He subsequently purchased an interest with his employer, and later on became sole owner of the concern. He came to Oxford in 1854, where he continued in the mercantile business until 1872. It is proper to explain, however, that from 1862 to the close of the war he found it expedient to suspend the

mercantile business and was, during that period, in the employ of the Oxford Iron Co. Though the war swept away his fortune in common with the fortunes of other men, he has since succeeded in amply replenishing his exchequer. Since 1872 he has given most of his time to planting.

March, 1857, Mr. Gunnels was married to Miss Susan E. Cunningham, daughter of William N. and Nancy E. (Pratt) Cunningham, natives of South Carolina, and his children are: Nancy E. (Mrs. Warnock), John N. and James N. (twins), Esther L., Elmira P., Henry C. and Willie Francis.

The family are all identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Gunnels is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities.



**CLARKE SNOW**, Merchant, Oxford, was born at this place July 5, 1846, and is a son of Dudley and Priscilla (Munger) Snow. He was reared on the farm, and at Howard College and the schools of Talladega acquired a fair English education. At the age of twenty-one years, at Selma, he accepted a situation in a mercantile establishment, remained there one year, returned to Oxford, and with C. Snow & Co. embarked in the grocery business. In 1870 he formed a partnership with C. J. Cooper in mercantile business, and from 1871 to 1874 devoted his time to farming. In the latter year, associated with James Stewart, under the style and firm name of James Stewart & Co., he engaged in the leather and carriage business. This firm was dissolved in December, 1882, since which time Mr. Snow has conducted the business alone, and has been thereat quite successful. In addition to his mercantile business he is largely interested in various other enterprises.

In the fall of 1863, Mr. Snow entered the Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry, and, though not an enlisted soldier, he participated with that command in the battles of Maryville, Rockford, and Knoxville. In May, 1864, he regularly enlisted, and thereafter took part in the battles of New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Rome, and the battles around Atlanta. At Decatur, Ala., he was wounded, and at Salt Creek participated in his last engagement. He was married, November 26, 1868, to Miss Roxy C. Elston, of Davisville, and

the children born to this union are: Corinne, Ada, Ruth, Maxie, Norman, and Mary.

Dudley Snow was born in Graceland County, Va., December 25, 1803, and his parents, John and Elizabeth (Hale) Snow, migrated to North Carolina in 1812. From there they moved to Tennessee in 1832, and from Tennessee Dudley Snow moved to Oxford, where he died in 1863.

The Snow family came originally from England, and the Mungers from Germany.

Henry Snow, a brother of Clarke, entered the Confederate Army from Texas, as a private in the First Texas Infantry. At the re-organization of this regiment, in 1862, he was made first lieutenant, and he participated in all the battles of Northern Virginia, and at the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond was seriously wounded.



**ABNER WILLIAMS**, Merchant, Oxford, was born in Jefferson County, this State, November 21, 1824, and his parents were Jordan and Edna (Atkins) Williams. He was reared on his father's farm, attended the old-field schools, and in 1844 began life as a school teacher. The year following he accepted a clerkship in a store at Talladega, for which service he received, at the beginning, five dollars per month. He remained with that concern three years, another firm three years, another one year, and for his last year's labor received \$375. In 1853, at Curry's Station, he began business for himself, and in 1855 removed to Selma, where he was engaged in cotton business until 1862. At the close of the war he returned to Selma from Talladega County, resumed his old business, and was there until 1884. In August of that year he came to Oxford and engaged in the millinery business.

December 23, 1852, Mr. Williams was married to Agatha A. Heacock, daughter of Dr. Joseph D. and Rachel M. (Garner) Heacock, of Talladega County; and of the six children born to them we have the following data: Curry E., Emma R. (widow of H. A. Singleton), Mollie E. (wife of Dr. B. D. Williams, of Utah Territory), Joseph, Albert, Abner J. P., and Lillie B.

Jordan Williams was born in South Carolina, August 31, 1794; served through the war of 1812 as a member of the Eighth United States Infantry; married Edna Atkins in Abbeville district, South Carolina, May 5, 1816; settled near Elyton, Jef-



erson County, Ala. in 1818; from there moved to a farm near Trussville, and subsequently, or about March 1, 1833, settled in Talladega County. He was stricken with paralysis while preaching to the Confederate conscript soldiers at Talladega, September, 1862, and died near Tallasahatchie Baptist Church, fifteen miles south of Talladega, November 21, 1862. He was a farmer, and a minister of the Baptist Church.



**LUCIUS L. ALLEN**, son of Hudson H. and Nancy (Cornelison) Allen, was born in Gwinnett County, Ga., June 23, 1831, and was educated at Emory College, that State. In 1862 he enlisted in Company D, Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry, and with that command participated in the battles of Murfreesboro, Missionary Ridge, Knoxville, Chickamauga, and the Atlanta and Dalton campaigns. His father came into Alabama in 1835, purchased a large tract of government land, and other lands from the Indians, and became one of the most extensive planters and slaveholders in his neighborhood.

Mr. Allen was reared on a farm, and to agriculture has devoted his time and his talents. He was married, in November, 1854, to Miss Emma Pyles, daughter of Lewis and Catherine (Perrin) Pyles, and his children are: Susan C. (Mrs. Hudson), Lelia J. (Mrs. Snow), Nancy Lulu, Lilly A. and Alice C. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Allen is a Mason.

The senior Mr. Allen died at his home, near Oxford, January 8, 1885, at the age of 53 years; his wife died in 1869. They reared a family of three sons: William H., Asa F., and the subject of this sketch. Asa F. is a Baptist minister, and resides on the old homestead.

Asa Allen was the name of the grandfather of Lucius L. He married a Miss Jones in Georgia, whither he had migrated from Virginia at an early day. He reared a family of four sons and four daughters, and in 1834 or 1835 moved to Limestone County, Ala., where he died in 1840 at the age of 69 years.



**SAMUEL K. BORDERS** was born in Jackson County, Ga., January 12, 1822, and died at Ox-

ford Ala., December 26, 1881. His parents were John and Cynthia Borders. The senior Mr. Borders in early manhood migrated from Virginia to Tennessee, and from there to Georgia, where he was married. From Georgia he moved to Mississippi, where he was engaged at planting, and from Mississippi in 1833 or 1834 he came to Calhoun County. Here he located near Oxford, and became one of the most extensive planters of his neighborhood. He reared a family of two sons and six daughters, namely: Samuel K., Abner, Mary (Mrs. Brooks), Virginia (Mrs. Cunningham), Adaline (Mrs. Bush), Ann (Mrs. Jenkins), Eliza (Mrs. Pondor), Evaline (Mrs. Bush), and buried one daughter, Georgia, in early girlhood.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Athens, Ga., and after graduating began the study of medicine. At the request of his father he gave up the idea of professional life, and thereafter turned his attention to farming. He served through the Mexican War as a member of Company I, First Regiment Alabama Volunteers, and through the war between the States as a member of the Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry.

March, 1851, Mr. Borders was married to Miss Sallie Williams, daughter of Dr. John Williams, and had born to him seven children: Georgia (Mrs. Christian), Mary (Mrs. Waters), Hattie (Mrs. Wilson), Ammie, Sallie, Lillie and John.



**AURELIUS F. BULLARD, M. D.**, prominent Physician and Surgeon, Oxford, was born at Bennington, Vt., September 15, 1848, and is the son of William H. and Roxanna A. (Moon) Bullard, natives of Massachusetts and Vermont, and of Irish and Scotch extraction, respectively.

Doctor Bullard received his primary education in the common schools of Vermont, and at the Wesleyan Institute of Willbraham, Mass., and at the age of fifteen years went to sea as a sailor before the mast. In 1869, as second mate of a ship, he came South. The crew, while at Mobile, were taken with yellow fever, from the fatal effects of which, it appears, that he and his captain were the only ones to escape. He made his way to Wilmington, where another crew was organized, and as first mate he sailed to Boston, where he abandoned seafaring life. Returning to Alabama, he attended school at Montgomery, and graduated in 1871. In the meantime he took

lectures at Jefferson College, Philadelphia. Since engaging regularly in the practice of his profession, he has been recognized as one of the most careful, studious, and reliable physicians of Oxford, and he is at this writing in the enjoyment of an excellent practice. He is a member of the various medical associations, and is held in high esteem by the members of the profession throughout the State.

He was married August 28, 1876, to Miss Julia B. Goodhue, daughter of Prof. Amos B. Goodhue. The Goodhues are also of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and came South about thirty years ago. Professor Goodhue is now retired.

The senior Mr. Bullard came South in 1808, and to Oxford in 1872. He reared three sons: the subject of this sketch, William E. and Oliver H.

Doctor Bullard is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Baptist Church. His children are: William G., Alice A., and Elerslie W.

**JOHN F. SMITH** is a native of Cleburne County, where he was born December 15, 1839, and is a son of John and Sarah Ann (Lambert) Smith. The senior Mr. Smith immigrated to Alabama from Georgia in 1833, and moved from Cleburne County to a point on the Tallapoosa River, south of Edwardsville in 1851, and there died in 1853, at the age of forty-two years. He reared two sons: the subject of this sketch and Samuel H.

John F. Smith was reared on a farm; was educated at the common schools, and at the age of eighteen accepted a clerkship in a store. In 1858 he went to Wetumpka, and from there the year following to Talladega, where he engaged in business in partnership with J. B. Gay. This partnership lasted but a short time, when he sold out and resumed employment as a clerk.

In 1861 Mr. Smith enlisted as a private in Company H, Tenth Alabama, and remained in the service until the close of the war. Soon after the battle of Dranesville he was promoted to third lieutenant, and when he left the service he held the rank of first lieutenant, and had been for some time in command of his company. From first to last he participated in many of the hardest-fought battles of the war, and was wounded three times. Returning from the war, he located at Selma, and

from there, in 1866, came to Oxford, where he has since made his home. In 1869 he moved upon his farm, at Boiling Springs, and from that date has given most of his time to agriculture. He was married in 1869, to Miss Augusta G. Caver, daughter of Thomas J. and Eliza (Davis) Caver, and has had born to him four children: Kate E., Nannie Gay, Carrie Lee and Thomas F.

**WILLIAM F. HIGGINS**, is a native of Butts County, Ga., a son of Joseph and Judith W. (Key) Higgins, and was born June 11, 1838. The senior Mr. Higgins came from Edgefield District, S. C., into Georgia, when a boy, there married, and in 1844 settled in Chambers County, Ala. He located at Oxford in 1875, and died in 1880, at the age of sixty-six years. He was a jeweler by trade, but the latter part of his life was devoted to farming. His father, William Higgins was a native of South Carolina, there married a Miss Ashley, and subsequently became one of the early settlers of Georgia.

William F. Higgins was reared and educated at Lafayette, in Chambers County, and while a young man learned the jeweler's trade. He entered the army in 1863, and remained until the close of the war. After the war he resumed the jewelry business; moved into Oxford in 1868, and in 1874, turned his attention entirely to farming. He began life at the close of the war without money, but has succeeded in accumulating a handsome competency. He was married May 29, 1869, to Miss Virginia Dennis, daughter of Sumner and Mary (Hanchett) Dennis, natives of South Carolina.

Mr. Dennis came into Alabama in 1832; removed thence to Tallapoosa County, and died at Dadeville. He was a captain in the Mexican War, and also in the late Confederate Army.

Mr. Higgins and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. H. is of the Masonic fraternity.

**WILLIAM J. ALEXANDER** was born in Calhoun County, Ala., in May, 1842, and is a son of Arthur T. and Rebecca (Horden) Alexander.

The senior Mr. Alexander was born in North Carolina, and when a child taken by his parents

to Habersham County, and thence to Carroll County, Ga. He came to Calhoun County, this State, in 1832, and settled eight miles east of Cross Plains (now in Cleburne County), where his father entered lands and improved them. He died in 1851, and a few months later his wife followed him. They left two sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to maturity. The Alexanders and Bordens are of English ancestry.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, received a common-school education, and at the age of seventeen years began life as a farmer, which he has continued ever since.

In July, 1861, he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-fifth Alabama Infantry, and was in the first battle of Farmersville, Tenn., south of Shiloh. He participated in the Kentucky invasion, was taken prisoner at Glasgow, Ky., and was exchanged about two months later. He joined his regiment again at Shelbyville, Tenn., and was in

the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, in all the fights from Chattanooga to Atlanta and New Hope Church to Atlanta. When Hood made his raid into Tennessee, our subject joined Wheeler's cavalry, with which command he remained until the surrender.

At the close of the war he resumed farming. In 1871 he was appointed sheriff of Cleburne County, and in 1874 was elected to that office. He served in this capacity about six years. In 1878 he was elected to the Lower House of the Legislature, reelected in 1882, and in 1884 was elected to the Senate from his district, which office he holds at the present writing (1888). Mr. Alexander was married in August, 1866, to Sarah Cornelia, daughter of Henry A. Smith, of Floyd County, Ga. This union has been blessed with two children, William H. and Bessie E.

Mr. Alexander and wife are members of the Christian Church.



## CROSS PLAINS.

**WILLIAM A. WILSON**, Postmaster at Cross Plains, was born in Campbell County, Ga., October 24, 1832, and is a son of Craven and Lucinda (Langston) Wilson.

The senior Mr. Wilson was a native of Virginia, from which State he removed into North Carolina, thence to Hall County, Ga. In December, 1832, he migrated to Alabama and located about four miles east of Cross Plains. He was a farmer, and at his death, which occurred in 1875, he was the possessor of about 1,200 acres of land. He reared five sons and two daughters, to-wit: William A. (the subject of our sketch), John J., Daniel S. (deceased), Jerry C., Benjamin C. (who died in his youth), Nancy E. (deceased), and Mary Ann Croft (deceased). All of the sons served in the war between the States. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were communicants of the Episcopal Church. The Langston family were of German descent.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, received a common school education, and at the age of twenty-one years began life on his own account. In 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate Army as a member of Company E, First Alabama

Cavalry, and participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, and all the principal fights from Chattanooga to Bentonville, N. C. Company E was detached from the First Alabama after the Kentucky campaign and assigned to General Wheeler's command. Mr. Wilson was captured at Bentonville, N. C., and imprisoned at Point Lookout until July 2, 1865, when he was released. He immediately returned home and resumed farming. He was appointed postmaster at Cross Plains in November, 1883, which position he is now filling.

Mr. Wilson was married in December, 1857, to Martha M. Harris, daughter of Warren and Mary (Statum) Harris, of this county. She is noted as being the first white female child born in this county. Mr. Wilson and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a Mason.



**JACOB F. DAILEY** was born in Lincoln County, N. C., December 3, 1817, and is a son of Aaron and Mary (Albernathy) Dailey, natives

of Ireland and of North Carolina, respectively. The senior Mr. Dailey came to America with his parents (about 1795), and settled in Lincoln County, N. C. He was a farmer and also superintendent of an iron furnace. He reared a family of four sons and three daughters, and died in 1858 at the age of forty years. His widow survived him many years, and died at the extreme old age of ninety-six years. She was a strong and hearty woman up to the time of her death.

Jacob K. Dailey, our subject, was reared in North Carolina by his uncle, Miles W. Abernathy; received a common-school education, and at the age of sixteen years began life as a sailor, which avocation he followed six years, and at the age of twenty-one entered into business on his own account at Lincolnton Court House, N. C. In 1847, he came to Cross Plains, entered into a general merchandise business, and continued it with success ever since. His was the first store erected in this village. In 1849 he purchased several hundred acres of land, and in connection with his merchandise business, has been farming ever since. He now owns several large farms near Cross Plains. In 1862 he was appointed member of the Advisory Board with headquarters at Jacksonville, this State.

Mr. Dailey was married August 19, 1841, to Jane M. Kibler, daughter of Michael and Catherine (Lawrence) Kibler, of North Carolina, and has had born to him two children: Mary Catherine, wife of Alexander McCollister, and Jacob Kibler. The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Dailey is a prominent Mason; is a wide-awake, public-spirited citizen, and is always alive to the development of enterprise in his section of the country.

**MARTIN T. MOODY**, was born at Belmont, Sumter County, Ala., November 4, 1845, and is a son of Theophilus and Mary L. (Little) Moody, natives respectively of South Carolina and Georgia.

The senior Mr. Moody moved with his parents from South Carolina to Mississippi. In 1831 he came to Alabama and joined the Alabama Conference in 1832 at Tuscaloosa, of which he was one of the original organizers. He lived in Alabama until his death, which occurred at Gadsden, March 13, 1879. His wife died at Gainesville, Ala., in 1854. He reared two sons and two daughters,

viz.: William R., Martin T. (our subject); Fannie A., wife of Milton Jenkins, Camden, Ala.; and Sarah E., wife of George W. Caldwell, also of Camden. Mr. Moody was one of the pioneer preachers of this State, and was a very popular and well-known man.

The mother of our subject was a daughter of William Little, a leading attorney of Carnesville, Ga. He was a prominent and wealthy citizen, and died about the close of the war.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Alabama and educated principally at Summerfield, Dallas County. In the spring of 1862, he enlisted in Company I, Twenty-eighth Alabama, as a private, and served until health failed. From an attack of brain fever, he lost his hearing and was detailed in the niter mining service as a clerk in which capacity he remained until the close of the war.

At the close of hostilities he returned to Camden, where he served as Clerk of the Probate Court four years, going thence to Selma, and serving four years in the Probate Court of that County. In 1873 he came to Cross Plains and engaged in the drug business, which he has continued ever since, with marked success.

September 15, 1869, Mr. Moody was married to Sarah E. Scurry, daughter of Dr. John R. Scurry of Cross Plains. They had born to them seven children, to-wit: Arthur R., May Louise, Anna, Lucy, Ida, Martin T., Jr., and Harry. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

**JOSEPH W. HARRIS**, born November 7, 1839, at Warrenton, Va., is a son of William and Elizabeth (Anderson) Harris, natives, respectively, of Talbot and Warren Counties, Ga. The senior Harris was a farmer until his marriage, when he was elected sheriff of Warren County, which office he held for two years. In January, 1846, he located in Talbot County, entered into the merchandise business, and died there in June, 1848. He served in the Seminole War. He reared three sons and three daughters, viz.: Sarah, William, Joseph, Mary, Martha, and Thomas. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church. The grandfather of our subject, Henry Harris, came to Georgia as one of the earliest settlers of that State, about the year 1800. The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in the common schools at

Fayetteville, and at the age of seventeen began his business career as clerk in a general merchandise store of that town, which position he held six months, after which he spent three years at Montevallo.

September 10, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Twenty-sixth Alabama, and participated in the first battle of Fort Gibson, the battle of Baker's Creek, siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Missionary Ridge, campaign from Dalton to Atlanta, the battle of Nashville, and the last fight at Bentonville, N. C. In 1863 he was commissioned third lieutenant of the regiment, and at Dalton, in 1864, was promoted to second lieutenant, and shortly after, at Palmetto Station, Ga., was again promoted, to first lieutenant. He was captured at Tupelo, Miss., in December, 1864. After the war he returned to his home and engaged in farming, and in the fall of 1865, accepted a position with the Alabama & Tennessee River Railway, in the capacity of agent, express agent, and telegraph operator. In the fall of 1872, he went to Birmingham, as express agent, thence to Montevallo, in 1873, where he engaged in merchandising, and in 1876 went to South Alabama, and merchandised two years. In December, 1881, he came to Cross Plains, as telegraph operator for the East Tennessee Railway, where he has since continued to live. In connection with the railroad business he is running a hotel.

In December, 1861, Mr. Harris was first married to Martha J. Wilson, daughter of Henry Wilson, of Columbiana, Ala., and has had born to him seven children, three of whom are now living: Rolling, of Talladega; Ernest, clerk and book-keeper, of Burkville, Ala., and May. Mrs. Harris died in November, 1881, and in February, 1884, Mr. Harris was married to Nannie Jones, of Cave Springs, Ga., and to this union two children were born: Jones and Albert. Mr. Harris is a member of the Baptist Church, and his wife is of the Congregational Methodist Church. He is of the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Pythias.



**REV. GEORGE BRYANT RUSSELL**, was born in Cherokee County, Ala., May 11, 1846, and is a son of Rev. Samuel R. (born in Virginia, January

22, 1801) and Nancy Ann (Gamble) Russell, native of East Tennessee.

The senior Mr. Russell was a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He came to Alabama in 1832, and settled near Jacksonville. He reared eight sons and two daughters: James E., Robert A., Samuel L., John G., William C., George B., Andrew B., Marcus M., Elizabeth A., and Mary J. Of the sons the following served in the war: James E., Samuel L. (lieutenant and chaplain), John G. (orderly sergeant, was killed at Chickamauga), and William C. (was killed at Shiloh). The senior Mr. Russell died September 30, 1876, at the age of seventy-five years; his wife died at the close of the war at the age of sixty-two years. The Russell family were of Scotch-Irish parentage, and the Gamble family came originally from Ireland.

George Bryant Russell was reared on a farm; attended the common schools of the neighborhood, and was graduated at Galesville, Ala., in 1873. He subsequently spent two years at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., and in 1874 began teaching. In 1877 he migrated to Cross Plains, where he was occupied teaching and farming until 1881, when he moved to Jacksonville and taught one year as Assistant Principal of Calhoun College. On his return to Cross Plains he took charge of the Cross Plains Educational Institute, which was soon afterwards chartered.

Mr. Russell having received his license to preach September 10, 1870, and being ordained September 22, 1873, is now a preacher in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He has represented his Presbytery in the General Assembly several times; has served Calhoun County as Superintendent of Education twelve years, and is at present second Vice-President of the Alabama Educational Association.

Mr. Russell was married September 23, 1873, to Sarah A. Hampton, daughter of John Hampton, of Cherokee County, Ala. They have had born to them three children, namely: Samuel Hampton, deceased, John Floyd and James Gordon. Mr. Russell is a member of the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Honor. He has ever been a temperance worker; was elected by the County Temperance Convention in 1880 to the State Convention, and was of Committee on Resolutions in that convention. He was elected President of the County Temperance Convention at Anniston in 1886.

Our subject bears the reputation of being one of the best educators in the State.



**DR. ORVILLE D. LAIRD**, born in Columbus, Ga., January 30, 1840, is a son of Dr. Orville P. and Nancy (Dyer) Laird, natives of Oneida County, N. Y.

Doctor Laird was reared in New York; received an academic education, and at the age of nineteen years began life as a clerk. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Seventh Ohio Regiment, with which command he served three months, and then joined Company C, One Hundred and Sixteenth New York Infantry. In 1863 he was promoted to the Quartermaster's Department at Nashville, and early in 1865 was commissioned lieutenant of light artillery. He was mustered out in July of the latter year.

In 1859 Mr. Laird was graduated as M. D. from Ann Arbor, and after the war practiced in Tennessee, locating at Clinton in 1866. In November, 1869, he engaged in the railroading and furnace business. In 1884 he was appointed United States Commissioner for the District Court, Northern District of Alabama, and in 1886 came to Cross Plains.

Dr. Laird was married October 25, 1865, to Mary C. Stevens, daughter of Rev. R. M. and Nancy (King) Stevens, natives of Tennessee. They have had born to them three children: Harvey, George Edgar, and James G. The Doctor and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Dr. Orville P. Laird, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a practical dentist. He spent the winters in Georgia, and the summers in New York up to 1857, after which he lived in Ohio and Michigan in order to be more convenient to his business interests. He reared four children, and died at Adrian, Mich., in 1886. The Laird family originally came from Scotland.



**ROBERT F. HUGHES**, born in Calhoun County, Ala.; is a son of John T. and Mary T. (Brown) Hughes, natives of South Carolina.

The senior Mr. Hughes came to Alabama in 1832, and settled near Weaver's Station, where he engaged in farming. He represented Calhoun

County, in its early history, as a member of the Legislature. He reared three sons and seven daughters, of whom William J. T. died in the war; John W., of Atlanta, served through the war and was in prison at Fort Delaware two years. Mr. Hughes was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and died in 1875, at the age of seventy-four years. His widow, who is still living, moved to Cross Plains. The Hughes family are originally from Ireland.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and received a common-school education. He was engaged in farming up to 1879, when he entered mercantile business, which he has conducted successfully ever since.



**CLAIBORNE A. SHARP** was born in Iredell County, N. C., January 12, 1848, and is a son of Claiborne I. and Courtney A. (Johnson) Sharp, natives of the same county.

The father of our subject was a farmer and stock-raiser; came to Alabama in 1854, and settled on a farm near Cross Plains, where he remained until 1868, when he entered into mercantile business. He reared five sons and six daughters, of whom are now living four sons and two daughters. Three of the four sons now living served in the late war.

Our subject's grandfather was a farmer of North Carolina, and was of Scotch origin. He served in the War of 1812, and died in his native State. The maternal grandfather was also a farmer of North Carolina, and of English ancestry.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and received a common school education. He enlisted in Company G, Third Alabama Cavalry, and in the fall of 1864 was in Wheeler's command.

After the war he farmed until 1880, when he engaged in the livery business for one year, after which he purchased a half interest in his father's store. He is still in the merchandise business, and is very successful.

Mr. Sharp was married in December, 1869, to Miss Julia F. daughter of John Chancellor, of Cherokee County, this State. To this union have been born six children: Charles C., Oliver W., Mary G., Claude, Nellie D., and Annie H. Mr. Sharp and family are members of the Baptist Church.

**ELISHA D. McCLELLEN**, born near Jacksonville, Ala., October 24, 1847, is a son of Samuel D. and Deborah (Price) McClellen, natives of East Tennessee. The senior Mr. McClellen came to Alabama with his parents in 1834, and settled in Talladega County. In 1844 he removed to Calhoun County, where he was engaged in farming. He represented the county in the Legislature one term, and assisted in removing the Indians from the State.

He died in December, 1887. The McClellens are descendants from Scotland. The Price family came from Ireland.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and received an academic education. He worked on a farm until 1868, when he came to

Jacksonville, where he was engaged in mercantile business with his father. In 1883 he was engaged in the livery business for a short time, and in January, 1884, came to Cross Plains, started in the millinery business, and subsequently engaged in general merchandising. In 1887 he was running a brick business in connection with farming and merchandising.

In January, 1874, Mr. McClellen was first married to Dollie Barron, of Jackson County, and had born to him one child. Mrs. McClellen died in 1878, and in December, 1886, Mr. McClellen was married to Sallie Glover, of Cherokee County.

Mr. McClellen is a member of the Baptist Church and is also a prominent Mason. His wife belongs to the Presbyterian Church.



## IV.

### COOSA COUNTY.

Population: White, 10,050; colored, 5,063. Area—67.0 square miles. Woodland, all.

Acres—In cotton 26,468; in corn, 29,990; in oats, 5,225; in wheat, 9,735; in tobacco, —; in sweet potatoes, —. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 9,000.

County Seat—Rockford; population 1,000.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Enterprise* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Bentleysville, Crewsville, Dollar, Equality, Gantt, Gold Branch, Good Water, Hanover, Hislop, Iwana, Kellyton, Lauderdale, Marble Valley, Mount Olive, Nixburgh, Pentonville, *Rockford*, Salter, Stewartsville, Traveler's Rest, Weogufka.

Coosa County was established by an act of the State Legislature dated December 18, 1832, out of a portion of the territory ceded by the Muscogee Indians by the treaty of Cusseta in March, 1832. The original area of the county was much larger than its present size, as it comprised a considerable portion of that part of Elmore County which lies east of the Coosa River, which

territory, with the County Seat, Wetumpka, was taken from Coosa on the organization of Elmore County, in 1866.

Coosa County receives its name from the Coosa River, which in turn perpetuates the name of the beautiful and fertile valley which so charmed the eyes of De Soto and his cavaliers when their gaze first rested on it and its bosom was for the first time pressed by the foot of the white man.

The surface of the county is uneven and is marked by mountainous elevations, valleys, broad ridges containing beautiful stretches of level tablelands and sections of slightly rolling lands. The general character of the soils is red and gray, but along the hills and ridges some sandy lands are found, while in the valleys and along the bottoms of the numerous creeks, a black soil of wonderful productiveness is found, which yields cotton, corn, wheat or oats equal to the best lands of the State. These, with sweet potatoes and cane, form the principal crops raised, and while Coosa County is not regarded as one of the banner agricultural counties of the State, it is a safe county,

and its soil returns a yield which will average up, year in and year out, with some of the counties which stand higher than it in the agricultural scale. The red lands of this county are specially adapted to the culture of wheat and other small grain, and the yield of these articles per acre will compare favorably with the production of like crops in any other portion of the State.

The hills of Coosa County are clothed with a rich forest of long-leaved pine, with considerable oak, hickory, gum, and some short-leaf pine. Owing to the fact that this county is only entered by a railroad on its border, this forest has scarcely been touched.

Besides its agricultural features and its timber wealth, Coosa County can lay claim to distinction on account of the extent and variety of its mineral deposits. Like the county of Tallapoosa, which joins it, Coosa has gold within its borders, but none has yet been discovered in quantities which would pay to work. North of Rockford there lies a belt of granite of a superior character, which will be quarried and used largely, as soon as transportation facilities are provided to convey it to centers where it will be in demand. There is an extensive deposit of iron ore some miles north of Rockford, which at present is unavailable for the reason that it is locked in by the absence of the means of conveying it to points where it could be utilized. The other minerals, which are found in this county in greater or lesser quantities, are copper, tin, asbestos, corundum, emery, kaolin, and mica.

The principal streams of the county are the

Coosa River, which forms its western boundary, Hatchett, Weogufka, Paint, Socapotoy, Pintlocco and Futtugal Creeks. These streams all furnish water-power of almost unrivaled extent. The Coosa River, where it borders this county, is rendered impassable by obstructions and rapids, and should the movement now on foot cause it to be opened to navigation, the benefit to Coosa County will be inestimable. At Bradford, on Socapotoy Creek, there is a cotton mill known as Bradford's Factory, which has been idle for some years. The building is a substantial stone structure, and, but for the fact that it is situated so far off of the line of railroad, the property would be very valuable and the mill might be worked to advantage.

Rockford, a little town of about 1,000 inhabitants, is the County Seat. It possesses excellent schools, good society, and has several churches. Kellyton and Good Water are the only railroad stations in the county. For some years the latter has been the terminus of the Columbus & Western Railroad. This road is now being extended to Birmingham, and will be completed at an early date. The other towns of Coosa are: Nixburg, Bradford, Mt. Olive, Stewartsville, Hanover, Equality, Lorraine, Traveler's Rest, Hissop, Weogufka and Marble Valley.

The price of land ranges from \$2 to \$15 per acre. The county contains a large body of public land, open to homestead settlement or purchase. The future of Coosa County is most promising, and with increased railroad facilities, and the Coosa River open to navigation, it would come to the front as one of the wealthiest counties of the State.





## V.

# CHILTON COUNTY.

Population: White, 8,651; colored, 2,142. Area, 700 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravelly, hills, and long-leaf pines, 400 square miles. Metamorphic, 220 square miles. Slate region, 80 square miles.

Acres—In cotton, (approximately), 11,558; in corn, 18,185; in oats, 3,255 in wheat, 4,507; in rye, 60; in sweet potatoes, 356.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 4,000.

County Seat—Clanton; population, 800; on railroad, about forty miles north of Montgomery.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Chilton View* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—*Clanton*, Clear Creek, Cooper, Dixie, Energy, Jamison, Jumbo, Kincheon, Lily, Maplesville, Mountain Creek, Spigner, Stanton, Strasburgh, Verbena.

When this county was organized, in 1868, it was called Baker, which name it retained until 1874, when, in honor of Judge W. P. Chilton, it received its present designation. Chilton occupies the geographical center of the State. Wonderful advances have been made in the industries of the county within the last few years. From 1870 to 1880 the population of Chilton was almost doubled.

Chilton is varied, both with respect to the face of the country and the character of the lands. In the eastern portion there is a high ridge which forms the watershed between the Coosa and Alabama Rivers. Along the southern border of the county the surface is uneven. This irregularity of the face of the country extends northward for some distance. The soils vary from the rich red and brown loam lands to the most sterile. In the western portion of the county, and especially in the regions lying contiguous to Mulberry Creek and its tributaries, are found the best agricultural lands. It is here that the population is denser than elsewhere in Chilton. This is emphatically the farming section of the county. On the opposite side (the eastern) of the county are found altogether a different class of indus-

tries. Extensive pine forests are a prevailing feature here. They spread over the knolls and hills which hold within their bosoms deposits of minerals. To what extent these minerals exist has not yet been discovered. Professor Eugene A. Smith, State Geologist, affirms that there is a greater variety of minerals in Chilton than in any other county in Alabama. They consist of mica, graphite, iron, copper and gold. Copper mines and gold mines have been operated with some success.

The timber resources of Chilton are very extensive, as is indicated by the fact that there are twenty-nine saw-mills in the county. These comprise some of the largest mills and lumber industries in the State. Many of these are found along the line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. It will be inferred from the foregoing that the forests of Chilton are composed almost entirely of the yellow or long-leaf pine.

As the timber is cleared off these lands they are brought into cultivation, and yield readily in response to proper fertilizing. Corn, cotton, oats, wheat and rice are principal crops. The cultivation of rice for the market has been undertaken within the last few years with the most gratifying results. It will ultimately prove a source of great revenue in the county. It has been tested in the refineries of New Orleans, and pronounced equal to that grown upon the famous rice plantations of South Carolina.

The crops which can be profitably raised are corn, wheat, oats, sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, peas, sugar cane, rice, cotton, and every variety of garden truck, besides fruit in the greatest abundance, such as strawberries, melons, peaches, apples, pears, plums, etc. Stock-raising can also be carried on with profit, and the splendid stock ranges in various portions of the county would be more than trebled in value were they put to the proper use. The raising of sheep is also engaged in with profit.

The increase in wealth is keeping pace with the growth in population. In 1870 the first assess-

ment of property was made, the county having been formed the latter part of 1868. For the first assessment the county gave in 139,449 acres of land, valued at \$214,879; in 1887 the number of acres has increased to 399,743, valued at \$250,334, showing how rapidly Government lands in this county have been and are still being settled. The value of town property in 1870 amounted to nothing, there being only a few railroad stations in the county. Since this time thriving villages have grown up around these stations, and the value of town property goes up into the hundred thousands. The increase in tax values during the past year amounted to \$155,622. The railroad property of the county was assessed for the present year at \$156,507.

Chilton County, with its beautiful scenery, could be made a great State park. Along the Coosa and on Yellow-Leaf and Blue Creeks the scenery is wild and weird as one could wish to see.

Advantages for the shipment of products to distant markets are afforded by the splendid line of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which passes through the county. The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad also passes through the county.

There is no lack of water, as the county is drained by the Coosa River, and Chestnut, Swift, Big and Little Mulberry, Yellow Leaf and Blue Creeks.

The places of greatest importance are: Clanton,

the County Seat, with a population of 600; Verbena, Maplesville, Jemison and Mountain Creek have become somewhat noted as summer resorts. At the former place an elegant hotel has been erected, both for summer and winter boarders; while at the latter point neat cabins of summer visitors dot the slopes and crown the higher ridges. Families from Montgomery and the neighboring towns have established these tasteful retreats in order that they may find a pleasant refuge from the heat and dust of the city. Both these points are growing in popularity as places of summer resort.

Good schools are found at every center of interest in the county. At Clanton and Verbena the schools are of high grade, and moral influences good. Churches of the different denominations also abound.

Immigrants or investors desiring to purchase lands in this county may obtain them for prices ranging from \$1 to \$15 per acre. Knowing how much depends on an increased population of thrifty habits, the people of this county are eager to encourage such to establish homes in their midst.

Chilton County embraces 52,000 acres of land belonging to the General Government, which are being very rapidly settled.

The valuation of taxable property in Chilton County is \$1,864,832, as shown by the abstract of assessment filed with the Auditor.



## VI.

### CLAY COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,000; colored, 1,000. Area, 610 square miles. Woodland, all.

Aeres—In cotton (approximately), 13,921; in corn, 24,503; in oats, 4,894; in wheat, 9,785; in tobacco, 85; in sugar cane, 10; in sweet potatoes, 237.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 5,200.

County Seat—Ashland; population, 450; located 25 miles from Talladega.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Clay County Watchman* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—*Ashland*, Black Store, Bluff Spring, Buckeye, Coleta, Copper Mines, Dean, Delta, Elias, Enitachopeo, Flat Rock, Gibsonville, Greshamton, Harlan, Hatchett Creek, Hillabee, Idaho, Lineville, Mad Indian, Mellow Valley, Moseley, Mountain Meadow, Pinckneyville, Rocky Mount, Shinbone, Wheelerville.

This county was created in 1866, and took its name from the great Kentucky statesman, Henry Clay. Like other interior counties in Alabama, the mineral and agricultural properties are not as yet fully recognized and appreciated. It is remote from lines of transportation and is not as accessible as other portions of the State which have won distinction among capitalists, and yet are not a whit in advance of Clay. When the productive soils, the varied minerals, and the vast water-power of the county shall attract public notice, gateways of commerce will be opened, and its hills and valleys will teem with population.

Clay County is varied both with respect to the face of the country and the character of the soil. The eastern portion has a varied surface with a soil of sandy loam. A mountainous ridge penetrates the county from the southwest to the northeast. Most of the lands lying adjacent to this ridge are very productive. In the northern end of Clay and west of this range, is a valley of exceedingly rich farming land. The bottom lands which lie along the streams which water the county are generally productive. A belt of "flatwoods" four or five

miles wide is found east of the ridge lands. This belt is covered with a mixed growth of oaks and pine and has generally a gray and somewhat sandy soil. Throughout the county the gray lands are regarded the best for farming purposes.

The bulk of the cotton crop of Clay is raised in the southern and eastern parts of the county, because of the superiority of the soils. The chief productions are cotton, corn, wheat, oats and sweet potatoes. Orchard and garden fruits also do well.

The timbers of the county include both short- and long-leaf pine, with blackjack and other oaks, hickory, sweet gum, walnut, poplar, crab apple, persimmon, ash, maple, dogwood and alder. The mountains and hillsides are covered with the heaviest timbers. The timber and lumber trade is one of the future industries of Clay County.

Gold, silver, barytes, tin, manganese, pyrites, soapstone, iron, copper, copperas, mica, graphite and slate are found in different parts of Clay. The Confederate authorities, during the last two years of the war, secured much sulphur from this county for the manufacture of powder.

The water-power of the county is immense. The inclination of many of the streams is great, imparting a mighty momentum to the descending waters. Big Katchabadarga, Talladega, Hatchet, Hillabee, Hatchee, Enitachopka, Condatchkee, Crooked and Mad Indian Creeks are the main streams. The county is abundantly supplied, too, with perennial springs of freestone water.

Ashland, Lineville and Delta are the principal points of interest. Excellent schools of a high grade are found at all these points.

At present Clay County is entirely without railroads, which, more than any other cause, accounts for its want of development. The county lies between the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, and the mountainous range which penetrates it, divides the water flowing to those streams. The health of Clay County is exceptional, while its soil is varied and fairly productive. The

people are thrifty and contented, raising at home almost everything needed for domestic comfort.

Some of the railroads projected through this section of the State will penetrate this county, and, upon completion of one or more of these roads, the resources of Clay will divide the attention which is now concentrated on more favored localities, and the growth and development of

the county will be commensurate with the past experience of the mineral region of Alabama. Within the limits of this county there is a large body of public lands subject to homestead entry or purchase, which within a few years will become the homes of a thriving population. At present the prices of land range from \$1 to \$15 per acre, depending upon situation and condition of improvement.



## VII.

### CHEROKEE COUNTY.

Population: White, 16,800; colored, 2,000. Area, 660 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measures of Lookout Mountain, 150 square miles. Coosa Valley, etc., 510 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 24,390; in corn, 33,315; in oats, 1,415; in wheat, 10,085; in rye, 160; in tobacco, 80; in sweet potatoes, 335. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 14,000.

County Seat—Centre; population 650; on Coosa river, 140 miles north by east of Montgomery, 20 miles north of Jacksonville.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Cherokee Advertiser*, *Coosa River News*, and the *Telephone* (all Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Alexis, Ball Flat, Blaine, Broomtown, Cedar Bluff, Cedar Spring, Centre, Chance, Colma, Davis' Cross-roads, Farill, Firestone, Forney, Fullerton, Gaylesville, Gnatville, Grantville, Hancock, Howel's Cross-roads, Hurley, Key, Kirk's Grove, Lay, Leesburgh, Maple Grove, Moshat, New Goshen, New Moon, Plano, Ricks, Ringgold, Rock Run, Rock Run Station, Round Mountain, Sand Rock, Slackland, Spring Garden, Sterling, Stock's Mills, Taff, Tecumseh.

Cherokee County derives its name from the Indian tribe which formerly inhabited it. The county was constituted in 1836. It is a border county, lying alongside Georgia upon the east. Its natural advantages are very great, especially those relating to its mineral richness. Its agri-

cultural capabilities are also good. Considerable enterprise has existed in the county for many years, and great progress has been made in the development of its resources, as its numerous mining interests will attest.

In 1880 the population was almost doubled. There has been a steady influx of population into the county, which has increased with the years. More and more its numerous advantages in soil, climate, mineral wealth and location are being appreciated. The face of the county is generally uneven, and sometimes mountainous, and, like all the counties of this region, the upper lands are thin, with very fertile valleys lying between.

The cultivated soils of Cherokee are composed of red and brown loams, which belong to the coves and valleys, and skirt the principal streams. Upon these lands most of the cotton of the county is produced. Then along the ridges and hills are found the thinner soils, which have a grayish cast and are mixed with a flinty gravel. The character of both these classes of land varies very greatly with the different localities. Then there are what are called "the flatwoods," which form a considerable belt in the county. Though this soil, when analyzed, shows that it has fine productive capabilities, it is but rarely cultivated, because care has not been taken to drain it. No doubt it can be brought into profitable cultivation. Perhaps in no county in the State can there be found a greater diversity of soil than in Cherokee.

The valley lands are almost entirely devoted to the production of corn, cotton, wheat and oats. Upon the higher or table lands are produced excellent fruits, chief among which are apples, pears, peaches and plums. Fruit trees are seldom disturbed by frost. With proper care and cultivation orchards growing upon these elevated lands become very profitable. The vine is cultivated with wonderful success along the mountains.

Stock-raising in Cherokee is on the increase because of the revenue derived from the experiments already made. Herbage grows with such readiness and in such profusion as to encourage the greater production of stock.

The growths of the forests comprise oaks (of the several varieties), hickory, chestnut, short and long-leaf pines. There is quite an extensive prevalence of pine forests in the county, which have given rise to many mills and log yards, which are established at convenient bluffs along the Coosa River, giving employment to many laborers.

In several portions of Cherokee there are extensive and valuable deposits of iron ore, much of which is worked up in furnaces along the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad. The following iron works are in successful operation in the county: The Stonewall Iron Company, Tecumseh Iron Company, Rock Run Furnace, Alabama Iron Company, Cornwall Iron Works and Round Mountain Furnace. There is a fine cotton factory at Spring Garden. Rich coal deposits also exist in the county.

Cherokee has an abundant water supply, being traversed by the Coosa, Chattanooga, Yellow and Little Rivers, and Cowan's, Ball Play, Wolf, Spring, Terrapin, Yellow and Mill Creeks. All these are valuable streams, which are fed by numerous tributaries. This is the only county the heart of which is penetrated by the beautiful Coosa River. With the exception of Etowah, near whose eastern boundary the river runs, it forms the border line of all the other counties which it waters. But Cherokee it divides in twain, imparting fertility and beauty from limit to limit of the county. The waterways already named have, almost without exception, immense capabilities of water-power adapted to the planting of vast enterprises.

The line between Cherokee and DeKalb Counties runs along the summit of Lookout Mountain.

The Broomtown Valley, in the northwest corner of Cherokee, is worthy of special mention by reason of its fertility and romantic beauty. The grandeur of this section is enhanced by its bold and clear streams which ramify it throughout.

Transportation is afforded the county by the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, and the Coosa River.

Centre, the county seat, and Cedar Bluff are the leading towns. Together with other centers of population, these possess good educational and religious advantages. At Gaylesville there is a high school of note.

Lands range in price from \$2.50 to \$35 per acre. The Government owns 20,720 acres of land in Cherokee County.



## CENTRE.

**SAMUEL KING McSPADDEN**, Chancellor of the Northeast Division of Alabama, resident of Centre, son of the Rev. Samuel and Rebecca (Donalson) McSpadden, natives, respectively, of the States of Virginia and South Carolina, was born in Warren County, Tenn., November 12, 1823. The senior McSpadden, a minister of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, died at the old homestead, in Wilson County, Tenn., in 1860, at the age of eighty-three years. He was one of the

original agitators of the questions that led to the division of the old Presbyterian Church and the organization of the Cumberland Presbyterian denomination. His home was on the Cumberland River and in the bounds of the Cumberland Presbytery, and it was from that fact that the denomination mentioned took its name.

The subject of this sketch may be said to be a self-educated man. He learned the saddler's trade at Winchester, Tenn., and worked at it until 1848.

He came to Alabama in 1842 and lived seven years at Talladega. While at that place he began the study of law, pursuing the study finally under the distinguished Samuel F. Rice, and was admitted to practice before George W. Stone, the present Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. This was in 1848 or '49, and Mr. McSpadden began the practice in 1850 in Cherokee County, where he has since made his home. He entered the army as a private in the Nineteenth Alabama Infantry in 1861, and upon the final organization of that regiment was appointed its major. In 1862, upon the return of the army from Kentucky, Major McSpadden was promoted to lieutenant colonel. The regiment was then at Knoxville. He had commanded the regiment from the time it left Kentucky, and at Tallahoma he was promoted to colonel. At Resaca he fell into the hands of the enemy, May, 1864, and was taken to Johnson's Island, where he was detained until March, 1865. He never again joined his command, though he met them in Salisbury, N. C. It should have been mentioned that Mr. McSpadden was elected to the State Senate in 1857, and that he was a member of that body at the time he entered the army.

Chancellor McSpadden was first elected by the Legislature, session of 1865-6, and in 1868 the United States Congress declared him further incompetent. This retired him to his practice, to which he devoted himself until again made Chancellor, in 1885. He was elected to the Senate in 1882, and resigned as a member of that body to accept the Chancellorship. In November, 1886, the unexpired term for which he had been appointed having expired, he was regularly elected for the ensuing term of six years.

At Centre, Ala., June 14, 1854, Samuel King McSpadden was married to Miss Charleie Ann Garrett, daughter of Gen. John H. Garrett. To this union was born one child, Lulu, now the wife of Hon. H. W. Cardon, of Centre.

The Chancellor and Mrs. McSpadden are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he of the Masonic fraternity.

**ROBERT R. SAVAGE**, Judge of the Probate Court of Cherokee County, was born in Union District, S. C., September 23, 1831, and at the common schools of his native place acquired a fair

education. He was married February 24, 1852, to Miss Louisa J. Geer, daughter of Willis and Cynthia E. (Hall) Geer, of Cherokee County, and from that date until 1869 was here engaged in farming. In the latter named year he was elected Tax Collector, held that office two terms, and in 1880 was elected Probate Judge, a position he has continued to hold, having been re-elected in 1886.

February, 1862, Judge Savage enlisted in Company E, Forty-seventh Alabama Regiment, and was elected first lieutenant. He resigned at the end of nine months, returned home, and soon afterward joined General Wheeler's escort, and remained in the service until the close of the war.

Judge Savage is one of the substantial citizens of Cherokee County. He has reared a family of six children. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

James P. Savage, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in South Carolina, and in 1848 settled at the town of Goshen, Cherokee County, Ala.; from there in 1873 he moved to Cross Plains, Calhoun County, where he died in 1874. He reared a family of nine sons and three daughters. His father, James Savage, was a native of Pennsylvania, and his grandfather came from Europe.



**JAMES AVERY REEVES**, Attorney and Counselor at Law, Centre, native of Jasper County, Ga., son of James Madison and Susan Rice (Watt) Reeves, was born November 22, 1842. Until twelve years of age his home was at Cedar Bluff. At that time, his father having been dead some years, his mother married the Rev. O. D. McNeely, and moved upon a farm.

This limited our subject's early education for a short time. In 1858 he entered college at Murfreesboro, Tenn., where we find him at the outbreak of the late war. In August, 1861, he enlisted in the Nineteenth Alabama, and from that time to the close of the war was identified with the Confederate service. At Shiloh he was severely wounded. This led to his discharge, and in the fall of 1863 he entered the Quartermaster's Department, in which he was assigned to post duty at Centre and Gadsden. Early in 1864 he was appointed by the Governor as Special Aid, with the rank of colonel, and assigned to the duty of rais-

ing and organizing State troops. In September, 1865, he began the study of law, and in the fall of 1867, was admitted to the bar at Centre. Here he at once entered upon a successful practice, which he has maintained fully to the present time. He was elected County Treasurer in 1865 and held that office one term. He was Journal Clerk of the House of Representatives, session of 1866-7. He had been appointed Register in Chancery, probably in 1865, and he held this office in addition to his other duties until 1870. He was elected to the Legislature in February 1868, and took a conspicuous part in the succeeding important session. He was appointed State Examiner of Public Accounts by Governor Seay, in the spring of 1887, and how well he has acquitted himself in the discharge of this important duty is a matter of public record.

Mr. Reeves was married December 20, 1866, to Miss Mary E. Haynes, and the names of the children born to them are: Maggie S., James H., Mary T. and John A. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Reeves is a Mason.

**ELLIS HALE,** Clerk of the Cherokee County Court, was born in Carroll County, Va., March 25, 1842, and is a son of Fielden L. and Evaline (Anderson) Hale, natives of Georgia.

He was a soldier in the late war, and participated in all the battles in which his regiment, the Twenty-fourth Virginia, took part. He entered the service as first sergeant, and left it with the rank of first lieutenant. He was wounded at the battle of Gettysburg; spent six months in the hospital at Staunton, Va., and was disabled thereafter for service. At the close of the war he returned to Virginia, and was elected Clerk of the Carroll County Court. At the end of six months he gave up that office and came to Alabama. He was in the mercantile business some years at Leesburg, and from there came to Centre. He was elected County Treasurer of Cherokee County in 1877, and holds that office at this time, in addition to the clerkship to which he was appointed in 1880.

He was married while a young man to Miss Nannie Pullen, of Centre. She died in 1877, leaving one child, Bernard. In October, 1878, Mr. Hale led to the altar Miss Josie M. Davidson,

of Rutledge, Tenn., and the four children born to this union are named respectively: Marshal E., Benjamin F., Elbert and Anna Bell. Mr. and Mrs. Hale are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and he is of the Masonic fraternity.

The senior Mr. Hale was a merchant and miner in Carroll County, Va., from about 1840 to 1865. He was also many years Clerk of that county, and Superintendent of Education. He was a member of the Secession Convention of Virginia, and held the rank of captain during the war. He settled in Cherokee County in 1865, and from there returned to Virginia three years later. In 1881 he left Virginia and settled in Volusia County, Fla., where he yet resides, and is engaged in mercantile business. His wife died in 1855.

**A. M. PRATT, M. D.** The subject of this sketch was born in York District, S. C., November, 1827, and is the son of John J. and Dorcas E. (Moore) Pratt. He was reared in Unionville, S. C., where he received his primary and literary education, and at the age of eighteen began the study of medicine. Having graduated from the colleges of Charleston, the Jefferson of Philadelphia, and Stuyvesant University of New York City, as M. D., he at once entered into the practice of his profession in his native State, where he remained for two years. After leaving there he located in Carnesville, Ga., in 1853; there he married the daughter of Dr. Henry Freeman, who was a distinguished physician and who figured prominently in the Legislative Halls of Georgia as a Representative and Senator.

Dr. Pratt having practiced his profession for several years in a successful and lucrative way, and having established himself as a skilled physician and successful practitioner, concluded to move West; having done so, he located in Cherokee County, Ala., in the year 1857, and in 1860 at Centre, where in 1863, he was appointed Post Surgeon, a position he filled to the close of the war.

Dr. Pratt is one of the most successful and popular physicians of Northeastern Alabama. Although the war dissipated his ample means, he has long since recovered, and is at this writing, again possessed of a moderate competency. The Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity and several

other orders, and is a believer in evolution and all other subjects which promote and foster liberty of thought and freedom of opinions. The Doctor has three sisters who possess rare literary attainments; one a playwright of considerable ability, and who has translated many foreign periodical magazines, novels, and other literature into the English language; another who has written several novels and private histories of the United States. The third sister is an extensive traveler (at this time she is sojourning in Europe), having crossed the Atlantic Ocean no less than a half dozen times, and visited all the provinces and principal cities of Europe, and personally met several of the potentates.

John J. Pratt, a younger brother of the Doctor, is an inventor of considerable note, being the inventor of one of the first type writers; also the inventor of the type writer which was awarded the highest gold medal at the New Orleans Exposition. He, John J. Pratt, Jr., is the superintendent of the Hammond Type Writing Company of New York City. The Doctor's father, John J. Pratt, Sr., was a native of Newberry, S. C., and was twenty-one years Probate Judge of Union District, that State; he was also a prominent merchant and shoe and leather manufacturer. He came to Cherokee County, Ala., in 1851, and was here an extensive planter and slave-holder. The Doctor's grandfather, John J. Pratt, was a native of Salem, Mass. He moved from there to Fauquier County, Va., in 1780, and on to Newberry, S. C., in 1790. His forefather came over in the noted "Mayflower" in the year 1620.

**WILLIAM MADISON ELLIOT.** Secretary of the Round Mountain Iron Company, Centre, Ala., was born in Rome, Ga., August 26, 1860, and is the son of James Madison and Emily Jane (Hoss) Elliott. He graduated from Emory and Henry College, Va., as A. B., class of 1879, and immediately thereafter engaged at steambotting on the Coosa River. Here he was for some time master and pilot of the steambot Magnolia. In 1885 he abandoned the river, and accepted a situation as book-keeper for the Gadsden Iron Company. He remained with that company three years, and has since that time been connected with the Round Mountain Iron Company.

Mr. Elliott was married March 15, 1887, to Miss

Sallie E. Bogan, the accomplished daughter of Henry S. and Amanda (Hoss) Bogan.

**JOHN BUTLER WALDEN.** Attorney-at-law, was born in Jasper County, Ga., September 1, 1816, and is a son of Charles and Sarah (Walker) Walden, natives of South Carolina.

He was reared on a farm, and at the age of twenty years, at Wetumpka, Ala., began the study of the law, and at Talladega was admitted to the bar. He located first in the practice at Lebanon, De Kalb County, and was within a short time appointed Register in Chancery, and afterward appointed Judge of the County Court of De Kalb County. He held these offices but a few months, when he resigned for the purpose of devoting his entire time to the practice of the law, and soon gained rank in the profession. He was appointed Solicitor of the Huntsville Circuit in 1862, and was shortly afterwards elected by the Legislature to that office, and held it the close of the war. In 1864 he came to Centre, and has here since that time given his whole attention to his profession.

Mr. Walden was married in December, 1842, to Catharine O. Chambliss, daughter of John and Sarah (Pierce) Chambliss, who came from Darlington District, S. C., to Talladega County in 1841. Of the children reared by Mr. Walden we have the following data: John is a farmer and trader in Texas; Charles is a trader at McMinnville, Tenn.; Joseph A. studied law of his own volition; was admitted to the bar on the day after he was twenty-one; was elected Solicitor for Cherokee County by the popular vote, and served one term only. He holds a high standing in his profession as an untiring, zealous advocate. Emily married Captain Marable, of Georgia, and Minnie is unmarried, and remains with her parents.

The senior Mr. Walden, in about 1800, moved to Green County, Ga., and from thence to Jasper. He was a lieutenant under General Floyd in the War of 1812. He came into Alabama in 1819, and located in Autauga County, near old Fort Jackson. He died in 1832. Of his seven sons John B. is the only one now living.

His wife was one of those excellent pioneer, Christian women. She was a member of the Baptist Church over fifty years, and many of her ancestors and kinsmen were noted divines. She



died in 1854, at the age of seventy years. Her father, Jeremiah Walker, a Virginian by birth, and a gallant old Revolutionary soldier, was a farmer in South Carolina. His paternal ancestors came from England.



**JOHN W. TATUNS,** (deceased) was born in Calhoun County, Ala., in 1835; came into Cherokee County in 1868, and in January of that year married the widow of M. J. Alexander, a daughter of Dr. William and Rebecca W. (Parker) McElrath. Mr. McElrath was born in Spartanburg District and his wife in Tennessee. The Doctor graduated in medicine from the Cincinnati Med-

ical College, and in 1836 located in Coosa County, Ala. In 1839 he came into Cherokee County, and settled within three miles of Centre, where he practiced medicine until 1837. In that year, his wife's health having become impaired, he gave up his practice and turned his attention to farming. The Doctor was a public-spirited man, noted for his charity, and for his interest in the general good of his neighborhood. He died in 1885 at the age of eighty-seven years, leaving a large estate. His wife had died the year before. His father was a native of Ireland.

John W. Tatuns at his death, in 1884, left three children: Samuel C., Leonora L., and Westly S. He was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and a highly respected citizen.



## VIII.

### CULLMAN COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,312; colored, 143. Area, 590 square miles. Woodland, all.

Aeres—In cotton (approximately), 1,469; in corn, 10,343; in oats, 1,159; in wheat, 2,569; in rye, 480; in sugar-cane, 66; in tobacco, 41; in sweet potatoes, 215.

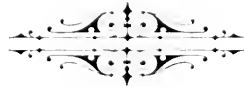
Approximate number of bales of cotton in round numbers, 400.

County Seat—Cullman; population, 1,600; located on South & North Alabama Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Alabama Tribune* and *Troumpet*.

Postoffices in the County—Baileyton, Bosenberg, Bremen, Crane Hill, Crooked Creek, *Cullman*, Dreher, Etha, Jones Chapel, Logan, Marriott, May Apple, Nesmith, Ruby, Simcoe, Trimble.

This is one of the last counties formed in the State, and was organized in 1877, and has an interesting history, which begins in 1873, when John G. Cullman became the agent for the sale of the vast tracts of land belonging to the South & North Alabama and Louisville & Nashville Railroads. [See History of Cullman, this volume.]



## IX.

### CLEBURNE COUNTY.

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Population: White, 10,308; colored, 668. Area, 540 square miles. Woodland, all. Metamorphic, 400 square miles. Coosa Valley, 140 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 9,156; in corn, 21,552; in oats, 567; in wheat, 7,504; in tobacco, 85; in sweet potatoes, 221.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 4,000.

County Seat—Edwardsville; population, 600; on Georgia Pacific Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Cleburne County News* (Democratic), *Standard* (Democratic).

Post-offices in the County—Abernathy, Ai, Arbacoochee, Beecham, Bell's Mills, Belltown, Borden Springs, Chulafinnee, Cicero, Cold Water, *Edwardsville*, Grantly, Helin, Hightower, Hooper's Mills, Kemp's Creek, Lecta, Micaville, Muscadine, Oakfuskee, Oak Level, Oak Lone, Palestine, Rosewood, Shoal Creek, Solomon, Stone Hill.

This county was formed in 1867 from portions of Calhoun, Talladega and Randolph Counties, and named for the lamented General Cleburne, who fell in the forefront of the famous battle at Franklin, Tenn., in 1864. Though abounding in natural resources, the county is not as fully developed as some others in the same region. Since the construction of two railroads through the county, giving its productions a ready outlet, it is winning to itself a thrifty population, and in many ways the merits of Cleburne are coming more and more to be recognized and appreciated.

Great inducements exist in the county for capitalists and immigrants, as its mines are stored with rich ores, and its lands abound in fertility.

Cleburne has a varied surface. In the northern end of the county there are rugged intervening valleys, of fertility. These valley lands are of a reddish hue, as is true of the most of the lands of this character in this and the northern portion of Alabama. The lands which lie along the ridges are of a light or grayish color.

But few of the mountain lands have ever been cultivated, as the residents of the county have never felt the necessity of leaving the level for the higher districts. Along the slopes, however, there are good farming lands with yellow sub-soil. The remainder of the county is covered with either red or gray lands, except in the creek and river bottoms, where the soil partakes largely of sand.

In the western portion of the county there is a sparser population than in any other section, because the lands are regarded as less fertile. Cleburne has many fertile valleys, which are mostly devoted to the production of corn, though some cotton is planted. Along these valley stretches are some of the best farms in the county. The lower portion of the county abounds in red fertile lands.

The productions are corn, cotton, wheat, and oats, with minor crops of great importance.

Near the line of the East & West Alabama Railroad in this county, a very extensive bed of manganese has been opened, the property of State Senator Hon. W. J. Alexander and a Jacksonville land company, and has been pronounced by scientific assayers to be of most excellent quality.

The soils are admirably suited to the production of apples and peaches. The clover and grasses are found to thrive with great readiness, and home stock raising is gradually receiving more attention.

The county has many forests of excellent timber, the chief growth of which is white, red, Spanish and post oak, short and long-leaved pine, walnut, hickory and gum.

For many years a gold mine has been successfully worked at Arbacoochee. The same ores are also found in other places in the southern portions of the county.

In different parts of the county copper, mica, slate, graphite, pyrites, zinc and kaolin are found prevailing. Iron exists in great abundance, and silver has also been discovered. These await capital to be developed.

The supplies of water in every portion of Cleburne are unfailling, as it is penetrated by such streams as the Tallapoosa river, which runs diagonally through the county from northeast to southwest, and such streams as Terrapin, Muscogline, Cane, Shoal, Chulafinnee, Cohulga, Dying and Snake and Lost Creeks. All these are sustained by numerous tributaries which contribute further to the supply of water.

The places of the greatest importance are Edwardsville, the county seat, Heflin, Oak Level, Chulafinnee and Arbacoochee.

At Edwardsville and Heflin there are high schools of local note. Other good schools are

found in different parts of the county. The channels of transportation are the Georgia Pacific Railroad, and Edwardsville is about midway between Atlanta and Birmingham. The East & West railroad, running from Centerville, Ga., to Birmingham, runs through the north end of the county, and runs near an inexhaustible deposit of excellent roofing slate. Another important railway line is being constructed through the county from Carrollton, Ga., to Decatur, Ala., by way of Oak Level, in this county.

A large area of Government lands is yet on the market, which can be had under the homestead law.



## X.

## DE KALB COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,125; colored, 416. Area, 740 square miles; coal measures, on Lookout and Sand Mountains, 490 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 7,469; in corn, 23,929; in oats, 5,115; in wheat, 6,846; in rye, 383; in tobacco, 19; in sweet potatoes, 218.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 3,100.

County Seat—Fort Payne; population, 350; on Alabama Great Southern Railroad.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Journal* (Democratic).

Post-offices in the County—Andrews Institute, Black Oak, Brandon, Chavies, Chumley, Collinsville, Cordell, Cotnam, Crossville, Crumly, Deer Head, Denton, Floy, *Fort Payne*, Geraldine, Gladney, Grove Oak, Henagar, Ider, Laurel, Lebanon, Lookout, Loveless, Luna, Lutterell, Lydia, Mahan, Musgrove, Nicholson's Gap, Pea Ridge, Portersville, Rodentown, Sand Mountain, Sandy Mills, Skirum, Snake Creek, South Hill, Stella, Sulphur Springs, Ten Broeck, Thirty-Nine, Valley Head, Whiton, Wills.

De Kalb County took its name from the famous Baron De Kalb. It was constituted in

1836. De Kalb lies in the extreme northeastern corner of the State, and is bounded by Georgia on the east, its extreme northern point touching the line of the State of Tennessee. It shares largely in the fertile lands and mineral deposits, both of which abound in this section of Alabama. Its climate, healthfulness, favorableness of location, and natural sources of wealth make it one of the most desirable counties in the State.

De Kalb has been almost doubled within the last ten years, which serves to indicate quite fully the estimate which is placed upon the county by immigrants and investors. This is due to the peculiar advantages offered in climate, diversity of productions, mineral deposits, and cheapness of lands, all of which are chief factors in the prosperity of the county. De Kalb County is occupied in great part by the two plateaus of Sand and Lookout Mountains. The former of these constitutes a high plane, whose surface rocks are those of the Coal Measures. These two plateaus, of which that of Sand Mountain is the greater, are separated by Wills Valley, which cuts entirely across the county from northeast to southwest. This valley embraces the most productive lands of

De Kalb. It is here that almost all the cotton in the county is produced.

The land along the valleys was very highly prized by the first settlers of the County, and but little regard was had for that which lay along the plateaus. Later, however, the uplands were brought into use, and the result of their tillage has been peculiarly gratifying.

They are not only cultivated with far less effort, but are found to be almost equal in production to the lower soils, when assisted some with fertilizers.

The lands of the county may thus be divided in a general way between the dark, stiff soils of the valley and the lighter soils of the plateaus. The staple productions are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, rye and sweet potatoes. Grasses and clover flourish also, and the attention which is being given their production is tending to the improvement of stock. As is true throughout this entire section of the State, the lands upon the plateaus are those devoted to fruit culture. Apples, pears and peaches, and, indeed, all fruits grown in this latitude attain perfection. Fruit trees thrive here for many years, and the crop is rarely killed or injured by frosts. Perhaps no section of America can display finer specimens of plums than grow in this region. The principal timbers of the county are oaks, hickory, cherry and short leaf pines. These exist in sufficient quantities for all domestic purposes.

DeKalb County has the amplest water supplies for all purposes. Streams of rapid and deep currents offer inducements for the erection of machinery, while cool and everlasting springs issue

from the hills in every section of the county. Lookout Mountain plateau is drained by Little River and its tributaries, while Sand Mountain is drained by Tom Creek and the numerous streams which empty into it. Prominent among the streams are Long Island, Searham, Black and South Santa Creeks.

Near Valley Head, in Lookout Mountain plateau, is where the beautiful falls of Little River occur. They are nearly 100 feet in height, with a deep, rocky gorge below them.

Iron and coal largely prevail in the county. In Willis' Valley there is found a superb quality of fire clay, which has become famous. It exists also in other parts of DeKalb.

The kaolin of the county is very fine. Specimens displayed at the New Orleans Exposition took the first premium in 1885, and beautiful crockery manufactured from these porcelain clays was exhibited there.

Railroad transportation is enjoyed by the people of the county, as the Alabama Great Southern Railroad penetrates it from northeast to southwest. Fort Payne, the county seat, Collinsville, Lebanon and Portersville are the principal towns of the county.

Public school system is good, and church facilities abound.

Lands can be secured upon the most reasonable terms possible. There are many Government lands yet unsettled, being 32,600 acres, and vast quantities of railroad lands, which can be had at a marvelously low rate. In other sections, where land is purchasable, it can be had for from \$2 to \$25 per acre.



## XI.

### ETOWAH COUNTY.

Population: White, 19,898; colored, 3,000. Area, 520 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measures, 149 square miles (40 on Lookout Mountain and 100 on Sand Mountain).

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 17,000; in corn, 24,891; in oats, 6,000; in wheat, 7,000; in tobacco, 67; in sugar-cane, 9; in sweet potatoes, 260.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, in round numbers, 7,500.

County Seat—Gadsden; population, 4,000.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Times* and *Nws*.

Postoffices in the county: Atalla, Aurora, Ball Play, Buford, Clear Spring, Coats Bend, Coxville, Duck Springs, Etowahton, *Gadsden*, Greenwood, Hill, Hokes Bluff, Howelton, Keysburg, Markton, Nix, Oak Hill, Reeves, Red Bud, Seaborn, Shahan, Stanfield, Turkeytown, Walnut Grove.

Three-fourths of the county is made up of mountain plateaus or table lands.

The agricultural resources of the county are fine, and when you take into consideration the diversity of crops which flourish in it, it is equaled by few counties in the State.

The county contains lands of nearly every variety, and these lands are adapted to raising profitably many of the cereals and fruits. Some of the richest valley lands to be found in the State are in this county, and these valley lands produce the finest staple of cotton, as well as abundant crops of corn, oats and wheat. Some of these valleys are remarkable for their beauty, as well as their fertility, and we mention the Little Wills Valley, up which runs the Great Southern Railroad.

We have these beautiful valleys running through the county, in addition to the Coosa River bottoms, as they are called.

This Coosa bottom land is remarkable for producing a very fine grade of cotton, from which the celebrated Coats thread is made.

It also yields large crops of corn and oats, and other small grains.

The county is penetrated from the northeast to the southwest by two mountain plateaus and their valleys. As before mentioned, nearly three-fourths of the county is mountainous, the other fourth takes in the three valleys. These valleys are known as the Coosa Valley, which averages from three to four miles on either side of the river, making its width about six or seven miles.

The other two valleys are known as Big and Little Wills Valleys, and are remarkable for their beauty and fertility, especially the latter, which is the smaller of the two valleys.

While Etowah County is rich in minerals of nearly every description, her mineral treasure is not her only wealth. Her agricultural resources are very fine, and her chief products are cotton, corn, wheat, oats, millet, sorghum, sweet and Irish potatoes, besides the clovers and grasses. The amount of tilled lands is nearly 65,000 acres. Of this amount, nearly 17,000 acres are planted in cotton, yielding annually about 7,500 bales. About 2,500 acres are planted in corn; 6,925 acres in oats; 7,053 acres in wheat; 260 acres in sweet potatoes, and about 67 acres in tobacco.

The soils of the county vary greatly in the different localities. The valley lands are quite productive being of a loamy character, and of a dark color. These lands are usually stiff, but yield abundant crops when properly cultivated.

The lands along the ridges and plateaus are of a different character, being light, sandy, and easily cultivated. Upon the plateaus crops can be rotated very rapidly, as they grow more rapidly and mature earlier than on the valley lands. Among the early settlers the valley lands were prized the most highly, but latterly the plateau lands have come quite in demand, and their tillage has been very gratifying. These plateau lands are not only cultivated with far less effort, but when assisted by fertilizers are found to be almost equal in production to the lower soils in the valleys.

The lands of the county may be divided, in

a general way, between the dark, stiff soils of the valleys and the light soil of the plateaus.

In connection with a description of the soils, we mention the fact that in this county there are 12,000 acres of Government lands, still open to settlers, besides a large quantity of railroad lands, which can be bought very cheap, with the mineral rights reserved.

The mountain lands are especially adapted to the raising of fruits. Fruits grow upon them to the greatest perfection, and the climate, as well as the soil, seems adapted to peaches, apples, plums, pears and the smaller fruits, such as strawberries, grapes, raspberries and the like. Grape culture has proven quite a success, and experts believe that as fine grapes can be grown on Sand Mountains as in France or any other grape countries.

In addition to fruits, all garden vegetables flourish here and some of them reach the highest perfection.

Within the past few years, the clover known as *Lespedeza Striata*, has spread rapidly over the mountain lands of the county, and is even going into the valleys. It affords a luxuriant green pasture for cattle, horses and sheep—even hogs fatten on it. This new clover is self-propagating, and grows in the sun as well as under shade.

Besides the *Lespedeza*, we have the Bermuda grass, which flourishes in this county, affording fine pasturage for stock. It is also valuable for producing hay.

The Johnson grass also does well here with cultivation. These other grasses grow without any attention or cultivation. Especially would we mention the crab grass, which is indigenous and very abundant. It is equal in value to any other grass grown in the county. Several of the Etowah farmers gather fine crops of hay from this grass, which springs up after the wheat and oats have been taken from the land.

There are few counties in the State that offer as many inducements to stock raising as Etowah does in consequence of her fine grasses.

The timber is another source of wealth to the county. In the valleys are found forests of oak, hickory, chestnut and walnut, while in the flat wood region, south of Gadsden, are found large numbers of Spanish, red, post, and black-jack oaks, and short-leaf pines. Very little of the above timber has been used beyond the home market.

The long-leaf yellow pine, which is found in

great abundance along the Coosa River, just on the edge of the valley, has been a great source of wealth to Etowah County, and especially to the city of Gadsden.

As before stated, the county is crossed midway by the 34th parallel of latitude and is divided north and south by the 86th degree of west longitude.

The climate is all that could be desired, being exempt from either extreme of heat or cold.

The following is taken from the records of the signal service which have been kept in the city of Gadsden, by Prof. D. P. Goodhue, for a number of years. Of course the average is a fair approximation, and as nearly accurate as can be obtained.

#### TEMPERATURE.

The winter season averages.....	40°	F.
“ spring “ “ .....	60	“
“ summer “ “ .....	76	“
“ fall “ “ .....	58	“
“ whole year “ .....	58½	“

#### RAINFALL.

Winter season.....	16	inches
Spring “ .....	13	“
Summer “ .....	11	“
Fall “ .....	8	“
Total .....	48	inches

The above shows that the county has a very generous rainfall, and at the same time its distribution is such as to practically exempt the county from either floods or drouths.

The general distribution of it, through the year, prevents the extremes of heat and cold, and gives the county quite an equable climate.

The whole county is almost a bed of minerals, in which nearly every variety is found. It is impossible to give accurate information concerning the mineral wealth of the county, because it is only partially developed.

In the county are found the following ores, with an analysis of each appended, as far as we have been able to obtain them:

1st. Red Hematite, a fossiliferous ore, yielding from 45 to 50 per cent. of metallic iron. This ore is found in large quantities along the Coosa River, and five miles west of the Coosa, at or near Atalla, is found what is called Red Mountain, containing inexhaustible deposits of this ore, and is not only one of the largest deposits in the State, but is one of the mineral wonders of the American continent. The seams vary from eighteen inches to three feet in thickness.

This vast body of fossiliferous ore runs from a point a few miles east of the city of Tuscaloosa to the northeastern limits of the State and is said to be 100 miles in length by from half a mile to a mile wide. This vast deposit passes right through the county of Etowah.

In addition to the red hematite, the county has large quantities of brown hematite, though undeveloped. The quality of this brown hematite ore is regarded by experts as good, though we have no analysis of it.

Though in its initial state of development, the most abundant mineral of the county is coal.

Around the city of Gadsden the coal deposits have been tapped and worked at eight or ten different points, and it is clearly established that there are three veins, one above the other, running under the mountain. The top veins alone have been worked, and they have averaged from eighteen to thirty-six inches in thickness. The yield is a soft, bituminous coal, which is very fine for coking. It is supposed that the two lower veins are thicker, and of a better quality. The quality of the top vein improves as you follow it under the mountain, and Gadsden to-day is mining as good coal as is to be found in the State, with a few exceptions.

On the western edge of the county, on Straight Mountain, east of Murphy's Valley, the coal fields of the county have been tapped, and here they show four veins, varying in thickness from eighteen inches to five feet. It is a soft, bituminous coal, and makes fine coke.

To these coal fields on the western edge of the county two railroads are in process of construction, and these fields will doubtless soon be developed. The coal fields, as far as they are known, extend under Sand and Lookout Mountains, and all indications would lead one to infer, that the quantity of coal is simply inexhaustible.

*Manganese.*—The extent and character of these deposits of manganese are hardly known, as until the past six months, no efforts have been made to locate or open up the mines, except by the Gadsden Iron, Coal and Real Estate Co., but the surface indications are good. Floats of this ore are found on the line of the R. & D. R. R., northeast of Gadsden, but the richest deposits are found in the western part of the county near the village of Walnut Grove, on this same line of railroad, the Rome and Decatur.

These mines have been examined by Earle Sloan,

of the firm of Reccio, Sloan & Vediles, Birmingham, Ala. We will copy his report:

"Entering gulch along the outcrops we ascended comb of ridge affording a bold outcrop of manganese ore; a test-shaft was sunk, showing section affording vein thirty-five inches in thickness, the lower ten inches being an inferior ore, the upper twenty-five inches affording ore ranging from forty-five to sixty-five per cent. metallic manganese, as determined by series of analyses of sections made by writers, and also by analysis rendered by J. Blodgett Britton, of the Iron Masters' Laboratory, Philadelphia, Penn. The ore is low in both phosphorus and sulphur, containing of phosphorus less than 0.2 per cent.; of sulphur less than 0.05 per cent.

"Careful inspection of analysis rendered, shows an ore of manganese of the di-oxide class, eminently adapted to the production of ferro-manganese, so essential to the manufacture of steel."

This deposit was also examined by Mr. Carl Wentrock, of Birmingham, Ala., who is the mineralogist of the Alabama Mineral Bureau. His report was as follows:

"We examined the outcrop for over one mile and chose a place for prospecting. On opening this, we found a vein of four layers.

"1, Six inches of ore (mixed); 2, seven inches of clay between; 3, two inches of ore; 4, four inches of clay; 5, two and one-half inches of ore; 6, eight inches of clay; 7, eighteen inches of ore.

"This shows a true vein runs through the property. After this, about 100 yards distant and thirty feet below in the same course, we made another opening, and found the same true vein in a better condition, showing a first layer of eleven inches solid manganese super-oxide of best quality, called soft manganese ore. I went over the property for three miles and found the same outcropping and leading veins over the whole distance."

The deposit of manganese extends over a considerable area between Blountsville and Walnut Grove, but has not been developed. The above facts and following analysis we get from Mr. James M. Cooper, President of the Gadsden Iron, Coal and Real Estate Co.

Analysis of outcrop of vein, much washed, made by J. Blodgett Brittain, June 3, 1887, for the following substances only:

Pure metallic Manganese	100
" Silicon	112
" Phosphorus	106

Contained of available binocide of manganese, 52.30.

Analysis of specimen from pocket made by same party on June 22, for the following substances only:

Pure metallic Manganese.....	59.840
Sulphur.....	0.000
Phosphorus.....	.212

Contained of binocide of manganese, 93.85.

Stillwell & Gladding, chemists of the New York Produce Exchange, made the following analysis on June 9, 1887.

Manganese.....	56.950
Phosphorus.....	0.081
Sulphur.....	0.050
Other minerals.....	

Besides iron, coal, and manganese, the following minerals, rocks, and clays are found in the county: Baryta, used in the manufacture of mineral paints, is found in different sections of the county.

*Building Stones.* Lime rock, in great abundance and easily quarried, blue sandstone of the prettiest quality, and yellow sandstone in the greatest quantities.

In addition to the building stones mentioned we have a marble quarry containing the variegated marble of chocolate color, and of the finest quality.

Bath brick are also to be found, and they are unsurpassed.

Kaolin is found within five miles of the City of Gadsden, though the mines are undeveloped, specimens of the finest quality having been obtained from wells dug at different points.

Potters' clay of a very fine quality can be found almost anywhere in the county.

Beautiful specimens of galena have also been found, but not in working quantities.

As we have before stated, the extent of these mineral deposits are not known, but in many cases they are known to be very great.



## XII.

### FAYETTE COUNTY.

Population: White, 8,873; colored, 1,262. Area 660 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measure 600 square miles. Generally pine hills, 60 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 12,341; in corn, 2,495; in oats, 3,627; in wheat, 4,826; in rye, 46; in tobacco, 37; in sweet potatoes, 421.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 5,000. County Seat — Fayette; population, 1,000; located forty miles from Tuscaloosa, on the Georgia Pacific Railroad.

Newspaper published at the County Seat—*Fayette Journal*.

Postoffices in the County—Ballard, Boley Springs, Brockton, Buck Snort, Cane, Cave Springs, Davis Creek, Dublin, *Fayette*, Froglevel, Glen Allen, Handy, Julian, Legg, Mont Calm, New River, Newtonville, Palo, Pilgrim, Ridge, Spencer, Toledo, Wayside, Willingham.

Fayette County lies in the northwestern quarter of the State, and is surrounded by the counties of Lamar, Marion, Walker, Tuscaloosa and Pickens. Almost the entire area of the county lies in the famous Warrior coal field, and it is destined in time to be the center of mining operations second to no county in the State.

This county was organized in 1824, being created out of the territory belonging to the counties of Tuscaloosa and Marion. General LaFayette, the French military leader, who espoused the cause of the struggling colonist during the Revolutionary War, was at the time of the creation of this county on a visit to America, and in his honor it was called Fayette.

Fayette is not, strictly, speaking, an agricultural county, but its soils have proven prolific.

The surface of this county is much broken, and its soils are principally a broad loam with clay sub-



soil, sandy uplands and creek and river bottoms, the latter being covered with alluvial deposits which render them exceptionally fertile. The county is well watered, three rivers coursing through its borders, viz., Sipsey, Luxapalia and North. None of these streams are navigable. In addition to these rivers, the county is watered by several creeks in all portions, the principal of which are Lost, Cane, Wolf and Dry.

These water-courses render the valleys through which they flow very fertile, and the three valleys named for the three rivers of the county are of the character and richness of the Tennessee valley. The crops grown on the farms of Fayette County are corn, cotton, wheat, oats, rye, sorghum, sugar cane, tobacco, peas and a variety of small articles. The country is admirably adapted to the culture of fruit, and on the uplands peaches, pears and apples yield abundantly, and with a little care the culture of these articles proves highly remunerative. The farm in Fayette County affords a good living, and the people can raise everything necessary to sustain life comfortably on the county's soil. Considerable attention is now being given to the subject of stock raising, and, as the results of experiments in this line become generally known,

this industry will become one of the prominent sources of wealth.

Fayette County need not depend on either agriculture or stock raising for a future of greatness. Its bosom covers a wealth of mineral resources. The coal supply of the county is practically inexhaustible, while iron ore of a superior quality of fineness abounds in limitless quantity. The proximity of these two articles can only result in the establishment of works to produce pig iron, and when this is done the county will enter on an era of prosperity which will place it in the front rank of Alabama's progressive counties.

The resources of Fayette have remained undeveloped for want of facilities of transportation, but now the Georgia Pacific Railroad is completed through it from east to west, and it is thereby rendered accessible. Other roads projected, through the mineral region of Alabama will penetrate Fayette, and in the near future its mineral resources will become as well known as those of counties which have been more favored in the matter of transportation facilities.

The health of the county is excellent. The people are law-abiding, industrious, thrifty, hospitable and patriotic.



### XIII.

## JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Population: White, 30,000; colored, 15,000. Area, 960 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measures, 760 square miles; Cahaba fields, 130 square miles; Valley lands, 70 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 15,000; in corn, 39,900; in oats, 4,500; in wheat, 105,089; in rye, 83; in tobacco, 55; in sweet potatoes, 504.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 6,000.

County Seat—Birmingham: population, 30,000; at the junction of the Louisville & Nashville and Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Railroads.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Age*

(Democratic), *Evening Chronicle, Herald* (Independent), *Alabama Christian Advocate* (Methodist), *Alabama Sentinel* (Democratic), *Prohibitionist* (Prohibitionist), *Furnace and Factory, Southern Industries and Planter's Journal* (Agricultural).

Postoffices in the County—Alice, Argo, Avondale, Ayres, Baylor, *Birmingham*, Brake, Brevard, Brock's Gap, Brownsville, Clay, Coalburgh, Dolomite, Earnest, Ezra, Curley's Creek, Henryellen, Huffman, Jonesborough, Leeds, McCalla, Morris, Mount Pinson, New Castle, Oxmoor, Partridge, Porter, Pratt Mines, Rasburgh, Robbin's Cross

Roads, Scrap, Short Creek, Sloss, Toad Vine, Trussville, Warrior Station, Wetona, Wheeling, Woodlawn.

Jefferson County was established in December, 1819. The territory was taken from Blount, and retains about its original boundaries. It is in the

centre of the State, south of Blount and Walker, west of Shelby and Saint Clair, north of Shelby, and east of Tuscaloosa and Walker. The county was named for Hon. Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia. [See History of Birmingham, this volume.]



## XIV.

### LAMAR COUNTY.

Population: White, 10,000; colored, 2,000. Area, 590 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravelly hills 550; coal lands, 40 square miles.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 15,245; in corn, 28,300; in oats, 440; in wheat, 5,630; in rye, 75; in tobacco, 45; in sweet potatoes, 625.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 5,200.

County Seat—Vernon: population, 300; located 28 miles from Columbia, Miss.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Courier* and *Lamar News* (both Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Angora, Anro, Beaverton, Cansler, Detroit, Fernbank, Gentry, Hudson, Jewell, Kennedy, Kingville, Millport, Molloy, Moscow, Pine Springs, Purnell, *Vernon*.

This county was formed in 1866, and named Jones; in 1868 the name was changed to that of Sanford, and in 1877 its present designation was adopted.

Remote from transportation, the county of Lamar has been placed at great disadvantage, notwithstanding its rich stores of mineral and the productiveness of its soils.

Like the most of this section of Alabama, the surface of Lamar is hilly and broken, with many productive valleys. The soil along the oak uplands is superior, while that along the pebbly ridges is barren. The general character of the soils of Lamar is that of red loam. The best lands in the county are those found along the uplands, or table lands, and those along the banks of the

streams. But there is a mixture of sand in all the lands of the county. The soil is easily tilled under all circumstances.

The chief productions of the county are cotton, corn, wheat and oats. Nearly, or quite, one-half of the tilled lands of Lamar is devoted to the production of cotton. Grasses grow here spontaneously, and afford rich pasturage for stock. Better grasses are cultivated, and much attention is devoted to stock raising, and, with commercial outlets, this would be one of the chief industries of the county. The forests of Lamar are heavily timbered with short-leaf pine, the various species of oak, hickory, ash, chestnut and sassafras.

The drainage of Lamar is secured through Buttabatchie River and Luxapadila, Weaver, Coal Fire and Yellow creeks, all of which have large branches and tributaries. The river and creeks are finely suited to machinery, by reason of their immense water-power.

The mineral products of the county are iron, coal, and valuable stones for building purposes.

The county now enjoys railroad transportation since the passage of the Georgia Pacific through its territory. With the completion of this great line the county will be speedily appreciated and developed.

Vernon, Moscow and Millport are towns of local importance, the first mentioned being the county seat. Schools and churches are found in every part of the county.

## XV.

### LEE COUNTY.

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Population: White, 12,217; colored, 15,045. Area, 610 square miles. Woodland, all. All metamorphic; but the rocks, over about 250 square miles in the southern part of the county, are covered with stratified drift.

Ceres—In cotton (approximately), 51,889; in corn, 30,137; in oats, 11,918; in wheat, 8,697; in rice, 10; in tobacco, 11; in sugar-cane, 208; in sweet potatoes, 925.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 14,189.

County Seat—Opelika; population 4,000; located on the Western Alabama Railroad, at the junction of the Columbus, Western & East Alabama Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Democrat and Republican*. At Lively—*Saturday Evening News* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Auburn, Beulah, Gold Hill, Halawaka, Lively, Loachapoka, Mechanicsville, Mott's Mill, *Opelika*, Roxana, Salem, Smith Station, Wacoochee, Waverly and Yongesborough.

This county, organized in accordance with an act approved December 15, 1886, was formed from portions of Chambers, Russell, Macon and Tallapoosa Counties, and named in honor of Gen. Robert E. Lee. It is located in a high and healthful section of country in the east-central portion of the State, and is entirely free from malaria. The elevation above sea level ranges from 700 to 850 feet, and the water from wells and springs is exceptionally fine. The surface is undulating, and the entire county is well watered by creeks and smaller streams which

never fail. The Chattahoochee River forms the eastern boundary of the county, and is one continuous chain of falls along the entire line, affording rare facilities for manufacturing enterprises. In addition to this fine water, there is not a community in this county that does not already enjoy the advantages of water-power grist and flouring mills.

The county is well timbered, principally with long- and short-leaved pine, though oak, hickory, poplar, ash, maple, walnut, dogwood, the gums and cherry abound.

There are fine deposits of soapstone, granite and lime rock in the county, and attention is now being given to the quarrying of building stone in the western part of the county, while the lime works near Yongesboro are making large quantities of lime for shipments to the markets of this and adjoining States. Considerable excitement has been caused recently by the discovery of large beds of superior soapstone and iron ores in the vicinity of Gold Hill, an extensively prosperous community in the county, ten miles northwest of Opelika on the Columbus & Western Railroad.

Few counties in the State enjoy superior advantages in transportation facilities. Two trunk lines cross the county, while the East Alabama Railroad pours into Opelika almost the entire produce of Chambers and a large amount of that of Randolph County. The model railroad of the south, the Western Railroad of Alabama, crosses the county from west to east, and the Columbus & Western from southeast to northeast, giving the county about seventy-five miles of railway. [See Opelika, this volume.]



### AUBURN.

AUBURN, one of the most moral and cultured communities to be found anywhere, is a town of 1,500 inhabitants situated on the Western Rail-

road seven miles from Opelika, and sixty miles from Montgomery. The State Polytechnic Institute and the Agricultural and Mechanical College

is located here. Brownsville, Loachapoka, Salem and Yonkesborough are pleasant towns in the county that enjoy fine railroad and school advantages. The various neighborhoods in the county have good schools and churches, and new settlers are accorded hearty welcome.

Land can be had from \$2 to \$20 per acre.

The valuation of taxable property in Lee County for the year 1887 is \$3,017,938, as shown by the abstract of assessment filed with the Auditor.

#### ALABAMA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE.

In 1862 an act was passed by Congress donating public lands to the several States and Territories for the purpose of establishing colleges "for the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes." Owing to the demoralization incident to the civil war, and the subsequent period of reconstruction, this grant, for ten years, was unutilized by the State of Alabama. Finally, in February, 1872, during the administration of Gov. R. B. Lindsay, an act was passed by the State Legislature accepting the national grant, and incorporating a college pursuant to the Federal act. The Board of Trustees was immediately appointed, and by the latter part of March the college was organized and in operation.

The proceeds of the sale of the land scrip furnish the only permanent endowment for strictly collegiate purposes. The amount of public land that fell to the share of Alabama was 240,000 acres, which realized on sale \$253,500. The sum is invested in State bonds bearing eight per cent.—which rate is guaranteed as perpetual—making the permanent annual income \$20,280. About ninety per cent. of this income is used in the payment of salaries.

In 1884, the State Legislature appropriated to the college \$30,000, and in 1887 \$12,500 more for technical education. According to an act of 1885, one-third of the net proceeds arising from the taxation of the commercial fertilizers sold in the State goes to defray the expenses of the experimental station. This fund has averaged about \$8,000 per annum. By a recent act Congress has made an annual appropriation of \$15,000 to aid the experiment station. An annual income of about \$1,500 is derived from the incidental fees.

The Congressional Act forbidding the use of any of the endowment fund for building purposes, and the State treasury being depleted in 1872, the Legislature was forced to offer the location of the

college to the community making the most liberal bid in buildings or money. In the village of Auburn, in 1858, through the zealous efforts of Rev. L. B. Glenn, president of their Board of Trustees, the Methodists of Alabama had erected a handsome structure for a college, known as the East Alabama Male College.

The structure was a handsome brick building four stories in height, of the Italian school of architecture. It was one hundred and sixty by seventy-five feet, containing thirty-eight rooms. Its erection cost \$75,000. Through the generosity of the Methodist denomination, this commodious building was proffered the State for the accommodation of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, and easily won the location over many competitors. This building, with nearly all its valuable contents, furniture, laboratories and museums, was burned, June 24, 1887.

The new building, now in process of construction, will be upon the same basement as the old building, and will conform, in the main, to the same proportions, with such changes and modern improvements as are desirable. It will be an elegant and impressive structure, finished off with pressed brick, and stone trimmings. The new chemical laboratory at the north end of the campus has been recently completed. It is a stately building sixty by one hundred feet, two stories high, with a tower, and is of the same finish as the main building.

Langdon Hall is two-stories high, and is ninety by fifty feet. The first story is appropriated to the use of the wood and machine shop of mechanic arts; the second story is used as the College Audience Hall.

To the rear of Langdon Hall stands the boiler house, and a single story brick building, seventy-two by thirty-two feet, divided into two rooms for the forge and foundry departments. The Chambers residence adjoining the campus has recently been purchased, and furnishes offices and lecture rooms for some of the officers of the College. Ultimately, it will be used as a dormitory. The college also owns two residences, and several out buildings on the experiment station farm.

*Objects—Faculty*—According to the act of Congress, the leading object of this institution is, "excluding other classical and scientific studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such a manner as the

Legislature of the State may prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life."

United States Commissioner Eaton says in his report of 1883: "These colleges seek to educate for leading industries. They aim also to prepare by a general education for a share of the government of the people." Since its organization in 1872, the college has kept steadily in view these main objects. About nineteen-twentieths of the salaries, and more than this ratio of the expenditures for apparatus, has been in behalf of the department ever since. Seven of the eight original claims pertained to a strictly technical college, and one to the "classical studies" referred to in the Act of Congress. The first faculty consisted of the president, who was also (1) professor of Political Economy and Rhetoric, and professors of (2) Pure Mathematics, (3) Analytical and Agricultural Chemistry, (4) Natural History and Civil Engineering, (5) Practical Agriculture and Horticulture, (6) Moral Philosophy, and English Literature, (7) Ancient and Modern Languages, (8) Military Service and Engineering. With the exception of the chair of Ancient Languages, all of these chairs, bearing some slight modification, remain intact. In 1883 Greek was eliminated from the chair of Ancient Languages and Latin was associated with History. In 1886, Latin was combined with English into a chair. In 1884 the Department of Mechanic Arts was established under an instructor. There are now also an adjunct professor of Modern Languages, and two instructors for the fourth class.

The faculty and officers at present are as follows: William LeRoy Brown, M. A., LL. D., President, and Professor of Physics and Astronomy; Otis D. Smith, A. M., Professor of Mathematics; P. H. Mell, Jr., M. E., Ph. D., Professor of Natural History and Geology; James H. Lane, C. E., A. M., Professor of Civil Engineering and Drawing; J. S. Newman, Professor of Agriculture and Director of the Experiment Station; Charles C. Thach, B. E., Professor of English and Latin; N. T. Lupton, A. M., M. D., LL. D., Professor of General and Agricultural Chemistry and State Chemist; Lieut. M. C. Richards, 2d Artillery, U. S. A. [West Point], Commandant and Professor of Military Science; George H. Bryant, M. E. [Mass. Institute Technology], Instructor in Mechanic Arts; George Petrie, M. A. [University of Vir-

ginia], Adjunct Professor of Modern Languages and History; L. W. Wilkinson, B. Sc., B. S. Burton, B. Sc., Assistants in the Chemical Laboratory; C. H. Ross, B. Sc., V. L. Allen, B. Sc., Assistants in Mathematics and English; J. H. Drake, M. D., Surgeon; C. C. Thach, Recording Secretary; E. T. Glenn, Treasurer.

Previous to this organization the offices and chairs were filled as follows: The presidency by Rev. I. T. Tichenor, D. D. (1872-82); W. L. Brown, LL. D., (1882-83); Col. D. F. Boyd, (1883-84); the Chair of Agriculture by Prof. W. H. Jemison (1872); President Tichenor (1873-78); Col. W. H. Chambers (1878-83); Prof. W. C. Stubbs (1881-83); Engineering by Prof. J. B. Read (1872); Col. R. A. Hardaway (1873-81); Chemistry by Prof. W. C. Stubbs (1872-85); English by Prof. B. B. Russ (1872-78); Prof. G. W. Maxson (1878-84); Mathematics by Prof. Alexander Hogg (1872-74); Ancient Languages by Prof. J. T. Dunklin (1872-86); Natural History was united with Chemistry until 1877, when Prof. E. Q. Thornton was elected (1877); Military Science and Tactics and office of Commandant by Gen. G. P. Harrison (1872-73). For several years this chair was filled by the Professor of Engineering; a United States officer is now detailed to discharge its duties. Four professors have died while connected with the institution. Prof. B. B. Ross in 1878; Prof. E. Q. Thornton in 1878; Col. W. H. Chambers in 1883; Prof. J. T. Dunklin, 1886.

*Courses—Studies—Degrees*—If the above enumeration of departments indicate that the Board has always addressed itself in good faith to meet the letter and spirit of the law that requires the college to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, equally has the faculty shown itself in accord with the predominance of the scientific element by the arrangement of the courses of instruction. Instruction was at first offered in four regular courses: (1) Agriculture, (2) Science, (3) Civil Engineering, (4) Literature. Three of these, it is seen, were purely scientific; the fourth one was also well filled with science. The three first courses have undergone little or no change. Modern languages were eliminated from them in 1883, and agriculture and science were consolidated, leaving two courses strictly technical. Greek was eliminated from the literary course, and French and German were substituted. These three courses

are now known as—(1) Chemistry and Agriculture (2) Mechanics and Engineering, (3) General Courses.

Course I. includes theoretical and practical instruction in those branches that relate to chemistry and agriculture, and is especially adapted to those who propose to devote themselves to agriculture or chemical pursuits.

Course II. includes the principles and applications of the sciences that directly relate to civil and mechanical engineering, and is adapted to those who expect to enter the profession of engineering.

Course III. has been arranged to give a general and less technical education in subjects of science and language to meet the wants of those students who have selected no definite vocation in life, as well as of those who propose ultimately to engage in teaching, or in some commercial or manufacturing business.

The three courses require four years for graduation. The first two years' work is substantially the same for all.

Freshman Year (introductory to *all* courses)—English grammar and the principles of English composition, history of United States, algebra after quadratic equations, geometry (six books), physics, linear drawing and graphic studies, physiology, agriculture, mechanic arts (covering a course of carpentry, turning and pattern-making). In the general course, Latin (Virgil, Cicero and composition) is substituted for physics and physiology.

Sophomore Year (common to all courses)—Rhetoric, critical study of American poetry, plane and spherical trigonometry, solid geometry, surveying and mensuration, general chemistry, theoretical and practical agriculture, or modern languages for students who have decided to follow the course in engineering, drawing in projection, shades and shadows and perspective, mechanic arts (embracing a course in moulding and casting iron), forge work in iron and steel, and lectures on the working of metals. In the general course, Latin (Cicero, grammar and composition) is substituted for English.

At the end of the second year the courses diverge, and the work in the junior and senior classes become more special in the several lines followed.

The studies pursued in common by all members of junior and senior classes are: In junior year—English, history of literature, critical study

of English poetry and prose, elements of criticism, political economy, physics, rational mechanics, treated graphically, molecular mechanics, properties of matter, military science. In senior year: English criticism continued, physics, practical application of electricity, astronomy and meteorology, geology, mineralogy, military science.

I. The special studies pursued in chemistry and agriculture are: In Junior year—(1) Recitations and lectures in industrial and theoretical chemistry, qualitative analysis and laboratory practice; (2) Theoretical and practical agriculture, stock-raising and feeding, etc.; (3) Zoölogy, with practical laboratory work in the study of insects; (4) Lectures and analytical laboratory work in botany. In Senior year: (1) Lectures on agricultural chemistry, including "a thorough discussion of the origin, composition and classification of soils, the composition and growth of plants, the sources of plant food and how obtained, the improvement of soils, the manufacture and use of fertilizers, the chemical principles involved in the rotation of crops, in the feeding of live stock, and in the various operations carried on by the intelligent and successful agriculturist"; (2) Agriculture, the objects and results of experiments, propagation, planting, pruning, and cultivation of plants, farm management and improvement; (3) Zoölogy continued.

II. The course in Mechanics and Engineering embraces the following special studies: In Junior year—(1) Analytical geometry, descriptive geometry; (2) Engineering and laying out curves, leveling, grading, construction of railroads and common roads, Henck's Field Book; (3) Technical drawing in perspective, shades and shadows, machines and buildings. In the Senior Year—(1) Differential and integral calculus, with their practical application; (2) Engineering, building material, resistance of materials, roofs and bridges, graphic and mathematical problems in strains, location and construction of roads, Wheeler's engineering; (3) Technical drawing in topography and machines.

III. The general course offers special instruction in Junior year in: (1) Latin, Tacitus, Horace, composition; (2) Analytical geometry; (3) French and German. In Senior year: A full course in French and German is offered in addition to the scientific and other studies pursued in common with the other courses.

In fine, according to President Broun's announce-

ment: "The college endeavors to subject each student under its influence to the exact and accurate training of science-discipline, giving prominence in its instruction to the sciences and their applications so far as the facilities at its disposal will permit.

"The essential discipline obtained by an accurate and critical study of languages is not neglected. All students are required to study the English language in each course of study for a degree, thus giving it special prominence. The Latin, French and German languages are taught, and opportunity for their study is offered to students in any course. In the general course they are required for a degree."

Until 1883, four (different) degrees were conferred; subsequently only one, Bachelor of Science, has been conferred. There is a post-graduate course in Mining Engineering, leading to the degree of M. E. Master of Science and Civil Engineer are conferred upon graduates on examination after at least one year's residence at the college. No honorary degrees are conferred.

*Attendance—Graduates*—The success of the college on the new line, if not brilliant, was stable. To be sure, some practical, narrow-minded people pooh-poohed at book-farming, and fifteen years ago there was a dearth of technical pursuits in the South to induce students to pursue technical courses as a means of securing a sure and ready income.

Farming had not then advanced to the point of science and profit that it now occupies, and that enables it to offer such flattering rewards to young men who, though without capital, may be possessed of scientific training. Indeed, none of those material walks had then been developed that have since made Alabama the cynosure of the world, and that have created a demand for skill in all branches of mechanics. Still, the college grew. The attendance the first session was 103; in 1880 it was 279. For various causes a period of depression intervened, but for several years past the attendance has been steadily increasing. The numbers of students in attendance the last session 1886-87, was 185. Of these, ten were resident graduates, 13 seniors, 24 juniors, 56 sophomores, 82 freshmen.

The College has given tuition, altogether, to about 1,600 students, of whom 150—nearly ten per cent., the usual rate in Southern institutions—have graduated. In the distribution of this patronage, the one classical chair did not, as has been charged

in some quarters, overshadow the other five chairs of science; the sheaves of the three scientific courses did not make obedience to the solitary course, called literary. During the first decade, according to the records, ninety-four students graduated as follows: In engineering, 36; science, and agriculture, 26; literature, 32.

Sixty-nine of these, about seventy per cent., engaged in those pursuits, "which," according to Commissioner Eaton, "the aid given to their Alma Mater was intended to promote." Of this number, 22 were teachers, 12 farmers, 4 manufacturers, 7 civil engineers, 7 scientists, 11 merchants. Several of these young men have taken leading positions in their professions. Large numbers of these graduates began their careers as teachers, and it is to the credit of the institution that they have given eminent satisfaction.

No *dada* are available to show the occupation of those who have graduated during the last five years. It is to be presumed that the per cent. following technical courses is even higher than the above exhibit.

Nine-tenths of the 1500 under-graduates are engaged in other than the learned professions, and have carried into their life work all the benefits of the valuable instruction in science given in the lower classes.

*Practical Work—Equipment*—The Board has, from the first, done all in its power to develop the practical work of the college. Its desires and designs have been long thwarted, or at least trammelled, by lack of means. It must be borne in mind that an equipment for technical instruction is expensive. Some subjects can be successfully taught in a bare room—some advantage possibly accruing from a bench and a blackboard. Not so scientific, technological courses, Plants for practical agriculture, for engineering, mechanic arts, physics, natural history—are all expensive. Not a cent of the endowment could be touched; for twelve long years not a dollar did the State appropriate. Only incidental fees and, at first, tuition were available for this end. With their funds a farm was purchased, and, at an expense of \$2,000, was stocked and put in repairs. Though inadequate for all the purposes desired, it sufficed for much valuable research under Dr. Tichenor, and Professors Chambers and Stubbs. A chemical laboratory was equipped, the department of engineering furnished with necessary instruments, and even an effort was made to obtain a slight equipment for mechanics.

The imppecunious condition of the Board was finally relieved in 1884 by the State appropriation of \$30,000. As soon as judicious investigation could be made of an untried field, the department of mechanic arts was established after the plan of the leading technical institutions in this country and Europe; a large farm with proper appliances was bought, and a thoroughly appointed experiment station was organized, and all the departments of science were furnished with the most improved apparatus for field and laboratory use. Unfortunately, much of this valuable apparatus was destroyed by the recent fire. However, neither the experiment station nor the department of mechanic arts sustained any injury. By means of the State appropriation, made in 1887, the equipment of mechanic arts has been completed, and the departments of engineering, natural history, physics, and chemistry partially rehabilitated after their destruction. Laboratory instruction is now offered in the following departments: Mechanic Arts, Agriculture, Civil Engineering, Technical Drawing, Chemistry, Physics, Natural History. It may be well to specify the equipments and facilities for instructions in these departments of science and manual training.

1. *Agriculture and Horticulture*—The farm contains 226 acres, and is supplied with illustrative specimens of stock of select varieties. By Act of the Legislature the experiment station for the State of Alabama is located at Auburn. The Professor of Agriculture is also Director of the Experiment Station.

"This public work done at Auburn in behalf of the agricultural and industrial interests of the State affords to students an unusual opportunity to become familiar with its agriculture, its defects and remedies.

"The Experiment Station is not a model farm; but a place where experiments and scientific investigations in agriculture are made, at the public expense, for the common good, and where the young men at the college receive instruction in the methods applied.

"The students of agriculture accompany the professor in the field, garden, conservatory, stock-yard, etc., where lectures are delivered in presence of the objects discussed."

All students of the fourth class attend lectures in this department. Instruction continues through the third, second and first classes.

11. *Mechanic Arts*—The laboratory is thor-

oughly equipped in all four departments. The power for running the apparatus in this department is derived from a twenty-five horse-power Harris-Corliss automatic engine, which is supplied with steam by a thirty horse-power steel horizontal tubular boiler of most approved design. A Deane steam pump and a heater for the feed-water form a part of the steam apparatus.

The equipment for the wood-working shop comprises the following: 20 double wood-working benches, each with complete set of carpenters' tools; 20 turning lathes, 10-inch swing, each with complete set of tools; 1 double circular saw; 1 band saw; 1 board planing machine; 1 buzz saw; 2 scroll saws (power); 1 large pattern maker's lathe, 16-inch swing; 1 36-inch grindstone. In addition to these, the tool-room is supplied with a variety of extra hand tools for special work.

The equipment for the foundry consists of moulding benches for twelve students, each supplied with a complete set of moulder's tools; a 14-inch cupola with all modern improvements, capable of melting 1,000 pounds of iron per hour; a brass furnace in which can be melted 100 pounds of brass at a heat, with a set of crucibles, tongs, etc., also a full supply of ladles, large and small moulding flasks, special tools, etc. The forge shop equipment consists of twelve hand forges of new pattern, each with a set of smith's tools, anvil, etc. The blast for all the forges is supplied by a No. 3 Sturtevant steel pressure blower (which also furnishes blast for the foundry cupola); and a No. 15 Sturtevant exhaust blower draws the smoke from the fires into the smoke flues and forces it out through the chimney.

The machine shop is furnished with the following machines and appliances:

Six engine lathes, 14-inch swing and two ditto 16-inch swing; one speed lathe, one 20-inch drill press, one post drill press, one planer, 22x22 in. by 5 ft., one 15-inch shaper, one Universal milling machine, one corundum tool grinder, one bench emery grinder. Vise benches for twelve students are provided; each bench is supplied with vise, sets of files, chisels, hammers, etc. The tool room is well supplied with cutting and measuring tools, shop appliances, etc.

This course is obligatory upon the students of the three lower classes (fifth, fourth and third.) For satisfactory reasons a student may be excused from this laboratory work by the faculty.



The full work of each class is six hours per week, in three exercises of two hours each.

President Brown says: "The work performed by the students is as *instructive* in character as in any other college laboratory; the classes are taught in sections under the supervision of the professor. There is no attempt to teach students skill in constructing special articles of commercial value, but all exercises are systematically arranged and designed for purposes of education. The Mechanic Art Laboratory is used as an auxiliary in industrial education, to instruct in the arts that constitute the foundation of various industrial pursuits, thus aiding in giving mentally and manually, in theory and practice, that sound education that will, in a measure, qualify a young man to enter upon some one of the associated industries; that education which comes of training the eye and the hand as well as the mind, and tends to associate skilled manual and mental labor."

III. *Civil Engineering and Drawing*.—This department, having recently had valuable additions made to its equipment, is now well supplied with instruments, with which all important field work is taught. All the students in the two lower college classes are required to take drawing. Well-lighted drawing rooms are provided with suitable tables.

IV. *Chemistry*.—The entire chemical department of the college, the professors' lecture-room, student laboratory, State laboratory, and offices are situated in the new chemical laboratory building.

This building affords accommodation to sixty analytical students; and all of its rooms are furnished with the best of modern appliances for analyzing, assaying—in short, for all fields of experimental and original work. The student laboratory is provided with gas and water, filtering pumps, analytical balances, and working tables for each student; indeed, "it is provided with everything necessary for instruction in chemical manipulation, in the qualitative and quantitative analysis of soils, fertilizers, minerals, mineral waters, technical products. It is perfectly equipped for the special study of practical chemistry." A course of systematic laboratory work is carried on in connection with each course of lectures. The laboratory is open from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., five days in the week. By law, the Professor of Chemistry is also State Chemist. In the State laboratory work is done for the State Department of Agriculture, and the Experiment Station. Several hundred

quantitative analyses are annually made of fertilizers, soils, and minerals.

V. *Physics*.—Valuable additions are constantly being made to this department. Practical work is given in the applications of electricity, manipulation of batteries, dynamos, circuit-laying, etc. A physical laboratory will be equipped when the new building is completed.

VI. *Natural History*.—In the junior class, considerable time is devoted to systematic and structural botany, and to advanced laboratory work with the microscope, in the preparation of specimens showing plant structure, sufficient not only to familiarize the students with the methods of plant building and cellular organizations, but also to practice them in detecting the various forms of fungi that are injurious to fruits and vegetables. A biological laboratory has been fitted up for students, provided with excellent microscopes of the most improved patterns, well-constructed tables, and all the necessary chemicals for preparing and mounting vegetable tissues. A dark room is attached to this laboratory for micro-photographic work.

*Admission—Expense*.—Applicants for admission must be of good moral character. To enter the fourth class the applicant must be not less than fifteen years of age, and be qualified to pass a satisfactory examination in the following subjects:

- I. Geography and history of the United States.
- II. English.—(a) An examination upon sentences containing incorrect English. (b) A composition giving evidence of satisfactory proficiency in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and division into paragraphs.
- III. Mathematics.—(a) Arithmetic, including fundamental operations; common and decimal fractions; denominate numbers; the metric system; percentage, including interest and discount; proportion; extraction of square and cube roots; (b) Algebra to quadratic equations.

For admission to the fourth class in the general course a satisfactory examination is also required in Latin grammar and Casar, four books.

Incidental fee, per half session, is.....	\$7 50
Library fee, per half session.....	1 00
Surgeon's fee, per half session.....	2 50
Board, per month, with fuel and lights	\$12 to 14 00

These fees are payable, \$11 on matriculation and \$11 on February 1st. By order of the Board, no fees can be remitted. Tuition is free.

The College has no barracks or dormitories, and

the students board with the families of the town of Auburn, and thus enjoy all the protecting and beneficial influences of the family circle.

By messing, the cost of board has been reduced by a few students to 88.50 per month. For students entering after January 1st, the fees for half session only are required.

Any economical student can bring his annual expenses, including clothing, books, washing, board and lodging within the limits of \$200.

*Experiment Station*—On February 24, 1888, the Board of Trustees organized the Experiment Station as a department of the College, with the following corps of officers:

President of the College in charge; Agriculturist and Director, Chemist and Vice-Director, Physiologist, Botanist, Entomologist and Meteorologist, First and Second Assistant Chemists, First and Second Assistant Agriculturist, Assistant Meteorologist.



**WM. LeROY BROUN, M. A., LL.D.**, President of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, was born in Loudoun County, Va., in 1827. His parents were Edwin Conway and Elizabeth Broun, natives of the same State. His father was of Scotch ancestry and lived in Virginia up to the time of his death, in 1840.

The subject of this sketch received his collegiate education at the University of Virginia, and graduated with the degree of Master of Arts from that institution in 1850. In 1852 he was elected to a professorship in a college in Mississippi, and filled the chair to which he was called, two years. He was then chosen to the chair of Mathematics in the University of Georgia, at Athens, and discharged the functions of that position for two years. In the year 1857, he organized Bloomfield Academy, situated near the University of Virginia, and conducted that school until 1861.

Professor Broun, at this juncture, entered the Confederate service as a lieutenant of artillery; was shortly afterward promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in the Ordnance Department, U. S. A., and was assigned to duty as commandant of the Richmond Arsenal, over which he exercised supervision until the war closed.

After the war the University of Georgia, situated at Athens, elected him Professor of Natural Philosophy; and also, subsequently, President of the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic

Arts. Professor Broun's connection with this seat of learning continued from 1866 until 1875, when he was elected to fill the chair of Mathematics in Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tenn., where he remained seven years. In 1882, Dr. Broun was called to the presidency of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, at Auburn, which he held one year, and was then elected Professor of Mathematics in the University of Texas, at Austin, where he was elected Chairman of the Faculty. He resigned in 1884, to accept, for the second time, the presidency of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, in Alabama. The degree of LL.D. was conferred on him by St. John's College, Maryland, in 1874.

Dr. Broun, as a gentleman, citizen, soldier, scholar, and as a man in the broadest sense of the term, ranks among the foremost of his country and time. At any epoch in our history, he would have been an ornament to his kind. Especially to the youth and people of the South is he endeared by numberless ties which it were needless and impossible to enumerate. His example can well be adopted, by the young men of the country he has loved so well, as a model. To him do many of the best young men of the South owe the value of timely advice and assistance. With his admirable qualifications to fill the various positions to which he has been called, it is in no sense surprising that he is honored among her best and brightest men.

Dr. Broun was married, in 1859, to Miss Sallie, daughter of George and Mary (Coleman) Fleming, of Hanover County, Va. They have had seven children born to them, viz.: LeRoy, Mary, Mand, Bessie, Sallie, George and Katie.

Our subject has been a member of the Episcopal Church for more than thirty years.



**NATHANIEL THOMAS LUPTON, A.M., M.D., LL.D.**, Chair of Chemistry, Agricultural and Mechanical College, and State Chemist of Alabama, was born near Winchester, Va., December 19, 1830. His parents were Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Hodgson) Lupton, natives of Virginia and of English descent.

Dr. Lupton graduated at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., in the year 1849. Chemistry has always been a favorite pursuit with him, and consequently, after graduation, he sought to gratify

his wishes by studying the subject under the great Bunsen, at Heidelberg, Germany. He spent two winters there in the prosecution of his scientific studies, and upon his return to this country was well qualified to deal with scientific subjects in the departments of chemistry and geology. He filled the chair of these sciences at the famous Randolph-Macon College, Virginia, from 1856 to 1858, and in the following year, up to and including 1871, a period of twelve years, discharged the functions of a similar position in the Southern University at Greensboro, Ala. He then accepted the presidency and professorship of chemistry at the State University of Alabama from 1871 to 1874, when he was called to the chair of chemistry at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., where he remained from 1874 to 1885. In that year he was selected to fill the chair of Chemistry at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, where he has since remained.

Professor Lupton has received ample and gratifying recognition from his contemporaries in the world of science, and has sustained many honorable relations towards different scientific bodies. He is at present State Chemist of Alabama; has twice been Vice-President of the American Scientific Association, and presided over the section of chemistry at the meetings held in the city of Nashville during his residence there, and at the meeting in Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1885; has been Vice-President of the American Chemical Society, and has taken an active and leading part in the deliberations of many other scientific bodies. During the war he was Chemist in the Ordnance Department of the Confederate Government, with headquarters at Selma.

Thus do we see Professor Lupton, from the time he returned to America, inspired with the instructions received at the hands of the great Bunsen, taking an eminent stand in the scientific world, and in all these years, his career has been but a succession of triumphs and a recognition of his great ability. He has sustained the most honorable relations to his fellow-man, and, wherever his lot had been cast, has always moved in the highest social spheres. While in the lecture room he has bestowed unlimited benefit upon the many young men who have been so fortunate as to receive his instructions, his life has been spent in eminent usefulness, and to him are many of the young men of the South indebted for their practical knowledge of the sciences.

Professor Lupton was married in 1854, to Miss Ella V., daughter of the Rev. John and Hannah (Paine) Allemon, of Frederick County, Va. To them three children have been born, viz.: Kate, who is a regular graduate of the Vanderbilt University from which she received the degree of M. A. She afterwards went to Europe, where she pursued her studies for some time. The other children are Ella and Frank.

Professor Lupton has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for many years. He is now a prominent member of the church at Auburn, superintendent of the Sabbath-school, and on three different occasions, has been a lay delegate to the General Conference of the Southern Methodist Church.



**PATRICK H. MELL, Jr., M.E., Ph.D.,** Chair of Natural History and Geology, Agricultural and Mechanical College, was born at Penfield, Ga., May 24, 1859. His parents were Patrick H. and Laurene (Howard) Mell, natives of that State.

The senior Mr. Mell, was connected with the University of Georgia, at Athens, from 1857 to 1888, and he died in the latter year. He was Chancellor of that institution from 1878 until the time of his death. He was well known throughout the country, and was distinguished as an educator.

Patrick H. Mell was educated at the University of Georgia, graduating in 1877 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1872, he graduated in mining and civil engineering, and subsequently received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. He was State Chemist of Georgia from 1873 to 1877, and afterward actively engaged in mining engineering. In the latter calling he was employed until 1878, when he was elected to the chair of Natural History and Geology at the Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College, which position he now fills. He is a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, with which he has been identified as a member since 1879, and is also Director of the Signal Service for the State of Alabama.

Professor Mell was married in June, 1875, to Miss Annie, daughter of William N. and Rebecca (Benedict) White. Mr. White was a noted horticulturist and agriculturist, and was editor and

proprietor of the *Southern Cultivator* up to the time of his death, in 1867.

Prof. Mell is a member of the Baptist Church.



**JAMES S. NEWMAN**, Professor of Agriculture of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, Auburn, was born in Orange County, Va., in 1836. His parents were James and Mary (Scott) Newman, natives of the same county and State. The senior Mr. Newman was a farmer up to the time of his death, in 1886.

James S. Newman attended the University of Virginia, where he completed the prescribed course in 1859. He taught school two years, and in 1861 enlisted as a private in the Confederate army. He was in active service until 1864, when, owing to failure of his health, he was discharged. He farmed for the first two years after leaving the army; then, at Hancock, Ga., taught a private school and planted until 1875. From here he accepted a position with the Department of Agriculture of Georgia, and remained there until 1883, when he was elected Professor of Agriculture and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station of the Agricultural and Mechanical College.

He is also director of the Canebrake Agricultural Experiment Station of Alabama, at Uniontown; Vice-President of the American Pomological Society, and State Statistical Agent of the United States Department of Agriculture, and was for three years President of the State Agricultural Society.

Professor Newman enjoys great distinction on account of his great proficiency as an agriculturist. His reputation as a writer is co-extensive with the country on horticultural and agricultural subjects, and his articles are everywhere characterized by ability. Whatever subject in his chosen field of thought he may select for discussion or elucidation, bears the impress of deep and careful thought, and his opinion on all matters pertaining to his profession is accepted as authority.

Professor Newman was married, in 1863, to Miss Elberta, daughter of Elbert and Eliza Lewis, of Macon County, Ga. To this union five children have been born: Clifford L., Assistant Professor of Agriculture and Natural History in the University of Tennessee, at Knoxville; Wilson H., Assistant Agriculturist of the Experiment Station at

the Agricultural and Mechanical College, this State; Mary S., Alba and Charles C.

The Professor and family are communicants of the Episcopal Church.



**CHARLES C. THACH, B.E.**, Chair of English and Latin, Agricultural and Mechanical College, Auburn, Ala., was born at Athens, this State, in 1860. His parents were Robert H. and Eliza (Coleman) Thach, natives of Alabama. The senior Mr. Thach was a practicing lawyer for many years at Athens, and died there in 1866.

Charles C. Thach received his education at the State Agricultural and Mechanical College, Auburn, and Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. Mr. Thach began teaching at Hopkinsville, Ky., in the High School, in 1877, where he remained one year, and in 1878 was elected to the position of assistant professor in the preparatory department of the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn. He was elected principal of that department in 1879. In the session of 1880-81 he attended lectures at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. The following year, 1881, he was chosen to fill the chair of Modern Languages in a college conducted under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church at Austin, Tex. In 1882 he was elected Adjunct Professor of Languages in the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn; in 1884 he filled the chair of English and Modern Languages, and in 1886 was chosen to his present position.

Professor Thach is one among the youngest of the Faculty of Auburn, and among the youngest educators in the State, and yet the mantle of learning has never fallen on more worthy shoulders. There are few men who possess the varied attainments of our subject, due not less to his natural capacity, the innate power of mind, than to earnest, persevering and well-directed industry in the acquisition of that priceless treasure, knowledge. He justly ranks among the brilliant men of the State.

Professor Thach was married in November, 1886, to Miss Nellie S., daughter of Professor Otis D. Smith, of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, at Auburn. Their union has been blessed with one child, Elizabeth.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



*J. S. Newman*



[Professor Thach is the author of the chapter on the Agricultural and Mechanical College, this volume, the only complete history of that institution ever published. A perusal of it will repay the reader.—Ed.]



**JAMES H. LANE**, was born in 1833, in Matthews County, Va., and his parents were Walter G. and Mary A. H. (Barkwell) Lane, of that State. The elder Mr. Lane was a merchant at Matthews Court House, where he died in 1868.

James H. Lane was educated at the Virginia Military Institute, and at the University of Virginia. He graduated with honors at the former in 1854, and in the scientific course at the latter in 1857. His first appointment was on the hydrographic survey of York River. He was then appointed assistant professor in the Virginia Military Institute, where he remained one year. From there, he went to Florida as professor of Mathematics and Instructor of Tactics in the State Seminary at Tallahassee, and after one year's connection with that institution, was elected Professor of Natural Philosophy and Instructor of Tactics in the North Carolina Military Institute, at Charlotte.

Professor Lane remained at the North Carolina Military Institute until 1861, when he entered the Confederate service as Adjutant of the first Camp of Instruction at Raleigh. From major, he was promoted lieutenant-colonel of the First North Carolina Volunteers, and later, colonel of the Twenty-eighth North Carolina Troops. In 1862 he was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general.

General Lane saw service at the front in the Army of Northern Virginia through the entire war, and won that distinction which is only accorded to the brave, chivalrous, intrepid, sagacious and heroic. He was, in the best acceptance of the word, a martial spirit, and all over the South there are many who will bear testimony to his faithful record as a soldier and officer. He was not one who ordered his

men where he himself was not willing to go; and those that served under him, place him among the "truest of the true," and the "bravest of the brave." He, therefore, is one of the soldiers who retired to the peaceful walks of life with a military record upon which there is no stigma and whose escutcheon is untarnished. In peace he has proved himself as worthy as he did in war.

After the surrender General Lane taught private schools in North Carolina and Richmond, Va., a short time, and for eight years thereafter acted in the dual capacity of Professor of Natural Philosophy and Commandant of Cadets at the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Blacksburg, Va. In 1880 taught a private school in Wilmington, N. C.; in the following year was called to the chair of Mathematics in the School of Mines and Metallurgy of the State University of Missouri; in the succeeding year was called to Richmond, Va., to take charge of the Virginia Mining and Manufacturing Company, where, their property being destroyed by fire before their works were put in operation, he had no opportunity of showing his fitness for that department of active industrial life. He was too well known, however, to be left long without offers, and it was reserved for the Agricultural and Mechanical College of this State to exhibit its knowledge of the fitness of men by selecting him to fill the chair of Engineering and Drawing, and to discharge the duties of Commandant of the Corps of Cadets of that institution. He still fills the position of professor of Civil Engineering and Drawing and the board of trustees have had no occasion to regret their choice. He has cast in his lot with the people of Alabama, and has shown his determination to identify himself with this State by purchasing property in the town of Auburn.

General Lane was married in 1869 to Miss Charlotte, daughter of Benjamin L. and Jane E. Meade, of Virginia, and to them four daughters have been born, viz.: Lottie H., Mary B., Kate M., and Lottie E.

The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church.



## XVI.

### MARION COUNTY.

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Population: White, 8,841; colored, 523. Area, 810 square miles. Woodland, all. Coal measures, 660 square miles. Gravelly and pine hills, 150 square miles.

Acres.—In cotton (approximately), 7,369; in corn, 21,835; in oats, 2,321; in wheat, 3,925; in tobacco, 44; in sugar-cane, 15; in sweet potatoes, 477.

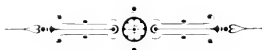
Approximate number of bales of cotton, 3,240.

County Seat—Hamilton; population, 225; on Buttahatchee River, 45 miles from Aberdeen, Miss.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Marion Herald*.

Postoffices in the County—Allen's Factory, Allhill, Barnesville, Bexar, Bull Mountain, Candle, Chalk Bluff, Gold Mine, Hackleburgh, Haleys, Hall's Mills, *Hamilton*, Hodges, Ireland Hill, Pearce's Mills, Pikeville, Shottsville, Texas, Thorn Hill, Ur, Young.

Marion County was created in 1818, and was named for Gen. Francis Marion, the celebrated South Carolina soldier, whose brave deeds and the sore privations he endured during the Revolutionary War endeared his memory to every American heart. This county forms a portion of the Warrior coal field, and as such it is rapidly coming into prominence. [See part I, this volume.]



## XVII.

### RANDOLPH COUNTY.

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Population: White, 13,155; colored, 3,420. Area, 610 square miles; Woodland all. All metamorphic.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 23,177; in corn, 29,595; in oats, 4,850; in wheat, 10,156; in tobacco, 44; in sweet potatoes, 433.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 7,500.

County Seat—Wedowee; population 300. Has fine water power and mineral deposits.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Observer* (Republican).

Postoffices in the County—Almond, Blake's Ferry, Christiana, Corn House, Dingler, Gay, Graham, Handley, Haywood, High Shoals, Lamar, Level Road, Louina, Milner, Omaha, Roan-

oke, Rock Dale, Rock Mills, Sewell, *Wedowee*, Wehadkee, Wildwood.

The county of Randolph was created in 1832, and named for the famous John Randolph, of Virginia. Its natural advantages are, in a great many respects, superior. Its climate salubrious, lands good, tone of society elevated, and health unsurpassed.

During the census of 1880 the census official rendered in his report at Washington only to have it returned to him for correction, the Washington official declaring the death rate to be too small to be true. But the original report was returned to Washington unchanged, as no error had been committed.



The soils of Randolph are of average fertility, and on account of deep clay subsoil and abundant rainfall, are quite reliable for agricultural purposes. Not more than one-fourth of the magnificent forests of Randolph have been cleared, and the fine pine timber here will one day be a feature in itself. The lands are easily worked and produce remarkably well. All the crops that are congenial to the southern climate grow their best here. Fruit-growing is gradually expanding, and bids fair ere long to rival all other industries. There has been only one failure of the peach crop in thirty-five years, and the apple crop never fails. The farmers produce nearly everything they use at home, and are, as a general thing, well-to-do.

Like other counties, the absence of railroad transportation has prevented much attention being given to the minerals of Randolph, but this want is now being supplied. The East Alabama Railway has been extended to Roanoke, in the southern portion of the county, and will soon be completed to Anniston, running right through the centre of the county, and will open up some of the finest timber and mineral lands in the State.

In gold, copper, mica, tin, graphite, kaolin and iron, Randolph is doubtless one of the richest counties in the State. All these abound in the northern portion of the county. The kaolin is of superior quality and is inexhaustible. More

than one mine is now being worked to advantage.

There is scarcely a square forty acres of land in the county that is not penetrated by a rivulet, creek or river. The Tallapoosa and Little Tallapoosa rivers run through the county, and have some of the finest shoals on them that nature has ever formed. There will be large cotton factories run by them some time in the near future. As for creeks, Randolph has almost a superfluity of them. There are eight flour and grist-mills turned by the waters of Wedowee Creek. Randolph has the purest and coldest freestone water in the world, and that in abundance. This accounts for the wonderful health enjoyed here.

Wedowee, situated as it is, in rich mineral beds of kaolin and mica, will one day be a large and prosperous city. Leaving out the minerals, the large pine forests that extend for miles and miles around it in every direction will one day make it an interesting town. Brockville, in the north-eastern portion of the county, has a fine school, and is building up rapidly.

Rock Mills and Roanoke, in the southern portion, are also points of interest. Rock Mills has a cotton factory, a tannery, pottery and cabinet establishment, and a fine school also. Roanoke has lately arrived at the importance of being the only railroad station in the county, and will doubtless be a flourishing village. There is a flourishing and well-established college there.



## XVIII.

### ST. CLAIR COUNTY.

Population: White, 13,500; colored, 2,500. Area, 630 square miles. Woodland, all. Coosa and Cahaba Valley lands, 430. Coal measures, etc., 2,000 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 14,750; in corn, 25,450; in oats, 4,603; in wheat, 9,840; in tobacco, 50; in sweet potatoes, 230.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 6,500.

County Seat—Ashville; population 250; on the Alabama & Great Southern Railroad, forty miles northeast of Birmingham, Ala.

Newspaper published in the county—*Southern Argus* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Alluxla, *Ashville*, Beaver Valley, Branchville, Broken Arrow, Caldwell, Cook's Springs, Cornelia, Cropwell, Easonville, Eden, Fairview, Greensport, Kelley's Creek, Lochthree, Moody, Odenville, Poe, Riverside, Round Pond, Seddon, Slate, Springville, Steel's Depot, Trout Creek, Whitney, Wolf Creek.

St. Clair County was founded in 1818. Quite a number of aborigines roamed over its soil, or still occupied its territory then, and among the old records are found deeds of land from the Indians to the white settlers. While the county's resources are just coming into notice, its historical character, coincident with that of the State of whose territory it forms a part, has been known ever since its creation. It is the only county in the State, mentioned by name in Chambers' *Universal Knowledge*—it is, the only one that has furnished more than one Governor for its own and other States.

Its soil is memorable as a part of the Jackson campaign in the War of 1812 against the Muscogees, which aboriginal commune were the natives of this county at that time. There are still trace of the encampments and defenses of the military, as well as many evidences of Indian settlements in various parts of the county. Besides the Indian town Litafutchee, once situated not far from where the county seat is now located, is a relic of the ancient empire of the Red Man's

dominion here, preserved on the pages of our State History.

The northwestern boundary of the county is Blount Mountain, a spur of the great Sand Ridge. In the same corner is Chandler's Mountain. The table lands of those elevations are noted for fruit culture, and no better conditions exist for sheep raising. Besides the level plateaus are submissive to agricultural life, and in this particular, owing to the fertility of the soil, are very productive, and can be made very profitable. For health and enjoyment no more desirable locations can be found in the South. The mineral character of those mountains is well known—coal, lime and iron are found in places, with excellent rock, while timber is abundant.

But the principal coal beds of the county lie south in the neighborhood of Broken Arrow, and along the East & West Railroad. Here, owing to the peculiar formation of hills and small valleys, between the ridges the soil is even more diversified than in the northern part of the county—the country around is broken, undulating, and the ridges narrower and less steep than further north. The surface features are just such as one would naturally expect in a section of mineral characteristics varied by agricultural pursuits.

While the recent industrial progress has not concentrated at one point or centre in the county, so to speak, the effect of general material development all over its territory has been very marked in the improved condition of society, and is visible in the numerous thriving and enterprising communities springing up in all directions. New, Broken Arrow, Fairview, Ragland, River Side, Sedden, Pell City etc., are familiar names in the newspapers. The lumber business along the railroads, rivers and large creeks has increased to immense proportions, within a few months.

Six years ago only one railroad passed through the county near its western boundary. Now, besides the Alabama Great Southern—a link of the great trunk line of the Cincinnati Southern—the

Georgia Pacific traverses our territory south, and the East & West pierces the very heart of the coal and iron region, giving life and vigor to hundreds of before latent industrial operations. Other railroads are projected into the county and still others are in view. St. Clair lies directly on the line of the great railroad belt through the mineral and timber regions of the south to the Gulf, and on the East & West line from the Atlantic coast to the populous Mississippi regions of teeming wealth and progress. It is probable that both Anniston and Birmingham will be compelled to draw from the natural resources of this county. Unfortunately for the latter city, neither of the great lines of railroad mentioned pass through the sections of our territory that would give it the greatest advantages by opening roads to the great wealth stored away in our hills and forests. But it will be seen that the advantages to travel and shipping afforded by transportation lines in this county are almost equal, if not entirely so, to the best in the State, and they are sure in a short time to be unsurpassed in the South.

Quite recently several mining and improvement companies have been incorporated to operate in this county. These have invested largely in mineral lands, and sooner or later a greater industrial era will begin here. Active operations, in this respect, are secured by the amount of capital already scattered among the land owners of the county.

The agricultural prospects of the county are in a flattering condition, and the farmers have not been so generally in a better financial condition, since the war. The products of the soil are cotton, Irish and sweet potatoes, with all the cereals of a temperate climate. Potatoes of both kinds grow abundantly. The sorghum crop seldom fails, and the syrup manufactured from this cane is much superior usually to the grades of syrups shipped to our local markets. This county will produce a finer texture of cotton and more to the acre on an average, with care and attention to cultivation, than can be produced elsewhere in the State. Corn can be raised in greater abundance than in the corn growing States with proper cultivation—the soil seems, adapted naturally to this cereal growth, if planted early, but the crop is too generally left to take care of itself when it needs most attention.

Lands are remarkably cheap, but this will not be long the case. Grasses and clover grow luxuriantly, though little or no cultivation is given to

such crops, the soil naturally producing grasses enough for home purposes without culture. The dew, black and huckle-berries grow abundantly, while the raspberries and strawberries can be cultivated to great advantage.

The local educational advantages can hardly be excelled anywhere, as the people are paying great attention at this time to literary and business culture. Every community has its local school, and new school buildings are going up where they are needed. The same progress is making in religious and moral culture. In this respect St. Clair's history of late has been remarkable, from the new places where public works have been going on. The county is almost free from criminals or law violators. Even the new-comers, if wild and reckless when they come here, soon adapt themselves to the quiet, peaceful habits of the old element of our society.

The valuation of taxable property in St. Clair county for the year 1887 is 82,493,239, as shown by the abstract of assessment filed with the auditor.



**JAMES T. GREENE**, Probate Judge of St. Clair County, was born in 1849. The father of the subject of our sketch came to this country from Ireland at an early period, and was one of the first settlers in St. Clair County. His mother, Elizabeth Thomason, was a native of Alabama. Her brother, John I. Thomason, was Probate Judge of St. Clair County from 1846 to 1859. He was a public-spirited man, and took part in the incorporation of the Alabama Great Southern Railroad Company.

The early educational advantages of our subject were very meager, and his literary attainments are entirely the results of his own efforts. He attended the country schools at his home, and, after leaving them, commenced reading law in 1871, at Ashville. He was admitted to the bar in 1872, and during the same year was appointed Register in Chancery, in which position he remained until 1880.

In 1876, when Judge L. F. Box, now Circuit Judge, was State Superintendent of Education, James T. Greene was chief clerk in his office at Montgomery throughout two terms, and while holding such position he, of course, became widely known in this State.

James T. Greene was elected in 1884 to repre-

sent St. Clair County in the Legislature, and while in that body was Chairman of the Committee on Education. Prior to this time Judge Greene had been identified with his party in some of its most important councils, and from 1874 to 1876 was Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of St. Clair County. In 1887 he was appointed Probate Judge, and is still holding that position.

Among other interesting facts before us, in the life of our subject may be mentioned his intense love of country at a time in life when we are not expected to show much appreciation of such things. He enlisted in the Confederate Army at the youthful age of thirteen years, and while the spirit was willing, the strength was not proportioned to its demands, and on account of ill health he was compelled to leave the service.

Judge Greene is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was for some time W. M. of the lodge at Ashville.

In 1873, our subject was married to Miss Maggie Ashley, of Ashville. To this union have been born five children, one of whom was recently taken from them by a dreadful accident. The following touching notices of the sad occurrence is copied from recent publications:

“IN MEMORIAM.”

OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

Postelle Greene, born August 27th, 1882, died in the afternoon of March 14, 1888, from the effects of burns received while popping corn with her little sisters few hours before. Her sufferings, at first intense, were soon greatly relieved, and her last hours were calm and peaceful. The untold anguish of the fond parents was shared by the community, and all that tender, loving hands could do was done. The deceased was an unusually attractive child. From infancy the pet of the household, the darling of all, her bright, winsome beauty and artless loving manner, found their way like a sunbeam, to every heart. She retained entire consciousness until the sad end came, speaking brightly and pleasantly to her many grief-stricken friends who crowded around her bedside, calling them by name, and manifesting a courage and bravery wonderful to see. Her bright little spirit passed away from this to a heavenly home, where, safe in “the Lord Christ’s bosom,” she awaits the coming of papa, mamma, brother and sisters at the “beautiful gates ajar”—not alone, but hand in hand with a cherub brother gone be-

fore. Just before her death she exclaimed, “Everything looks golden.”

Perchance a gleam from the golden splendor “beyond” lit up her passage across the dark stream. “I am trying, but can not see you, papa,” were the last words she uttered. Then sweetly she fell asleep; as sweetly and calmly as the flower at evening closes its petals at the kiss of the dew-drop.

“She is not dead, but sleepeth.”

Our associations with our little friend, now a “little white angel in Heaven,” will ever be a bright spot in memory’s waste. Lovingly we will cherish them, and indulge the fond hope that we may

“Meet beyond the river,  
Where the surges cease to roll.”

In the hour of deep affliction consolations are not of this world—the balm for the wound must come from a higher source. May “a glimmer of light in the darkness” penetrate the deep anguish of the distressed household.”

It is with most profound sorrow we learned this morning of the death of little Postelle, daughter Judge and Mrs. Jas. T. Greene, of Ashville, St. Clair County, Ala. Little Postelle, the idolized and beloved child, was six years old, and as beautiful as the fairest dream, and endowed with so lovely a disposition that, though in the very perfection of health, the impress of heaven seemed placed upon her angelic face. While playing around the fire with her sisters, her mother left the room for a few moments and returned to find her child mangled by the flames. She died in a short time and has

“Gone to the land of life and love,  
She whom we loved  
Risen to mansions fair and bright,  
Dwelling in God’s eternal sight,  
She whom we held so dear—so dear.”

Judge and Mrs. Greene have a large circle of friends in Montgomery and over the State, who sympathize with them in their hour of sorrow, and rejoice in the one comforting thought that their darling is safe in the hands of Jesus “waiting and watching at the beautiful gate” her loved ones to meet.”



JOHN W. INZER, Attorney-at-law, Ashville, was born in Gwinnett County, Ga., in 1834, and lived there until he had nearly attained his

majority. He attended the common schools of his neighborhood, and "Gwinnett Labor School," near Lawrenceville, Ga., where he received the greater part of his education.

He read law with Morgan & Walker, of Talladega, was admitted to the bar in that city in May, 1855, and at Ashville began the practice of his profession. He was appointed Probate Judge of St. Clair County in 1859, and held the office eleven months.

Judge Inzer was the youngest member of the Secession Convention of 1861, and voted against the ordinance; but after it was passed he signed and supported it to the best of his ability. After the war, Governor Parsons appointed him Probate Judge of his county. He held the office only for a short time, when he resigned. In 1866 he was elected to that office and held it until removed by the reconstruction. In 1874 he was elected to the State Senate, and remained in that body two years. In August, 1875, he was elected delegate to the Constitutional Convention, in the labors of which he took an active part. Since that time he has been engaged at the law—his practice extending throughout the State. He has never been an office-seeker nor-place hunter, and has not been a candidate since 1875.

When the war broke out Judge Inzer was in feeble health; nevertheless he entered the army in 1861 as a member of the Ninth Alabama Battalion of Infantry. In 1862 he was transferred to the Eighteenth Infantry, and in February, 1863, the Ninth Battalion being reorganized, he again became a member of that command, held the rank of captain one week, and was promoted to the office of major of the battalion, Rush Jones being its colonel. In July the Ninth Battalion became the Fifty-eighth Alabama Regiment, and Inzer was made lieutenant-colonel. During the war he was engaged in many battles, among which were Shiloh, Corinth, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and others. He was captured on November 25, 1863, at Missionary Ridge and carried to Johnson's Island, where he was kept in confinement until the close of the war. Until he was captured, his regiment never went into battle without him.

The Judge's grandfather, John Inzer, was an Englishman, and a soldier in the Colonial Army during the Revolutionary War. (He afterward settled in Maryland, and later on emigrated to North Carolina). His maternal grandfather,

John Reid, was an Irishman; he too was a Revolutionary soldier. Our subject's father, Rev. Henry White Inzer, a minister of the Baptist Church, was a native of North Carolina; removed thence to Georgia when a young man, and was there married to Miss Phebe H. Reid. He served as a captain in the Florida War, and in 1854 immigrated to Alabama, settling in St. Clair County, where he died April 25, 1881. His mother was born and raised in North Carolina. She is now living with Judge Inzer, her only son.

Judge Inzer was married in 1866, to Miss Sallie E. Pope, of Columbiana, a daughter of Capt. Wiley H. Pope, late of the Twenty-sixth Alabama Regiment, and afterward Clerk of the Circuit Court of Shelby County.

Judge and Mrs. Inzer have three children, two daughters and one son. The family are members of the Baptist Church, and the Judge is a Royal Arch Mason and Past Master of the Lodge.



**JOHN B. BASS, M. D.**, was born in Jefferson County, Ala., January 7, 1815, and was educated partly at Ruhama (now East Lake). His first medical course was at the University of Virginia, in 1839 where he graduated in medical jurisprudence, and afterward took a diploma as M. D. at Washington University, Baltimore, February 22, 1850. He came to Ashville in 1850, began the practice of his profession, and has remained here until the present time.

Dr. Bass's grandfather, Burrell Bass, was of English descent. He served in the Revolutionary War, migrated from North Carolina to Alabama about 1813, and settled near where now stands the city of Birmingham when Alabama was yet a Territory. The Doctor's maternal grandparents were of Irish lineage, and came from South Carolina to Tennessee, and thence to Alabama the same year.

Dr. Bass's great-grandfather Bass was in the Revolutionary War. The Doctor's father, Andrew Bass, lived on a farm near Birmingham until the time of his death, in 1854. He served in the Confederate Army as a member of Company B, Second Engineer Corps, and operated with Gen. Leonidas Polk, and later in the Army of the Tennessee.

Dr. Bass was married in February, 1875, to Miss Annie E. Gunn, of Georgia. They have but one child, Hershel W. Bass.

The Doctor has eschewed politics, devotes his

time exclusively to his profession, and has held every official position in the Saint Clair County Medical Society. He stands at the head of the profession in his county.



## XIX.

### SHELBY COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,800; colored, 4,500. Area, 780 square miles. Woodland, all. Valley lands and coal fields, 780 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 11,900; in corn, 26,170; in oats, 4,765; in wheat, 6,295; in tobacco, 10; in sweet potatoes, 350.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 6,750.

County Seat—Columbiana; population, 600; located 72 miles northeast of Selma, Ala., on East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Shelby Chronicle* (Democrat). At Calera *Shelby Sentinel*, Democrat, and *Alliance-News*.

Postoffices in the County—Aldrich, Bridgeton, Calera, Cobb, *Columbiana*, Harpersville, Helena, Highland, Hot Spur, Knight, Lewis, Longview, Montevallo, Pelham, Shelby Iron Works, Siluria, Spradley, Sterrett, Weldon, Wilsonville.

The county of Shelby was constituted in the year 1819. It received its name from Governor Isaac Shelby, of Kentucky. It is highly favored in location, wealth and mineral wealth. It is justly ranked one of the best counties of the State. Of late, rapid strides have been made in Shelby County in the development of her mineral wealth. Large interests of many kinds have been established and are in a thriving condition.

The general surface of the county is hilly and rough—features inseparable from a mineral district. Still, there are many valuable lands for agricultural purposes to be found. The northwestern portion of the county is formed by the coal measures of the famous Cahaba coal field; the central portion by those of the Coosa coal field. Lying between these two natural divisions is the

Valley of the Coosa. Along these coal measures is to be found the usual rugged surface, and the soil is of a sandy character, and not very fertile. The Coosa Valley, which extends the distance of thirty miles through the county, is based upon mountain limestone. It varies in width from two to eight miles. The lower valley lands, formed of lime, clay, and vegetable matter, are quite fertile; the higher lands, of gravel and clay, are of inferior character. The lands in the valleys are deemed altogether as good as those found in the famous Valley of the Tennessee. Corn and cotton grow luxuriantly here, and the yield, under favorable circumstances, is immense. In addition to these Shelby produces oats, wheat, rye, barley, and indeed all crops grown in this latitude. Some portions of the valley are peculiarly adapted to stock raising. This is especially true of the region lying west of the valley already described.

On the western boundary of the county is the Cahaba Valley, the width of which varies as does that of the Coosa on the east. The characteristics of the soil are the same as in the valley first mentioned—fertile in the bottoms, and thin and gravelly upon the high lands.

The conditions in many portions of Shelby are quite favorable to the production of fruit, and orchard culture is receiving, by degrees, more attention.

The prevailing timbers are hickory, oak, chestnut, mulberry and pine. Along the numerous valleys that intersect each other throughout the county is to be found the short-leaf pine; while the knolls and the uplands are crowned with the long-leaf pine. During the greater part of the

year water prevails in great abundance in every section of the county.

The Coosa river forms the eastern boundary, and receives the drainage of that portion of Shelby. Big and Little Cahaba rivers drain the western part.

Springs abound throughout the county. Issuing from beneath pine-crowned ridges that lie between the minor intersecting valleys, or else bursting from thousands of craggy mouths from the rocky hillsides, these springs flow down through the valleys in perennial streams, supplying water in richest abundance to man and beast.

But the peculiar glory of Shelby is her broad domain of coal and iron, her vast treasures of stone, marble and timber, and her health-giving mineral waters.

Extensive manufactories of iron exist at the Shelby Iron Works, which have been in successful operation for thirty years, and at Helena, where are located the Central Iron Works. In addition to these interests are found the Helena coal mines, and the Montevallo coal mines. Furthermore there are considerable lime-works at Calera, Siluria, and Longview, in the county. Some of these furnish lime as far south as Galveston, and as far north as Louisville and Cairo. Saw-mills are also numerous.

In some of the Limestone formations are to be found as superb building stone as exists in any quarter of the globe. Among these may be mentioned a light grayish-blue rock, dotted over with dark spots, black marble, yellow marble with black spots, gray and dove-colored marbles. These are very durable, and serve admirably as ornamental building material. In the mountains between the upper portion of Shelby and the St. Clair portion of the Cahaba valley, there is, in wonderful abundance, a beautiful sand-stone that would serve for building purposes. Barytes and slate also exist.

Just above Calera, on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad are the Shelby Springs, a favorite watering resort. The location is high and healthful, and the waters have valuable medicinal properties. At Helena and also near Bridgeton there are valuable mineral springs.

The advantages of transportation are excellent in this county. At Calera, there is an intersection of the Louisville & Nashville and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads. The former of these lines runs north and south through

the county, and the other almost east and west. All the benefits accruing from the competing lines are here afforded.

The points of greatest interest are Columbiana, the county seat, with a population of about 500, Calera, which is located at the intersection of the two railroads already mentioned, Wilsonville, Harpersville, Helena, and Montevallo. Excellent church and educational advantages exist at all of these places. A common-school system, under favorable direction, exists throughout the county.

The chief center of interest in the county is the growing town of Calera. Its name is of Spanish origin, and indicates the character of the surrounding region, Calera being the Spanish name for lime. It has a population of possibly 2,000, and for a number of years has been the location of a large foundry.

Other important enterprises have already been established. The Charcoal and Furnace Company have a magnificent plant and one of the finest wells in the State. The two shoe factories are turning out daily a very superior quality of shoes that compare very favorably with the best of eastern factories, and are sold at prices that defy competition, and they are consequently crowded with orders. The Spoke and Handle Factory is a paying institution, and their products are shipped to every portion of the Union, as they are finely finished and made of the most perfect timber. Two large steam brickworks are in operation, and have orders ahead for several weeks. Another spoke and handle factory will soon be established. The waterworks are now nearly completed, and negotiations are now pending for the erection of a fine academy.

The town supports good schools, and has two of the best hotels in the State. It is located in the midst of coal, iron, lime and excellent timber, and enjoys railroad facilities in all directions, being the intersection of the Louisville & Nashville and East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads.

Throughout the county of Shelby there abound the facilities of human comfort, so great are advantages of climate and the diversity of soils and mineral products.

Lands may be purchased at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$25 per acre.

There exist 31,929 acres of Government land in the county, which is being rapidly entered as homesteads by actual settlers.

## COLUMBIANA.

**JAMES THEOPHILUS LEEPER**, Judge of Probate, was born in Moulton, Lawrence County, Ala. September 23, 1832.

In his extreme youth his parents moved to Talladega County, where their son was given a common-school education.

In 1848, young Leeper moved to Shelby County, but in 1850 returned to Talladega to be employed as clerk in the probate office a position he held for a year and a half. Coming again to Shelby, he was employed in the same capacity. In 1854 he was admitted to the bar. In 1855 Mr. Leeper assisted M. H. Cruikshank, Register in Chancery for Talladega, with the duties of his office. The next year he was himself appointed Register for Shelby County by Chancellor James B. Clark, of Entaw. In connection with his duties as Register he entered upon the practice of the law, in co-partnership with his father, Samuel Leeper, who was one of the most successful practitioners in this circuit.

Mr. Leeper was elected a member of what is known as the "Parson's convention" of 1865.

In 1865 he was appointed by Governor Parsons solicitor for this circuit; in 1866 he formed a law partnership with Mr. Lewis; two years later he was appointed Register in Chancery for the District of three counties, Jefferson, St. Clair and Shelby, by Chancellor Woods, afterward Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The year following (1869), Mr. Leeper was appointed Judge of Probate for Shelby by Gov. W. H. Smith. He has held the office continuously since, by three popular elections, and, when his present term expires in 1892, will have occupied that and other important appointment and elective positions of trust and emolument for the greater part of forty-four years.

Judge Leeper is a son of Samuel and Elanora (Stone) Leeper, and is one of a family of nine, of whom eight are now living. Samuel Leeper was born in Georgia in 1800; taken to Tennessee when but nine years of age; came to Alabama in 1821, and settled in Lawrence County. In early life he was a merchant, but afterward studied law, and twice represented Shelby County in the Legislature. He died in 1871. One of his sons, Francis L.

Leeper, is a Presbyterian minister in Tennessee.

On the 1st of November, 1851, Judge Leeper was united in marriage to Miss Antoinette M. Bandy; and of the nine children born to them only five are living—three sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Samuel B. Leeper, assists in his father's office. The Judge is a Royal Arch Mason, and an Odd Fellow.

In 1867 Judge Leeper joined the Presbyterian Church, and four years later was made an elder of the same, which position he has filled with that dignity and singleness of purpose which distinguishes his life.

He is frank, open, easy and social in manner. His courtesy is never varying, his sincerity is self-vindicating, and the native courage of his life attracts men of all degrees and conditions. No man ever lived in the county who carries a wider personal influence than he. The popular vote which fixed the county on the side of Prohibition, was the result of his calm but firm espousal of that policy. He acts only after mature deliberation, and seldom changes his opinion.

As a Judge of Probate, he possesses the unbounded confidence of his constituency.

Prior to the late war, Judge Leeper was an active Whig in politics and opposed secession.



**HENRY WILSON**, Attorney-at-law, was born at Montevallo, Shelby County, this State, February 21, 1850. He was reared and educated at Montevallo. He studied law there for a time with B. B. Lewis (late president of the University of Alabama), and afterward read law at Columbiana with R. W. Cobb (afterward Governor of the State), and was admitted to the bar in April, 1871. He was appointed Solicitor of Chilton County in that year, and remained such until 1873, when he removed to Montevallo. He has practiced law throughout Shelby and adjoining counties from 1873 until the present time, 1888. Judge A. A. Sterrett and Gov. R. W. Cobb were his partners until the death of Judge Sterrett, after which time the firm name became Cobb & Wilson, including Mr. Benjamin F. Wilson, brother of



Henry. They had office sat Montevallo and Columbiana. This firm was dissolved in 1884, and a new partnership effected with E. P. Lyman, of Montevallo. In 1887, another change included J. L. Peters, of Bibb County, and the firm name became Peters, Wilson & Lyman. In 1889 and 1881 Mr. Wilson represented Shelby County in the Legislature and was on some important committees, including the Committee on Judiciary and the Committee on Commerce and Common Carriers.

Mr. Wilson is a son of Dr. John B. Wilson, of Montevallo, and his grandfather, Benjamin Wilson, was one of the pioneers of that village, long known as Wilson's Hill. The Wilsons came from Tennessee and Virginia.

Dr. John B. Wilson was a prominent physician of Montevallo, where he practiced medicine for forty or fifty years. He died in 1881, about seventy years old. He was married twice, first to a Mrs. Watrous, who died. He was next married to Miss Amanda Bandy, a sister of Mrs. Judge Leeper. By the second marriage there were five children who grew to maturity; three sons and two daughters, viz.: Henry Wilson, Benjamin F., John B., Ella (who married J. L. Peters), and Leta (who married Joe Slaton).

The subject of this sketch was married in 1873 to Miss Augusta Allen, of Montevallo. He is a Mason, Knight of Honor and member of the I. O. O. F.

Mr. Wilson stands in Shelby County as a man of high character. He is well known in the State as a fine lawyer, a man of influence, and an adherent of Democratic principles.

**WILLIAM BRADFORD BROWNE.** Attorney-at-law, was born in Philadelphia in 1853. He obtained his education at Spring Hill College, near Mobile, and at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn. He began the study of law in 1871 at Montevallo, with Paul H. Lewis, and was admitted to the bar in 1873, at Columbiana, where he has been practicing law ever since.

His father, William P. Browne, was born in Vermont in 1804, raised there, and practiced law for about seven years. He took a contract, at an early day, to construct a canal at New Orleans, and, after several years, completed it and received a fair profit for his work. He then went to

Mobile, whence he was sent to the Legislature in 1846.

While at Tuscaloosa, he met Miss Margaret Stevens, whom he afterward married. In 1848, he moved to Shelby County, opened the Montevallo Coal Mines, and operated them until his death in 1869. He was a man of great energy and indomitable will.

Of his seven children four are still living. One of them, Cecil Browne, of Talladega, represents Talladega and Clay Counties in the State Senate. A daughter, Mrs. Margaret Collins, is an actress, and is well known to theatre going people as Florence Elmore. She has attained enviable distinction as a star.

William B. Browne was married, in 1885, to Miss Lizzie, daughter of Samuel B. Roper, of Columbiana.

Mr. Browne and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**WILDES S. DU BOSE, M. D.,** was born in South Carolina in 1837, and spent his youth at Columbia. He attended Mount Zion College, at Winnboro, that State, three years, and spent the same length of time at the State University located at Columbia. He graduated in the classical course from the University of Louisiana, in New Orleans, and after studying elsewhere, graduated finally at the Atlanta Medical College, in 1858. He practiced medicine at Decatur, Ga., until 1861, when he entered the Confederate Army as captain of the Anthony Greys. This company was captured at Roanoke Island, February 6, 1862. Dr. Du Bose afterward served as surgeon of the Eleventh Confederate Cavalry, and other commands. After the war he practiced medicine in South Carolina until 1872, when he came to Columbiana. He has been Chairman of the Board of Censors of Shelby County almost continuously since its organization, and is now Senior Counselor of the State Medical Association.

Rev. Julius J. Du Bose, our subject's father, was a minister of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, and a man of great ability. He died in 1843. His wife, Margaret, was a daughter of Col. Wm. Thompson, of Savannah, who was a contractor, and built the railroad from Charleston to Augusta, said to be the first railroad begun in the United States. In this venture

he performed a large part of the work with the labor of his own slaves.

Dr. Du Bose was married in 1859 to Miss Anna, daughter of James M. Calhoun, of Atlanta. Mr. Calhoun was a lawyer of distinction in Georgia, and a man of great personal popularity. He was elected Mayor of Atlanta eleven consecutive times, and held that office when the city was surrendered to Sherman. He was a member of the Georgia Senate for many years, and wielded a great influence in regulating the banking interests of that State. He was a cousin of John C. Calhoun, of national fame.

Dr. Du Bose has seven children living. One of them, Clarence C., is editor and proprietor of the *Shelby Chronicle*; another, Gordon, is an attorney-at-law in Columbiana.

The Doctor is a Freemason, and he and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**AMOS MERRILL ELLIOTT**, merchant, was born about ten miles south of Columbiana, March 22, 1829; attended such schools as the vicinity afforded, and was early initiated into the mysteries of merchandising. In 1855, he began selling goods on his own account at Happersville, this county; in 1857, removed his business to Columbiana, and, in 1858, purchased another store in Elliottsville. He continued this business until 1861, when he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court. In 1872, he was elected to the lower house of the Legislature; in 1874, again he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, which position he filled, in the aggregate, twenty-five years, and finally declined a re-election. After this he re-

established his mercantile business in Columbiana, and has continued it to the present time.

His father, Amos M. Elliott, a Tennessean by birth, came to Alabama when quite young; his grandfather, of same name, came from Virginia to Tennessee in early times, and to Alabama about 1816. He settled first in the Cahaba Valley, and afterward about ten miles south of Columbiana.

A. M. Elliott's mother was Sarah (Hale) Elliott, from Tennessee. Chas. B. Elliott, the elder brother, was sheriff of the county soon after the war, and is now County Treasurer. He also was a merchant for many years. Lindsey F. Elliott, the other brother, has served the county as a deputy sheriff. Both these brothers were in the army. The sister, Rachel M., is now the widow of Dr. Thomas P. Lawrence, who was a member of the Legislature in 1852-3. He was an eminent physician and an eloquent orator. He was elected on the Whig ticket.

Amos M. Elliott was married in 1847 to Miss Mary Bragg, a daughter of Captain Chas. Bragg, of South Carolina. She died in September, 1860. They had six children, of whom three lived to be grown, and two, James and Charles, are still living. Both are farmers.

Amos M. Elliott was married again in September, 1861, to Mrs. Sophronia Holdman, daughter of James Hampton, of St. Clair County, Ala. They had two children, Emma, now wife of R. L. Cater, of Columbiana, and Amos M., who is in his father's store.

Mr. Elliott is a Methodist, a Royal Arch Mason, and has been Master of Shelby Lodge No. 140 for a number of years. He is also Past Chancellor of Knights of Pythias of Shelby Lodge, No. 50.

Mr. Elliott has been Justice of the Peace many years, and has been County Administrator.



## HELENA.

HELENA is a mining and manufacturing town in Shelby County, situated on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company's main line from Louisville to New Orleans, and within five miles of the half-way point between the above two

cities, also about a half-mile from the half-way point between Birmingham and Calera.

The town is mostly in the valley that skirts the Cahaba coal fields along the full length of its eastern boundary, and is near the middle of town-

ship 20, S. range 3 west of the Huntsville Meridian. The population within a radius of one and one half miles from the railroad depot is about 1,700. Buck Creek, a rocky, swift-flowing stream passes almost in a direct line across the valley and through the town to the Cahaba River, joining the river about a mile north-west of the town. The town contains three churches built by the white people of the place, and the two churches (Methodist and Baptist) built by the colored inhabitants.

The oldest church in the place is Harmony Church (Presbyterian), the Rev. A. C. Hale being pastor; by a special law of the State, all liquors are forbid being sold within five miles of this church.

The Baptist denomination have a good substantial church on Main street, of which the Rev. H. C. Taul is pastor.

The Methodists have a handsome new church about a block west of the Baptist Church, with the Rev. F. B. McKane as pastor. The above three churches have a fair attendance, are out of debt, and increasing in strength. The town has a good, large well-lighted frame school-house, owned by the towns-people, in which the rising generation are ably taught by Professor Moses Crittenden, assisted by Miss Fanny Hale; the attendance is large, some of the pupils coming three or four miles to this school.

The people of Helena are mostly engaged in coal mining and iron manufacturing.

The Eureka Company, of Oxmoor, employ about 150 men in mining and coking coal for their furnaces at Oxmoor and outside markets. Said company are now enlarging their works here, building new coke ovens, and opening up new mines, contemplating a large output of coal and coke in the future.

Mr. R. Fell, Sr., his son-in-law, the Hon. R. W. Cobb, and three sons, Charles, Richard and Albert Fell, forming the Central Iron Works Company, have a well-fitted up rolling-mill here for the manufacture of merchant bar iron and cut nails. The oldest member of the firm, Mr. R. Fell, Sr., has had over fifty years' experience in the manufacture of wrought iron.

The Fell Brothers have an excellent water-power grist-mill and cotton-gin within a few yards of the railroad depot here.

The Cahaba Company are contemplating the opening up of the Cahaba Mines. The company have almost entire control of the basin of the

Cahaba seam, which can be worked from three different slopes.

The altitude of Helena is 100 feet above sea level, and is located in what is generally known as Possum Valley, a valley remarkable for healthiness along its whole length of forty or fifty miles. Said valley is nearly solely drained by the heads of small tributaries of the Cahaba River, having no large streams in it except Buck Creek, at Helena, and the east prong of Cahaba River crossing it at right angles. The valley, consequently, is entirely free from malaria.

Doctor Tucker, a practicing physician at Helena for the sixteen years just past, states that he has never known a single case of disease from malarious causes that originated at Helena.

The gap in Conglomerate Ridge on the west side, and the gap in New Hope Mountain on the east side of the town, keep the air currents constantly moving from one gap to the other across the town. This is the secret of Helena's healthfulness.

Helena is mostly located on the geological formation usually classified as "Quebec" or Knox shales and Knox sandstones and dolomites, but partly on the Cahaba coal measures, the two being divided by an immense upthrow or "fault" of the measures of over a mile in vertical displacement at the railroad culvert, 300 yards west of the railroad depot. The measures are all thrown up, to an angle of from twenty-eight degrees to vertical, thus giving a greater variety of spring waters than any other place along the lines of railroads, at least for a distance of twenty miles from Birmingham.

There are seven springs, each affording entirely different water from the rest, within a radius of 500 yards from the railroad depot. One of them the "Alum Spring" has already become famous for its benefits in certain chronic diseases; quantities of it have been shipped to parties continuing its use after returning home.

A railroad from Helena to Blocton is expected to be built shortly, and said road will be the best coal road in the State, giving Helena with its abundance of water, first-class manufacturing advantages. The scenery around Helena is remarkably picturesque; that on the west side, where the creek and railroad go through the gap in conglomerate ridge, closely resembling (on a small scale) the valley and surroundings of Mauch Chunk, Penn.

The town has six stores doing a dry goods and

grocery business, one drug store, two hotels, and several boarding houses



**RUFUS W. COBB**, was born at Ashville, St. Clair County, Ala., February 25, 1829.

He attended school at an academy at Ashville, and graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1850. After leaving his alma mater he at once began the study of law at the home of his childhood; was licensed to practice at the same place about 1855, and admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court very soon afterward.

He began his professional life at Ashville, but moved to Montevallo, Shelby County, in 1856, and made that place his residence until after the war. In the fall of 1865 he transferred his home to Marion, Perry County, where he practiced law until 1868, at which time he returned to Shelby County, and located at Columbiana.

In 1872 his friends of the Democratic party elected him to the State Senate from the district including Shelby and Bibb Counties. In 1876 he was again sent to the Senate from this district, which by a change was now comprised of Shelby, Jefferson and Walker Counties. This Senate made him their president, and in 1878, the Democratic party expressed its appreciation of his services and ability by placing him in the gubernatorial chair. About 1874 the State of Alabama found herself hampered with an enormous debt, amounting to about thirty millions of dollars, a very large portion of which was improper and fraudulent. A plan for the adjustment of that debt was devised by Peter Hamilton, of Mobile, Rufus W. Cobb and other members of the Senate, and after it had been submitted to, and approved by, the Governor (Houston), bills were prepared, and proper steps taken to effect such legislation as would develop and carry out this plan. They provided for a commission to adjust the indebtedness, which commission consisted of George S. Houston, Levi W. Lawler, and T. B. Bethea, who effected the proposed adjustment, and reduced the State indebtedness to about ten millions of dollars. This action on the part of the commission was ratified by the Legislature. The position of Rufus W. Cobb, at this time, as President of the Senate, and his active energy in developing the plan to relieve the State from her burden, made him the prominent and most desirable man to succeed Houston as Govern-

nor. He was re-elected Governor in 1878, and at the expiration of his second term (1882) his public life ceased. Since that time he has been active as a member of the bar of Shelby, and has resided at Helena.

When the tocsin of war rang through the land in 1861, Rufus W. Cobb responded promptly to its call. He entered the army as captain of Company C, Tenth Alabama Regiment. This command was in the Army of Northern Virginia. In 1863, he was transferred to the Western Army under Bragg, and placed on special and detached duty, reporting personally to the generals in command. He remained in this service until the close of the war.

Governor Cobb is a son of John W. Cobb, who was born in Virginia about 1800, reared in South Carolina, and came to Ashville about 1820. He married Catherine Peake, a widow, whose maiden name was Stevens. They had two sons, of whom W. Harvey Cobb is the elder. He was born September 2, 1823, at Ashville, where he has always lived, and is now the oldest inhabitant. John W. Cobb was by occupation a merchant and farmer, and served as a member of the State Legislature, several terms. He was a colonel in the Florida War, and died in 1845. Bishop Cobb, of the Episcopal Church, is related to Governor Cobb, and it is believed that all the Cobbs in the country descended from the one stock, which originated in Wales. Governor Cobb was married in 1850 to Miss Margaret, daughter of W. S. McClurg, of Knoxville, Tenn. By this marriage Governor Cobb has two living children—John W. Cobb, a farmer near Blount Springs, and Dora, now the wife of Richard Pell, Jr., of the Central Iron Works and Helena Mills. Mrs. Margaret Cobb died in 1865.

On the last day of December, 1866, Governor Cobb was married to Miss Frances Pell, daughter of Richard Pell, Sr., a practical and successful iron master, and by this marriage has two children—Edith and Richard.

Governor Cobb and family are Baptists; the Governor is a Knight Templar and has taken the 32d degree in the Scottish Rite. He has been Master of Blue Lodge at every place in which he has lived, and was Grand Master of the State for two terms. He is the only man who was ever Grand Master and Governor at the same time. The Governor is an eloquent speaker; a man of great deliberation and forethought; social in his disposition; liberal in his means, and attracts hosts of friends.

## XX.

## TALLADEGA COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,319; colored, 11,221.  
 Area—700 square miles. Woodland, all.  
 All Coosa Valley and woodland.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 32,850; in corn, 40,370; in oats, 9,280; in wheat, 13,230; in rye, 140; in tobacco, 30; in sweet potatoes, 335.

Approximate number bales of cotton—12,000.  
 County Seat—Talladega: population, 3,000.

on East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, Anniston & Atlantic, Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroads.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Our Mountain Home, Reporter and Watch Tower*, both Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Alpine, Bledsoe, Chandler Springs, Childersburgh, Cyprian, Esta Boga, Eureka, Fayetteville, Ironaton, Jenifer, Kentuck, Kymulga, Lincoln, McElderry, McFall, Munford, Peckerwood, Rendalia, Renfro, Silver Run, Smelley, Sycamore, *Talladega*, Turner, Waldo, White Cloud.

Talladega County was established December 18, 1832, the territory being a part of the last Muscogee cession. The original limits were retained until Clay County was formed in 1866. Its name is said to be derived from the Muscogee words, Teka, meaning border, and Talla, meaning town.

This county has long numbered among its residents some of the most distinguished men of Alabama, prominent among whom may be mentioned as follows:

Judge Shortridge, Judge John White, Mr. Joab Lawler, Mr. Lewis W. Lawler, Mr. Alexander Bowie, Mr. Felix G. McConnell, the gifted Mr. Frank W. Bowdon, Mr. Jacob T. Branford, Mr. John J. Woodward, Mr. Jabez L. M. Curry, Ex-Gov. Lewis E. Parsons, Mr. Marcus H. Cruikshank, Gen. James B. Martin, Mr. John T. Heflin, Mr. John Henderson, Mr. N. D. Johns, Mr. A. R. Barclay, Mr. M. C. Slaughter, Mr. Joseph D. McCann, Mr. Andrew Cunningham, Mr. Alexander White.

Mollie E. Moore, a native of this county, but now of Texas, has acquired a just celebrity as a

poet. Some of her verses are among the rarest gems of Southern literature.

Talladega County, situated along the southern tier of the northeastern counties of the State, and having within its borders the southern terminus of the Blue Ridge Mountains, is favored in climate, location, soil, accessibility and varied resources.

The mean temperature is 80 degrees. The average annual rainfall is 50 inches. The soil and climate are peculiarly adapted to all kinds of fruits and vegetables, besides growing, fairly well, corn, wheat, oats, rye, cotton, clover and the grasses. While many varieties of soil exist, the prevailing color is red clay; and as there is an abundance of lime in the soil, they respond readily to manuring. The county offers prominent inducements to stockmen, fruit growers, truckers, saw-mill men, and iron workers.

Lands are to be had from five to thirty five dollars per acre, owing to location and fertility; but there are within the county thousands of acres of timbered lands which can be had for the value of the timber, and which will inevitably bring wealth when used for vineyards, orchards and truck.

The location of the county favors such a system of farming, as it is environed by growing cities which must needs be fed; and it has, within its borders, great quantities of timber, of limestone and marble, of gold and of iron, besides being contiguous to limitless beds of coal. These various resources are beginning to be developed, and on every hand are being evidenced thrift, vitality and wealth. Iron furnaces are located at Jenifer and Ironaton, and others are contemplated at Talladega, Sylacauga and Childersburgh. Large saw-mills are in operation at Berneys, Cymulgee, Childersburgh, Nottingham, Lincoln and Renfro.

The county is accessible, having on the west the Coosa River, and being traversed by the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, the Georgia Pacific, the Anniston & Atlantic, the Coosa Valley

and the Columbus Western Railroads. The county has three summer resorts, viz.: Talladega, Chandler and Shooco Springs, which, from their healthful waters and favorable locality, add much to the inducements of the county.

The people are intelligent, hospitable and largely church-going. The county is well supplied with churches and schools, and the roads are fast being

put in good condition. There is no debt on the county.

The taxable values are \$4,500,000, and rate of taxation one per cent.

The valuation of taxable property in Talladega County for the year 1887 is \$4,722,368, as shown by the abstract assessment filed in the office of the State Auditor. [See Talladega, this volume.]



## XXI.

## TUSCALOOSA COUNTY.

Population: White, 15,216; colored, 9,741. Area, square miles, 1,390. Woodland, all. Gravelly hills and long-leaf pines, 675. Coal measures 965 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 33,773; in corn, 38,638; in oats, 6,974; in wheat, 2,689; in rye, 130; in sugar-cane, 35; in tobacco, 30; in sweet potatoes, 919. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 12,000.

County Seat—Tuscaloosa: population, 2,500; located on Black Warrior River at the head of steamboat navigation, and on Alabama Great Southern Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Gazette, Times* and *Alabama University*—the former Democratic and the latter educational.

Postoffices in the County—Binion's Creek, Clement's Depot, Coaling, Cottondale, Dudley, Fosters, Hagler, Hayes, Hybernia, Hickman's, Hull, Humphrey, Jena, Leled Lane, McConnell's, Marenville, Moore's Bridge, New Lexington, Northport, Odenheim, Olmsted Station, Oregonia, Reuben, Romulus, Samantha, Sipsey Turnpike, Skelton, Sylvan, Tamehill, *Tuscaloosa*, Tyner, Waldo, White Cloud.

Tuscaloosa County was established February 7, 1818.

Its original northern boundary was that of the present counties of Marion and Winston. It was named for the river Tuscaloosa, which flows through it. The name is from the Choctaw

words, *tusca*, warrior, *loosa*, black, hence Black-warrior. The northern and northeastern portions of the county contains the finest long-leaf, yellow pine forests in the State. Poplar, ash, white oak, hickory and beech, and others of the forest trees, some of which are marvelous in size. Coal, iron ore and fire clays abound throughout the entire county.

In addition to the Queen and Crescent, several railroads have been projected and surveyed, and a large force is now constructing one, the Tuscaloosa Northern, which crosses the Warrior nine miles above the city, and will pass the great coal and timber belt north and northeast of the city, and connect with the Georgia Pacific at Ada, and thence with the great St. Louis & Memphis systems, giving access to the great West. The Gulf & Chicago has been surveyed from Florence to Mobile, developing a remarkably low grade considering the rough country through which the northern division passes. The Mobile & Tuscaloosa has also been surveyed, which will be extended to Natchez via Jackson. In addition is another important railroad, the Great Northwestern, which is to be built from Montgomery through the Cahaba and Warrior coal-fields, *via* Tuscaloosa to Sheffield.

The Tuscaloosa Cotton Mills, with about 200 looms, started six years ago with \$40,000 capital, and has paid out over \$250,000 to employes. The yarn mills of L. P. Gauder run about 3,000

spindles, and have doubled their output within the last year. These are located on the river front, and are models of success. The Cottondale Mills

have been equally successful. In addition to these, four or five extensive brickyards are in successful operation.



## XXII.

## TALLAPOOSA COUNTY.

Population: White, 16,108; colored, 7,283. Area, 810 square miles. Woodland, all.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 41,200; in corn, 41,450; in oats, 9,160; in wheat, 14,572; in tobacco, 21; in sugar-cane, 41; in sweet potatoes, 498. Approximate number of bales of cotton, 14,921.

County Seat—Dadeville; population, 1,200; on the Columbus & Western Railroad, thirty miles from Opelika, and forty-five miles northeast of Montgomery.

New-paper published at County Seat—*Tallapoosa New Era*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Alexander City, Bulger's Mills, Buttston, Camp Hill, Cowpens, *Dadeville*, Daviston, Dudleyville, Enneckfaw, Fish Pond, Fosheeton, Goldville, Hackneyville, Island Home, Jackson's Gap, Mary, Matilda, Melton's Mill, New Site, Sturdevant, Susanna, Thaddens.

Tallapoosa County lies in the east center of the State, and was created in 1832 out of a portion of the last cession of the Creek Indians. The word Tallapoosa, means "great town," and was first applied to the Tallapoosa River, from which the county derived the name.

The soils of this county may be divided into two prominent or predominating classes, the red and the gray, both of which are based on a subsoil of a reddish or yellowish color, but in addition to these soils, which are found mostly on uplands, there are a large number of bottoms along the banks of the Tallapoosa River, and the many creeks tributary to that stream. These bottom lands are the most productive lands of the county, and comprise a considerable proportion of the county's area. The yield of this class of lands will compare

favorably with the yield of the best lands in the State, and, take it year in and year out, crops planted on them yield with regularity and certainty. The reddish lands of the uplands are specially adapted to the production of small grain, and fair crops of wheat and oats are produced on them. All the soils of the county are used in the production of cotton, though that article is cultivated more extensively on the loamy lands of the southern portion. The yield of corn and wheat on the red lands will compare favorably with the best results obtained elsewhere in the State, while in the production of the latter, Tallapoosa ranks with the leading counties of Alabama.

The forests are heavily timbered with white, red and Spanish oak, poplar, hickory, pine, ash, mulberry, and gum. These valuable timbers will be brought into requisition as the demand grows for their use in the mechanical arts.

The county is watered by the Tallapoosa River and the Hillabee, Chattahoochee, Big Sandy, Little Sandy, Sorgahatchee, Buck, Elkehatchee, Blue, Winn, and Enneckfaw Creeks. Immense water-power prevails in every section of the county and upon the principal streams, notably upon Big Sandy and Hillabee. The incline planes over which the vast volumes of water are precipitated give them immense power for manufacturing purposes.

The Tallapoosa River which flows through the county, dividing it in two, is capable of furnishing many thousand horse-power to be utilized for manufacturing purposes. The great falls on this river occur in the southern portion of the county, and are utilized at Tallassee, in Elmore County, for the manufacture of cotton goods. At

this point the waters of the river rush for several hundred yards down a steep declivity, until the falls are reached where they pour down over a shelf about twenty feet in height. The fall of the river, within 500 yards of the factory at Tallassee, is fixed at between 50 and 75 feet, and it is estimated that this fall is capable of furnishing fully 100 horse-power. The many sites for manufacturing purposes in this county, where motive power could be furnished by water, are used for nothing more important than saw or grist mills.

Talapoosa is rich in mineral resources, and it is thought that, for extent and variety, its mineral deposits will lead those of any other county in the State. There is no question as to the presence of gold in different portions of the county, and recent investigations have strengthened the belief that it was in sufficient quantity to make working it highly profitable. This precious article is

being mined in several localities in the county, with more or less success. Copper mines, near Dadeville, have been fitted up at a great cost with a stamping mill, and it is said that the indications point to a rich reward in the future for the outlay. In addition to gold, silver signs have been discovered in several localities, but the extent of the deposits has never been ascertained. Besides the minerals of great value, Tallapoosa contains deposits of mica of a superior grade and an extra large size, graphite, asbestos, emery and granite.

Dadeville, the county seat of Tallapoosa, is a pleasant little town of about 2,000 people, situated on the Columbus and Western road, about sixty miles west of Opelika. Its people are content, prosperous and happy. The location of the town is all that could be desired in point of scenery and health. Fine schools flourish, and churches of various denominations are found here.



### XXIII.

## WINSTON COUNTY.

Population: White, 4,236; colored, 13. Area, 540 square miles. Woodland, all. All coal measures, but in western part of county these rocks are covered with drift.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 2,000; in corn, 8,098; in oats, 579; in wheat, 1,967; in sweet potatoes, 172.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 655.

County Seat—Double Springs: population 325.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Winston Herald*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Ark, Biler, Brown's Creek, Clear Creek Falls, Collier Creek, *Double Springs*, Houston, Larissa, Motes, Pebble.

The name of this county was changed from that of Hancock in 1858. Under the original name it was organized in 1850.

As far as investigations have gone the county seems to have immense resources of minerals. Within the last year it has attracted considerable

attention, which has been mainly due to the construction of the Georgia Pacific Railroad. As soon as the road shall have been completed, Winston will become one of the chief manufacturing districts of the State.

It is in no sense an agricultural county, although in some portions cotton and corn are quite readily produced. The local industries are farming, stock raising and wool growing. Dairy-farming is carried on to a limited extent.

This county is abundantly supplied with water. These numerous streams, by their confluence, form the chief water-ways of the county—Black Water, Big Bear, Clear and Rock Creeks, and Sipsey and Brushy Forks. The Buttahatchie and New Rivers have their fountain heads amid the wild hills of Winston County. Along the abounding gorges and valleys there rush the multitudinous tributaries which feed these principal streams from many quarters. Winston can not be excelled, perhaps, by



any county in the State, in the wildness and picturesque-ness of its natural scenery. The waters in some instances have worn channels in the sandstones, and often flow through gorges with high, perpendicular sides. In some instances rapids and cataracts are found, which fill the solitudes with their loud-sounding thunder. Two of these waterfalls occur in Clear Creek about 300 yards apart; the fall of each is about thirty feet. Below the falls the water dashes down a deep, narrow gorge. They are objects of peculiar interest, and will one day attract many sight-seers. "Rock-houses," as they are locally named, abound along these streams. In the neighborhood of these rocky caverns are found growing in luxuriance and beauty the rarest ferns known to American florists.

The natural timber growth is composed of post, red, and Spanish oaks, poplar, beech, holly, chestnut, sour gum, and occasionally short-leaf pine. In many parts of Winston the forests are as yet untouched, and hence abound in many fine specimens of the timber already named. This is especially true of the lands which lie adjacent to creeks in the bottoms.

One of the chief attractions of this county is its abundant game. Turkeys and deer abound in every portion of Winston, and hunters resort

thither from the adjoining counties. Most excellent fish, too, are found in the numerous streams.

The county is exceedingly rich in its mineral properties. The extent of these deposits is as yet unknown, but it is believed that no portion of Alabama, of the same compass, will excel the county of Winston in its mineral resources.

Vast quantities of coal underlie the hills, and iron ore is also abundant. In some sections a superior quality of slate is found, and in large quantities. These slumbering resources only await the construction of railway lines in order to find their way into the markets of the world.

There are several railroads contemplated, some of which are under construction, which will add greatly to the market facilities and general improvement of the county. Among them may be mentioned, as most prominent, the Georgia Pacific.

The educational advantages of the county are fairly good; church facilities good. Land may be purchased at from \$3 to \$30 per acre.

Government land in the county, 20,360 acres.

The people of the county of Winston are social, industrious, thrifty, law-abiding, hospitable, God-fearing and serving, and will gladly welcome all good people who may come to make their home with them.



## XXIV.

### WALKER COUNTY.

Population: White, 9,000; colored, 5,000.

Area, 880 square miles. Woodland, all.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 8,750; in corn, 21,830; in oats, 2,580; in wheat, 5,420; in rye, 80; in tobacco, 10; in sugar cane, 11; in sweet potatoes, 325.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 2,800.

County Seat—Jasper; population, 600; located on the Kansas City, Memphis, Birmingham & Atlanta Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Mountain Eagle*, Democratic; *True Citizen*, Independent.

Postoffices in the County—Bartonville, Beach Grove, Boldo, Clark, Cordova, Corona, Eagle, Edgill, Eldridge, Gamble, Grayleton, Gurganus, Hewitt, Holly Grove, Janeburgh, *Jasper*, Kansas, Leith, Loss Creek, Luckey, Manasco, Marietta, Middleton, Nauvoo, Patton, South Lowell, Wilmington, York.

Walker was created December 29, 1824, and the territory taken from Tuscaloosa and Marion. The northern portion was set apart to form Winston in 1850. It lies south of Winston, west of Blount, northwest of Jefferson, north of Tusca-

loosa, east of Marion and north and east of Fayette. It was named for the Hon. John W. Walker, of Madison.

It is attracting remarkable attention at this time by reason of its immense resources of coal. From present indications, Walker is the richest of all the counties of the State in its mineral deposits. It seems to be almost an unbroken coal-field from limit to limit. The coal is of a hard bituminous character, with but a small percentage of ash. Various geological reports point to the existence of five or six valuable seams, which lie in successive layers, one above the other. There are various outcroppings, indicating, from the surface, seams of superior coal which vary in thickness from two to eight feet. Remoteness of transportation has forbidden the establishment of mines in the past, but the construction of the Georgia Pacific is awakening new life, and the early completion of the Sheffield & Birmingham and the Memphis & Birmingham Railroads, running from Kansas City to the Atlantic, will greatly enhance the value of Walker County lands. The surface of the county is broken, the hills in some places being steep and high.

Like the adjoining county of Winston, the soils of Walker are not remarkable for their fertility, it being in nowise an agricultural county, but adapted almost solely to manufactures. Still, it is not without fertile lands. Snug farms are found in many portions of it, and many of its inhabitants have subsisted upon the productions of their farms since, and even before, the formation of their county.

About one-third of the area of Walker is covered with a sandy soil. This land is admirably suited to the production of fruit, which grows here in great abundance, especially such as the hardy fruits, pears, apples, peaches, plums, etc. Fruit trees have been standing in many orchards for many years, and have rarely failed of an annual yield. In other sections of Walker, especially in those lying adjacent to main streams, there are many thrifty farms, upon which grow, with great readiness, corn, cotton and wheat.

This is also true of what are locally termed "the bench lands"—the plateau regions of the county. Here are many first-class farms, which are easily tilled, and whose cultivation is most remunerative. Stock-raising is receiving some attention in the county, and the experiments have been most gratifying.

The county is highly favored with streams, whose rapid and perpetual flow mark them for future usefulness in the manufactures. Chief among these are Mulberry Fork, which flows through the southeast and joins Locust Fork in the south; the Black Water, Sipsey Fork and Lost Creeks. These are supplied by numerous tributaries, which drain the county from every quarter. As fine timber forests skirt these streams as are found in the northern portions of the State. These embrace the different varieties of oak, post, red and Spanish, together with beech, poplar, the gums, and short-leaf pine. In the neighborhood of South Lowell, about six miles from Jasper, the county seat, there is a section of long-leaf pine forest, covering an area of about ten miles broad and twenty-five miles long. This superb tract of timber is penetrated by the Black Water River, the banks of which are lined by thriving manufactories, such as corn, wheat and lumber mills and cotton gins.

The passage of the Georgia Pacific through the county has awakened much interest, and when that shall have been intersected by the Mobile & Birmingham Railroad, which will run the entire length of the State, from Mobile to Florence, the advantages of the county will be immense. Through these great channels of trade her rich minerals of coal and iron will seek outlets to the world beyond. These minerals are considered practically inexhaustible. In the interior of the basin in Walker County is the Jagger's coal bed, which is said to be one of exceeding thickness.

The coal development of Walker County is only in its infancy. The following collieries have been opened and are now in operation on the main line of the Georgia Pacific Railroad: The Tennessee & Mobile Coal Co.; Virginia & Alabama Mining and Manufacturing Co.; Wolf Creek Coal Co.; O'Brien Coal Co.; Black Diamond Coal Co.; Ed. Donaldson Co. and the Norvil Coal Co. The capacity of these mines at present is 1,500 tons daily, and if a supply of cars could be had they would increase their output to 2,500 tons of coal daily. The quality of this coal can not be excelled for domestic and steam purposes. The seam of coal averages three feet and eight inches, covering a territory of 20,000 acres of this seam of coal, to say nothing of three other seams of coal on the same property, adapted for coking and steam purposes.

The Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham

Road is now completed from Memphis to Birmingham, passing through Walker County. The seams of coal in Walker County on the Warrior Coal Fields are entirely clear of faults, which is a great inducement for coal operators to locate in Walker County. There is no county in the State of Alabama to equal Walker County in coal and lumber interests.

Throughout the county the educational advantages are moderate, and church facilities abound. Both these improve, as one approaches the principal villages. Jasper, the county seat, with a

population of three or four hundred, has good schools and two comfortable church edifices. Holly Grove and South Lowell are also points of interest and growing importance.

Like other counties, the resources of which are being rapidly developed, the people of Walker are anxious to have their lands purchased and populated.

Great inducements are just now being offered to purchasers of lands.

There are embraced within the limits of Walker County 128,840 acres of Government land.



## JASPER.

JASPER, county-seat of Walker, is located at the junction of the Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham, and Sheffield & Birmingham Railroads, forty-four miles west of Birmingham, 210 miles east from Sheffield, and fifty-six miles northeast of Tuscaloosa. The country around Jasper is like most of Walker County, broken and mountainous. The growth and prosperity of the town depends on coal, timber, and agriculture in the valleys.

Jasper is centrally located in the county, coal-fields extending in every direction for about fifty miles. It promises to be an important railroad center in the future; that is to say in addition to the two roads now here, there will be a connection with the Georgia Pacific, and Tuscaloosa Northern, and the Sheffield & Birmingham Coal, Iron & Railway Company. There are now going on negotiations for a furniture factory, as well as a large lumbering outfit; also for a rolling mill, and a plant for pit cars, wheel-barrow, etc. Also, a coke plant, at a cost of \$500,000, is now breaking ground. This company owns, in Walker County, 70,000 acres of mineral lands, and has a capital of \$800,000. In addition to the above named industries there are twenty other companies owning valuable coal mines in Walker County.

Jasper has two churches—Methodist and Baptist—a Masonic lodge, twenty-five business houses, including a bank with a paid up capital of \$200,000, and two hotels. Its population is now about 1,500, and is daily increasing. It is an active and bustling place, full of hope and enterprise. The

value of town property has advanced ten-fold in the last eighteen months.

The city of Jasper was incorporated December 22, 1887, and George H. Guttery was its first mayor; W. S. Foster its first secretary and tax assessor; B. M. Bradford, marshal and collector; and J. B. Shields, W. C. Rosamond, D. L. Stovall, and W. G. Graylee its first Board of Councilmen.

The streets are all laid off, and some grading done, a corporation building, including a courtroom and council chamber and prison, has been erected, and the entire town has been platted, extending over one square mile. The Sheffield & Birmingham Coal, Iron & Railway Company are now building at this place 250 coke ovens and the largest coal bins in the State. The trestle over which the railroad track runs will be about fifty feet high, and the coal will be placed in the bins, taken thence and placed in the ovens without being handled from the time it leaves the mine. The intention of the company is to increase the number of ovens to 1,000, and when completed will have a capacity of 1,000 tons of coke per diem.

The city of Jasper is not yet old enough to have made much history, but for the unparalleled advantages offered by it and Walker County, the reader is referred to the history of the county, and the "Topography, Geology and Natural Resources" of Northern Alabama, so elegantly and elaborately set forth in this volume. Among the prominent members of the legal profession of Jasper may be named: W. B. Appling, E. W.

Coleman, C. J., L. Cunningham, S. M. Gunter, S. Lacy and John McQueen, while the other professions are well represented.

Among the oldest families in Jasper is the Musgrove family, in fact they were the first settlers of the town. Dr. E. G. Musgrove moved to that section of Alabama before the State was admitted into the Union, and, immediately after the formation of the county of Meeker, he laid out the town of Jasper and gave the entire town to the county, conditioned upon locating the county seat there, which was accepted, and a court-house and jail was immediately built. This family has been continuous residents of Jasper. First after the death of Dr. Musgrove came his oldest son, Capt. F. A. Musgrove, who was born and reared in the place and was amongst the first citizens of the town and county, having filled various positions of trust and honor in the county and served one term in the State Legislature. At the beginning of the war he went into service as captain of Company L, Twenty-eighth Alabama Regiment. He was wounded at the battle of Murfreesboro, and after his recovery went into service as major of a cavalry company which he raised at home during his illness. Following in the direct line of the descendants comes L. B. and J. C. Musgrove, his only sons, who are still living at the old homestead, and are both closely identified with the building of the city, and also in the development of the coal and iron interests of the county.

The Jasper Land Company was organized on December 19, 1887, by the election of the following Board of Directors:

George H. Nettleler, President of the Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham Railroad; James F. Johnston, President of the Alabama National Bank; J. G. Chamberlain, General Manager of the Sheffield & Birmingham Coal, Iron, and Railroad Company; A. G. Francis, of the Corona Coal & Coke Company; J. C. Musgrove, W. L. Wallis, R. H. Elliot, Chief Engineer of Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham Railroad; F. A. Gauble and S. B. Musgrove.

The following were elected the active officials of the Company:

Joseph F. Johnston, President; L. B. Musgrove, Vice-President and General Manager; J. M. Burrell, Secretary, and William S. Foster, Treasurer.

This company owns about 4,000 acres of land in and around the city of Jasper, and is closely

identified with both the citizens and railroads running into that place. It is quite liberal in its efforts to build up a flourishing city in shape of donations, and also in loaning money to institutions to locate here. The greater portions of the most valuable property of the city is in the possession of the Land Company, and it is sparing neither means nor money to develop this fast-growing city. The Company has succeeded in locating several of the largest and best industries in the State at Jasper, and with their efforts bent on this line, as it is at the present time, will in a very few years, put Jasper among the flourishing cities in North Alabama.



**WALKER COUNTY BANK** was organized in November, 1887, with Hinton E. Carr, president, John B. Hughes, cashier, and a capital stock of \$20,000, all paid in. The business has been satisfactory from the first, and has doubled itself the last two months. The deposits are larger than the managers had any reason to expect, and the business is conducted on a strictly legitimate plan. The managers will change it into a national bank November 1, 1888.

HINTON EVERETT CARR, president of the bank, was born May 23, 1856, in Coffeeville, Miss. His father, Louis F. Carr, moved from Coffeeville to Memphis, Tenn., in the same year, and the subject of our sketch resided there until fourteen years ago. In 1870 he went to Arkansas with his father, studied law there and was admitted to the bar at Helena. He practiced law in Helena and edited *The Patriot*, a daily and weekly paper. He came to Jasper April 1, 1877, and soon after associated himself in the practice of law with Hon. A. E. Stratton, which partnership continues.

Mr. Carr was married in Helena in 1880 to Miss Emma, daughter of Joseph Delaney. They have two daughters.

Mr. Carr's father, Louis F. Carr, was a native of North Carolina, and a graduate of the University of that State. His wife, Lucy, was a daughter of Alfred Turner, one of the most extensive slave owners of Mississippi. He died about the close of the war.

H. E. Carr has fought his own way in the world and has been entirely the architect of his own fortune, since the fortune he would have inherited was lost on account of the war.

JOHN BELL HUGHES, son of Daniel and Charlotte (Bell) Hughes, was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., February 6, 1838. He was reared on a farm, attended the country schools and the academy at Taylorville, spent some years in a tannery, and at the breaking out of the war, became a member of Company G, Eleventh Alabama Regiment. In the fall of 1861 he was elected lieutenant, and in 1862 was promoted to a captaincy. He was in the first battle of Manassas, all the important battles of the army of Northern Virginia, and was at Appomattox at the surrender. He was once captured and imprisoned two months at Washington and Fort Delaware; was wounded at the battles of Sharpesburg and Gettysburg.

Mr. Hughes was appointed clerk of the circuit court at Jasper in 1881. At the organization of the Walker County Bank, he was made its cashier, and still holds that office. His father, Daniel Hughes, was a native of Tennessee, and his mother was born in Georgia. The Hughes family was originally from near Charleston, S. C.



JOHN B. SHIELDS, Probate Judge of Walker County, son of Dr. Milton and Priscilla J. (Bradson) Shields, was born at Marshall's Ferry, in Granger County, Tenn., August 25, 1840. He attended an old field school in that neighborhood until about fifteen years of age, when he went to Greeneville College, East Tennessee, and pursued his studies there for two years. He next studied medicine for two or three years, and upon the breaking out of the war became first lieutenant of Company I, Fifty-ninth Regiment Tennessee Confederate Infantry. This regiment was captured at the siege of Vicksburg, but was paroled at once, and thereafter mounted as cavalry under Gen. J. C. Vaughan (since the war a Congressman). His brigade made a campaign into Maryland in 1864, under Gen. Early. After the raid into Maryland they went into East Tennessee and Western Virginia. He then commanded the company as captain. He was engaged at the battle of Grand Gulf, siege of Vicksburg, Baker's Creek, Piedmont, Morristown, Bull's Gap, Monocacy Junction, Md., Winchester and many others. After Lee's surrender he went into North Carolina and joined Joseph E. Johnson's army, but surrendered at Athens, Ga.

After the war he went into mercantile business

at Newnan, Ga., and remained there eighteen months. During this time he married and returned to his native place in East Tennessee in 1866. He found his home entirely desolate, and his first business was to rebuild the old house and re-establish the homestead. After accomplishing this he clerked two years at Morristown.

In 1868 he moved to Wolf Creek, then the terminus of the Cincinnati, Cumberland Gap & Charleston Railroad, as merchant and railroad station-agent. In 1871, he moved to Carroll County, Ga., to superintend the Georgia Paper Manufacturing Company. (His childhood had been largely spent in his father's paper-mill.) In 1873 he moved to Walker County, re-fitted Long's Mill, on Black Water Creek, and became a merchant and miller there. After three years he sold out that interest to B. M. Long, moved to South Lowell, and ran a steam saw and planing-mill, which he conducted individually for two years. He still owns an interest there as a member of the firm of Shields & Cartter.

His old homestead in Tennessee has been in the possession of his family for sixty years, and it has been very recently discovered that the place contains a ledge of solid marble of many different colors, beautifully variegated, and more than 300 feet thick.

The Judge's residence is properly at South Lowell, which was once a flourishing village (six miles from Jasper), but is now neglected and dead.

Judge Shields was elected to the Legislature in 1878 on the Greenback ticket, by a majority of twenty-eight votes, but was counted out. In 1884 he was again elected to the Legislature on an Independent ticket, and served in 1884 and 1885. In the year 1886 he was elected Probate Judge of Walker County, and is still the incumbent of that office.

Judge Shields was married September 19, 1866, in Carrollton, Carroll County, Ga., to Miss Carrie E., youngest daughter of Judge John Long, who was a native of Tennessee, and served as judge, legislator, and in other offices, for more than twenty-five years. He settled in Carroll County in 1826, when the county was full of Indians, and reared a family of four sons and three daughters. One of these sons, B. M. Long, of Cordova, is one of the most prominent and influential men in Walker County, and pays more taxes than any other man in the county.

Five children have been born in Judge Shield's

family, all of whom are girls. Their names are : Nannie P., Lily Lou (now dead), Carrie May, J. Maud, and Johnnie B. The Judge is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Presbyterian Church. His wife is a Methodist.

Milton Shields, the Judge's father, was a son of James Shields, and of Irish descent. He was born in Greene County, Tenn., in 1804, and died in Sevier County, Tenn., December 20, 1866. He owned paper-mills at Marshall's Ferry and at Middlebrook, near Knoxville, and was interested in an iron furnace. He made the writing and printing paper that was used throughout this country fifty or sixty years ago, and shipped it here down the Tennessee River. This paper was at first made by hand, and one sheet moulded at a time.



**FRANKLIN ASBURY GAMBLE.** Director of the Jasper Land Company, is a son of John R. and Jane (Mills) Gamble, and was born September 23, 1830, in Shelby County, this State, near where Calera now stands. His father moved to Walker with his family and goods in a wagon, in 1837. His early advantages were poor, and his education was principally obtained by hard study at home. He left the farm in 1855, and clerked for two years. He was elected Judge of the Probate Court in May, 1859, and March, 1862, was captain of Company F, Twenty-eighth Alabama Regiment Infantry, and served with that regiment in Bragg's campaign through Kentucky. The hardships of the army proved too severe for him. His health failed, and he was sent home in the latter part of that year, and saw no more service in the army.

From 1865 until 1868 he served as County Administrator, and directed the management of a farm. In 1869, he embarked in mercantile business, and followed that for four years. In 1874 he took charge of the *Mountain Eagle*, a weekly paper at Jasper, and edited it until July, 1877, when the *Eagle* office and other buildings, including the Walker County Court-House were burned. Soon after this, Judge Gamble was appointed Judge of the Probate Court by Gov. George S. Houston, an old and warm personal friend of his, and he retained that office by election until November, 1886. During his term of office, he dealt to some extent in real estate, and has continued that business. He was one of the originators of, and a stock-holder and director in, the

Jasper Land Company, and has had much to do with its management from its inception. He also owns and controls large and extensive mining interest in Walker County.

Judge Gamble was first married in November, 1857, to Miss Jerusha A., daughter of Rev. James H. Freeman, who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for about sixty-two years, and was extensively known in Walker, Fayette and Tuscaloosa Counties. By this marriage, the Judge had five children born to him, of whom but one (Lelia J.), is now living. Mrs. Gamble died in April, 1874, and the Judge was again married in April, 1877, to Miss Mary A., daughter of Judge Thomas Owen, one of the pioneers of Tuscaloosa. By the second marriage the Judge had a family of five, of whom two sons only are living: Frank A. and Foster K.

The Judge's father was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for many years, and held some county offices. He was a soldier under General Jackson in the War of 1812, and died in 1863. Judge Gamble's two grandfathers, Robert Gamble and James Mills, were both soldiers in the Revolutionary War, and Robert Gamble was present at the surrender of Cornwallis. He came from Ireland at an early date. James Mills was one of the few survivors of the Continental Army at the battle of Bunker Hill. He was bayoneted in that conflict by a British soldier, knocked into a deep ditch by the blow of the bayonet against the buckle of his sword belt, and left there for dead, as he feigned to be, but his life was saved by the buckle, and when opportunity offered he made his escape. About thirty years after this he met Joseph Crawford, a comrade, messmate and most intimate friend before the battle of Bunker Hill; each one of them having long been confident that the other had been killed in that battle.



**WILLIAM CAPERS ROSAMOND.** Druggist, Jasper, Ala., son of Nathaniel J. and Amy (Powell) Rosamond, was born in Lawrence District, S. C., in 1833, worked on a farm until he was eighteen, when he began the study of medicine at Northport, Ala., and was licensed to practice at Tuscaloosa, this State. He came to Walker County in 1856, and soon attained an extensive practice here. In 1862 he joined the Confederate Army, serving as a private; was appointed Assist-

ant-Surgeon in General Furgeson's brigade, and saw service in Tennessee, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. He was at Shiloh and Vicksburg, and served under Bragg and Johnston in Tennessee.

In 1866 Dr. Rosamond returned to Jasper, and practiced medicine until 1878, when he retired from practice on account of his health. He was soon afterward elected to the State Senate from Walker, Jefferson and Shelby Counties. Since that time he has been engaged in merchandising, and is now a druggist.

Dr. Rosamond was first married, in 1856, to Miss Medora F., daughter of Rev. Jas. H. Freeman, a popular Methodist preacher then living at Tuscaloosa. There were six children born to this union, viz.: Edward P., Willie L., Ethbert C., Franklin K., Hester May and Amy Lee. Mrs. Rosamond died November 15, 1882, and the Doctor contracted his second marriage December 6, 1883, with Miss Henrietta, daughter of David F. Dinsmore, of Laudersville. Mr. Dinsmore was a prominent citizen, and held several county offices in Lawrence County.

Nathaniel J. Rosamond, Dr. Rosamond's father, was of French Huguenot origin. His ancestors came to Virginia about the time of the Edict of Nantes (1598). The Doctor's mother, Amy Powell, was born in Kentucky, and came to South Carolina with her parents, and was married there.

Dr. Rosamond is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the Masonic fraternity.



**GEORGE HOUSTON GUTTERY**, Mayor of the City of Jasper, son of Robert and Sarah (William's) Guttery, was born in Walker County, Ala., in 1818. He was reared on a farm; educated at Jasper and Hollygrove, and farmed until the breaking out of the war, when he went into the army as a member of Company A, Fifty-sixth Alabama Regiment, with Capt. A. J. Guttery, his brother, commanding the company. He served in Forrest's command in Mississippi, and with Johnson's army from Dalton to Atlanta, and in all the battles in which it participated until, and including, Peach Tree Creek.

In 1866, Mr. Guttery came from Hollygrove to Jasper, commenced business as a merchant, and conducted that business until 1874, when he was

elected sheriff of Walker County, and served as such until 1877. In the following year he commenced merchandising again, and continued it until April 20, 1888. The city of Jasper was incorporated December 22, 1887, and Mr. Guttery was elected its first mayor, a position he still holds.

He was married in 1876, to Miss Alice C., daughter of W. L. Stanley, one of the pioneers of Jasper and treasurer of Walker County before and during the war, and has three children, Claude, Pearl and John McQueen.

Mr. Guttery's father, Robert Guttery, was a pioneer preacher of the Primitive Baptist Church, and among the first settlers of Walker County. He came here from Tennessee with his father, William Guttery, at an early day.



**JOHN B. LOLLAR**, son of John A. and Susan (Gillin) Lollar, was born November 30, 1835, near Jasper, Ala., and was reared on a farm at Lost Creek. He went into the Confederate Army as third lieutenant in Company G, Thirteenth Alabama Regiment, Cavalry (Colonel Hewlitt.) This regiment was consolidated with the First Alabama, which was commanded by Colonel Boyle, of Mobile, and for about a year did garrison duty at Columbus, Miss. It afterward served at other places in that State.

After the war Mr. Lollar made corn and cotton for some years on Lost Creek. In 1877 he was elected sheriff of Walker County, and tax collector in 1880. In 1885 he was appointed post-master at Jasper, and in 1886 was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, which position he has held until the present time.

Mr. Lollar was married in 1857 to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Taylor, a prominent citizen of Poplar Cove, N. Ala., and who died in Texas. Mr. Lollar has eight living children, viz.: William R., Fannie E., Meta J., Queen Victoria, Margaret E., Isaac H., Andrew J. and Joe.

John A. Lollar (John B.'s father) came to Walker County at its first settlement, and his father, Hugh Lollar, named the town of Jasper.

Hugh Lollar, Jr., John B.'s oldest brother, was sheriff of Walker County before the war, and is said to have been one of the best officers the county ever had. He was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro.

## CHAMBERS COUNTY.

Population: White, 11,364; colored, 12,076. Area, 610 square miles. Woodland, all. All metamorphic.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 70,934; in corn, 49,306; in oats, 9,358; in wheat, 11,520; in tobacco, 39; in sugar-cane, 211; in sweet potatoes, 1,038.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 20,100.

County Seat—La Fayette: population, 2,000; located on East Alabama Railroad, eighteen miles from Opelika, and eighty-four miles from Montgomery.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Chambers County Democrat and Sun*, both Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Bloomingtondale, Bosworth, Buffalo, Chapel Hill, Cusseta, Fredonia, Happy Land, Hickory Flat, *La Fayette*, Lystra, Milltown, Oakbowery, Osanippa, Sandy Creek, Sharon, Stroud, Tuckersburgh.

Chambers County lies in the eastern portion of the State, and joins the State of Georgia, from which a portion of it is separated by the Coosa River.

The county was created in 1832 from a portion of the lands ceded by the Muscogees at the treaty of Cusseta. It was named in honor of Hon. Henry Chambers, of Madison County, who represented Alabama in the Senate of the United States at the time of his death in 1826.

The area of the county is about 610 square miles. The surface is rolling and hilly, with light soils, having a good sub-soil, though in the county there is a considerable area of bottom lands rendered very fertile by alluvial deposits. The land generally is red, mulatto or gray, the first of which is specially adapted to the culture of grain. The gray lands are best adapted to the production of cotton, while the mulatto lands produce all crops abundantly.

This county is well wooded, and it contains fine forests of red, white, post and Spanish oaks, which grow luxuriantly on the red hill lands. Long-leaf pine is found in limited quantities, but not

sufficiently to be enumerated as one of the factors of material wealth.

Chambers County is well watered, being touched on the southeastern quarter by the Chattahoochee River, while the Tallapoosa cuts off its northwestern corner. Through the center of the county there runs from the northeast to the southeast a ridge, which is the watershed that divides the waters that flow into the Chattahoochee and those that flow into the Tallapoosa. The body of the county is watered by several creeks, tributary to one or the other of these rivers, the principal of which are: Weehadkee, Odlickee, Osanippa, Heolethlochee, Cohelsania and several other minor streams.

The climate of the county is excellent and especially adaptable for fruit culture, which promises to become an important industry. At present it ranks as one of the first counties of the State in the production of peaches. The mineral resources of the county have never been developed, but there is very little doubt that it contains many articles highly valuable. It adjoins the counties of Tallapoosa and Randolph, in both of which gold is known to exist, and by many it is thought that this precious metal will one day be discovered in Chambers. Granite has been found here, as well as a superior article of graphite, both of which might be developed with great profit.

This county is possessed of ample water-power, which is being utilized for running grist- and saw-mills and gins. There are two cotton factories on the Chattahoochee, partly in Chambers and partly in Georgia.

The Western Railroad of Alabama passes through the southern corner of the county, and the East Alabama & Cincinnati Railroad extends to the central portion from Opelika, terminating at Buffalo Wallow.

La Fayette is a pleasant little city. It is located in the central portion of the county, and enjoys an excellent trade. It possesses all the advantages of rail communication, and is the seat of several edu-



educational institutions of a high order. The inhabitants are noted for their refinement and hospitality, and no city of its size in the State can present more attractions as a home.

Churches of the leading Christian denominations are found here.

The other towns, worthy of mention, are Fredonia, Milltown and Cussetta. At the latter place the celebrated treaty was concluded with the Muscogees in 1832, whereby that tribe surrendered a large body of land, the last of its possessions in Alabama, to the General Government.



# COTTON BELT.

## I.

### AUTAUGA COUNTY.

Population: White, 4,760; colored, 8,105. Area, 660 square miles. Woodland, 660 square miles. Gravelly hills, 560 square miles. Calcareous lands, 100 square miles.

Acres—In cotton 30,120; in corn, 20,150; in oats, 2,910; in wheat, 940; in rye, 110; in rice, 37; in sugar-cane, 62; in sweet potatoes, 500.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 7,700.

County Seat—Prattville; population, 1,625; located fifteen miles northwest of Montgomery.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Progress* and *Southern Signal* (both Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Autangaville, Billingsley, Bozeman, Independence, Jones Switch, Kingston, Milton, Mulberry, *Prattville*, Statesville, Vine Hill, Wadsworth.

Prior to 1818 this was a part of the territory of the county of Montgomery. In the fall of that year the Legislature at St. Stephens, assembled, by statutory enactment, created the new county of Autauga. It was named for Autauga Creek, a stream rising among the northern hills of the county, and meandering in a southerly direction, empties into the Alabama river.

The exact significance of the word "Autauga" is not now known. By some it is claimed to have meant "dumpling," an article of food, indicating a land of plenty. By others it is thought to mean "Clear Water." The latter is probably more nearly correct.

The county is bounded on the east, west and north by Elmore, Dallas and Chilton Counties, respectively, and on the south by the Alabama River. Skirting the entire southern line of the county, the Alabama River affords ample trans-

portation for its products to Montgomery, Selma and Mobile. The Louisville & Nashville Railroad crosses the northeast corner of the county, and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia traverses nearly the whole of its western boundary. There are also several other railways contemplated and surveyed, whose routes will penetrate the interior section of the county, and give outlet to the inexhaustible minerals of Bibb, Tuscaloosa, and Walker Counties, and to the magnificent lumber of Autauga and Chilton.

The soils of Autauga County are of every variety. They are the isinglass lands and rich alluvial river bottoms, occasional patches of prairie, sandy surfaces with clay subsoil, rich hummock, and elevated red or brown table-lands. The surface of the county is generally broken and undulating, and yet in that portion bordering on the river, and even in the northern section where the hills predominate, there are extensive level plateaus well adapted to the purpose of agriculture. Indeed some of the most attractive farms to be found in Central Alabama may be seen in this county. In the upper or northern section the soil is comparatively thin, and yet in many of the valleys and creek bottoms there is considerable productiveness, and the people often make good crops of the cereals, besides cotton, and are happy and content. It is in northern Autauga that the tall yellow pine, which is of so much commercial value, towers to perfection; and acres of this valued growth remains to-day in virgin ignorance of the sound of the woodman's axe or saw. In the lower or southern section there are endless kinds of trees, the black, red and white post oaks, hickory,

including shell bark, chestnut, walnut, persimmon, ash, sassafras, dogwood, poplar, gum, cedar, and cypress, with pines interspersed. The procuring of cypress and other valuable timbers for shipment is becoming an industry. The woods and forests at seasonable periods abound in fruits and flowers. There the wild grape and muscadine flourish in the greatest profusion, and when spring comes and touches nature with her verdure the most fragrant and lovely flowers, from the expansive magnolia to the modest violet, regale the senses and laden the air with the sweetest perfume.

The soils of Autauga, under judicious cultivation respond in abundant crops of cotton, corn, peas, potatoes, rye, oats, barley, wheat, chufas, rice, millet, milo-maize, sorghum, and sugar-cane. Perhaps in no section does the scuppernon grape grow in greater profusion in proportion to its cultivation. Pecans are also successfully produced. The gardens and orchards, under proper management, return all vegetables and fruits known to the climate, embracing, in the line of the latter, apples, pears, peaches, grapes, quinces, prunes, dates, plums, pomegranates and figs.

Perhaps no land is more favored with bright, running streams than Autauga. From north to south her territory is traversed with a number of bold and beautiful creeks, whose waters in many instances skirt rich productive bottom lands. Among these may be mentioned Big and Little Mulberry, Ivy, Swift, White Water, Bear, Autauga, Beaver, Pine, Big and Little Mortar. Upon the courses of these streams may be found many eligible locations for

the founding of manufactories and industrial institutions.

This was one of the pioneer counties of the State in manufacturing. Located at Antaugaville are two cotton factories; at Prattville, one cotton factory, one sash, door and blind factory, and one cotton-gin factory. The Prattville Cotton-Gin Manufactory is the largest of the kind in the world. It employs upwards of one hundred men, turns out over one thousand gins annually, and the "Pratt Gin" is known throughout the civilized world. Near Prattville, also, is a cotton factory, and scattered throughout the county is the usual number of grist-mills, shoe and blacksmith shops, public ginneries, etc. In the eastern part of the county is an earthenware establishment, manufacturing jugs, churns, urns and other articles of clay.

Ochre, fire-clays, paints and pigments abound in the county, while many of her magnificent springs are pregnant with healing and health-giving minerals.

Land is worth from one dollar to fifteen dollars per acre, and fine farming land can be had for three dollars per acre. Government land in the county, about 12,000 acres.

Rate of taxation, forty cents on the \$100; county debt, none.

The people are law-abiding, hospitable, industrious and patriotic. The public-school system is but indifferently developed, though popular enough with the masses, and growing in importance. General health of the county, good.



## II.

### CHOCTAW COUNTY.

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Population: White, 7,390; colored, 8,341. Area, 930 square miles; oak and hickory and long leaf pine uplands, 830 square miles; pine hills, 100 square miles.

Acres—In cotton 31,086; in corn, 25,613; in oats, 3,338; in rice, 38; in sugar-cane, 101; in tobacco, 23; in sweet potatoes, 748.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 10,000.

County Seat—Butler; population, 300; forty miles east of Meridian, Miss., near the Tombigbee River.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*The Choctaw Herald* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Aquila, Ararat, Bergamot, Bevill's Store, Bladen Springs, *Butler*, De Sotoville, Fail, Isney, Lenora, Lusk, Melvin, Mount Sterling, Naheola, Pushmataha, Rescueville, Silas, Souwilpa, Tompkinsville, Tuscahoma, Womack Hill, Yantley Creek.

The county was organized December 29, 1847, from territory originally belonging to Washington and Sumter Counties. It is in the western portion of the State, and bounded, north by Sumter, south by Washington, east by Marengo and Clarke, and west by Mississippi.

The lands are rolling and flat. The ridges and pine lands are sandy, but the river and creek "bottoms" are all alluvial. The pine forests are extensive, and can be and are being made a source of great wealth.

Grazing for cattle is in great abundance and first-class in the outlying lands.

The inhabitants are honest, industrious, brave and patriotic, and gladly welcome all good people who may come to make their home with them. There are numerous churches and school-houses scattered throughout the county easy of access.



## III.

### BARBOUR COUNTY.

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Population: White, 13,091; colored, 20,888. Area, 860 square miles. Woodland, all. Oak, hickory and long-leaf pine, 610 square miles; Blue marsh land, 250 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 100,000; in corn, 61,800; in oats, 10,300; in wheat, 150; in rye, 100; in rice, 50; in tobacco, 25; in sugar-cane, 650; in sweet potatoes, 1,300.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, in round numbers, 26,100.

County Seat—Clayton; population, 1,300; lo-

cated seventy-five miles southeast of Montgomery, and at the terminus of the Eufaula & Clayton Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Courier, Democrat*; at Eufaula, *Mail, Times, News*—all Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Batesville, Belcher, Bush, *Clayton*, Clio, Coleridge, Cotton Hill, Cow-ikee, Cox's Mill, Elamville, Eufaula, Harris, Hawkinsville, Howe, Lodi, Louisville, McInness, Mount Andrew, New Topia, Oatston, Pea River,

Reeder's Mill, Star Hill, Tub, White Oak Springs, White Pond.

The county was organized in 1832, and named in honor of Gov. James Barbour, of Virginia. It lies in the eastern portion of the State, and is separated from Georgia by the Chattahoochee River, which forms its entire eastern boundary. Barbour ranks as one of the leading counties in the State.

A line drawn east and west through Barbour County, near the center, will divide it into two parts which are quite dissimilar. The soils on the north of this line are more or less calcareous, those on the south, sandy. The northern half has a substratum of marl and limestone of the upper cretaceous formation, which, acting upon the soil, gives rise to some of the best and safest cotton lands in the State. This portion of the county is drained by the three forks of Cowikee Creek, and is known throughout the county as the Cowikee lands.

The soil is moderately stiff, calcareous clay, with patches of what is known as hog-wallow, which are seldom more than an acre or two in extent. In the immediate vicinity of the streams the soil is much more sandy, but highly productive. The general appearance of these lands is that of a gently undulating, occasionally hilly region, somewhat resembling the prairies of the Rotten Limestone country, but with reddish or light-colored soils. This region, though fertile, is malarious, and is inhabited by comparatively few white families. The negroes, however, appear to endure it very well. There is a peculiar mixture of trees characterizing these lands, viz.: hickory, white and Spanish oaks, sweet and sour gums, and long-leaf pine. The latter appears to be out of place with such surroundings.

The Chattahoochee River forms the eastern boundary of the county, and the bottom lands of this stream are from one to three miles wide, and very productive. Next to these are the second bottoms or hummocks, or pine flats, always safe and easy to cultivate. Bordering upon these are the foot-hills of the pine uplands.

Although the larger part of the surface of this county is occupied by brown loams, with a

growth of oak, hickory, and pine, yet the characteristic agricultural features of Barbour depend upon the blue marls of the Cowikee and other drainage areas of the northern half of the county. A large proportion (more than half) of the cotton crop is produced in the northeastern part of the county, where these marls give character to the soils. There is, perhaps, no part of the State which ranks higher in the production of cotton than the blue marl lands of adjacent parts of Russell, Barbour and Bullock Counties, whose prevailing soils are light, sandy loams, easily worked, possessing a comparatively high percentage of lime, by which they are rendered extraordinarily thrifty.

From the hills in the southwest have been gathered specimens of iron ore. Lime rock prevails in abundance in different portions of Barbour, while specimens of kaolin have been secured. In the town of Louisville is a bed of green marl about twelve or eighteen feet below the surface, and in vast quantities. Repeated experiments by gardeners prove its value.

In the southern portion of the county, four miles above the line of Dale, is a great natural curiosity in the form of a magnificent spring, the dimensions of which are 10x80 feet. Its waters are of a bluish cast and so transparent that the light glows through them. The eye of a fish is distinctly seen in their shining depths. This was once a point of popular resort, but since the destruction of the spacious hotel it has been abandoned as such. The waters of this spring are supposed to possess wonderful curative powers. There issues directly from it a large, bold stream.

Clayton is the county seat, and is a pleasant little village. It is the seat of several excellent institutions of learning.

Eufaula, on the Chattahoochee, is the most important place in Eastern Alabama. It is a city of between six and seven thousand people, and has a promise of an extensive growth in the near future. Eufaula's commercial importance will be greatly increased by the completion of several railroads which are projected. Batesville and Louisville are the other towns of the county.

## IV.

### BULLOCK COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,800; colored, 21,486. Area, 660 square miles. Woodland all, except a few square miles of prairie. Prairie region, 300 square miles (200 of black prairie etc., and 100 hill prairie, or Chummenugga Ridge). Oak and hickory uplands, with long-leaf pine, 360 square miles.

Acres in cotton (approximately), 80,470; in corn, 47,441; in oats, 6,177; in wheat, 111; in rye, 88; in sugar-cane, 429; in rice, 16; in sweet potatoes, 173.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, in round numbers, 22,600.

County Seat—Union Springs; population, 2,200; situated near the center of the county.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Bullock County Reporter* and *Herald* (both Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Aberfoil, Arbor Vite, Bughall, Enon, Fitzpatrick's, Flora, Guerrytown, Hector, Indian Creek, Inverness, James, Midway, Mitchell's Station, Mount Hilliard, Perote, Pine Grove, Postoak, Shopton, Strawberry, Suspension, Thompson, Three Notch, *Union Springs*.

Bullock County, situated in what is known as the Black Belt of Alabama, was formed in 1886 out of parts of the adjacent counties of Macon, Russell, Barbour, Pike and Montgomery.

It took its name from the late Edward C. Bullock, of Barbour County.

The tax valuation of its property in 1887 was about \$3,500,000, with rate for the county of four mills, which is sufficient for current expenses, the county being out of debt.

The county is divided into two nearly equal parts by Chummenugga Ridge, which extends quite through it from the northeast to the southwest.

That portion north and west of the Ridge is known as the prairie district. It is from 100 to 150 feet lower than the ridge, and is for the most part level but sufficiently undulating for

thorough drainage. These lands are chiefly what are known as black and post oak prairie, being of calcareous formation, interspersed in many places with phosphatic nodules, and are very rich. They are best adapted to cotton and corn, which constitute the chief crop, though small grain, potatoes, sugar-cane, and all varieties of vegetables and many fruits grow quite as well.

From a third to half a bale of cotton and twelve to fifteen bushels of corn to the acre, are regarded as about the average yield. Fully one-half of the tillable lands are devoted to cotton. These lands range in price from five to ten dollars per acre, depending upon the amount and character of the improvements.

That portion of the county south of the Ridge is of drift formation, and constitutes what are called the uplands. It is generally elevated, having very nearly the altitude of the Ridge, sloping gently, however, toward the south. This region is composed mostly of what is known as oak and hickory lands, sandy with clay subsoil. They are abundantly watered, and in the main thoroughly well drained, naturally. The head waters of Pea and Conecuh Rivers are in this county; besides there are important tributaries of the Chattahoochee in the eastern, and Tallapoosa River in the western and northern parts of the county.

The lands in the southern part of the county, though less rich than the prairie region, yield, with moderate fertilization, abundant crops of corn and cotton, and in their capacity for vegetables and all kinds of fruits are probably unexcelled in the South. Stock-raising is but recently beginning to receive attention, and promises from the favorable soil and climate for the production of grasses, to equal any of the more favored portions of the State.

Besides several varieties of valuable native grasses, the Japan clover (*Lespedeza*) and Bermuda grass, imported probably through accident,

grow and spread abundantly on all uncultivated lands. Many cultivated grasses as Texas blue grass, Lucerne and Mellilotus grow well.

Much of the original forestry still exists, abounding in all varieties of oak, hickory, ash, elm, beech, poplar, and other varieties of valuable woods.

Manufacturing has hitherto received no very special attention, the county being preëminently an agricultural one, though it is believed that, situated centrally in the cotton belt as it is, the manufacture of this staple might be made very profitable. The altitude at Union Springs is 519 feet above sea-level, being perhaps the highest point on this parallel of latitude anywhere between the Atlantic Ocean and Rocky Mountains. This extraordinary altitude is thought to protect it in some degree from excessive rain-fall, the average from a correctly kept record of seventeen years being only forty-eight inches annually, which was distributed tolerably nearly equally through the four seasons of the year. The southwest winds are most frequently the ones that attend the rains, though seasons of somewhat continuous rains are chiefly brought by the southeast winds.

Gentle breezes from the south Gulf region are very common during the summer months of June and July, setting in late in the afternoon and continuing until midnight, generally rendering the nights sufficiently comfortable for refreshing sleep.

The summer heat, which occurs chiefly in June and July, rarely ascends higher than 90°, nor is this height maintained for very many days. Exceptionally it reaches 94° or 96°, but these periods are of short duration, usually not more than a day or two, before they are broken by refreshing showers.

From carefully kept vital and mortuary statistics, regulated by law, it appears that the white death rate from all causes, per 1,000 of population in 1886, was 11.47, and in 1887 the rate was 10.73 per 1,000.

The prevailing diseases, gleaned from the same source, are malarial fever, dysentery and pneumonia. Among the colored people there is considerable consumption, due probably to their want of proper regard for personal hygiene, but the death

rate from this cause in 1887, in the county, was only 1.1 per 1,000 of population among the whites. In deed, consumption, in any of its forms, is a very rare disease among the whites in this part of the State. In most cases it yields to proper treatment, and, it is known, to our physicians, that many cases, contracted in the North, get well by a kind of self-limitation when moved to the southern part of Alabama.

Union Springs, the county seat, is situated near the center of the county, on Chhunenuggee Ridge, overlooking the immense prairie district to the north, and at the crossing of the Mobile & Girard with the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroads. It has a population of about 2,500. It is beautifully laid off and shaded with numerous oaks and elms. It has several splendid buildings, among which may be mentioned the court house, which cost about \$60,000, and in point of magnificence is second only to the best in the State.

There are four churches, namely, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Episcopalian. There are two very fine schools in successful operation. The Union Springs Female College, chartered by the Legislature in 1866, Prof. H. K. W. Smith, President, with a full corps of teachers, and the Union Springs Seminary, presided over by Prof. J. R. Smith. There is also a street railroad owned by a corporation of the town.

Surrounded by one of the finest agricultural districts of the State, Union Springs has few superiors in a business point of view. Her merchants are thrifty, and many of them in very easy circumstances—a wealth that has for the most part been accumulated by a legitimate business confined to the immediate vicinity.

Midway, the next largest town in the county, with a population of about 500, is situated on the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad, twelve miles southeast of Union Springs. It is noted for its refined society, its excellent schools, the thrift of its merchants and the fertile quality of its agricultural lands.

Enon, Guerryton, Perote, Inverness, Thompson's and Fitzpatrick's are the other smaller towns.

## UNION SPRINGS.

**LEWE SESSIONS, M. D.**, President of the Bullock County Bank, was born March 27, 1825, in Spalding County, Ga. His parents were Frederick and Mary (Kendall) Sessions, who were Georgians by birth.

John Sessions, the grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and by birth a North Carolinian. Frederick Sessions was a farmer, and died when his son Lewe was only two years of age.

Our subject, in consequence of the death of his father, as already noted, was thrown on his own responsibilities early in life. He did not have what would be termed good educational advantages, but made the best use of such opportunities as were offered. He studied medicine at Augusta, Ga., where he graduated from the medical college of that city in 1848. He came to Bullock County, where he practiced his profession for nineteen years, and practiced one year in Bibb County. After the war Dr. Sessions retired from the practice and engaged in the general merchandising business and farming until 1879.

In that year he organized the Bullock County Bank, in company with J. F. Leary. He was made president of it, and still holds that position. The bank is now a chartered State institution. He was one of the organizers, and a stock-holder of the Montgomery State Bank, and also sustains the same relations to the Clayton Banking Company of Barbour County.

Dr. Sessions was married in 1847 to Miss Angeline, daughter of Jonathan and Margaret Musick, of Chambers County, Ala. To their union one child has been born, Stutira. She is the wife of Dr. Benjamin F. Coalman, of Florida.

The first Mrs. Sessions died in May, 1853, and the Doctor was married again in August, 1854, to Miss Carrie, daughter of William H. and Exie (Maddox) Simmons, of Pike County, Ga. To them two children have been born: Don, F. and Bettie. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

**SAMUEL M. HOGAN, M. D.**, was born at Talladega, this State, in 1838. His parents were James

A. and Virginia C. (Tarrant) Hogan, native Kentuckians, and of Scotch-Irish descent. His father was a merchant.

Samuel M. Hogan received his literary education at Talladega, and attended medical lectures at Nashville, Tennessee, in the session of 1856-57. When the war came on, he entered Company F, of the fifty-first Alabama cavalry as a private, was subsequently promoted to the position of surgeon, and was on post and hospital duty until the close of the war.

Returning from the war, Dr. Hogan settled and commenced practicing medicine in Union Springs and in 1853 graduated from the medical department of the University of Louisville, Ky.

Dr. Hogan returned to Union Springs, took up his practice and has since devoted himself untiringly thereto. The result has been that he has won a reputation which extends far beyond the confines of his immediate locality. He is well known all over the South, and favorably known as a physician and surgeon in various portions of the United States. Dr. Hogan's office is one of the best equipped in the way of surgical instruments in the State; he has spent for these alone thousands of dollars. He acts on the wise plan that a physician should always be prepared for any emergency that arises, and it is his motto never to allow a case to pass him for lack of attention. In September, 1887, Dr. Hogan was a member of the International Medical Congress, which met at Washington, D. C. He is a member of the County Medical Society and the State Medical Association; has been President of the former and Councilor in the latter. He is also President of the County Board of Censors.

Dr. Hogan is a permanent member of the American Medical Association.

Our subject was married in 1865, to Miss Sallie T., daughter of Thornton M. and Ann E. (McLamare) Baugh, of Chambers County, Ala. The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

**NATHANIEL M. BLEDSOE**, was born in April, 1835, in Butts County, Ga. His parents were Morton and Mary (Bailey) Bledsoe. His father



was a native of Orange County, Va., and his mother of Oglethorpe County, Ga. The senior Mr. Bledsoe, was a planter. In political affliations, he was an old-line Whig, and took an active part in politics. He died in Butts County, Ga., in 1845.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Jackson, Butts County, Ga., attended the Medical Department of the University of the South, at Nashville, Tenn., in 1855-56-57, and was graduated in the latter year. He began the practice in Macon, now Bullock County, in 1857, and has here been actively engaged in professional work ever since. During the war, he was detailed to remain at home to extend his professional services to his community. Dr. Bledsoe has had a large practice for many years, and may be ranked among the successful physicians of the State.

He has always been remarkably kind to the poor and needy, going night and day to visit them in their sickness and distress, generally extending to them the blessings of his medical skill and the benefactions of his benevolent hand. No doubt he has done more, *gratuitously*, to bless his fellow men around him than any other man of his means in his county.

Dr. Bledsoe has farmed extensively for a number of years. He takes an especial interest in educational matters, and has undoubtedly paid out more money for the education of poor and orphan children than any man in the county. Having no children of his own, he has taken this noble method of extending aid where it was most needed. Among the particularly praiseworthy deeds in this connection, may be mentioned his adoption of an infant child when she was but seven days old, to whom he gave the name of Nellie Lorenæ. She is now grown to woman's estate, and is an accomplished lady, unusually gifted in music and art. Dr. Bledsoe has paid the tuition of some child for the last thirty years, and has selected such as least expected assistance.

In connection with his professional labors, Dr. Bledsoe has carried on the drug business. He belongs to the Bullock County Medical Society, and has been its vice-president. Our subject was married in December, 1857, to Miss Amanda, daughter of James R. Pickett, of Bullock County, Ala. He is a Mason and a member of the Baptist Church.

As a Christian gentleman, he has always been true to the impulses of a warm heart,—ten-

derly affectionate to his brethren, very kind and liberal to his pastor, and ever prompt and active in the discharge of his religious duties. Though, from the very ardor of his nature, may be, he is sometimes a little impetuous, yet, in the honesty of his motives and the purity of his aspirations, Dr. Bledsoe is truly a grand man, abounding in every good word and work.



**JAMES T. NORMAN**, Attorney-at-law, was born January 30, 1830, at Columbus, Ga. His parents were James S. and Leah J. (Marks) Norman. His father was a native of London, England, and his mother a Georgian. The former came to the United States when a boy, and lived in South Carolina two years, afterward came to Georgia, and, in 1854, located permanently in Russell County, Ala. He died in 1871, at Union Springs, Ala.

Our subject received a common-school education; studied law in the office of Thomas & Downing, at Columbus, Ga., was admitted to the bar in 1849, and admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Alabama, in 1857. He came to Union Springs in 1854. He entered the Confederate Army as a lieutenant in the Twenty-third Alabama Infantry; was afterward promoted to the rank of adjutant, which he filled until May, 1863, when he was taken prisoner, and kept two months in the State penitentiary, at Alton, Ill.; was then transferred to prison on Johnson's Island, where he remained until February, 1865, and was patroled a short time before the surrender.

Immediately returning home, Mr. Norman began the practice of law at Union Springs, which he has successfully followed ever since. In 1882, he was elected to the Alabama Senate, and re-elected in 1884. He was married in October, 1851, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Dr. David, and Miriam (Eiland) Dean, of Georgia. To them five children have been born: Miriam, James D., Frederick D., Mary E., and Thomas J. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church.



**ROBERT H. HAYES, M. D.**, Union Springs, was born in May, 1853, in Chambers County, Ala. His parents were Dr. James A. and Anna L.

(Thomas) Hayes, native Georgians. Dr. Hayes, Sr., practiced medicine at Union Springs from 1859 to 1883, and died in the latter year.

Our subject received his elementary education at the common schools, and attended Emory College, at Oxford, Ga., in 1872. He began reading medicine in his father's office in the spring of 1875. In the fall of 1875 and spring of 1876 he attended the Medical Department of Vanderbilt University, at Nashville. In 1878-'9 he attended medical lectures at the St. Louis Medical College, and graduated from there in March of the latter year. He immediately commenced the practice at Union Springs, where he has since been professionally engaged. He is a member of the Bullock County Medical Society and Examining Board; member of and Senior Counselor in the State Medical Association, and Health officer of Bullock County.

Dr. Hayes was married in 1883, to Miss Annie M., daughter of Dr. Robert Williams, of Barbour County. They have two children living: Maud C. and Carrie B.; Geraldine Hunter died at the age of sixteen months.

Dr. Hayes is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**CHARLES H. FRANKLIN, M. D.**, was born in May, 1838, at Albany, Ga. His parents were Talbert H. and Mary (Adams) Franklin, natives of that State. The senior Mr. Franklin was a farmer, and died at Elba, Ala., in 1866.

Charles H. Franklin was an attendant at a boarding school, and received a liberal education; taught school at Elba, this State, two years; attended the medical department of the University of Nashville, Tenn., one year, when the presence of the Federal troops in that city closed the University. In January, 1865, he became a student in the medical department of the University of Louisiana, at New Orleans, and was graduated in 1866. He had practiced medicine awhile prior to taking his last course of lectures. In 1866 he located permanently at Union Springs, and at once entered into a lucrative practice. He has also carried on the drug business since his residence in that town; has devoted much time and attention to agriculture, and, being a most successful fruit raiser, is worthily accounted a true disciple of Pomona.

Dr. Franklin is a member of the Bullock County Medical Society, and has been its president; he

is also counsellor in the State Medical Association, and a member of the State Board of Health.

He was married in 1870, to Miss Sallie, daughter of Jabez B. and Jane (Harvy) Banks, of Russell County, Ala. To this union two children were born, Charles and Lula. Mrs. Franklin died in 1879, and the Doctor afterwards married Miss Lula, a sister of his first wife, and to them five children have been born: John K., Jerome C., James J., Jane, and Higgs B.



**DANIEL M. COLLINS**, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Bullock County, Ala., was born in February, 1848, in the county where he now resides. His parents were Charles B. and Elvira (Culpeper) Collins, who came from Georgia.

Daniel M. Collins received his education at the common schools of Bullock County. After leaving school he went to Montgomery, Ala., where he read law in the office of Governor Watts and Col. Daniel S. Troy, and in 1873, was admitted to the bar. He did not engage in the practice of the law, but taught school and farmed until 186. In 1884 he was Justice of the Peace, and two years later was elected Circuit Court Clerk, and is still filling the position with credit to himself and to the interest of his county.

Mr. Collins was married in 1875 to Miss Sarah E., daughter of Oliver and Martha (Martin) Powell, of Dallas County, Ala., and to them three children have been born: Bertie, Charles M. and Robert Lee.



**FLEMING LAW**, Attorney-at-law, was born in October, 1833, at Sunberry, Liberty County, Ga. His parents were Josiah S. and Ellen S. (Barrett) Law, both Georgians. His father was a minister of the Baptist Church in Georgia for over twenty-five years, and died in October, 1853.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the common schools; read law in the office of Law & Sims, Bainbridge, Ga.; was admitted to the bar in 1853. He was also admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of that State in 1856. He began the practice at Fort Gaines, Ga., which he continued until 1862, when he entered the Confederate Army as a private in Company G, Fifth Georgia Cavalry, and, being subsequently appointed

to a non-commissioned officer, he served in that capacity until the war closed.

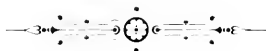
After the war, Fleming Law was farming until 1867; came in that year to Union Springs, and resumed the practice of his profession, to which he has since sedulously devoted his attention. Since coming to Union Springs, he has held the office of County Solicitor for six years, and has also been Mayor of the town. As a lawyer he ranks well at the bar before which he practices.

Mr. Law was married, in 1856, to Miss Caledonia

A., daughter of William P. and Ann A. (Baily) Ford, of Fort Gaines, Ga. They have four children: William F., Callie, DeLacy, and Claud.

Our subject has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for thirty-five years, a steward therein for thirty years, and superintendent of the Sunday-school at Union Springs for ten years.

He was a lay delegate to the General Conference in 1878, 1882 and 1889, and to the Annual Conferences several years.



## V.

### DALLAS COUNTY.

Population: White, 8,425; colored, 40,008. Area, 980 square miles. Woodland and Prairie, 830 square miles. Gravelly hills, with pine, 150 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 115,631; in corn, 46,542; in oats, 8,260; in wheat, 71; in tobacco, 13; in sugar-cane, 18; in sweet potatoes, 2,256.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 40,000.

County Seat—Selma; population, 10,500; situated on the Alabama river, 300 miles from its mouth; center of trade, in cotton, lumber, iron, and coal, at the terminus of the Western Railroad, of Alabama; Selma & Pensacola; also Selma & Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile, and Selma & New Orleans Roads.

Postoffices in the County—Belknap, Berlin, Brown's, Burnsville, Cahaba, Central Mills, Crenshaw, Harrell, Hazen, King's Landing, Marion Junction, Martin's Station, Massillon, Minter, Morrowville, Orrville, Plantersville, Pleasant Hill, Portland, Richmond, Selma, Shields' Mill, Soapstone, Summerfield, Tasso, Terry, Tilden.

Dallas County was organized in 1818, during Alabama's Territorial period, and was named in honor of Hon. A. J. Dallas, of Pennsylvania. Rate of taxation, \$1.05 on the \$100. Bonded debt, for railroad purposes, \$73,000. Floating

debt none. About 144 miles of railroad cross the county in all directions, giving every portion ample shipping and market facilities.

The surface of the country is gently undulating, and in no portion is found barren soils. Along the Alabama and Cahaba Rivers the lands are famous for their depth, strength and fertility, and the second bottoms, or terraces found after the bottoms are passed are level and susceptible of a high state of cultivation. In the northwestern part, pine lands prevail and lumbering is the principal industry. This region is noted for its clear, swift-flowing streams, healthfulness and excellent pine timber, but as the forests disappear it is gradually being converted into an agricultural section, as cotton, corn, potatoes, fruits and vegetables are found to do most excellently there. All of the northern part is elevated and well adapted to general farming and stock-raising. Upon the table lands the soils are red and gray, friable, easily cultivated and very productive. Toward the center sandy lands are encountered, interspersed with flowing streams. These sandy lands are very productive, and by many preferred to either bottom or uplands. In the western portion are found the famous cane-brake lands, which for productiveness and location are unexcelled, while lower down on the western border are found variable soils, and a

great diversity of forest growth and field vegetation.

Dallas produces more cotton than any other of Alabama's sixty-six counties, and its farm products exceed in value those of any other county in the State.

Land is worth from \$2.50 to \$40 per acre, and excellent farming land may be purchased from \$10 to \$15 per acre. Government land, none. Titles are *perfect*, and from the records kept at Selma, a perfect abstract title may be easily obtained.

The educational advantages of Dallas County are among its many attractive features. There are over one hundred public schools in the rural district, white or colored; the latter, while not enjoying educational privileges in common with the former, being, nevertheless well provided for in this direction, and the schools often taught by persons of their own race. Every neighborhood has its school-house and is provided with efficient teachers. Churches are also scattered plentifully throughout the county, and all the principal denominations are represented. Thus it will be seen that the new comer finds all the advantages of civilization, a well-ordered and regulated community, and as intelligent and law abiding a citizenship as that of his Northern and Western home. In the far West all these things must be acquired after many long years of frontier pioneering, full of danger, hardships and privation. It may be true that sectional feelings and strong prejudices against "Yankees" exist in the South, but if such is the case, the writer, who has spent ten years in traveling through every portion of that much-maligned division of this great republic, has failed to discover it. There are "cranks" and fools and ignorant persons in every part of the world, but no greater percentage of this class is found in the South than in the North, or elsewhere in the world, for that matter. No one need be deterred from going to Dallas County for fear of ostracism or unkindness on account of political predilections; because politics are less thought of now than

money making, and every dollar of Northern capital invested in the South (and millions are invested annually) is an unanswerable argument in favor of the desirability, the advantages, resources and glorious future of that grand section, and a lie direct, given to malignant falsifiers of facts, who for political purposes would make it appear that neither Northern men nor northern capital are safe in the South.

Certain it is that great advantages will be found in Dallas County in the shape of fertility of soils, cheapness of lands, abundance of timber, ease of transportation, and the law-abiding disposition of the people. More productive lands cannot be found in the State than in this county, which is the very heart of the South's great cotton belt.

The class of immigrants wanted for the agricultural districts of the State (Alabama) is small farmers who understand our language and customs, men with money enough to pay their fares, purchase their farms and live independent of charity or assistance from the community in which they locate. And to this class every good citizen says, Come and be welcome sharers in the great favors which a bountiful nature has lavished upon our fair State. Compare advantages and resources with those of your Northern or Western homes. We offer you the most fertile lands at prices that will enable you to pay for and improve them; we offer you a climate the most delightful that the mind can conceive of, and water as pure as the earth produces. We have ample and ever-increasing transportation facilities to carry your products to every market in the world, and we offer you good society, religious and educational advantages, a good, wise and economical State, county and municipal government; in short, all the advantages of civilization, and extend the right hand of fellowship, and welcome you most heartily, provided your object is to live among us, and aid in the grand work of developing our resources.

## DENOPIOLIS.

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**GEORGE WASHINGTON TAYLOR**, Attorney-at-law and Solicitor of the First Judicial Circuit, was born January 16, 1849, at Montgomery, and is a son of Edward F. and Anne S. (Trezevant) Taylor, both natives of Columbia, S. C. After his father came to Alabama he was engaged in planting; and at the time of his death he was a Confederate soldier, and died at Montgomery, November 4, 1862.

Our subject was educated at the University of South Carolina, situated at Columbia, which has been a seat of culture and refinement for many years. He was graduated from this institution in June, 1861. Going back somewhat, we find that in November, 1864, he entered the army as a private in Company D, of the First Regiment of South Carolina Cavalry, and served in the capacity of courier till April, 1865, when the war closed.

Immediately after his graduation, as already noted, we find our subject engaged in teaching in Mobile, Ala., which he continued four years, and, having read law in the meantime, he was admitted to the bar in 1871. In the following year he located in Choctaw County, for the practice of his profession. He was a member of the Alabama Legislature from Choctaw during the session of 1878-79, and served on a special committee and was a member of the Judiciary Committee of the House.

In November, 1880, he was elected Solicitor of the First Judicial Circuit, and having come to Demopolis in January, 1883, to live, he was re-elected from there to the same position in 1886. It needs no assurance on our part to satisfy our readers that Mr. Taylor has been eminently successful as a lawyer. If the tree is known by its fruit then, indeed, can we know by the results of his life's work thus far; and should we base the outcome of the future on the past and present, we can say that his life will present a well-rounded and well-won series of events achieved in a useful and noble calling.

Mr. Taylor was married January, 1881, to Miss Margaretta V. T., daughter of E. H. and Mary J. Metcalf, of Montgomery. Their family consists of four children: Mary, Maggie M., Edward and Lucy C.

Mr. Taylor is a member of the Masonic fraternity

of the Knights of Pythias and of the Episcopal Church.



**JOHN R. ROBERTSON**, Banker, was born in Hale County, this State, July 28, 1812, and is a son of Henry C. and Julia O. (Yancey) Robertson, natives of Virginia. The senior Mr. Robertson was a planter, and died in Sumter County, this State, in October, 1879.

John R. Robertson attended the common schools of his immediate locality until twelve years old, and then entered the academy for boys kept by the Rev. W. A. Stickney, at Marion, this State. After completing a course of studies here he went to Texas, and assumed control of a plantation which his father owned, and was there when the war broke out. He enlisted as a private soldier in Company D, Fifth Texas, and was promoted by regular gradation until attaining the rank of major. He gave four years to the cause of the South, and participated in many battles. He was wounded slightly while skirmishing around Richmond in June, 1861.

Returning from the war in 1865, Mr. Robertson spent one year in the "Old Dominion," and returned to Texas, where he engaged at farming for three years. In December, 1869, he came to Demopolis, and engaged in the banking business in partnership with Mr. R. H. Clark. After one year Mr. D. F. Prout bought out Mr. Clark's interest, and the business was continued under the firm name of Prout & Robertson. This commercial institution does a large business, and is rightly regarded as a solid concern.

Mr. Robertson has achieved far more than the ordinary measure of success, and being yet in the prime of manhood, there is no extravagance in asserting that a bright future yet awaits him in his chosen field of life. He is identified with other substantial enterprises, among which may be mentioned the Presidency of the Demopolis Oil Mill Company, and the directorship of the Memphis & Pensacola Railroad, a line now in process of construction.

Mr. Robertson was married in May, 1865, to Miss Virginia, daughter of H. P. and Mary (King) Watson, of Christian County, Ky.

He is a member of the Episcopal Church, one of its wardens, takes an active interest in all its affairs, and was for some years superintendent of the Sunday-school at his home. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**E. H. C. BAILEY.** Physician and Surgeon, was born at Lewisburg, Va., December 14, 1825, and his parents were Edward B. and May C. Bailey, natives, respectively, of Virginia and South Carolina.

The senior Mr. Bailey was a distinguished attorney, and was several years Judge of the Fayetteville Circuit of Virginia. He was an active politician, and in several presidential campaigns was district elector. He died at Demopolis, at the residence of his son, in 1874.

Dr. Bailey was educated at Lewisburg Academy, and entered the Medical Department of the University of Virginia, at Charlottesville, in 1846, graduating June 29, 1848. In the same year he began the practice of his profession at his home, and afterward moved to Kanawha County, W. Va., where he remained until 1852; from thence to Palmyra, Mo., and continued the practice until 1861. Early in this year, he was made Chief Surgeon of the Second Division of the Missouri State Troops, in the service of the Confederate States, and was afterward appointed Surgeon of the Second Regiment, First Brigade, of that State.

In 1862, Dr. Bailey was appointed Medical Purveyor in the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana, in which position he remained until the war closed.

Thus do we see a young man emerging from the halls of his medical instruction, and, by deserving and sterling qualities, winning his way rapidly as an excellent and skillful physician and surgeon, and the crowning glory of his career comes when his ability is thought amply sufficient to entitle him to recognition in such distinguished manner as we have just chronicled; nor does he prove any way lacking in the qualities which go to make up the faithful, worthy, useful and skillful physician and surgeon. How much he did to relieve suffering humanity will never be known to but comparatively the fewest number; but he will be ever held in honest esteem by thousands of people throughout the South.

He came to Demopolis in 1865, and has been in active practice ever since.

Dr. Bailey belongs to the State and County Medical Societies, and has served several years as president of the latter.

He was married in 1851 to Miss Margaret, daughter of John Shrewsbury, of Kanawha County, W. Va. Their union has been blessed with five children—John S., Edward B., Alexander C., Mary Corrie and Robert Augustus. The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church, and the Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**JAMES F. RUFFIN.** Physician and Surgeon, was born December, 1826, in Rockingham County, N. C., and is the son of James H. and Susan (Williamson) Ruffin, natives of Virginia and North Carolina, and of English and Scotch descent, respectively.

James F. Ruffin graduated in the literary course from the University of North Carolina in 1846; three years afterward graduated in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), and at once came to Demopolis to pursue the practice of his profession, where he has ever since been living.

Dr. Ruffin was married in January, 1851, to Miss Rosalie, daughter of Samuel Strudwick, of Marengo County. Her death occurred in 1860, and he was married, the second time, to Miss Ann, a sister of his first wife, in 1864. Dr. Ruffin has one child, Agnes Y.

The Doctor is a Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias.



**GEORGE GAINES LYON.** Attorney-at-law, was born in Washington County, Ala., January 11, 1821. He is a son of James Gaines and Rosa (Fisher) Lyon, natives of North Carolina. His father was a prominent lawyer, and, for several years, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Register in Chancery, in Washington County. In 1827 he went to Mobile; engaged quite extensively in the real estate business and the practice of law, and was for a time Register in Chancery. He was the eldest brother of the Hon. F. S. Lyon, and nephew of the late George S. Gaines, who was one of the

first settlers of Alabama. He remained there until his death in 1843.

Our subject studied law at famous old Yale College Law School. Returning home, he began the practice in the city of Mobile, and after remaining there a short time he removed to Demopolis. He was admitted to the bar in February, 1840, and subsequently admitted to practice before the Supreme Court. Since coming to the bar he has been in the active practice at Demopolis, and has been eminently successful, both professionally and financially.

During the war, Mr. Lyon held the office of Sequestrator, and was, in addition, one of the Commissioners of the Confederate Government. During the administration of Gov. John Gill Shorter, he was the Governor's Aid for West Alabama.

Since the advent of Democratic rule at Washington Mr. Lyon is among those who have been favored, in consequence of his fitness and admirable qualifications for the holding of public office, and was by reason of this and without his solicitation made United States Circuit Court Commissioner. In this position, as elsewhere, he has given every evidence of his capacity for what he has undertaken to do, and Uncle Sam in no wise has reason to regret having thus favored one of his faithful and worthy citizens.

Mr. Lyon, for a man of his position, capacity, fitness, influence and acceptableness to the people, has held very few offices. This has not been owing to that the office was not in reach, but because he has not been of that class of citizens, who are always anxious for political preferment. Among the conspicuous examples which we may cite in support of this fact was his declination of two nominations of the Whig party to run for the legislature, once, for the lower house and once for the senate; and also, of the office of chancellor, in 1868, an office which owing to its dignity, honor and lucrativeness, has always made it a prize eagerly sought after; but he turned aside from

this, preferring, as much greater prizes, the pleasure of domestic life and the success of its professional labors.

Mr. Lyon was married in April, 1850, to Miss Annie G., daughter of Allen and Mary A. (Diven) Glover, one of the leading and best families of Marengo County. To them have been born nine children, of whom James G., Allen G., Norman and Francis S. are all dead. Of the children who grew to maturity may be mentioned: Rosa, afterward Mrs. William T. Rembert, who met a dreadful fate in the burning of the Steamer "Gardner," on the Tombigbee River, in 1887; Susie D., wife of Julius P. Rembert, met the same fate as her sister, at the same time; George C., is now a prominent physician at Pulte Medical College, Cincinnati; Mary G. and Annie G.

Our subject is a member of the F. A. & M., and an active and efficient member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Several years back, when the Grange movement started in the South, Alabama was no exception to the list of Southern States taking hold of the movement, believing it to be for her material good. Mr. Lyon interested himself very much in the movement, and gave it all the aid in his power. In 1875, he was appointed by Gov. George S. Houston, Commissioner of Immigration, and, in connection with it, took an active and aggressive part in the canvass of the southern portion of the State on the subject, which was then absorbing a considerable part of the public attention.

Mr. Lyon's grandmother was a Gaines, sister of the late George Strother Gaines, and General E. P. Gaines, who were among the first settlers of Alabama, at St. Stephen's.

Since the above sketch was written, Mr. Lyon's son, Francis Strother Lyon, died of Bright's disease, January 19, 1888, in the twenty-fourth year of his age. He graduated at the University of Alabama, in 1886, and, at the time of his death, was studying law in his father's office, with fine prospects before him.



## VI.

### ELMORE COUNTY.

Population: White, 8,747; colored, 8,755.

Area, 630 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravely hills, with long-leaf pine, 230 square miles; metamorphic 400 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 31,045; in corn, 20,000; in oats, 5,153; in wheat, 3,883; in rye, 27; in rice, 5; in tobacco, 12; in sugar-cane, 16; in sweet potatoes, 642.

Approximate number of bales of cotton—10,000.

County Seat—Wetumpka; population 1,300; on the Wetumpka branch South & North Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Elmore Express*, *Times* (both Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Bingham, Bayck, Central Institute, Chamahatchee, Colley, Coosada Station, Cotton's Store, Deetsville, Eclectic, Edgewood, Elmore, Good Hope, Irma, Kowaliga, Robinson Springs, Sand Truck, Sykes' Mills, Tallassee, Ware, Weoka, *Wetumpka*.

Elmore County was created out of portions of Coosa, Antauga, Montgomery and Tallapoosa Counties, by an act of the Legislature approved February 15, 1866. The county was named for Gen. John A. Elmore, who was one of the first settlers of Antauga County, and resided in that portion which was embraced in this county. The county is divided into two parts by the Coosa River, and the Tallapoosa, which forms a portion of its eastern boundary, takes a bend and washes its entire southern border.

The surface of the county is generally rolling. The lands vary in appearance, and in the merit of their soils. The gray lands have the predominancy in the county, and vary with the localities. On the Coosa River above Wetumpka, there are found narrow basins of good land, but out from these bottoms there are formed level plains which are generally covered with a sandy soil. On the side of the Coosa River, opposite the town of Wetumpka, there is an extended plain which stretches away to the boundary of Antauga County. The character of the land belonging to this level

stretch of country is a sandy surface with a stiff clay subsoil. This gives to the wagon ways a perpetual firmness, and renders hauling easy. Following along the Tallapoosa one finds a girt of superior lands which are excellent for the production of cotton and corn. Perhaps the best lands are found in the fork of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers. These alluvial bottoms have been steadily planted for many years, and have yielded unceasingly heavy crops of corn and cotton. The planters prize these river lands because of their capacity to produce the snowy staple as well as the staff of life, to-wit, corn, more than any others in the county.

The lands that lie just above those alluded to, and which are above the annual overflow of the rivers, are also superb cotton lands, and are regarded the safest for the production of that staple. Of course, it must not be understood that the production of cotton is confined to these lands. In different parts of the county are brown loam and slaty soils, which yield splendid crops.

Elmore has many magnificent pine forests, and on many of its streams fine saw-mills are erected, which turn out large quantities of fine pine lumber for local use, as well as for shipment to southern and western markets.

The health of the county is unsurpassed, and all portions of it possess drinking water as pure and wholesome as any found in any portion of the world. The climate is equable, and the hills make most desirable residences for those to whom a healthy locality and an abundance of pure water for all purposes is an inducement in selecting a home.

Among the fruits which experience has proven will thrive in Elmore County may be mentioned: pears, apples, figs, peaches and grapes, while strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits yield abundantly.

The timber of the county consists of oak, pine, hickory, beech, walnut, magnolia, dogwood, gum and persimmon.



Yellow ochre has been discovered at several points in the county, and is reported to be of an excellent grade. The county can produce a buhr stone, for millstones, which in service is equal to any ever used, and in crushing corn into meal is superior to many so-called finer varieties. In addition there are deposits of stone which is very durable and useful as a building stone. Gold exists in localities in the county, and has been worked with great profit and satisfaction to those engaged. Large deposits of clay have been found in the county, which is thought valuable for the manufacture of a fine grade of porcelain ware, while some sands of the county have been pronounced to be excellent for making glass.

At Tallassee, on the Tallapoosa River, is the Tallassee Cotton Factory, which was, for many years, the largest mill of that character in the South. The falls in the river at that point furnish immense water-power, which is only slightly utilized. This is but one of the numerous sites favorable to the location of manufactories in the county.

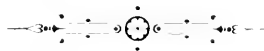
Splendid streams of water ramify the county in all directions. Among these are the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, Shoal, Wewoka, Mill,

Safkahatchee, Hatchee, Chubbee, Corn, and Wallahatchee Creeks. These lesser streams find outlets through either the Coosa or Tallapoosa Rivers.

The points of interest in the county are Wetumpka, the county seat, with a population of 1,500; Tallassee, with about 1,200; and Robinson Springs. Wetumpka has long been noted as the location of the State Penitentiary. Tallassee is famous as a manufacturing center, and Robinson Springs, in former years, was a noted local resort for the *élite* of Montgomery.

The educational advantages of the county are good, as are also facilities for the enjoyment of religious worship. The means of transportation are convenient. The Louisville & Nashville Railroad runs through the county, a branch of which terminates at Wetumpka, while in the eastern end the Western Railroad is sufficiently near to be quite accessible. The Coosa River furnishes another cheap means of transportation to Montgomery and Selma upon the Alabama River, and the cities upon the Southern coast.

Lands may be had from \$1.50 to \$15 per acre in the county. The Government owns 7,320 acres of land subject to entry.



## VII.

### GREENE COUNTY.

Population: White, 3,365; colored, 18,166. Area, 520 square miles. Woodland all, except about twenty-five square miles of prairie.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 63,613; in corn, 31,826; in oats, 2,163; in wheat, 214; in rye, 25; in sugar-cane, 25; in tobacco, 41; in sweet potatoes, 705.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 15,800.

County seat—Eutaw; population 1,100; situated on the Alabama & Great Western Railroad, thirty-five miles from Tuscaloosa, and sixty miles west of Selma.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Mirror*, *Whig* and *Observer* (all Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Boligee, Burton's Hill, Clinton, Dobbs, *Eutaw*, Forkland, Knoxville, Mantua, Mount Hebron, Pleasant Ridge, Tishabee, Union, West Greene.

The county bounded is on the north by the Sipsey River, on the east and southeast by the Warrior River, and on the west and southwest by the Tombigbee River; is situated in the western part of Alabama, and, agriculturally considered, is one of the best counties in the State. Its county

seat, Eutaw, is situated on the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, and three miles west of a steamboat landing on the Warrior River. Its other towns are Forkland, 300 inhabitants, in the southern part of the county, near the junction of the Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers; Boligee, on the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, 300 inhabitants; Mount Hebron, West Greene and Pleasant Ridge, in the western part of the county, near the Tombigbee River, each containing about 150 inhabitants; Knoxville, 200 inhabitants, and Union and Mantua, two small villages in the northern part of the county. The Alabama Great Southern Railroad crosses the county from east to west. The lands lying south of this railroad, with a few exceptions, are what are known as "canebrake lands," and much resemble the prairies of the North and Northwest. They are very productive, an average crop being one-half bale of cotton or thirty bushels of corn per acre. These lands are worth from six to fifteen dollars per acre, according to locality and fertility. North of the river is a small belt of black or canebrake lands, but the main body of the lands lying north of this railroad are either dark red or gray sandy lands. These sandy lands are good for all kinds of farming, and respond generously to judicious fertilizing. They are worth from two to twelve

dollars per acre, according to locality and quality. The principal products of the county are corn, cotton, peas, potatoes, molasses, and vegetables. Large bodies of cane are to be found upon the uncleared lands of this county, which form a splendid winter pasture for stock, and owing to the splendid climate, fertility of soil and abundance of water, and its adaptability to the growth of clover, this county would be a splendid locality for stock raisers. Greene County contains large bodies of virgin timber, consisting of oak, red and white, ash, poplar, cypress, hickory and pine, and the Sipsey, Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers would be splendid places for the lumber mills. Greene County lies seventy miles south of Birmingham, and "truck farming" there would yield good and immediate profits.

Among the great men given to the State by this county are to be mentioned the brilliant advocate, William M. Murphy; the eminent jurist, John Erwin; the well-known Chancellor Clark. These men are now dead. Among the living are to be mentioned Thomas Seay, the present Governor of Alabama, who was born in Greene County, and Thomas W. Coleman, the present efficient Chancellor of the Southwestern Chancery Division of this State. Educational and religious facilities of the county are good.



## EUTAW.

**THOMAS WILKES COLEMAN**, Chancellor, is a son of James C. and Martha (Anderson) Coleman, natives of North and South Carolina, respectively.

Judge Coleman's grandfather, John Coleman, a planter, came from North Carolina to Alabama in 1818, and settled near Eutaw in 1821. James C. Coleman, his son, was also a planter, and, like his father, farmed successfully and on an extensive scale.

Thomas Wilkes Coleman was born at Eutaw in 1833, educated partly at Green Springs, Ala. and graduated in classical course at Princeton, N. J., in 1853. He read law at Eutaw under Stephen F. Hale (for whom Hale

County was named), and was admitted to the bar in 1855.

Mr. Coleman volunteered in the Confederate Army in 1861, raised a company, and became its captain. He was captured at the siege of Vicksburg, and, at the battle of Missionary Ridge, was wounded by a minie ball which passed entirely through his body, destroying his left lung, and incapacitating him for further military duty. He recovered from his wound, however (a fact which seems marvelous to those who know its character and extent), and resumed the practice of law.

Captain Coleman was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1865, and in 1866 he was elected Solicitor for the Fifth Circuit, but was

ousted by the reconstruction performance of 1868. In 1878 he was appointed to the same office for the Seventh Circuit by Gov. R. W. Cobb, and, in 1880, was elected to that office by the Legislature, for a six-years term. In 1886, Captain Coleman was again elected Solicitor for another six-years term, and in March, 1887, he was appointed Chancellor of the Southwestern Chancery Division of Alabama, by Gov. Thomas Seay.

Judge Coleman's life has been a busy one. In politics, he has always been a staunch Democrat. He lost a fortune by the war, but has made for himself a name and a place among his people, which might well be envied by the most fortunate of the land. He was heartily opposed to the idea of secession and war from its earliest inception, but when the issue was made, he threw his entire influence with the cause of his people.

The Judge was married in 1860, to Miss Frances J., daughter of Samuel J. Wilson, and of a family very prominent in their locality and in the Presbyterian Church, and has ten living children, six sons and four daughters. One of the sons, E. W. Coleman, is practicing law in Texas; another, T. W. Coleman, Jr., graduated at the University of Alabama, in 1885, taught school two years, and is now taking a law course at the University of Virginia.

Judge Coleman is a Presbyterian of the old school, and an elder in that church. He is also a Royal-Arch Mason.

**WILLIAM C. OLIVER**, Judge of the Probate Court of Greene County, was born December 12, 1816, in Nottoway County, Va. His father, Isaac Oliver, and his mother, Mary A. G. Oliver, were both of English lineage. His maternal grandfather, Col. Parks Bacon, was a native of Lunenburg County, Va. Asa Oliver, a paternal uncle, was a member for many years of the Virginia Legislature; Charles Oliver, another uncle, resided in Botetourt County, Va., and owned many negroes and a large estate there.

Our subject was reared and educated in Virginia. He clerked in a retail store in Petersburg, until he was twenty years old, and then came to Alabama, settling at Erie, then the county seat of Greene. He there clerked and kept books. From 1840 to 1844, he clerked on the steamboat "Victoria," which ran the Warrior River between Mobile

and Tuscaloosa. During a portion of this time he was tax collector and assessor for Greene County. In 1844, he was deputy-sheriff. He then engaged as a drygoods salesman in Mobile for three years, and was elected sheriff of Greene County in 1850, which office he held three years. He was elected probate judge in 1856, and served until 1868, when he was removed from office under the reconstruction acts. In 1880, he was again elected probate judge, and has held that office ever since.

Judge Oliver was first married in 1842, to Miss Elizabeth Phillips, daughter of W. H. Phillips, of Hillsboro, N. C. She died in 1850, leaving three children, of whom two died in childhood, and Martha Epes grew to maturity and married John P. Gilmer. In 1860, our subject was married, to Miss Lizzie S. Whitehead, of Carroll County, Miss., by whom he had two children, Jeannette, who married W. D. Duncan (a merchant of Eutaw), and William R. Oliver, a teacher at Tuscaloosa.

Judge Oliver is a Free & Accepted Mason.

**WILEY COLEMAN**, Attorney-at-law, was born near Goldsboro, N. C., in 1819, and is a son of John and Rhoda (Cobb) Coleman, natives of the same State. The Coleman family, of whom there is a great number, came originally from England.

John Coleman came from North Carolina with his family, and first settled in Bibb County, Ala., in 1819. From there he removed to Greene County, in 1821, and here lived until his death. He was engaged here, as formerly, in planting; was a good farmer, a good neighbor, and a member of the Baptist Church; owned many slaves and was in many respects a successful man. He ranked among the best people of his part of the State, and left a posterity that has always borne an excellent name for all the better traits of human nature.

Wiley Coleman was educated at Tuscaloosa and La Grange, this State. He graduated in law at the University of Virginia, in the year 1842, and has devoted most of his life to its practice in Eutaw. So far his life has flowed along smoothly and harmoniously, with no more than the ordinary number of exceptions. He was never married.

He was in the Mexican War for a short time; has held few political offices, being one of those

philosophical natures that preferred the quiet satisfaction of a tranquil life to the broils and heart-burnings that invariably fall to the lot of aspirants for public favor.

Mr. Coleman was made Judge of Greene County for one term, in 1846, and represented the county in the Legislature two terms during the war. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention which formed a new Constitution for the State, in 1815.

Being now at the age when men cease, generally speaking, to be troubled with the cares and excitement of life, he is, to use his own expression, taking his ease in the quiet retirement of private life.



**JOSEPH P. MC QUEEN**, Attorney-at-law, was born in Eutaw, June 22, 1854. His father, John McQueen, was born in Robeson County, N. C. When quite a young man he removed into Bennettsville, Marlborough District, S. C., and there practiced law until he was sent to Congress, where he represented his district for thirteen consecutive years prior to the war.

As the name indicates, John McQueen was of Scotch extraction, and was born February 9, 1804. He was in Washington City at a time memorable in American history. This was when the country was on the eve of the great civil strife. As was natural, judging from the part of the country that he came from, he took an active interest in the secession movement, and went out of the Union with his State when the final separation came. He was identified with the first delegation that seceded and became a member of the Confederate States Congress, remaining in that memorable body four years.

John McQueen was a man of abundant means, and, after the war, devoted himself to his extensive agricultural interests. He was married in 1852, to Miss Sarah Pickens, of Eutaw, a daughter of Joseph Pickens, and a granddaughter of Gen. Andrew Pickens, of Revolutionary fame.

Andrew Pickens, a son of General Pickens, was Governor of South Carolina, and his son Francis W. Pickens, was Governor of that State at the breaking out of the war, and made the famous demand of Major Anderson for the surrender of Fort Sumter to the Confederate Government.

The Pickens family are related to that of the great John C. Calhoun.

The subject of this sketch was in South Carolina until sixteen years old, and, upon the death of his father in 1867, came with his mother to Eutaw. After the completion of his scholastic training, he read law with Chancellor Clark and Judge Wiley Coleman, and was admitted to the bar April 15, 1875. He has been practicing law ever since, and with such success as to place him among the best lawyers in his section of the State. He has eschewed political life, and with the exception of representing his county in the Legislature, during the session of 1884-1885, has always remained in private life.

Mr. McQueen was married in December, 1875, to Miss Roberta Kirksey, daughter of Robert B. W. Kirksey, of Marengo County. Three children have been born to this union: Anna, John and Sarah.



**JUDGE & De GRAFFENRIED**, Attorneys-at-law. This firm consists of Hilliard M. Judge and Edward De Graffenried.

An old adage says: "Young men for war and old men for council," but this seems to be a change, wherein the young men are popular as counsel. Mr. Judge is a young man in his "thirties," and Mr. De Graffenried is still younger. This firm has attained a prominence second to none in their vicinage. Mr. Judge is a son of James L. Judge, a pioneer and planter of the olden times. H. M. Judge was Judge of the County Court of Greene, in 1885 and 1886. He has been practicing law about ten years.

Mr. De Graffenried is a scion of an old family and a nephew of Governor Seay. He has been practicing law about seven years.



**HARRY T. HERNDON**, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Greene County, is a son of H. T. Herndon and Sarah (Inge) Herndon, both of whom are native Alabamians.

The senior H. T. Herndon was born at Erie in 1826; received his earlier educational training at or near his home, and finished it by graduation at the University of Alabama in 1844. He was married, in 1846, to Miss Sarah J., daughter of Dr.

Richard Inge, of Fishabee, Ala. There were born to this union, two sons and two daughters. Mr. Herndon died August 11, 1855.

Our subject was born at Forkland, Ala. in 1851, and was reared at Eutaw. Having completed his education, he read law in Mobile with the firm of Smith & Herndon, but never engaged in the practice of his profession, as we find him shortly afterward merchandising in Eutaw, which he followed from 1873 to 1887. In the last named year, he was elected Circuit Clerk (also alderman of the town of Eutaw), by an overwhelming majority. The former position he has held ever since.

Mr. Herndon was married October 28, 1873 to Miss Mary A. Watkins, daughter of Dr. R. E. Watkins and Anna (Oliver) Watkins, both of Eutaw. The latter is a sister of Judge William Oliver. By this union he had two children, only one of whom is living, Anna Mary Herndon. Mrs. Herndon died September 21, 1886.

Mr. Herndon is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the Masonic fraternity.

Although it may be regarded as a digression, still it is highly appropriate to speak of another member of the Herndon family here, who indeed is worthy of the highest esteem among bright and honorable Southern names. We refer to the Hon. Thomas Herndon, for many years a resident in Mobile, and one of the most conspicuous characters identified with the history of the State. He was born at Erie, July 21, 1828, on the banks of the historic Black Warrior.

Thomas H. Herndon was educated partly by Gen. Samuel Houston, partly at LaGrange, and the University of Alabama, where he graduated in 1847. He took the degree of Bachelor of Laws at Harvard University, in 1848. Co-incident with the year of his graduation he was married to Miss Mary Alexander, daughter of Dr. A. F. Alexander, of North Carolina. The youthful couple were aged respectively twenty and sixteen years.

In 1851, he was defeated as the Democratic candidate for the Legislature; in 1853 he moved to Mobile, and in 1857, was sent to the Legislature. When the Secession Convention met at Montgomery in 1860, he was a member of it; nor was he of that class who preferred remaining at home away from danger and duty.

He entered the Confederate Army as major, and rapidly rose to the rank of colonel. Though twice

severely wounded, he faltered not in the performance of duty, nor was he ever known to shirk responsibility. The future recorder of the brave deeds of Alabama sons will rank his name among the very foremost.

In 1872, when the hydra-headed monster of reconstruction was rampant in the South, he was nominated by the Democratic party for governor, but as the time had not come for the State to be rid of her worst foes, the miserable horde of political tramps who weighed upon her as a blighting curse, he was defeated. Future and greater honors awaited him, and he was a member of the 46th, 47th and 48th Congresses, successively, whither he was sent to represent the Mobile District.

His devotion to Alabama was always ardent. He suffered for her and the whole South alike.

The wounds which he received finally cost him his life. While, of course, we say he recovered, it must be remembered that the words are only used in an approximate sense. He came out of the struggle deprived of fortune and health. The one, he retrieved by courageous and persistent effort; to the other he succumbed as to the inevitable. Among other debts, than which there is no greater, that Alabama owes this her most worthy and noble son, is that for the important part he took in ridding her of the worst form of carpet-bag rule, wresting her from adventurers, political thieves, knaves and ignorant negroes, and restoring her once proud name to the intelligent and good people of the Commonwealth.

Colonel Herndon's death occurred in Washington City March 28, 1883. Special proceedings of both the lower and upper houses of Congress were had in his honor on the 12th and 18th of April, 1884. Among the fitting tributes paid his memory none are more worthy of a place in this volume than the words of Mr. Culbertson of Texas: "His name in camp and field was the synonym of all that is heroic in courage, noble in patriotic devotion to duty, magnanimous in victory, or hopeful in defeat. He loved his home, his native State, with more than filial devotion, and served her cause in peace and war with the energy of his tireless nature. When the noble deeds of the sons of Alabama in that great struggle shall be gathered up by the historian, there will be no brighter, purer or lovelier chapter than that which shall record the sacrifices, the unselfish love of home and country, the indomitable courage and fortitude of her gifted son whose

virtues we commemorate, and whose death we now deplore."



**WILLIAM O. MONROE**, was born at Athens, Ga., in 1835, and came to Alabama in 1843 with his parents, who settled at Hinton's Grove, Greene County.

His father was John Monroe, of South Carolina, and his mother Emily, a daughter of John Paschal, of Georgia.

William in all spent about five years at school. He has had an unbroken connection with the press since 1846, barring short intervals which he spent at school.

It was in 1846 that he entered the office of *The Entaw Whig*, where he served an apprenticeship of five years. This journal was founded by Houston and Davis in 1840, but was owned by the former at the time young Monroe's connection with it commenced. In 1859, when he had attained his twenty-fourth year, young Monroe purchased a half interest in the *Whig*. He purchased the *Observer* in 1861, and during the same year it was consolidated with the *Whig*, under the name of the *Entaw Whig and Observer*. The new paper was conducted by Anderson and Monroe, it seems, until after the war.

Mr. Monroe was in the war a short time as lieutenant of cavalry in Clanton's brigade, one of the most noted organizations of its kind that took part in the great civil strife. Owing to ill health he was compelled to give up his command, which he did by resigning.

He continued in copartnership with Anderson in management and conduct of *The Whig and Observer* during the war, and after that he became sole proprietor, a relation he has ever since maintained. This journal is a weekly, Democratic in politics, and has a circulation of 800 subscribers. It is one of the most influential papers of its class in the State, and has always enjoyed a liberal degree of prosperity. Its utterances have, throughout its course, been dictated by honest convictions; its intentions characterized by honesty itself, and its career has been a constant labor to build up the material and highest interests of the county with which it has been identified for so long a time.

W. O. Monroe was married to Jane, a daughter of the Rev. John DuBois, of Greensboro, Ala., in 1866. Rev. DuBois was for half a century a

minister of the gospel. He was the inventor of the famous Du Bois cotton-gin, one of the finest machines of its kind ever made in this country.

There are but two of the children, born to this union, living: Jane and Louise.

Mr. Monroe and family are all members of the church, and he himself is a Royal-Arch Mason.



**WILLIAM T. CALLAHAN**, Editor and Proprietor of the *Entaw Mirror*, is a son of Elias and Sallie (Stockman) Callahan, and was born in Bibb County, this State, August 24, 1852. He spent his early life on the farm, and gave his father very material assistance in all the work incident to that kind of life. At an early age, however, we find him leaving the parental roof, and, to his credit be it said, he educated himself. He first worked with his brother, J. W. Callahan, in the office of the *Elyton Enterprise*, in 1866, where he remained several years. He worked with other journals, at different times, in various parts of the State.

William T. Callahan came to Entaw in June, 1876, and worked in the office of the *Whig and Observer* for nearly three years, and then established the *Entaw Mirror*, April 22, 1879.

Some remarks in reference to this paper will afford an insight into the success achieved by its proprietor. It is an independent Democratic journal, a firm friend of progress and all material advancement, and makes use of every means which will secure these desirable results. Believing that a protective tariff is the best policy, it supports that idea, notwithstanding the fact it is at variance with the views of a majority of those among whom it circulates. All the greater credit, however, is due its proprietor for having the courage to announce his views in such a locality; and that he has achieved success, would seem to indicate that he has, in a great measure, made a new idea popular to his constituents. The *Mirror* has a circulation of one thousand subscribers, or thereabouts, which, taken from a practical standpoint, is very flattering for a country journal and places it far above the average.

In addition to journalistic work, Mr. Callahan does a large job-printing business.

Some years back Mr. Callahan was married to Miss Nannie A. Speed, of Greene County. Their

union has been blessed with one child, a daughter.

Mr. Callahan belongs to the Masonic fraternity.



**FOSTER M. KIRKSEY** is a son of Jehu and Nellie (Foster) Kirksey, natives of North and South Carolina, respectively. His grandfather, John Kirksey, Sr., was a Scotchman, and emigrated to America some time prior to the Revolutionary War, in which he took part. His father came to Alabama in 1804, and settled in what is now Madison County, and engaged at planting. In 1816 he moved to Tuscaloosa; in 1822 to Greene County, this State, and settled at Erie, the county seat, and in 1824, to Greensboro, now the county seat of Hale.

F. M. Kirksey was born at Tuscaloosa, Ala., June 10, 1817. In 1831 we find him at Erie, where he received most of his education. In 1839 he removed to Eutaw, where he has since resided. As an interesting part of his career in the county of his adoption, it may be mentioned that at one time he knew personally every man living within its bounds. He has been engaged in planting and merchandising during his residence in Greene County, in both of which callings he has been successful. He has served the public in different capacities. In 1836 he was Deputy Sheriff of Greene County, and was Sheriff from 1845 to 1848.

Mr. Kirksey was married the first time October 20, 1845, to Jane Merriweather, daughter of Dr. Z. Merriweather, of Greene County, Ala. She died in 1857. All of the children by his first wife are dead. He was married the second time to Margaretta Liston, of Indiana, who was a daughter of Jonathan J. Liston, a prominent lawyer of that State. By his second wife he has four living children, three sons and one daughter: Liston, Robert, Harold, and Margaretta.

The Hon. Stephen E. Hale married Mary E. Kirksey, a sister of our subject. He was a Kentuckian by birth, and came to Erie in 1838 and from there to Eutaw in 1839. He was a lawyer by profession, and served in the State Legislature in 1843. He went to the Mexican war in 1846, and served there two years as a lieutenant. He was again in the Legislature from 1857 to 1859. In all his political acts and affiliations he was a Whig, and in them all proved himself a man of great force. He was Attorney-General of the State in

1861, under the Confederate Government. Afterward he joined the Army of Virginia, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and was killed in one of the battles around Richmond, in 1862, while gallantly leading his command in action. In 1866 the Legislature formed a new county out of a part of Greene and portions of other counties, and named it Hale, in honor of the man who had proved himself a lawyer of ability, a worthy citizen, an intelligent lawmaker and a brave soldier.



**REV. STEPHEN U. SMITH**, Eutaw, is a son of Stephen and Sally A. (Rhodes) Smith, of North Carolina.

On his mother's side he is related to William R. King, for several terms United States Senator from Alabama, and also Vice-President of the United States during the administration of Franklin Pierce. His maternal grandfather, James Rhodes, was for a great while member of the North Carolina Legislature, and a member of State Senate at the time of his death. His maternal great-grandfather, Andrew Bass, was a prominent man in Dobbs County, N. C., in the Revolutionary War, and was a member of the convention which framed the first constitution for the State.

Our subject was born January 2, 1817, in Wayne County, N. C. His first educational training was obtained at his home, and after further preparation elsewhere, he entered the Law department of Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky., from which he graduated in February, 1841. Some time afterward he came to Alabama and was made a deacon of the Episcopal Church, by Bishop Cobb, at Montgomery, February 16, 1833. Prior to this time, he had practiced law. He was ordained to the priesthood of his church in May, 1854. Since that time, he has devoted his life to its service in West Alabama. At one period in his early ministerial career he did missionary work. He occupied the parish at Livingston, Ala., at several different times, and has been in charge of the parish at Eutaw, for thirty years.

Rev. Mr. Smith is a Royal Arch Mason.



**GREENE P. MOBLEY** is a son of Wiley Mobley, of Winnsboro, S. C., and Nancy (Coleman) Mobley.

The Mobleys were originally from Wales, and came to this country with Lord Baltimore, and settled in Maryland.

G. P. Mobley was born in Greene County, Ala., in 1849, and educated at Greene Springs. He went into the army when but thirteen years old, and took part in many battles, among which may be instanced Spanish Fort and the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond, in both of which engagements he was severely wounded.

After the war he taught school to defray the expenses incident to finishing up his own education. Immediately afterward he applied himself

industriously to the study of the law, was admitted to the bar in 1870, and has practiced his profession ever since, at Eutaw. He has the proud consciousness of knowing that he laid the foundation by his own personal efforts for the success which he has achieved in life.

Mr. Mobley has, by industry, attention to the wants of his clients, acquaintance with the demands of his profession, and an accurate knowledge of the law, built up a good and lucrative practice.

He is a member of the fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons.



## VIII.

### LOWNDES COUNTY.

Population: White, 5,645; colored, 25,531. Area, 740 square miles. Woodland, all, except a few square miles of prairie.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 98,200; in corn, 41,169; in oats, 3,630; in sugar-cane, 201; in sweet potatoes, 1,000.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 30,000.

County Seat—Hayneville; population, 500; located 23 miles southwest of Montgomery.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Examiner* (Democratic); *True Citizen* (Independent Democrat).

Postoffices in the County—Benton, Barkville, Braggs, Cathoon, Collirene, Farmersville, Fort Deposit, Gordonsville, *Hayneville*, Letohatchee, Lowndesborough, Morgauville, Mount Willing, Saint Clair, Sandy Ridge, White Hall.

Established in 1830, this county was named in honor of Hon. William Lowndes, of South Carolina. It has long been known for the productiveness of its lands, and is regarded one of the best agricultural districts in the South. Prior to the war the planters of Lowndes made immense fortunes from farming upon its fertile cotton fields. Though in use many years, the lands remain unimpaired in their productiveness. The county needs only the hands of system and diligence to

direct and urge the industries suited to the capabilities of its soil, to place it alongside the most advanced sections of our planting interests. Like all other localities of the famous cotton belt, Lowndes County has shared in the shrinkage of the valuation of lands. This is mainly due to the destruction of an organized labor system consequent upon the emancipation of the slaves. Its lands are well adapted to the employment of improved implements of labor.

The surface of Lowndes is rolling. The whole of the county lies within the prairie belt, still there is a fair proportion of upland soils. Along the table-lands are found sandy loam soils; in the extensive bottoms which prevail along the river and numerous streams are found dark loam soils, while upon the prairies proper, and the flanks of the lime-hills, exist the soils which have a great admixture of lime. While the prevailing surface of Lowndes is rolling, there are many precipitous hills in the southern portion. The presence of lime in the clay makes the roads miry during the wet seasons. This feature, connected with that extreme southwestern portion, has won it the local name of "Little Texas." But this constitutes but a fractional part of this magnificent agricultural region. A feature belonging largely



to the first bottom soils is that they are sandy, but they derive vast benefits from the underlying formations of lime. Here, as elsewhere in the prairie region, there are occasional interventions of sandy knolls, which furnish locations for houses and settlements, and also an abundance of good water.

The main crops grown in Lowndes are cotton, corn, oats, sweet and Irish potatoes, millet and sugar-cane. The black lands are usually devoted to the production of corn, while the sandy lands are employed for raising cotton; but the red lands produce equally well. Many of these lands are well adapted for pasturage purposes. Numerous grasses flourish, some of which are indigenous and others imported. These, together with the varieties of clover and the dense brakes of cane which prevail along the streams and in marshy lowlands, makes this one of the most desirable sections for stock-raising.

This consideration is enhanced by the fact that the winters in this latitude are brief and mild, and stock does not have to be cared for

so tenderly as in sections farther north. Pintala, Big Swamp, Manaek, Cedar and Dry Creeks, with numerous tributaries, flow across the county. It is along these streams that much of the richest land in the county is found.

Scattered throughout Lowndes are broad belts of valuable timber, comprising several varieties of oak, hickory, long- and short-leaf pine, elm, ash, poplar, walnut, sycamore, gum, beech, cedar, mulberry and chestnut. Points of interest are Hayneville, the county seat, with a population of several hundred, Lowndesboro, Benton, Fort Deposit and Letohatchee. Good schools are found in almost all the centers of population, while a common-school system provides educational advantages for all classes.

Transportation is afforded by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, the Montgomery & Selma, and the Alabama River.

Lands may be purchased from \$3 to \$20 per acre.

There are no Government lands in the county.



## IX.

### HALE COUNTY.

Population: White, 5,000; colored, 20,000. Area, 650 square miles. Woodland, all, except some prairie region and gravelly hills.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 70,000; in corn, 43,250; in oats, 3,675; in wheat, 1,430; in rye, 60; in rice, 16; in tobacco, 16; in sweet potatoes, 1,215.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, in round numbers, 20,000.

County Seat—Greensborough; population, 2,100; located on Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Alabama Beacon*, *Watchman* (Democratic); *Southern University Monthly* (Educational).

Postoffices in the County—Akron Junction, Carthage, Cedarville, Dominick, Evans, Five Mile, Gallion, *Greensborough*, Havana, Laneville,

Newbern, Phipps, Powers, Sawyerville, Stewart's Station, Whitsitt.

The above named county was founded in 1867, and was named for Col. Stephen F. Hale. It embraces one of the finest agricultural districts in the South. Productive in soil, healthful in climate, abundantly supplied with superior schools, and with an intelligent, thrifty, and progressive people, the county of Hale, deservedly ranks among the best in the State. The industry of the people is agriculture, with few exceptions.

In the northeast the county is hilly. There is almost every variety of soil to be found in Hale. The southern portion, being a little less than one-half of its territory, is composed almost entirely of black cane-brake land, which has a marvelous fertility. The western and northwestern parts of

the county furnish a variety of lands, some of which are sandy and others red, which gradually shade off into the dark lands composing what is called the second Warrior bottom. Most of this land is of excellent quality, being strong, and some, especially that referred to as second bottom, of superior richness. The bottoms along the Warrior River, which constitutes the western boundary line, with few exceptions, are subject to overflow, and are not regarded as valuable as those higher up and beyond the reach of the water-mark.

Along these lower bottoms there is a terrace of land called second bottoms, which are not exposed to overflow. As has been said, the northeastern part of the country is more or less hilly. It is not cultivated except in isolated tracts; but the thinness of the soil is atoned for by the abundance of yellow or long-leaf pine, which possesses rare value because of its location and its relation to the adjoining domains of rich prairie lands. In the eastern portion there is a commingling of sand and red loam, which makes the lands exceedingly valuable for agricultural purposes.

The staple productions grown in the South are raised in Hale, viz.: cotton, corn, peas and potatoes. Many other elements are produced, as the statistics at the head of this article will show, and every year increases more and more the variety of crops. Rice, sugar and tobacco are gradually receiving more attention. Farms for the production of hay are coming annually more into note,

and there is a corresponding improvement in stock. The principal timbers which stock the forests of Hale are oak, maple, hickory, gum, long- and short-leaf pine, poplar and ash.

The county abounds in excellent streams, which not only will furnish supplies of water for house and farm purposes, but for manufactories as well. Chief among the streams may be mentioned Warrior River, Big Prairie, Little Prairie, German, Big, Brush, Five Mile, Gabriels, and Elliott's Creeks. Together with the abounding springs, these streams afford ample supplies of water.

Late geological surveys have established the fact that there are large deposits of phosphate in Hale County.

Means of transportation are furnished by the Warrior River, the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile, the Alabama, Great Southern & East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads, and Chicago & Gulf Railroad.

The county is throughout supplied with educational advantages.

Agricultural lands may be had for from \$2 to \$30 per acre. Pine lands will cost from \$1.25 to \$5 per acre. These lands are everywhere supplied with streams of water. Artesian wells abound, especially in the southern portion. A desire prevails to have the county populated with thrifty immigrants.

There are about 1,000 acres of Government land in Hale County.

[See Greensborough, this volume.]



## MACON COUNTY.

Population: White, 4,587; colored, 12,786. Area, 630 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravelly hills, with long-leaf pine, 330 square miles; prairie and metamorphic regions, 300 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 56,763; in corn, 23,833; in oats, 6,195; in wheat, 1,916; in rye, 45; in sugar-cane, 140; in sweet potatoes, 928.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 15,000.

County Seat—Tuskegee; population, 2,500; 40 miles from Montgomery.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*News* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Clough's Store, Cotton Valley, Cowles Station, Creek Stand, Dick's Creek, Gabbett, La Place, Notasulga, Shorter's Depot, Society Hill, Swamp, *Tuskegee*, Warrior Stand.

Macon County was formed in 1832, and named for Nathaniel Macon, Esq., of North Carolina. The county has long been noted for the intelligence and thrift of its inhabitants. Prior to the war its centers of interest were abodes of wealth, intelligence and refinement. The county has been gradually rallying from the prostrating influences of the war, and is now assuming its wonted place among the best counties of the State. Its social and material advantages are vast, and, when combined, they furnish the county elements of advancement inferior to none of the agricultural counties of the great Cotton Belt.

The general surface of the county is undulating, except in the northwest, which is inclined to hills; but there are no elevations of note within the territory of Macon. The lands, as a rule, lie quite well for drainage and cultivation. In the northern, northeastern and northwestern portions of the county the soil is of a light, sandy character. Skirting the watercourses it is much more fertile and productive. In the southern, southeastern and southwestern parts of the county the soils are very fine, being a rich loam, with clay, lime, or sand predominating, according to the locality. Usually speaking the bottoms of the

county are very fertile. While Chewacla Creek, for the most part, winds its way through regions of pine, there are to be found bordering it lands of a bluish hue which are very productive. Perhaps the richest lands lie along Big Swamp Creek. Thus it will be seen that a diversity of soils prevails throughout the entire county, and this gives rise to a diversity of crops. Chief among the products of the farm are cotton, corn, potatoes, peas, wheat, oats, rye, millet, rice, sugar-cane and peanuts.

Domestic grasses have as yet received but little attention. Swamp cane grows in rank profusion along the watercourses, and sometimes serves to sustain stock during an entire winter. Fruits are easily grown in the soils of Macon—apples, pears, peaches, grapes, cherries, walnuts, plums, figs, quinces, pomegranates, raspberries, strawberries and melons yield readily in proportion to the attention bestowed upon them. Many wild fruits are found in the old fields, and along the edge of swamps and through the forests. These include blackberries, strawberries, dewberries, muscadines, chestnuts, etc.

Through the swamps the towering oaks yield a vast abundance of mast, which serves to fatten the hogs during the fall and winter, without the owners being subjected to the slightest expense. The county is watered by the Ufoupee, Chewacla, Calabee, Big Swamp, Cupiahatchee and Oakfuskee Creeks. The Tallapoosa River sweeps through the northwestern corner. Many smaller streams exist, furnishing an abundant water supply to all parts of the county. The water from the springs and wells is pure and delightful.

The timbers are oak, hickory, pine, poplar, beech, red elm, gum, magnolia, and maple. The forests are frequently drawn upon for the manufacturing.

There are two railroads which furnish transportation for the products of the county, viz.: the Western Railroad and the Tuskegee Narrow Gauge. These serve to place the county into easy connec-

tion with the great lines which converge both at Montgomery and Atlanta. The towns of importance are Tuskegee, the county seat, Notasulga, and La Place.

Tuskegee has long been famous as an educational seat. Here is located the Alabama Conference Female College, which is an institution of great

merit; and the Alabama High School for boys and young men. At the other places named, are good schools, and indeed in every part of the county are good common schools. Churches exist in towns and country alike, affording facilities for religious worship. The moral tone of the society in Macon County is excellent.



## XI.

### MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Population: White, 15,000; colored, 30,000. Area, 740 square miles. Woodland, all. Level and hilly prairies, of which 75 square miles have a coating of drift, 640 square miles sandy and pebbly hills, with 100 square miles pine.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 112,100; in corn, 62,300; in oats, 4,800; in wheat, 58; in sugar-cane, 174; in sweet potatoes, 1,720.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 32,000.

County Seat—Montgomery; population, 25,000; on Alabama River, 19½ miles northeast of Mobile, at the centering point of six railroads.

Newspapers published at the County Seat—*Advertiser* (Democratic), *Dispatch* (Democratic), *Star*, *Alabama Baptist* (Denominational), *Herald* (Republican), *Odd Fellows' Journal*.

Postoffices in the County—Ada, Arcadia, Baruchias, Catoma, Chambers, Devenport, Hope Hull, Legrand, Mathews, Meadville, *Montgomery*, Mount Carmel, Mount Meigs, Myrtle, Panther, Patterson, Pike Road, Pine Level, Pugh, Raif Branch, Ramer, Snowdon, Stoddard, Strata, Tharin, Woodley.

Montgomery was one of the first counties in the State, being erected by an act of the Legislature of the Territory of Mississippi, bearing date December 6, 1816. Originally this county was formed from Monroe County, and comprised almost the whole of Central Alabama, south of the mountains of Blount County, to the Cahaba River, from the watershed between Tombigbee and Warrior Rivers on the west, to the lands of the Creek

Indians on the east. From the original territory of Montgomery the following counties have been wholly taken: Autauga, Bibb, Dallas and Shelby. St. Clair was formed entirely of the latter county. The following counties were formed in portion from the area of Montgomery directly: Bullock, Elmore, Lowndes and Perry, while other counties have been formed from counties which were constituted out of the territory taken from Montgomery County.

The principal products of the county are cotton and corn. Of late years considerable attention is being paid to the production of oats and grasses, while stock-raising is noted as growing, and the profits in this branch tends to the belief that it will become more general within the next few years. Fruits and early vegetables do well in this county, and largely increasing quantities of the latter are shipped north every year.

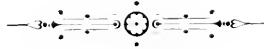
The forests are timbered with oak, hickory, short-leaf pine, poplar, gum, magnolia, beech, hawthorn, wild plum and ash.

The principal streams which water the county are the Alabama and Tallapoosa Rivers, Lime, Ramer, Catoma, Pintlala and other smaller and unimportant creeks.

The county is intersected by the Louisville & Nashville, the Western, the Montgomery & Enfaula, the Selma & Montgomery, the Mobile & Montgomery, and the Montgomery & Florida Railroads. The latter is a narrow-gauge road, which is now being built to the Florida line, through a

very rich portion of Southeast Alabama. The following railroads are projected: the Alabama Midland, the Montgomery, Hayneville and Camden, and the Great Northwestern of Alabama, and the Montgomery & Chattanooga. The subject of building a railroad to connect with the Anniston Road at Sylvauga is being discussed.

The county is well provided with facilities for religious worship, there being in it churches of all denominations. The schools are the equal of any in the South, and in Montgomery the public schools will compare favorably with any similar institutions in the country. [See Montgomery City, this volume.]



## XII.

### MARENGO COUNTY.

Population: White, 7,276; colored, 23,617. Area, 990 square miles. Woodland, all. Prairie oak and hickory uplands, with long-leaf pine and post-oak flat wood.

Acres in cotton 80,790; in corn, 43,876; in oats, 6,574; in sugar-cane, 43; in tobacco, 43; in rice, 26; in sweet potatoes, 1,138.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 24,000.

County Seat—Linden; population, 300; 52 miles southwest of Selma.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Reporter* (Democratic.)

Postoffices in the County—Clay Hill, Dayton, Demopolis, Dixon's Mills, Faunsdale, Gay's Landing, Hampden, Hoboken, Jefferson, *Linden*, Luther's Store, McKinley, Magnolia, Moss, Myrtlewood, Namafalia, Nicholsville, Nixonville, Octago, Old Spring Hill, Putman, Rembert, Shiloh, Sweet Water, Tombigbee, Van Dorn, William-burgh.

This historic county was settled by French immigrants after the fall of Napoleon I., and was organized as a county in the year 1818. It is one of the largest counties of Alabama, containing 990 square miles, or about 615,000 acres. Its soil, for the most part, is fertile, and the uplands offer as great advantages to the agriculturist as can be found in the world, combining, as they do, healthfulness with great productiveness. It has a population of about 30,000, three-fourths of whom are blacks.

The white population is made up largely

of immigrants from the older States, and their descendants, chiefly from the States of Virginia and South Carolina. Throughout its length and breadth the county possesses intelligent, substantial citizens, far above the average of agricultural communities. Prior to the war between the States the people of the upper portion of the county were noted for their wealth, culture and hospitality, and, although impoverished by the war, they yet retain the characteristics of ante-bellum days.

The northern portion of Marengo County is level, or slightly undulating. The soils vary, being partly stiff prairie and partly light, sandy loams. There is prevailing in some parts of this section a post-oak soil, which is heavy, sandy clay, of reddish and yellowish colors.

The county is diversified throughout with hills, plains and fertile valleys. The great stretches of prairie are broken here and there by a line of hills, which overlook vast regions of country or gaze down upon rich valleys. The several soils are black prairie, which belong to the plains; the mulatto soils, which belong to the higher tablelands, and the gray hummock. As is true throughout the counties of the Black Belt, the most valuable of these soils is the black prairie, but all are valuable under different circumstances. Over these lowlands grows the mellilotus, or honey-weed, an excellent forage herb, of which stock of all kinds are exceedingly fond. Oftentimes it grows to the height of six feet, and over-spreads

the bare lime rock. Raisers of stock prize it quite highly for its nutritious qualities.

The cane-brake lands of Marengo are found in the northern end of the county, and extend southward about ten or fifteen miles. These lands have long been proverbial for their marvelous productive qualities.

From about the center southwards the lands become thinner with a sandy surface. About the county occur the "flat woods," which extend with varying width across the country from east to west. The average width is five or six miles. This region of flat woods is slightly undulating, and, because of the waxiness of the soil, is sought by the planter. Upon analysis, the soils of this peculiar section are found to be deficient in lime, though in some portions of it cotton grows remarkably well. Early in the spring the wild clover (*lespedeza*), begins to show itself in this flat woods country, and attains to the height of two or three feet. A finer grazing region was

never seen than this flat woods section, which sweeps without interruption from the Tombigbee to the Alabama River. This wild clover is eagerly sought by all kinds of stock, and lasts from March or April until the coldest periods of winter. Where streams flow across the flat woods they are thickly bordered with luxuriant swamp cane.

Lower down still are the famous Rembert hills, the favorite resort of the planters of the past as a region in which to establish their homes. These high hills overlook the rich valleys which lie along Beaver Creek. Along the last named stream are outcroppings of marl beds, which lend additional richness to the soils. All these lands—the black prairie and the brown loam on the uplands, as well as the light gray—are valuable and productive. The crops usually produced are corn, cotton, peas, sweet potatoes, millet, oats, and sugar-cane. Corn and cotton thrive about equally well upon the different lands.



### XIII.

## PERRY COUNTY.

Population: White, 7,500; colored, 22,591. Area, 790 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravelly hills, with long-leaf pine, 460 square miles. Prairie region, 325 square miles.

Acres—In cotton, 75,303; in corn, 48,132; in oats, 6,003; in wheat, 440; in rye, 70; in rice, 27; in tobacco, 24; in sugar-cane, 20; in sweet potatoes, 1,107.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 22,000.

County Seat—Marion; population, 2,500; located 30 miles northwest of Selma, on Cincinnati, Selma, & Mobile branch of the Western Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Standard*, *Normal Reporter*, *Howard Collegian* and *Judson Echoes*.

Postoffices in County—Augustin, Bush Creek, Chadwick, Cruess, Felix, Hamburgh, Ironville, Jericho, Le Vert, *Marion*, Morgan Springs, Muse-

ville, Oakmulgee, Perryville, Pine Tucky, Scott's Station, Sprott, Talmage, Theo, Uniontown, Vihula.

Perry was created in 1819, and named in honor of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, of the United States Navy.

The county lies between parallels 32° and 33° north latitude, and embraces most of the elevated lands between the Tombigbee and Alabama Rivers. Its maximum elevation is 476 feet, and its minimum 190 feet above sea level.

The face of the country is somewhat broken, though there are no great elevations. The extreme western portion of the country is drained by small streams emptying into the Tombigbee, while the country generally slopes off gently to the east, and its waters shed off into the Cahaba and its tributaries. The highest land is somewhat sandy;

the chief growth is the long-leaf pine. Next comes the prairie, "a gently undulating trough-like plain lying between the drift hills on the north and similar ones on the south."

The northern half of the county has an abundance of freestone water supplied by surface springs and wells; the prairie sections are supplied by pools and artesian wells.

The climate is as mild and salubrious as can be found in the South. Our proximity to the Gulf gives us the benefit of its refreshing breezes. The summers are long, and the days are infrequently very hot, but our nights are cool and pleasant. Sunstroke is very rare.

Mean temperature for fourteen years: spring, 65.3; summer, 80.6; autumn, 65.5; winter, 50.4.

No section on the globe can show a better health record than Perry County. The county occupies the high lands lying between the Alabama and Tombigbee Rivers, and it is almost above the miasma line. In the river bottoms there are more or less of chills and fever in the summer and fall. There is but little pneumonia, and consumption is rare among the whites.

The State tax this year is levied on the basis of  $\frac{5}{8}$  mills, the county on 4 mills. There is a constitutional prohibition against any county levying a tax of more than 5 mills.

County school funds for the year ending September 30, 1886, were \$11,032.

Number of schools: white, 35; colored, 53; total, 88. Average number of teachers: white, 33; colored, 50; total, 83.

Average number of pupils to teacher, 42.

Average monthly pay of teachers, \$30.90

School age, seven to twenty-one years.

Average length of schools, eighty days.

Marion and Uniontown enjoy very superior public schools.

No section enjoys greater advantages than this county in the number and character of its higher educational institutions.

Located at Marion are two institutions of learning that are second to none in the South; Judson Female Institute, founded in 1839, denominational, Baptist; Marion Female Seminary, founded in 1836, non-sectarian.

The prairie comprises about one-third of the county area, or about 170,000 acres.

Sandy lands comprise the balance of the county area. There are no special features that are peculiar to these lands.

Bottom lands lie along the branches, creeks and Cahaba River, and are a superior kind of soil.

The prairie lands can be bought at from \$10 to \$15 per acre; the clay lands from \$8 to \$12 per acre; the sandy lands from \$2 to \$5, and the bottom lands from \$8 to \$12 per acre.

#### TABULAR STATEMENT FOR PERRY COUNTY.

Corn,	average number of lbs. per acre	840
Cotton,	" " " " " "	414
Rye,	" " " " " "	350
Wheat,	" " " " " "	400
Oats,	" " " " " "	450
Barley,	" " " " " "	600
Potatoes,	" " " " " "	4,500
Hay,	" " " " " "	4,000

Average number of pounds per acre, 1,444.

Total value of Perry County's products per acre about \$25.

Corn, rye, barley and oats do well in this county, and with the proper attention as much can be produced as anywhere else on the globe. Wheat usually suffers with rust. Forty years ago these lands produced, on an average, twenty bushels of wheat per acre.

All grasses do well, but especially red clover, meliotts, Johnson grass, Japanese clover and Bermuda.

Sorghum cane can be raised here in the greatest abundance, and if it will pay anywhere to raise it, it will pay nowhere better than here. Sugar-cane pays well on our mulatto lands.

All kinds of vegetables grow here, and of most of them two crops can be made. Two crops of Irish potatoes, or Irish potatoes first and sweet potatoes next, on the same ground.

The county is doing something in stock raising, and the success that has attended the little that has been done, promises to revolutionize the present surroundings.

There are two railroads through the county; the Alabama Central and the Selma & Memphis; the Alabama Grand Trunk, leading from Mobile to Birmingham, is now under construction, and will be completed in about six months. This road will bisect the county from south to north, giving us direct communication with Mobile on the south, and Birmingham, Bessemer, Anniston, Decatur, Sheffield, etc., on the north. In addition to the above, the following roads have been chartered, and will run through the county: Chicago & Gulf Air Line; Baltimore, Birmingham & Gulf; Bessemer & Selma; Selma & Cahaba Val-

ley, and a through trunk line to Pensacola. The Kansas City & Birmingham Railway will also be built through this county to the Gulf. Cahaba River, for all practical purposes, is past navigating.

We have the very best society in this country, and this does not mean aristocracy in any sense.

No section in the Union offers so many inducements to those who are seeking homes in the genial South than Perry County, Ala. With a climate mild and healthy, with the best of soil, and in great variety, with good prices for products and low prices for land and labor; with unsurpassed educational surroundings; with plenty of markets near at hand and good facilities to reach them; with great timber resources; with the best of society; with the greatest iron, limestone and coal beds in the world in the counties joining us on the north; with pure water, purer atmosphere, high and dry, we extend to the northern farmers a most cordial welcome to come and live amongst us, and

reap the great harvest that is ready and waiting for the intelligent and progressive farmer. We say, and it is beyond the possibility of contradiction, that every acre of land in this county will yield enough in crop products to pay for itself in one year. If you have the means to buy our land and sustain yourself for one year, you need have no misgivings on this score. The land will pay for itself in one year, acre for acre, that is cultivated. It will do it now, and if more could be asked of any land it is an unreasonable demand.

Besides many smaller streams, there are the Cahaba River, and the Washington, Legreon, Blue Cat, Brush, Belcher's, Five Mile, Big and Bogue Chitta Creeks in Perry. A bounteous supply of water is furnished from the copious wells which are found in every portion of the county.

The valuation of taxable property in Perry County, for the year 1887, is \$2,977,890, as shown by the abstract of assessment filed with the Auditor.



## UNIONTOWN.

**JOHN C. WELCH**, Mayor of Uniontown, was born September 6, 1845, in Itawamba County, Miss. He is a son of Henry H. and Emily (Patterson) Welch, natives respectively of North Carolina and Georgia. His father throughout his life was a merchant, and died at his home in Mississippi, in 1885.

Our subject attended the common schools at his home, until fifteen years old, and then enlisted in the Confederate service, in that organization known as the Confederate Guards' Artillery, under command of Captain Bradford. He remained in active service throughout the course of the war, and during the time was in a number of severe battles. Returning from the war, he located at Columbus, Miss., in 1865, where he began the jewelry business, and remained there six months. In the early part of 1866, he came to Uniontown, and began the same business, which he has enlarged by adding books and stationery. Mr. Welch has also been closely identified with the city government of Uniontown for a number of years. He was for

more than eleven years a member of the city council, was city treasurer for several years, and served as tax assessor. In March, 1887, he was elected mayor of Uniontown, and has held the office ever since. He possesses many of the traits which would give one standing in any locality, for to the better instincts of the polished Christian gentleman, he adds the tact and adaptiveness of the business man of the world, a combination at once calculated to inspire confidence and esteem. It is needless to say that he has won such a standing among those with whom he has resided for so long a time.

John C. Welch was married in December, 1874, to Miss Carrie, a daughter of Warren DuBose and H. H. Stewart, of Hale County, Ala. Their family consists of four children—John C., Jr., Stewart H., Annie S. and Evelyn.

Our subject is a member of the Masonic Order, a steward in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and secretary of the Sunday-school of Uniontown.



**JOHN MILTON SADLER, M.D.**, Physician and Druggist, was born September 2, 1848, near Rock Hill, in York County, S. C., and is a son of Richard and Mary (Williams) Sadler, who were both natives of York County.

We find our subject attending the common schools in the immediate vicinity of his home until attaining the age of sixteen, when he entered the Confederate Army as orderly sergeant of the South Carolina State troops, but was only in the service three months, owing to the closing of the great struggle.

Immediately after returning home he went to school two years, then engaged in farming three or four years, and afterward went to Bradley County, Ark., and there studied medicine under Dr. J. T. Meek, two years. He then went to the Louisiana University Medical Department, at New Orleans, where he graduated in March, 1873, with the degree of M. D.

Dr. Sadler began the practice in Bradley County, and remained there till 1880, when he came to Uniontown, where he has ever since engaged in the active practice of his profession. His extensive practice would make it needless to affirm that he is ranked well in his profession. Dr. Sadler has also engaged in the drug business since identifying himself with Uniontown, and in this, as in his professional life, he has been successful.

Dr. Sadler was married in February, 1886, to Miss Etta, daughter of William O. and Virginia C. Key. His wife's father is a native of Maryland, and descended from one of the oldest and most highly respected families of that grand old Commonwealth.

Dr. Sadler belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of the County and State Medical Societies. He served as president of the County Society during the year 1887, and has acted as medical examiner for a number of insurance companies.

**JOHN BRADFIELD, M. D.**, was born May 12, 1845, in Rockingham County, N. C., and is a son of Louis and Mary (Farrar) Bradfield, natives, respectively, of Virginia and North Carolina.

The father of our subject was a farmer and carpenter, and, after a long and useful career, died at Uniontown in 1870.

John Bradfield attended Smith's high school in Rockingham County, where he prepared himself

to enter the medical college in Charleston, of which institution he was a graduate in 1875. In that year he began the practice of his profession at Uniontown, where he has had an unbroken professional career of forty-three years, and is beyond doubt the oldest practicing physician in the county, where he has resided so long, and has, perhaps, few equals in the State who can claim as long an experience in any locality as he. It needs no assurance on the writer's part to convince any one that Dr. Bradfield has been uniformly successful as a physician. If such were wanting it could be established from the testimony of hundreds to whom he has skillfully applied the great healing art, and by reason of which he is constantly the recipient of the benedictions of those thus placed under a pleasant obligation.

Dr. Bradfield is a member of the Perry County and Alabama Medical Societies, and has held the office of president of the former and censor of both. He is likewise a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and belongs to the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Bradfield was married in November, 1845, to Miss Emily F., daughter of Dr. Archibald and Frances (Ware) Perkins, of Madison, Ga., and has a family of three sons, all of whom are now successful men of the world and ornaments of the social spheres to which they belong. George H. is a practicing lawyer, John W. a doctor, both residents of Uniontown; and Louis T. a successful business man of Birmingham, Ala.



**GEORGE M. CORCORAN, M.D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Uniontown, was born March 31, 1866, at Black Rock, Baltimore County, Md., and is a son of Christopher and Cynthia (E.) Corcoran, an old and respectable Maryland family. His father is a farmer in that State at this writing (1888).

The subject of this sketch attended the common schools until he was sixteen years old; took private instructions two years, and began the study of medicine at the University of Maryland (Baltimore). During two years of his course he had the advantage of an hospital experience equivalent to actual professional life to such as are inclined to use it and there is no doubt of its application in this manner by young Corcoran. He graduated March 22, 1887, with the degree of M. D.

Dr. Corcoran, shortly after his graduation, came to Uniontown, and entered upon the practice of his profession, and from the beginning has met with signal success. As a skillful practitioner and polished gentleman he is held in high esteem.

The Doctor is a member of the Perry County Medical Society, and the Alabama State Medical Society, and of the American Legion of Honor, of which latter he is the Examining Officer. He is also a member and vestryman of the Protestant Episcopal Church.



**JAMES H. HOUSTON**, Physician and Surgeon, was born in Fredell County, N. C., December 22, 1826, and is a son of James H. and Sarah (Lee) Houston, natives of that State. The two grandfathers of our subject were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. James Kerr, his mother's father, took part in the battle at Ramson's Mills, N. C., and James Houston, his grandfather was commander of a company at that battle, and was severely wounded. He lived to a good old age, to tell of the event to his numerous grandchildren. In the same battle Mrs. Houston's great-grandfather was killed while leading his command as captain. Dr. Eph. Bravard, who wrote the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence of 20th of May, 1775, Charlotte, N. C., was the uncle of his grandmother Houston. Our subject's father was a farmer and merchant, and died in 1826. His widow afterward married Maj. W. Lee Davidson, the son of Gen. Wm. Davidson, who was killed at Cowan's Ford, on February 1, 1781, during the Revolutionary War. They both

lived to a good old age, and died some years ago. James H. Houston, like most other boys, received his preliminary education at his home, but completed it at Davidson College, in his native State. He then studied medicine in the office of Dr. John McClean, in Newton County, N. C., and subsequently entered the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia. In 1848, he began the practice of his profession in his native county, and remained there eight years. In 1856, he came to Uniontown, where he has had an unbroken practice, with the exception of the time spent in the war. Dr. Houston entered the Confederate service as Assistant Surgeon of Beulah Battery, and was stationed part of the time at Savannah, Ga., and maintained his connection with the command until the war was brought to a close. He took part in a number of severe battles, and fortunately escaped unhurt. He returned to Uniontown and immediately resumed his practice, which has been a very successful one. He belongs to the best class of people in the State, and is regarded by his brother physicians as an adornment to the profession which he has followed for so many years with success. He belongs to the State Medical Association and the County Medical Society, and has been officially connected with both.

Dr. Houston has been Superintendent of Education in Perry County, and Postmaster at Uniontown, and, in both positions, discharged the duties devolving upon him with marked credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the people. He was married in 1849, to Miss Mary J., daughter of Absey and Isabella (Falls) Simonton, of Statesville, N. C. They have three children living: Lula, wife of Cleveland Terrel, of Uniontown; Isabella and Robert L.



## XIV.

### PICKENS COUNTY.

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Population: White, 11,000; colored, 11,350. Area, 1,000 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravelly pine hills, 950 square miles; prairie, 50 square miles.

Ceres—In cotton (approximately), 52,651; in corn, 43,104; in oats, 8,053; in wheat, 2,220; in rye, 36; in tobacco, 51; in sugar-cane, 19; in sweet potatoes, 757.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 17,283.

County Seat—Carrollton; population, 349; about 30 miles west of Tuscaloosa, and same distance southeast of Columbus, Miss.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*West Ababamian* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Beard, Benevola, Bethany, Bridgeville, Byars, *Carrollton*, Coal Fire, Dillburgh, Darrow, Franconia, Garden, Gordo, Henry, Koon, Linburgh, Lubbb, McBee, Memphis, Palmetto, Pickensville, Pleasant Grove, Providence, Raleigh, Reform, Sharp, Stafford, Stone, Temple, Vienna.

Pickens County was carved out of Tuscaloosa December 19, 1820, and has preserved nearly its original dimensions, with the addition of two beats on the west side, added in 1832, the township and fractional townships in range 2 having originally belonged to Greene, to which county they were again attached several years ago. It was named in honor of Gen. Andrew Pickens, of South Carolina. Assessed valuation of taxable property in 1887, \$1,181,008. Rate of taxation in county and State, 50 cents on the \$100.

The surface in the northeast is hilly and sandy, with alluvial loam in creek bottoms. The soil increases in fertility in the westerly direction, and the valleys of the Tombigbee and its tributaries, and the prairies in the southwestern part of the county are very rich and productive. Some of the lands have been in continuous cultivation since first the forests were removed, fully fifty ago, and yet they are still very prolific. During all this time, too, no fertilizers have been employed to stay the decline of fertility of the soil.

This only proves what immense harvests would accrue from the cultivation of these lands if they were put to their utmost capacity.

The fruits grown in the county are such as might be expected of a section with so mild a climate. They are apples, peaches, pears, pomegranates, cherries, nectarines, apricots, figs, quinces, grapes, scuppernongs, strawberries and raspberries. The bland climate enables them to ripen rapidly, and to find their way, at an early season, to the market, thereby commanding good prices.

In addition to the above, common fruits—prunes, Japan plums, jujube, Spanish chestnuts, English walnuts, almonds and filberts have been planted to a limited extent, and so far as tried have been successful.

The water supplies of the county are extensive. The Tombigbee and Sipsev Rivers, together with Bogue Chitta, Coal Fire, Lubbb, Blubber, and McBee Creeks, are the principal streams. Besides these, there are numerous sources of water in the abounding springs and wells. Artesian wells exist in some parts of the county, and the water supply is perpetual throughout the year.

In most of the streams there are superb fish, which are easily caught, affording much delight to the sportsman.

The transportation facilities of the county are confined at present to the Tombigbee River, which unites with the Alabama and forms the Mobile River, just above the Gulf City. An important railway line is being constructed between Brunswick, Georgia and Kansas City, Mo., which will pass directly through Pickens County.

Points of interest are: Carrollton, the county seat, Pickensville and Vienna, all of which are towns of much local commercial importance. Valuable schools for males and females are found in all these places; indeed, throughout the county are found valuable educational facilities. Excellent places of worship, which represent the different religious denominations, are also found.

The timbers which are found in the forests of Pickens, embrace the ash, birch, black walnut, cedar, cherry, chestnut, cottonwood, cypress, elm, gum, hickory, maple, mulberry, oak, persimmon, pine, poplar, sycamore and willow.

Many timbers of the highest character are rafted along the Tombigbee to Mobile, where they command a good price. The excellent oaks are admirably adapted to the manufacture of barrel staves, which are made in great quantities and find their way to Mobile.

More than any other county of the cotton belt, perhaps Pickens has tested the virtue of immigration. Earnest, vigorous and thrifty immigrants have purchased land in the county at low figures,

and are contributing in no small degree to the development or the divers resources of the county. Under the auspices of these immigrants, a broom factory has been established near Carrolton. These immigrants have added greater diversity of the crops of the country.

Within the last year or two, the castor bean has been planted with successful results.

Lands may be purchased at prices ranging from \$5 to \$30.

Men of sobriety and thriftiness would be welcome to Pickens, where they would find an orderly and law-abiding community. Pickens County has 6,120 acres of land belonging to the Government.



## XV.

### RUSSELL COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,182; colored, 18,655. Area, 670 square miles. Woodland, all. Gravely hills, with pine and oak uplands, and blue marl.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 81,600; in corn, 34,300; in oats, 9,700; in wheat, 1,000; in rice, 65; in sugar-cane, 196; in sweet potatoes, 1,000.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 20,000.

County Seat—Scale; population, 600; on Mobile & Girard Railroad.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Russell Register* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County: Arahburgh, Crawford, Dexter, Fort Mitchell, Glenville, Hatcherchubbee, Hurtsboro, Jernigan, Lottin, Marvyn, Oswiechee, Scale, Uchee.

The county was established in 1832, and named for Col. Gilbert C. Russell, of Mobile. This is one of the border counties of the State, being separated from Georgia by the Chattahoochee River. It has many valuable tracts of land and a thrifty population.

The general surface of Russell County is undu-

lating, and in some sections broken. It abounds in capital agricultural lands, many of which have been in cultivation for quite a number of years. Its soils differ widely in their character, but are generally quite productive.

Beginning the survey with lands in the eastern part of the county, and those which lie along the western bank of the historic Chattahoochee, we find them to be excellent for farming purposes, the loamy soil having the color of chocolate. These embrace a belt five or six miles in width, when the more elevated table-lands begin. These are covered with a red loam soil, and are considered even more valuable than those which lie in close proximity to the river. Beyond this, still westward, are the hill regions, which have long sustained a reputation for productiveness.

In the hills which adjoin the two Uchee Creeks, limestone is found in inexhaustible quantities and of the finest quality.

Next this comes a range of gravelly hills, which penetrate the county near the center. From this point to the extreme western boundary there is quite a diversity of soil, produced largely by the

numerous streams which ramify this portion of Russell. In this western half may be found rich alluvial bottoms, as well as thin, sandy ridge lands. These lands are peculiarly adapted to the production of corn, cotton, oats, potatoes and sugar-cane, and to all kinds of fruit, including the Lecompte pear which grows in great luxuriance. The uplands are especially adapted to all kinds of grapes and berries.

The bottom lands are usually preferred for cotton. The lands are generally tilled with ease. Every variety of soil may be found in the county, from that of sand to that of the most fertile black prairie and blue marl. The county is highly favored in its dense forests of excellent timber. Both

the short-leaf, and yellow or long-leaf, pine, the white, red, water and blackjack oaks, hickory, gum, beech, dogwood, willow, maple, walnut, cypress and cedar timbers prevail in different sections of Russell. The county has ample supplies of water throughout the entire year. The Chatahoochee River forms the entire eastern boundary of the county, giving a river front of more than fifty miles, while its territory is watered by such streams as Cowicee and Wataula Creeks. These bold streams are fed by numerous tributaries that drain every section of the county. The springs and wells afford abundant supplies, taken in connection with the readiness with which stock may be raised.



## XVI.

### SUMTER COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,451; colored, 23,377. Area, 1,000 square miles. Woodland, all.

Ceres—In cotton, approximately, 80,600; in corn, 51,400; in oats, 2,700; in wheat, 24; in rye, 162; in sugar-cane, 42; in tobacco, 13; in sweet potatoes, 1,056.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 25,000. County Seat—Livingston; population, 1,200; on Alabama & Great Southern Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Journal*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Mamuchee, Belmont, Coatopa, Cuba Station, Curl's Station, Dove, Epes' Station, Gainesville, Gaston, Kinterbish, *Livingston*, McDowell, Ramsey, Rosser, Sherman, Sumterville, Warsaw, York Station.

Sumter County was organized in 1832, and was named for Gen. Thomas Sumter, of South Carolina.

A line running northwest and southeast through Livingston would mark approximately the limit of the prairies which form the upper part of Sumter County down to that line. This part of the county has an average elevation of 150 feet above

tide, and is underlaid throughout with the rotten limestone of the cretaceous formation. This material is directly concerned in the formation of a considerable proportion of the soils, which are in some cases little more than the disintegrated limestone mixed with organic matter. Where this rock forms the surface the country is gently undulating, and the differences in level are very slight. Interspersed, however, throughout this whole cane-brake region, are ridges and hills capped with sand and pebbles of the stratified drift formation. These ridges are occasionally elevated 150 feet and more above the surrounding country, and 250 feet above the river. Their distribution, structure and other circumstances point to the conclusion that they are the remnants of a once universal covering of drift. Where this formation is at the surface, the soils are sandy loams of the usual drift type. These loams, in mingling with the disintegrated limestone give rise to a class of soils known as post-oak or prairie soils.

Southwest of the line above alluded to, and occupying a belt varying in width from five to eight miles, are the so-called flatwoods or post-oak

flatwoods. This division shares with the prairies their gently undulating surface and elevation above tide. It rests, however, upon a bluish, tenacious clay of the lowest tertiary formation. Like the prairies this belt is covered in spots with the sands and other material of the drift, and the varieties of soils thus produced by intermixture are quite numerous. Beyond the flatwoods, in the southwestern part of the county, the sandy and clayey strata of the lignitic group of the tertiary are, as a rule, hidden from view by the overlying beds of sand and pebbles and red loam of a later formation.

This portion of the county presents the usual characters of the drift regions so often previously described. The high, level table-lands which occupy the main water-sheds have a sandy loam soil and red-loam subsoil resting upon sand and pebbles, and these in turn overlie the laminated clays and other beds of the lignitic group. Sometimes the surface is made up of deep beds of sand, as is the case near Gaston. The growth upon these sandy tracts consists mostly of long-leaf pine and blackjack oak. Beds of lignite are exposed in many places throughout this section, and one of these, in a cut along the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, has been on fire for many years. As yet this lignite has not been profitably used as a fuel.

The agricultural relations of Sumter County are similar to the adjoining counties of Mississippi and Alabama, which are situated in the same belt, which is pre-eminently the cotton belt of the State. While the soils of this belt are, perhaps, in the elements of plant-food not much superior to those

of other divisions, they are rendered more thrifty by the usually large percentage of lime.

Livingston is a pretty city, and is the seat of several important institutions of learning. Gainesville, Epps, York and Cuba are the other points of interest.

Transportation lines abound throughout Sumter. The Alabama Great Southern and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads both traverse the county, and cross at York. A railroad is expected soon to unite Gainesville with Narkeeta, Miss. Both the Tombigbee and Noxubee Rivers are navigable. These several lines place the county in readiest communication with the north, west, east and extreme south.

The points of interest in the county are Livingston, the county seat, with a population of 1,200, Gainesville, Epps, York, Cuba, and Warsaw. In most of these places the tone of society is excellent. Educational facilities are good throughout the county.

At Livingston there is a high school for boys and young men, with an able corps of professors. This school will compare favorably with any institution in the State. There is also a normal college for girls. This is a school of great repute, and conducted by educators of State and National reputation.

Lands may be purchased at prices ranging from \$2 to \$12 per acre. Many of these lands embrace beds of marl. This fertilizer is mined in large quantities near Coatopa, and shipped to Meridian, Miss.

Sumter County embraces 3,640 acres of Government land.



## LIVINGSTON.

LIVINGSTON was founded about the year 1833. It is located upon a beautiful sandy plateau, with the black, undulating prairies on the north and east, and the Suwanatchee River on the south and west. Prior to its settlement by the whites it is said to have been an Indian village and a favorite resort for the pastimes of the Red Men. Its groves of green trees, overspreading leagues of

white sand with an occasional patch of grass, were well calculated to lure the wild hunter to rest, the youths in their primitive games of ball, and the dusky lovers of the forest wilds. For many years prior to the civil war, Livingston was a favorite place of residence of the wealthy planters who built handsome houses along its broad, shady streets, while their slaves tilled the prairie planta-

tions in the adjacent regions. Thus the place came to be, even in its earliest days, one of social elegance and refinement.

Upon the organization of the county of Sumter, Livingston became the seat of justice, a distinction which it enjoys to-day. It has a population of about 1,200. It is located upon the Alabama Great Southern Division of the famous Queen & Crescent Line, which extends from Cincinnati to New Orleans. South of Livingston nine miles, at the village of York, the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad system crosses the Alabama Great Southern; and north, at Akron, thirty-five miles distant, the Western Railroad of Alabama forms a junction with the line upon which Livingston is located. Of late years the place has become a watering resort and an educational center. While boring for water with which to supply the town, a saline current was reached, which, upon investigation and analysis, was found to contain wonderful curative properties. Work was begun upon the well on December 13, 1854, and it was not completed until April 1, 1857. It is 1,062 feet deep, and yields about five pints every minute. The water caught at the spout in a clear glass discloses slight effervescent qualities, as the minute bubbles rise to the surface or cleave to the sides of the vessel.

The water is saline in taste and to most persons is slightly unpleasant when it is first drunk, but becomes quite palatable after drinking it a few times. Its temperature is 68 deg. Fahr., and from this does not vary.

The following is an analysis of the water:

FIXED INGREDIENTS.

Silicic Acid and Silicates,.....	(Troy Grs)	1.438
Bi-Carb. of Iron,.....	"	0.204
Bi-Barb. of Magnesia,.....	"	2.320
Bi Carb. of Lime,.....	"	7.140
Perchloride of Iron,.....	"	0.190
Chloride of Magnesium,.....	"	1.829
Chloride of Calcium.....	"	2.983
Chloride of Potassium.....	"	0.325
Chloride of Sodium.....	"	295.435
Strontia.....	"	Trace
Bromide of Sodium,.....	"	0.980
		312.551

Persons resort to the waters from every section of the Union, especially sufferers from dyspepsia and chronic affections of the bowels, and find the waters exceedingly beneficial. Large quantities of the water are also shipped. The well is upon a corner of the public square, which is covered throughout with a carpet of green grass and

shaded by broad-branched water oaks. Within easy distance of the well are spacious hotels and livery stables.

There are located in the town two schools of repute—a boys' high school, and the Alabama Normal Female College. They are liberally patronized not only by the people of Alabama, but by those of the adjacent States. The town sustains two banks.

In the surrounding sections are some of the most fertile agricultural lands to be found in the famous Black Belt. With its social, religious and educational advantages, Livingston is the peer of any town of the same size in the South.



**REV. B. F. RILEY, D. D.**, the subject of this sketch is a native Alabamian. He was born near the village of Pineville, Monroe County, July 16, 1849.

Reared in a country home far in the interior, his early scholastic advantages were meagre. His early years were chiefly spent laboring on his father's farm, with occasional alternations of attendance at a country school. At the age of eighteen he asked permission of his father to leave home, in order that he might secure an education. Going to Starlington, Butler County, he taught a primary school, where he made his first money. In his nineteenth year he went to Erskine College, S. C., and begged that he be taken on trial in the sophomore class. His training had been so defective that he found it difficult to retain his place in the class, but, overcoming all barriers, he pushed through and graduated in 1871.

His original purpose was to prepare for the bar, but this idea he abandoned and chose the ministry instead.

After the completion of his course at Erskine, he entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, then at Greenville, S. C., but his health had been so impaired by the taxation of his strength in his literary course, that he had to give up the prosecution of his theological studies. Returning to Alabama, he engaged in manual labor, in order to recuperate his strength for the further pursuit of his divinity course.

After the lapse of a year or more he entered the Crozer Theological Seminary, near Philadelphia, and returned to Alabama in 1876.

He has served as pastor of the Baptist Churches

at Snow Hill and Opelika, Ala., and Albany, Ga. At present he is pastor at Livingston, Ala. In 1885 he was honored with the title of Doctor of Divinity by the State University.

Dr. Riley's tastes are decidedly literary. He has accumulated an excellent library, and is a regular contributor to some of the leading journals of the country.

He has written two small works—one a local history, the History of Conecuh County, Ala., and the Immigrants' and Capitalists' Guide-Book to Alabama. The latter work was purchased by the State for gratuitous distribution, and is used in the interest of immigration.

Dr. Riley has other works in course of preparation, which will be issued as early as the exactions of his pastoral work will allow.



**REV. JEREMIAH M. BOLAND, A. M.**, is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is a son of David and Mary (Jones) Boland, natives of South Carolina, and of German and English descent, respectively.

Mr. Boland's grandfather came from Germany to South Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War, and participated in that struggle for liberty. His father, David Boland, came to Georgia in 1827, and was a successful farmer in Muscogee County. He reared a family of four daughters and six sons to maturity. Three of his sons became ministers in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Rev. Elijah Boland was for years a member of the Georgia Conference, and died at Rome, Ga., in 1863, while acting as chaplain of a hospital. Rev. Josiah A. Boland is now a member of the North-west Texas Conference. His brother William was in the Mexican War under General Scott, and James F. belonged to a Georgia Regiment during the late civil war and was killed at Gettysburg, while John Boland, an uncle, was a captain in the famous Seminole War in Florida.

Rev. Jeremiah M. Boland was born July 12, 1835, and was brought up at Columbus, Ga. He came to Alabama while in his "teens," and was educated at Summerfield in the male department of Centenary College. He received the degree of A. M. from Hiwassee College, in Tennessee.

In 1859, he joined the Alabama Conference. The first ten years of his itinerant life were spent

in South Alabama: the next decade were spent in North Alabama, during which time he was Presiding Elder on the Huntsville District, and station preacher at Talladega and Tuscaloosa. He was a delegate to the General Conference in 1874 and 1878, from the North Alabama Conference. During his stay in North Alabama, he made a deep impression as an able preacher, a strong writer, and a fine organizer. He was in the Bishop's cabinet which organized the North Alabama Conference in 1870, and stood the peer of any man in it.

He was also one of the leading actors in establishing the "Alabama Christian Advocate," the official organ of the two Alabama Conferences.

Mr. Boland returned to South Alabama at the close of 1878, and has served as presiding elder of the Pensacola, the Union Springs and the Selma Districts. He now has charge of Livingston and Eutaw Stations—his home being at Livingston.

For years Mr. Boland has been a regular correspondent of several leading periodicals of his church, and his articles have been copied in other periodicals, and read by a large number of admiring readers. Some of his articles have been copied into European periodicals. In addition to several good sized pamphlets, he is the author of a 12mo. volume of 331 pages, bearing the title, "*The Problem of Methodism*," which has just been published by the "Southern Methodist Publishing House," at Nashville, Tenn., and of which the Book Editor, Rev. W. P. Harrison, D. D., speaks in very complimentary terms.

The "Irish Correspondent" of the Nashville *Advocate* says:

"Mr. Boland is a fine and vigorous writer. He *thinks*. He is possessed of strong mental grasp and wide intellectual girth. He writes like a Christian philosopher, or rather like an able metaphysician, who is faithful to *the Cross*. I always read his articles with more than ordinary interest, and shall always be right glad to meet him with pen in hand in any walk of literature in which he may please to travel."

Mr. Boland has been married twice. He was married, in 1860, to Miss Sallie E. Pennington, and by her he had four daughters and one son. After her death, in January, 1881, he was married in May, 1882, to Miss Hattie John, daughter of Chancellor John, of Selma, Ala.

Mr. Boland is a Royal Arch-Mason.



**JEREMIAH H. BROWN**, son of an English father and English mother, was born in Darlington District, S. C., in 1800. His father, Samuel Brown, was a minister of the Baptist Church, and a man of great wealth.

J. H. Brown graduated at South Carolina College in 1823 with the highest honors, and soon after studied law and was admitted to the bar, but never practiced the profession because it had no attractions for him, and the management of his interests on his plantations occupied his entire time. At the time of his graduation he found himself ready to start in life with more than sixty field hands and a very large tract of land.

He was married in 1831 to Miss Julia, daughter of Robert Hines, and in the following year came to Alabama, brought his slaves with him, and settled near Sumterville. In his treatment of his slaves, he is said to have been very kind and indulgent. He gave them every Saturday the entire day for their own, and furnished them with good churches and white preachers on Sunday, and saw that they had a reasonable amount of instruction and religious training. His business increased until he found himself the master of more than a thousand slaves, and a plantation of more than eight thousand acres of land in the most fertile portion of Alabama. He was a Baptist, and more devoted to his Church than people ordinarily are, and his enormous wealth gave him opportunity for doing a great deal of good. For many years he donated \$15,000 every year to the missionary cause. He furnished the means to educate forty young men in Howard College for the ministry in his Church. In 1855 he endowed the Brown Theological Chair in Howard College with \$25,000; and his treatment of the poor of his neighborhood was in a similar degree of beneficence. In the Baptist Encyclopædia of 1881, he is called "a princely planter, an intelligent and cultivated gentleman of vast influence, and liberal with his money."

Probably no man in Alabama ever did so much good with money as he. During the war he furnished the means to equip and provide for, perhaps, more than a regiment of soldiers, and after the emancipation, so great was the affection of his slaves, that many of them declared that they had no desire for freedom, but preferred to remain in his service.

Mr. Brown died at the house of his daughter, Mrs. H. S. Lide, February 10, 1868. He left

two sons and one daughter, all of whom are now living. Laura, the elder child, was married in 1853, to Col. H. S. Lide, a successful farmer and aide-de-camp to Governor Shorter during the war, but he resigned that position and took one of more active service in the army. He died in 1859. His widow was married October 5, 1880, to Dr. James G. Forster, of Livingston, where they now reside. She had five children by the first marriage, of whom three are sons and two are daughters. Mrs. Forster is a staunch Baptist.

Dr. Forster was born in Clarke County, Ala., in 1826. He merchandised in his younger days, studied medicine and graduated at the University of Louisiana at New Orleans in 1856, and has practiced medicine ever since. The Doctor was married in 1847 to Miss Eliza M. Gilmore, and had five children by that marriage, two sons and three daughters, one of whom is dead. One of the three daughters is married to Samuel Ruffin, Jr.; one son, W. C. Forster, is practicing medicine in Birmingham, and James M., the youngest, is with a commercial house in Meridian. Dr. Forster is a Methodist, and a Mason.



**WILLIAM R. DeLOACH**, Judge of the Probate Court of Sumter County, was born at the town where he now resides, in the year 1842.

His father was the late Dr. A. B. DeLoach, a native of Tennessee, and his mother was, before marriage, a Miss Roby, of the State of Georgia.

William R. DeLoach finished his educational training at Professor Tatwiler's excellent institution at Greene Springs, Ala., and at the outbreak of the late war promptly enlisted as a private soldier in the Southern Army. As a member of the Army of Virginia, he participated in many hotly contested engagements, and upon his person bears several scars in commemoration of Cold Harbor, Chancellorsville, Antietam, etc.

Late in the war he was transferred to the Western Army, and became a captain in Gen. Forrest's cavalry. At the close of hostilities, he returned to his native place, and was some time afterward elected to the office of Tax Assessor, a position he held for ten consecutive years. In 1880 he was elected to the Probate Judgeship, and re-elected in 1886.

Judge DeLoach is a man of high standing in

the community where his life has been spent. He is a modest, unostentatious, wide-awake, progressive citizen; enjoying the confidence and esteem of the good people among whom he resides. Such is the tribute paid him by one of the best-known citizens of Alabama. In 1867, our subject was married to Susan T. Gibbs, a daughter of the late Charles R. Gibbs, a colonel in the War of 1812.



**REUBEN CHAPMAN**, Attorney-at-law, son of the late Hon. Samuel Chapman, native of Virginia, was born in Madison County, this State, May 25, 1833. The senior Chapman was born in 1791; removed from Virginia to Tennessee in his early manhood, there became State's Attorney General; and, in 1818, came to Alabama, settling in Madison County. He was a member of the first Legislature that assembled after the admission of this State into the Union, and, as he lived till 1863, he was many years the sole survivor of that body. He was thirty years a Judge of *nisi prius* Courts, twelve of the county and eighteen of the circuit.

He removed to Livingston in 1834, and called that place home thereafter, though his last days were spent at the residence of his son-in-law, Gen. E. W. Pettus, at Cahaba. He died October 11, 1863, at the age of seventy-two years. His younger brother, Reuben Chapman, is known in the history of our country as Governor of Alabama and member of the United States Congress. [See Gov. Reuben Chapman, this volume.]

The subject of this sketch received a thorough educational training at some of the best institutions in the country, and studied law under Colonel Wetmore, at Livingston. He was licensed to practice by the Supreme Court in January, 1856, and the year following hung out his shingle at the thriving little village of Carrollton. He was expounding the intricacies of Blackstone, Chitty, and Coke upon Littleton, at this suburban retreat, when the tocsin of war summoned him to the defense of his State. During 1861 and a part of 1862, he was attached to the Army of Virginia as a captain in the Eleventh Alabama Infantry. His health compelling his resignation, he returned home, where he speedily recuperated sufficiently to re-enter the service, which he did as a member of Bradford's Battalion of Scouts. He remained with this command until the close of the war, when he returned to Livingston and resumed the practice

of law. To his profession he has assiduously devoted his time and his talents. Always interested and active in the political advancement of friends, he has sought no preferment in that line for himself.

In March, 1861, at Livingston, Mr. Chapman was married to Miss Rebecca S. Arrington, daughter of Robert Arrington, who came from North Carolina in the early history of the State, and was a member of that numerous and honorable family so well known throughout the South.

Mrs. Chapman died March 1, 1866, leaving two children—a daughter, Alta, at present a popular teacher in Livingston Normal College, and Robert A., now a business man at Sheffield.

Captain Chapman's second wife was Miss Mary C. Scruggs, also of Livingston. They were married July 27, 1870, and their children are Lillie Beck, Reuben, Anna and Lulu.



**REV. W. T. ALLEN**, Rector in charge of the Episcopal Church, was born in Shenandoah Valley, Clarke County, Va., on December 15, 1855. He remained there, living on his father's farm, and attending the neighborhood schools until he was nineteen years of age. In 1874, he taught school in West Virginia, and in 1876 went to the Theological Seminary of Virginia, where he remained two years. While there his health was shattered by typhoid fever, which nearly proved fatal. Being called to teach in the Church School in Seguin, Tex., his health being impaired, he accepted and taught till 1879, studying theology meanwhile, under the principal, Rev. Wallace Carnahan.

In 1879 he was ordained deacon by the late Bishop Elliott, at San Antonio, Tex., and placed in charge of Boerne, Tex., and points adjacent. Having built a neat church in this place, in 1881, he went to the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., and remained two years. In 1883, he took charge of San Marcos, Tex., and other points. While here he was ordained to the priesthood by the late Bishop Elliott. In December, 1884, being called to Eufaula and Livingston, Ala., he accepted the latter, where he has remained up to date, having Boligee and Gainesville, also, under his charge. He was married in December, 1885, to the widow of the late Dr. Pettey and daughter of the late Jesse Weissinger, of Dallas County, Ala.

The great-grandfather of our subject, Col.

Thomas Allen, came from County Armagh, Ireland, and settled in Shenandoah Valley, Va., in 1732. He commanded a regiment in the War of the Revolution, and was presented with a sword by the State for distinguished services. The grandfather of our subject, D. H. Allen, on of Col. Thomas Allen, was a graduate of Princeton College, studied and practiced law for a time, but retired early to his estates, spending his time in making the family residence, Clifton, one of the handsomest in the State. His eldest sister married General Russell, of the Revolution, one of whose daughters married a son of Henry Clay. D. H. Allen married a daughter of Col. Griffin Taylor, whose wife was descended from Laird McKinnon and Lady Anne Maitland, of Scotland. The father of our subject, also named W. T. Allen, graduated at Princeton in 1839. In 1841 he went to the Pacific as Secretary to the Commodore of the Pacific Squadron. In 1849 he married Miss E. Bayly, of Fauquier County, Va., and settled on a farm, relieving the monotony of it by literary and scientific pursuits. One of these was the study of ornithology. He made life-size portraits of 150 species of Virginia birds, which, being submitted to the late Professor Baird, of Smithsonian Institute head of the science in this country—were pronounced by him to be "very spirited drawings and accurate likenesses." He then took up botany, and is now engaged on an "Illustrated Flora of the Shenandoah Valley," for which he has collected, classified and made paintings of 740 species.

The mother of our subject is descended from General Payne, on the one side, and Thomas Greene, brother of Generals Moses and Duff Greene, of the Revolution. Our subject's sister, Emma Allen, married Bushrod Charles Washington, grandson of Charles Washington, brother of George Washington.



**JAMES W. ABERT WRIGHT**, President of the Alabama Normal College for Girls, and co-principal of Livingston Female Academy, was born at Columbus, Miss., July 28, 1834. His father, the Rev. David Wright, of the Presbyterian Church, came to the South from Massachusetts in 1820, as a missionary to the Choctaw Indians in Mississippi, and, in connection with Revs. Kingsbury and Byington, established headquarters at a place called Mayhew, near Starkville, the pres-

ent site of the Agricultural College of that State. He was distinguished as a scholar and educator, and devoted to missionary work. His grammar of the Choctaw language, prepared during that period for use in the mission schools, is the recognized authority to this day. Franklin Academy, Columbus, Miss., one of the first public schools of the South, was organized by him; and his only surviving daughter, Mrs. Laura E. Egar, presides over the female department at this writing (March, 1888).

Rev. David Wright was many years pastor of the Presbyterian church at Columbus, and there died in 1810, leaving behind him a record that will endure so long as Christian people shall live.

His mother, *née* Eliza Abert, was a native of Virginia, her father, John Abert, born in Marseilles, France, having come with the French army, under La Fayette and Count Rochambeau, in 1781, to aid in our War for Independence. Mrs. Wright was a sister of Col. John J. Abert, of Washington City, who was for many years at the head of the Topographical Engineers of the United States Army; also, of Col. Charles H. Abert, of the Confederate Army, a prominent citizen of Columbus, Miss.

Major James W. A. Wright became associate Principal of Alabama Normal College for Girls, in September, 1886, and in December following was elected to the position he now fills with distinguished ability in the consolidated institutions.

He began teaching as an assistant to Professor Henry Tutwiler, at Greene Springs, in 1854, and at the end of one year entered Princeton College, New Jersey, and graduated therefrom in 1857, as valedictorian of his class.

Returning to Greene Springs, he associated himself with Professor Tutwiler and devoted his time thereafter, for several years, to teaching in that popular institution.

In May, 1862, Professor Wright raised a company of infantry (Company H), and with it joined the Thirty-sixth Alabama Regiment. Through the many terrible engagements in which this regiment participated, Captain Wright led this company, and during the last year of service, frequently commanded his regiment. He left the service at the final surrender with the rank of major.

Company H, that mustered 150 men at the outset, answered the last roll call at Meridian, Miss., with six names. The rest were mustered into the mighty army of the dead, had been dis-

charged for physical disability, or languished yet in Northern prisons. They had fought at Chickamanga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta and through all of Hood's campaigns up to April 9, 1865, at Spanish Fort, in the final defense of Mobile.

At Missionary Ridge, Captain Wright was severely wounded, and fell into the hands of the enemy. As prisoner of war, he was taken first to Nashville, and from there to Camp Chase, Columbus, Ohio. While in transit from Camp Chase, destined to Fort Delaware, he jumped from the train and made his escape, reaching home finally by way of Philadelphia, New York, Canada, the Bermuda Islands, and Wilmington, N. C.

For three years after the war, he was Associate Principal with Professor Tutwiler at Greene Springs.

In August, 1859, Prof. Wright married Miss Margaret, the accomplished daughter and eldest child of Professor Tutwiler, at Greene Springs. Of the seven children born to them, three are living: Ruffin A., teacher at Livingston Academy, while Julius T. and Henry T., are students thereat. Three died in infancy. Their only daughter, Willie, a brilliant and accomplished young lady, graduate of the Normal College, Livingston, died in August, 1883, at Greene Springs. Professor Wright belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and is prominently identified with the Presbyterian Church, having been ordained as elder in 1867, in Concord Church, Hale County.

In 1868, he removed to California, and there for fifteen years followed farming and insurance business, diversifying his labors in the meantime with journalistic work, and in the advancement of the interest of the State Grange, of which organization he was the first Master, and afterward lecturer.

In 1883, he returned to Alabama, and again became co-principal in Greene Spring School with Professor Tutwiler, in which position he remained until the death of the latter.

In his life-studies and life-work, Prof. Wright has been especially devoted to the Physical Sciences.



**DEVEREUX HOPKINS**, Register in Chancery, is by birth a North Carolinian. In 1835, at the

age of twenty-two, he came into Greene County, and began farming. He was educated at Raleigh, N. C., and there began the battle of life as a clerk. His father, Wm. W. Hopkins, was many years a merchant at Smithfield, that State, and there died when our subject was only five months old. The maiden name of his mother was Sarah Boone, daughter of Joseph Boone, of North Carolina, a relative of the famous Daniel Boone, of Kentucky.

Ten years after her husband's death, Mrs. Hopkins married Thomas Cobbs, of Raleigh. Chancellor Cobbs, of the Northwest Chancery Division, this State, and James Cobbs, many years Circuit Judge of the Mobile District, are half-brothers of Mr. D. Hopkins.

In 1836, D. Hopkins removed from Greene County to Mobile, and there embarked in the commission business with Hinton & Horton.

In 1838, he married Miss Elizabeth W. Ryan, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Ryan, of the Baptist Church, and the same year returned to Central Alabama, and settled in Sumter County, where he resumed cotton planting upon a pretty extensive scale.

In 1846 he held his first public office, that of sheriff; in 1851 he was a member of the lower house of the Legislature, as a Whig; and in 1868 removed to California, residing some years at Stockton, serving the people part of the time as justice of the peace and police judge. In 1880 he returned to this State, and was soon afterward appointed Register in Chancery.

Mrs. Hopkins died March 2, 1884. Of the ten children born to them six are now living. The eldest son, Wm. W., was a member of Hampton's brigade during the late war, and is now employed professionally as an expert accountant. A daughter, Sarah E., was the wife of the brave Capt. Abner L. Gaines, who lost his life at Shiloh. Mrs. Abner L. Gaines subsequently married Captain Lake, also an old soldier, now of Mobile. Another daughter, Miss Kate Hopkins, is now the efficient postmistress at Livingston. Anna married Dr. Wm. M. Bryant, of Clarke County; Florence is now Mrs. Addison G. Smith, of Livingston, Ala., and Miss Julia, the youngest, has not left the paternal roof.

Mr. Hopkins is now in his seventy-fifth year. It is more than a half century since he first came into Alabama. Here he has lived past the average years of man, and here will his presence be more

missed and mourned than average men when, in the fulness of the Maker's own good time, he shall be gathered unto his fathers.



**THOMAS MORRISON TARTT** was born in North Carolina April 1, 1821. He was adopted by an uncle, whose name was the same as his own, and was reared by him from the age of ten. He received his education at Philadelphia and Columbus, Ohio. While still quite young, his uncle placed him in charge of a farm, near Gainesville, Ala., but he had no taste for farming, and soon entered a commission house at Mobile—Tartt, Stewart & Co.,—of which his uncle was the head. Here he developed the remarkable traits of his character which afterward made him so successful as a merchant. In 1866 he was married to

Annie Maria Jones, near Sumterville, and they, in 1867, moved to Livingston, where Mr. Tartt went into business as a merchant, and continued it until his death. As a business man, Mr. Tartt's life was particularly worthy of attention.

He sailed through the hard times of 1873. The commercial crash carried down hundreds of the leading merchants of that country, but he was one of the few who came out unharmed. He succeeded in accumulating a fortune, where others could secure but a competency, and was one of the men who could successfully compete with the "Sheeney" system of advancing, now in vogue in that country.

Mr. Tartt was a public-spirited, philanthropic citizen, and as such was highly esteemed by the community in which he lived. He died in Livingston in 1885. His wife was reared by an uncle, the Rev. D. P. Bestor, a Baptist minister of this State, who was quite prominent in his day.



## XVII.

### WILCOX COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,911; colored, 25,000. Area, 960 square miles. Woodland, all. Oak and hickory uplands with long-leaf pine, 600; central prairie and flatwood, 360 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 77,000; in corn, 40,053; in oats, 7,011; in sugar-cane, 251; in rice, 14; in tobacco, 15; in sweet potatoes, 1,597.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 28,201.

County Seat—Camden; population, 1,500; near Alabama River, 40 miles southwest of Selma.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Home Ruler* and *Wilcox Progress* (both Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Allenton, Awin, Bethel, Black's Bluff, Boiling Springs, Calcedonia, Camden, Canton Bend, Clifton, Dumas' Store, Fatama, Furman, Geesbend, Lower Peach Tree, Pine Apple, Pine Hill, Prairie Bluff, Rehoboth, Rosebud, Rowell, Sedan, Snow Hill, Yellow Bluff.

This county derives its name from Lieut. Joseph M. Wilcox. It was created as early as 1819, and has steadily maintained a reputation as one of the leading agricultural counties of the State. It is highly favored both with respect to the character of its lands and the abundant supplies of water. Most of its lands, and especially its most tillable soils, lie well for cultivation.

The timbers of the county are long and short-leaf pine, the different varieties of oak, hickory, ash, elm, poplar, cedar, mulberry, beech, magnolia, sycamore and walnut. Some of the most splendid specimens of timber found in Southern forests can be obtained in Wilcox. Perhaps no county surpasses it in the abundance of its cedar growth.

There is also quite a quantity of excellent cypress timber. When this is removed and the land upon which it grows is thoroughly

drained, it has been found to equal any other in its capacity of production.

Lands may be purchased in the county at prices ranging from \$2 to \$25, depending, of course, upon the locality and the fertility.

So eager are the people to have thrifty and energetic settlers locate in their midst, that they are willing to offer extraordinary inducements in the sale of lands and homes. There are 3,380 acres of Government land in Wilcox County still untaken.







*J. C. Richardson*



# TIMBER BELT.

## I.

### BUTLER COUNTY.

Population: White, 40,920, colored, 8,000. Area, 800 square miles. Woodland, all. Oak and hickory uplands, 330 square miles. Pine uplands, 100 square miles. Hill-prairie and lime-hills, 50 square miles.

Aeres—In cotton (approximately), 35,900; in corn, 21,548; in oats, 7,494; in sugar-cane, 338; in rice, 17; in sweet potatoes, 679.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 12,000. County Seat—Greenville; population, 3,000; on Mobile & Montgomery Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Advocate* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Bolling, Butler Springs, Dudham, Forest Home, Garland, Georgiana, Glasgow, *Greenville*, Lamont, Manningham, Monterey, Oaky Streak, Pigeon Creek, Pontus, Rivville, Searcy, Shell, Sim's Mill, Starlington, Toluca, Urbanity.

The county of Butler was established in 1819. It derived its name from one of the earliest settlers, Captain William Butler.

There is a great diversity of soil and a corresponding variety of productions in the county. Its

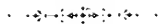
climate, health, location and resources give promise that it will become one of the leading counties of this great timber section.

In different sections of Butler County there are splendid forests of timber, comprising the several varieties of oak, pine, ash, gum, cedar, poplar, hickory, dogwood, maple, beech, and magnolia. Of the yellow, or long-leaf, pine there are vast districts, and the timber is equal to that of any other section of this belt.

In the northern or prairie region of Butler there are belts of cedar growth as fine as can be obtained in the Union.

Those desiring lands may secure them in many localities at nominal figures. The present market price extends from \$1.50 to \$10 per acre. There are in the county 13,160 acres of public land subject to homestead entry. In addition to this there are 7,000 acres of railroad land, which can be purchased at \$1.25 per acre.

Pleasant and cheap homes are here afforded those desiring to settle. The people are industrious, thrifty and quiet, and immigrants will be well received.



### GREENVILLE.

**JULIUS C. RICHARDSON**, a prominent lawyer, son of the Rev. Simon Peter and Mary E. (Arledge) Richardson, was born on the Island of Key West, Fla., April 18, 1851, and was educated

at Auburn College, Sumnerfield Institute, and the Southern University, at Greensboro, Ala.

From 1870 to 1872 he gave his time to teaching. In the latter year he entered the law department

of the Cumberland University, at Lebanon, Tenn., and graduated therefrom, as Bachelor of Laws, in 1873. In January, 1874, he located at Greenville, where he at once entered upon a successful practice in his chosen profession and where he, at this writing (1888), is recognized as standing at the head of the Butler County bar. His practice is general, and extends largely throughout Central and Southern Alabama.

He was elected to the State Senate in 1886-87, where, as a member of the joint committee of the House and Senate on the revision of the code of Alabama, he rendered much valuable service and proved himself entirely familiar with the needs and purposes of the undertaking, and was identified with the principal legislation of the session. Another writer very justly describes him as a man of "quick and acute perception, possessed of a mind thoroughly trained and organized for the law which he loves for its own sake. . . . He is a most brilliant conversationalist, an extensive miscellaneous reader, an eloquent speaker and writer, and possessed of much dignity of character." In an article devoted to the Senator, the *Montgomery Advertiser* says of him: "He is a source of pride and pleasure to his friends throughout the State. As a public man he has always been upright, honest and true, and his ability to fill the honorable position to which he has been called by the people of his district, is unquestioned and unquestionable."

Mr. Richardson diversifies the duties of professional life to some extent by turning his attention occasionally to fruit culture, in which he has achieved decided success. Within his well-cultivated fields devoted to the purpose, he produces some remarkable results in horticulture and viticulture: his varieties of grapes are probably the finest in the State.

A sort of modern ethics that seems to prevail in the treatment of popular living men in publications of this character confines us at times too much to a bare recital of well-known facts, leaving no room for the play of imagination or the display of any pyrotechnics in the eulogy of the worthiest of men. Thus, in the present instance, the publishers find themselves reduced to the presentation of the outlines of one of Alabama's most promising young men. As a mark of distinction and as a means of testifying to the high esteem in which Julius C. Richardson is held, the publishers take pleasure in prefacing this sketch with a hand-

some and life-like steel-plate portrait of that gentleman.

Mr. Richardson was married in November, 1874, at Greenville, to Miss Bettie McCall, the accomplished daughter of D. T. McCall, Esq., of that place, and has had born to him two children: Terry M. and Mack.



**ZELL GASTON**, Attorney-at-law, Greenville, of the firm of Carmichel & Gaston, was born in Butler County, this State, June 21, 1863, and is a son of Lucius C. and Amanda J. Gaston, natives, respectively, of the States of Georgia and Florida.

Mr. Gaston attended the common schools of his neighborhood until about sixteen years of age, at which time he entered the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn, where he remained four years. From the Agricultural and Mechanical College he entered the Alabama University, and from there graduated as Bachelor of Arts, class of 1884. Returning to Greenville, he accepted the principalship of the public schools, and taught therein for the two succeeding years. He read law in the office of the Hon. J. C. Richardson, of this city, was admitted to the bar in February, 1886, and entered at once into a partnership with John C. Carmichel, in the practice of law.

Mr. Gaston is now, and has been for some time, County Superintendent of Education; he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Knights and Ladies of Honor and of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He was married January 26, 1887, to Miss Lelia Dulin, daughter of Adam B. Dulin, Esq., of this place.



**ROBERT E. STEINER**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Greenville, was born in Butler County, this State, May 9, 1862, and is a son of Joseph and Matilda M. (Camp) Steiner, of this place.

From the age of five years to twenty-two, the subject of this sketch was almost continuously at school. He graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the State University (Alabama) when sixteen years of age, and, two years later, received from the same institution the degree of Master of Arts. In 1884 he graduated from the Law Department of Harvard University as a LL. B.; returned at once to Greenville and, associated with the Hon. John K. Henry, entered at once upon the

practice of law. Judge Henry died in 1886, and Mr. Steiner formed a partnership, as at present, with the Hon. J. C. Richardson. In 1886, he was elected to the Legislature and was made chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, in which he performed much valuable service. Mr. Steiner has always taken much interest in State Military matters, and is at this writing holding the commission of major of the Second Regiment Alabama Troops.

He is a member of the order of Knight of Pythias, of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He devotes much of his time to church work, and in 1881, as lay delegate, represented the Union Springs District in the Alabama Conference. He is also a member of the board of stewards, and is one of the trustees of his church at Greenville.

Major Steiner was married in December, 1884, to Miss May Flowers, the handsome and accomplished daughter of John J. Flowers, Esq., of Butler County.

**JESSIE F. STALLINGS**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Greenville, was born in Butler County, this State, April 4, 1855, and is a son of Robert and Lucinda (Ferguson) Stallings, of that county.

Mr. Stallings' grandfathers were among the early settlers of Butler County, having settled there in 1818.

Mr. Stallings' father was a farmer, and his sons were brought up to that vocation. The subject of this sketch was educated at the Universities of Kentucky and Alabama, graduating from the last named institution in 1877. After teaching school one year he took up the study of law with Mr. J. C. Richardson, of Greenville, as his preceptor. It is proper to remark, however, that he had taken the law course at the Alabama University. He was admitted to the bar in 1879, and at once, in partnership with Mr. L. E. Brooks, entered upon the practice. This partnership was dissolved at the end of two years, and the present one, with Mr. C. L. Wilkerson, formed.

Mr. Stallings was elected solicitor for the Second, or Montgomery District in May, 1887, for the term of six years. He was married in March, 1885, at Eufaula, Ala., to Miss Ella McCallister, the accomplished daughter of A. M. McCallister, Esq., of

that city. Mrs. Stallings died, leaving one child, and in 1887, Mr. Stallings was married to Miss Bessie McCallister, a sister of his former wife.

**JOHN C. CARMICHEL**, Attorney-at-Law, Greenville, son of Duggald and Caroline E. Carmichel, natives, respectively, of the States of South Carolina and Georgia, was born in Dallas County, this State, July 2, 1861.

The senior Mr. Carmichel was a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He came into Alabama in early life, devoted his time to the ministry until 1867, and in that year embarked in the mercantile business in Dallas County, where he died in 1875.

John C. Carmichel was educated, primarily, at the common schools. In 1882 he entered the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn, remained one year, and for the next succeeding twelve months turned his attention to teaching in the public schools. In 1885 he edited the *Alabama Free Press*, at Brownsville, and while there conceived the idea of studying law. In the office of W. J. Sanford, at Opelika, he pursued the study of law about one year, and on April 15, 1886, was admitted to the bar. He began the practice at Greenville in October, 1887, in partnership with Mr. Zell Gaston. The firm of Carmichel & Gaston are among the most reputable in Central Alabama.

Mr. Carmichel is a member of the Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias, the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and is officially identified with the Sabbath school.

**JAMES BERNEY STANLEY**, Editor of the *Greenville Advertiser*, was born in Hayneville, Lowndes County, Ala., August 9, 1845, and was the fourth son of Robert H. and Emma Stone Stanley. His father was a Carolinian of English parentage; his mother was a daughter of a British officer, and was born in Paris.

His first work of which we have any record, is in connection with the *Southern Messenger*, a weekly paper printed at Greenville, his family having already removed to that place. He entered the office of this paper as an apprentice in 1853, and remained there for two years. He was then

entered as a cadet of the Greenville Collegiate and Military Institution, but did not remain there but one session, when the whole college, aroused by Southern patriotism, entered the army in defense of the Southern Confederacy. The subject of this sketch joined the Seventeenth Alabama, and remained with it until the close of the war. Although he was in active service all the time, and witnessed some of the bloodiest of the fights, he was wounded in but one battle. On the memorable field of Franklin, Tenn., he received two severe wounds, which disabled him for several months.

Immediately after the close of the war Mr. Stanley returned home, and in November, 1865, he commenced the publication of the *Greenville Advocate*. Day by day the paper grew more and more in the favor of the people, until to-day it is welcomed in thousands of families.

Although he is a staunch Democrat, and has always been a strong advocate of the principles of his party, he is not particularly fond of politics, and has never shown any desire for office, though he has been sent by his county as a delegate to every State Convention since 1861, and in 1884 was elected by that convention as an alternate delegate from the State at large to the National Convention in Chicago, which nominated President Cleveland. He has held a number of important offices in various societies: three years ago he was elected Grand Vice-Dictator of Alabama, of Knights of Honor, and, probably, would have been Grand Director to-day, could he have attended the last session of the Grand Lodge.

He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but is a man of views too broad to believe that there is but one church, and that all that is good and holy is in that church. As all earnest Christians should be, he is constantly striving to impress the minds of the young with the sacred teachings of the holy scriptures, and is rarely ever absent from the Sunday School, of which, until recently, he was superintendent.

In May, 1882, on a steamboat on the Alabama River, the editors of the State almost unanimously elected him president of the Editors and Publishers' Association of Alabama. The members of the Press showed their appreciation of his abilities as an officer by re-electing him the succeeding three years by acclamation. He takes a great interest in the brotherhood, and does everything in his power to make each meeting of the Asso-

ciation as pleasant as possible. Two years ago he was appointed by the President of the National Press Association as a member of the National Executive Committee from Alabama, and at the meeting of that Association in Cincinnati last year he was retained in that position by election.

The success of his paper and the noble qualities of his character, have won for him a wide reputation and given him rank among the journalists of the country.

He was united in marriage to Miss Lulu Reid, December 7, 1867. His wife was indeed a helpmate, whose worth was only rivaled by her modesty.



**SAMUEL J. STEINER, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Greenville, native of Butler County, this State, son of Joseph and Matilda M. Steiner, was born January 18th, 1857. At the age of thirteen years he was employed as a clerk in a drug store and remained there about five years. In 1876, he entered the literary department of the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and graduated from the medical department of that institution as M. D. in 1878. Immediately upon receiving his diploma he returned to Greenville, and entered upon the practice of medicine.

Dr. Steiner, though yet a young man, occupies a high position in the estimation of the fraternity throughout the State. He was for some years Medical Examiner for the order of Knights of Pythias, and is now (1888) Examiner in Chief for the Equitable Life Insurance Company for the district of Butler and adjacent counties. He is a member of the firm of Joseph Steiner & Sons, bankers; Steiner Bros. & Co., merchants; J. M. Steiner & Co., hardware dealers; and of the Steiner Hardware Company. The two first named institutions are located at Greenville, and the others at Decatur, this State.

The Doctor is a member of the order of the Knights of Pythias, the I. O. O. F., and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He was married at Greenville, September 25th, 1879, to Miss Lottie McCall, daughter of D. T. McCall, Esq., of this place.

He was commissioned surgeon of Second Regiment, Alabama State Troops, 1863 and served in that capacity at the Battle of Birmingham and all the engagements of said Regiment.

**JOSEPH M. STEINER**, Merchant and Banker, Greenville, was born in Butler County, this State, in 1854, and is a son of Joseph and Margaret M. (Camp) Steiner.

Mr. Steiner was educated at the common schools of Greenville, and was only fourteen years of age when he was engaged as a clerk in his father's cotton establishment, at Mobile. He remained at Mobile one year, and returned to Greenville, accepted a clerkship in the store of Dunklin & Steiner, was there until 1874, and was in that year admitted to partnership. In 1887, Governor Seay appointed him Treasurer of Butler County, to fill out the unexpired term, caused by the death of the recent incumbent of that office. He is, therefore, at this writing County Treasurer, and is also a member of the Greenville Board of Aldermen. His business relations may be summed up as follows: He is a member of the firm of Joseph Steiner & Sons, bankers, and J. M. Steiner & Co., hardware merchants, Greenville; Steiner Bros. & Co., general merchandise; Joseph Steiner & Sons, fertilizers, etc., and the Steiner Hardware Company, Decatur, Ala.

Altogether, Mr. Steiner is one of the most active and successful business men (and he is a business man, to the exclusion of everything else, except of his duties to the community as a good citizen,) in the State of Alabama. He was married at Greenville March 11, 1875, to Miss Ida, daughter of A. J. and Clara E. Hawthorne, of this city, and has had born to him four children; Bettie, Clara, Joseph, Aileen.

Mr. Steiner is a member of the Greenville Light Guards, of the Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, and the I. O. O. F., in all of which organizations he has filled the various chairs.



**DANIEL G. DUNKLIN**, prominent Merchant and Planter, was born at Greenville, Ala., October 28, 1823, and his parents were James and Catharine (Lee) Dunklin, the former a native of South Carolina and the latter of Leesburg, N. C.

James Dunklin came to Alabama in 1818, and was among the first (if not the very first) settlers at where now stands the town of Greenville. He became an extensive planter, was one of the commissioners that laid out the town of Greenville, and was afterward commissioner of the county. He died in Greenville in 1878.

Daniel G. Dunklin, during his youth, acquired such learning as was possible at the neighboring schools, attending perhaps three months out of the year. As will be seen he was only four years of age at the time of his father's death. At the age of fourteen years in a dry goods house at Montgomery, he received his first employment as a clerk, and he remained with that concern seven years. He was twenty-one years of age when he engaged in the mercantile business at Montgomery on his own account. He remained there two years, came to Greenville, and established himself in the mercantile business. Here he has been one of the most successful merchants; he has devoted his time to his business, and has accumulated a competency. Prior to the war he owned a large number of slaves, was extensively interested in planting, and had standing out on interest a large amount. It is not necessary to add that the war swept away this immense fortune, for that was but the common lot of a great many.

During the four years of the war, Mr. Dunklin was in the Quartermaster's Department of the Confederate States, and afterwards engaged in mercantile business again at Greenville. He has succeeded in regaining largely his lost estate. He is now one of the most extensive farmers in Butler County, producing annually many bales of cotton, and giving particular attention to the breeding of stock. He has probably the finest stock farm and vineyard in this section. He is one of Greenville's most respected citizens, noted for his kind-heartedness, liberality and public-spiritedness.

He was married January 19, 1847, to Miss Susan C. Burnett, of Greenville, Ala. She died in 1861, leaving one child, Walter J. January 12, 1864, Mr. Dunklin married Miss Hanna Patton, of Greenville, Ala., and has had born to him one son, Patton B. The family belong to the Episcopal Church, and Mr. Dunklin is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the I. O. O. F.



**JOHN T. STEINER**, Merchant and Banker, Greenville, son of Joseph and Margaret (Camp) Steiner, was born November 27, 1869, in Butler County, this State. From the common schools of Greenville, at the age of sixteen years, he entered Vanderbilt University, where he remained two years, and returned to Greenville and engaged with his father in the Greenville Bank, in the

capacity of runner. From this initial step he rose rapidly to proficiency in the various departments of the banking business, and of late years has been the controlling element in the management of that institution. He is a member of the firms of Steiner & Sons, bankers; Steiner Bros. & Co., general merchants; J. H. Steiner & Co., hardware dealers; and the Steiner Hardware Company, the latter institution being at Decatur, Ala.

Mr. Steiner, in addition to his various enterprises, takes an active interest in politics, and is one of the solid workers of the Democratic party.

He represented his party from Greenville as delegate to the convention that nominated Governor Seay in 1886, and afterward worked faithfully in the interest of the ticket. He is a member of the order of the Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, the American Legion of Honor, and is a lieutenant in the Greenville Light Guards.

J. T. Steiner was married in July, 1881, to Miss Annie Dunklin, the accomplished daughter of J. H. Dunklin, of Greenville, and has had born to him three children: John, Lucile and Edith.



## II.

### BALDWIN COUNTY.

Population: White, 5,000; colored, 3,000. Area, 1,620 square miles. Woodland, all, except coast marshes. Rolling pine land, 900 square miles; pine flats, 730 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 1,400; in corn, 2,000; in oats, 350; in rice, 121; in sugar-cane, 81; in sweet potatoes, 484.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 650.

County Seat—Daphne; population, 150.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*None*.

Postoffices in the County—Battles, Bay Minette, Bromley, Carney, *Daphne*, Dowty, Gasque, Herndon, Hurricane Bayou, Josephine, Kohler, Lamberta, Latham, Lillian, Magnolia Springs, Montrose, Perdido Station, Point

Clear, Ray, Rosinton, Stockton, Swift, Tensaw, Theresa.

Baldwin County was created in 1809. It has the honor of being the largest county in the State, embracing within its limits a larger scope of territory than that embraced by the entire State of Rhode Island. Lands in Baldwin are remarkably cheap. Where the timber has been removed they may be purchased at 25 to 50 cents per acre. Others may be had for \$1 and \$5 per acre.

Many Government lands exist, and are subject to entry, there being 120,240 acres.

Men of limited means, but of industrious habits, could not find a more inviting region for settlement than Baldwin County.



### III.

## CLARKE COUNTY.

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Population: White, 8,000; colored, 9,088. Area, 1,160 square miles. Woodland, all. Lime-hills, 560 square miles. Oak, hickory, and long-leaf pine uplands, 340 square miles; rolling and open pine woods, 260 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 33,400; in corn, 28,320; in oats, 5,065; in tobacco, 19; in sugar-cane, 200; in rice, 22; in sweet potatoes, 1,256.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 12,000.

County Seat, Grove Hill; population, 300; 84 miles northeast of Mobile.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Clarke County Democrat* (Democratic.)

Postoffices in the County—Airmount, Baggett, Barlow Bend, Bashi, Bedsole, Campbell, Carney's Bluff, Cherry, Choctaw Corner, Coffeeville, Conde, Cunningham, Dead Level, Gainestown, Glover, Gosport, *Grove Hill*, Jackson, Morvin, Nettleborough, Pickens Landing, Rual, Salitpa, Singleton, Suggsville, Tallahatta Springs, Vashiti, Walker Springs, Winn, Wood's Bluff.

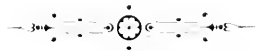
This county was created in 1812. It is historically associated with many of the bloody scenes enacted during the prevailing war of that time.

Clarke abounds in forests of excellent timber, comprising oak, poplar, hickory, beech, bay, cypress, maple, elm, cedar and pine. Vast pine forests prevail in several portions of Clarke, and the trees are some times rafted to Mobile, where they find a ready market.

Some attention is now being bestowed upon the improvement of stock. In the western part of the county are quite a number of salt springs and wells, to which the people of that and adjoining counties were forced to resort and manufacture salt during the late war, while the ports of the south were blockaded.

There are 91,600 acres of Government land in Clarke, which are subject to entry.

The people of Clarke are eager to have their lands peopled by a thrifty energetic population.



### IV.

## COFFEE COUNTY.

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Population: White, 6,831; colored, 1,288. Area, 700 square miles. Woodland, 340 square miles. Rolling or undulating pine lands, 360 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 16,500; in corn, 18,668; in oats, 2,370; in rye, 31; in wheat,

22; in rice, 21; in sugar-cane, 254; in sweet potatoes, 174.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 4,788.

County Seat—Ella; population, 222; located on the Pea River, 30 miles south of Troy, and 75 miles southeast of Montgomery.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Coffee County News*.

Postoffices in the County—Alberton, Clintonville, Cross Trails, Damascus, *Elba*, Elizabeth, Enterprise, Haw Ridge, Rodney, Victoria.

Coffee County was established by an Act of the Legislature, dated December 29, 1841, and was formed from territory taken from Dale County. A portion of its original territory was set apart in 1868, to form Geneva County. The county was named in honor of General Coffee, one of the pioneers of Lauderdale County.

This county is particularly noted for its forests, which consist of the greater part of pine, but in localities large quantities of ash, hickory, oak, beech and poplar are found. Timber form the chief industry of the county, though stock raising is receiving much attention now, and the wool

product of the country is increasing largely every year.

The advancement of the county is considerably retarded by the want of transportation facilities, which, if it had, would cause it to become one of the pleasantest and most substantial portions of the State.

The health of the county is phenomenal, and this, more than any other cause, goes to make it a most desirable place as a home.

The county is watered by Pea River, Double Branch, White Water, and Bluff Creeks and their tributaries.

Educational and religious institutions flourish in all portions of the county.

Elba, on Pea River, is the county seat. Victoria, Clintonville and Enterprise are some of the other towns of the county.



## V.

### CONECUH COUNTY.

Population: White, 6,500; colored, 6,000. Area, 840 square miles. Woodland, all. Lime-lands, 470 square miles; pine uplands and rolling pine lands, 370 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 16,500; in corn, 20,118; in oats, 3,173; in rye, 32; in sugar-cane, 267; in rice, 124; in sweet potatoes, — .

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 5,000.

County Seat—Evergreen; population, 1,200; on Mobile & Montgomery branch of Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Conecuh Escambia Star*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Almarant, Belleville, Bermuda, Betts, Bonnette, Brooklyn, Castleberry, Cohasset, Commerce, Crete, *Evergreen*, Gravelia, Herbert, Hilaryton, Jayvilla, Mount Union, Olivia, Pryor, Range, Repton, Sepulga.

Conecuh was established as a county in 1818. The name is derived from two Indian terms, which, taken together, mean "Caneland," or "Land of Cane," supposed to have been suggested

by the beautiful straight cane which grew along the banks of its wide and clear streams when the Red Man held sway. The early settlers describe the face of the country as having been one of surpassing loveliness before the woodman's axe laid the forests low and the hands of progressive art displayed the wigwam of the rude children of the woods. The land was radiant with long, waving grass, interspersed with the wild oat and the native peavine, in the midst of which grew the towering forms of monarch pines. At any time could be seen herds of deer and flocks of wild turkeys roaming at will over these lands of smiling beauty. The whites first occupied its soil in 1815.

The lands in the county may be had for prices ranging from \$1.25 to \$10 per acre. They are coming more into demand. Even from the surrounding counties the lands of Conecuh are being sought. There are public lands which may be entered by settlers. Strangers seeking homes would be gladly received by the people of this county. The county has 50,320 acres of public land.



## VI.

### CRENSHAW COUNTY.

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Population: White, 9,500; colored, 2,000. Area, 660 square miles. Woodland, all. Long-leaf pine upland, 435 square miles; oak and hickory uplands, 125 square miles; hill, prairie and lime lands, 100 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 27,000; in corn, 28,099; in oats, 5,208; in tobacco, 33; in rice, 25; in sugar-cane, 204; in sweet potatoes, 558.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 8,500. County Seat—Rutledge; population, 300.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Enterprise*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Aiken, Argus, Best, Bradleyton, Bullock, Cook's Stand, Helicon, Honorville, Host, Johnson, Leon, Live Oak, Mount Ida, New Providence, Norwood, Peacock, *Rutledge*, Sal-Soda, Saville, Vidette.

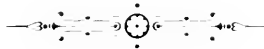
This county was formed in 1865, and named for

Hon. Anderson Crenshaw. It lies in that section of the State toward which much attention is now being turned, because of its varied resources and growing industries. Debarred the enjoyment of railroad privileges, there has not been that spirit of enterprise and energy which is warranted by the varied resources of Crenshaw.

In this county, as in all others in this region, lands may be had at very moderate figures. Over-spread with forests of splendid timber, both of pine and oak, they are destined to be quite valuable, and yet may be bought in some sections for \$1 per acre, in others for \$2.50, and in others still, for \$5.

There are 24,560 acres of land belonging to the general Government in Crenshaw.

Vast tracks of land may be purchased at nominal prices, and the people would welcome immigrants of thrifty habits.



## VII.

### COVINGTON COUNTY.

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Population: White, 5,000; colored, 600. Area, 1,030 square miles. Woodland, all. Undulating pine lands, 720 square miles; lime-hills and pine uplands, 310 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 4,200; in corn, 10,558; in oats, 2,114; in rice, 17; in sugar-cane, 147; in sweet potatoes, 466.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 1,358.

County Seat—Andalusia; population, 625; located 90 miles south of Montgomery.

Newspaper published at County Seat—Covington *Times*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Andalusia, Cameron, Conesuh River, Beda, Dannelly, Fairfield, Green Bay, Hallton, Hamptonville, Hilton, Lake View, Loango, Opine, Rat, Red Level, Rome, Rose Hill, Sanford, Shirley, Vera Cruz, Wiggins, Williams' Mill.

Established in 1821, this county took its name from Gen. Leonard W. Covington, of Maryland.

It is noted for its streams, grazing lands, and superb regions of timber. Like other sections of Alabama, Covington has failed of appreciation, because of its remoteness from lines of transportation.

The timbers of the county are yellow or long-leaf pine, oak, hickory, elm, beech, and poplar. The county is noted for its forests of towering

pine. Districts of this magnificent timber extend for many miles in all directions through the county.

Beneath these lofty pines, there flourish the greenest grasses and leguminous plants, which afford superior range for herds of cattle, sheep, and goats. Great quantities of lumber are hewn from the forests every season.



## VIII.

### DALE COUNTY.

Population: White, 1,551; colored, 3,124. Area, 650 square miles. Woodland, all. Pine uplands, 420 square miles; undulating, pine lands, 230.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 27,000; in corn, 31,867; in oats, 5,114; in wheat, 59; in rye, 24; in rice, 49; in sugar-cane, 373; in sweet potatoes, 872.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 6,800.

County seat—Ozark; population, 700; located near the center of the county.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*South-ern Star*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Barnes Cross Roads, Beaver Creek, Clayhatchee, Clopton, Crittenden's Mills, Daleville, Echo, Newton, *Ozark*, Rockyhead, Skipperville, Strickland, Weed, Wicksburgh.

This county was organized in 1824, and named in honor of Gen. Samuel Dale. It is one of the counties of the State in which there were manu-

factories prior to the war. Its people have long been noted for their sobriety and progressiveness, and, in the centers of interest, for their intelligence. Possessing a varied soil, genial climate, healthful atmosphere, abounding resources of water, rich pasture lands, and broad forests of pine, Dale County is the peer of any other section in this portion of Alabama.

The prices of land extend from \$1 to \$10 per acre. The county has an industrious agricultural population that would readily greet settlers and investors seeking homes and locations for business. No doubt these lands will attract great attention within a few years, because of the vast abundance of yellow pine timber which they contain. Rare bargains can now be had by those seeking profitable investments in lands and real estate. Much of the land is public, and may be entered under the homestead act. Of this there are 46,240 acres.



## IX.

### ESCAMBIA COUNTY.

Population: White, 4,500; colored, 1,300. Area, 1,000 square miles. Woodland, all. All rolling pine lands.

Aeres—In cotton (approximately), 300; in corn, 3,699; in oats, 869; in sugarcane, 83; in rice, 405; in sweet potatoes, 494.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 100.

County Seat—Brewton; population, 1,500; on Louisville & Nashville Railroad.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Banner* and *Escambia Bulletin Times*, the former Independent, the latter Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Boykin, *Brewton*, Canoe Station, Douglasville, Flomaton, Kirkland, Mason, Pollard, Roberts, Steadham, Wallace, Williams Station, Wilson.

The county of Escambia was constituted in 1868, and named for the beautiful river which flows across it. It is one of the youngest counties of the State, but is regarded as one of the thriftest in the great Timber Belt. It has

peculiar natural advantages in its forest wealth, its smooth topography, and its deep and wide streams.

But the glory of Escambia is her magnificent forests of pine. In this county the expansive domains of yellow or long-leaf pine may be seen in its perfection. These pines give rise to the chief industries of the county, viz.: the timber, lumber, and turpentine business. Some of the finest and best equipped saw-mills and turpentine distilleries known to the South are found in Escambia County.

Timbers are hewn from the forests and rafted along the large streams to the mills to be converted into lumber, or else to Pensacola, where a ready market awaits them. These lumber and turpentine industries are near the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, which traverses the county north and south.

The county contains 140,949 acres of Government land.



## X.

### GENEVA COUNTY.

Population: White, 4,000; colored, 500. Area, 590 square miles. Woodland, all. Undulating pine lands, 560 square miles; red lime lands, 30 square miles.

Aeres—In cotton (approximately), 5,000; in corn 9,476; in oats, 1,705; in sugarcane, 118; in rice, 154; in sweet potatoes, 359.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 1,300.

County Seat—Geneva; population, 200.

Newspaper published at County Seat—*Record*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Big Creek, Coffee Springs, Dundee, Elton, Ennola, Garrard, *Georgia* High Falls, Martha, Noblin, Pea, Taylor, Vaughanville, Warwick, Watford.

The county of Geneva was formed in 1868. It is one of the most progressive counties in this portion of the State. Capital and enterprise have

been won to it, and its lands are being rapidly occupied. Long remote from important lines of transportation, it now enjoys facilities which enable its numberless resources to find their way easily to market. The wide-awake spirit which prevails among the people of Geneva, may be inferred from the rapid increase of population within the last four years.

The trees are largely those of yellow pine, while there are also oaks, hickory, poplar and beech. The manufacture of the pines into lumber for shipment is a growing branch of business. Large quantities of logs are floated down the waters of the principal streams to markets further south. The manufacture of turpentine is also a pursuit,

the proportions of which are constantly increasing. Schools are moderately good and are annually improving. Churches of the Baptist and Methodist denominations, principally, exist.

Lands may be had as low as \$1 and \$3 per acre. Vast quantities of public or Government lands are found in Geneva, there being 216,840 acres. Rare inducements for investments, or for settlements, are found in this young and growing county. The people are of a progressive spirit, and will cordially welcome to the county men of limited means, who are seeking cheap and pleasant homes, as they will the capitalist with ampler resources, who desires to make a profitable investment.



## XI.

### HENRY COUNTY.

Population: White, 12,000; colored, 6,500. Area, 1,000 square miles. Woodland, all. Oak, hickory and brown loam lands, 100 square miles; pine uplands and undulating pine lands, also red lime-lands, 450 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 54,000; in corn, 48,665; in oats, 790; in rye, 265; in wheat, 195; in tobacco, 24; in rice, 25; in sugar-cane, 670; in sweet potatoes, 1,266.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 12,600.

County Seat—Abbeville; population, 500; located 90 miles southeast of Montgomery.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Spirit of the Age, Times*; at Columbia, population 700, *Enterprise*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—*Abbeville*, Baker, Balkum, Brackin, Columbia, Cottonwood, Co-warts, Crosby, Cretton's Bridge, Dothen, Gordon, Grafton, Granger, Haleburgh, Hardwicks-burgh, Headland, Hilliardsville, Kinsey, Lawrenceville, Otho, Pleasant Plains, Shorterville, Smithville, Wesley, Zornville.

Henry County was created in the same year that Alabama became a State, 1819. It derived its name from that of the great Virginia orator, Patrick Henry. It lies in the extreme southeastern cor-

ner of the State, having on the east Georgia, from which it is separated by the Chattahoochee, and on the south, Florida.

It was originally composed of the territory now constituting Henry, Dale, and a large portion of Geneva and Coffee Counties.

The county seat was then at "Old Richmond," a place now marked only by a single church and a beautiful spring known as the "Wiggins Spring," twenty miles due west from Columbia. After some of its western territory had been cut off, the court-house was removed to Columbia—a town situated on a beautiful plateau overlooking the Chattahoochee River, a half-mile to the east, and the clear, health-giving and rippling waters of the Omercee Creek a half-mile to the west, and which was then the trading and shipping point for all the country one hundred miles west. After the county of Dale had been cut off on the west, the county was left in an oblong shape, being about twenty-two miles wide, while from north to south along the line of the Chattahoochee, measured a distance of some sixty miles.

In 1834, the court-house was removed to Abbeville, a point situated near the center of the eastern and western boundaries, but within the east-

miles of the northern. This portion of the county is very much broken and cut up by the streams of the Choctawhatchee River, Abbey Creek, and their tributaries.

At the time of the removal of the court-house, this portion of the county was very thickly settled, the lands being fresh and fertile, while the lower or southeast portion was but sparsely settled except along the Chattahoochee River, where there was a continuous line of large and rich farms.

The Chattahoochee River on the eastern border of the county, furnishes to the inhabitants an avenue for the cheapest transportation of all her products to all portions of the world. Nine different railroads, though not all under different management, now tap the river, requiring only a small local tariff to the boats, to give them the advan-

tage of either, besides the open outlet to the gulf through the point at Appalachicola, which is at the mouth of the river.

The people are solicitous of, and welcome, immigration.

Rare bargains can yet be had by those seeking profitable investments in lands and real estate. Some of the lands are yet public, and may be entered under the homestead act at \$1.25 per acre. Improved lands vary in valuation according to improvements and location. The level pine lands, convenient to market, being preferred and ranging from \$2 to \$15 per acre.

An educational system prevails through the county, and is equally accessible by all classes.

Churches, mainly of Baptist and Methodist denominations, prevail throughout the county.



## XII.

### MONROE COUNTY.

Population: White, 7,800; colored, 9,250. Area, 1,030 square miles. Woodland, all. Undulating pine lands, 380 square miles. Pine uplands, oak and hickory and lime hills, 650 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 33,500; in corn, 25,135; in oats, 4,997; in rice, 78; in sugarcane, 329; in tobacco, 11; in sweet potatoes, 920.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 12,000. County Seat—Monroeville; population, 300.

Newspaper published at the County Seat—*Monroe Journal* (Democratic).

Postoffices in the County—Activity, Axile, Bell's Landing, Buena Vista, Burnt Corn, Bursonville, Carlisle, Chestnut, Claiborne, Dennard, Finchburgh, Fork, Glendale, Hollinger, Kempville, *Monroeville*, Mount Pleasant, Nero, Newton Academy, Perdue Hill, Riley, River Ridge, Simpkinsville, Tinela, Turnbull, Watson.

Monroe County was created in 1815, and named in honor of President Monroe, of Virginia. It

was one of the first counties of the State settled by the whites, and its people have been uniformly thrifty while engaged chiefly in planting. Much of the productive land belonging to the timber belt is found in this county.

The points of interest are Monroeville, the county seat, with a population of 400, Perdue Hill, Buena Vista, Burnt Corn, and Pineville. The school and church advantages of the county are good.

Transportation is afforded by the Alabama River, and by the Selma & Pensacola Railroad, in Wilcox, or the Louisville & Nashville, as it passes through the adjoining county of Conecuh.

Lands may be had for figures running from \$1.25 to \$10 per acre. About 77,000 acres of public lands exist in the county. Anxious to have the prosperity of the county enhanced, and its unoccupied lands taken, the people would hail with delight the influx of an industrious population.

## XIII.

### MOBILE COUNTY.

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Population: White, 27,500; colored, 21,000. Area, 1,290 square miles. Woodland, all, except coast marshes; rolling pine lands, 820 square miles; pine flats, 470 square miles.

Acres—In cotton, approximately, 10; in corn, 1,639; in oats, 139; in rice, 191; in sugar-cane, 151; in sweet potatoes, 776.

County Seat—Mobile; population, 32,000; located on Mobile River, near its entrance into Mobile Bay.

Newspapers published at County Seat—*Register, Blade, Christian Weekly, Item* and *Sunday Times*, Democratic.

Postoffices in the County—Bayou, Labatre, Chickasabogue, Chunchula, Citronelle, Coden, Cox, Creola, Grand Bay, *Mobile*, Mount Vernon, Nanna, Hubba, Prichard, Saint Elmo, Spring Hill, Theodore, Venetia, Whistler.

Mobile was established in 1813, and named for the bay whose waters wash its eastern shores. It lies in the extreme southwest corner of the State, and is the wealthiest, most populous, and one of the largest counties of the Commonwealth.

The educational advantages of Mobile have been proverbially excellent for almost a half century.

The city takes great pride in the maintenance of her famous institution of learning—the Barton Academy. The Medical College of Alabama is located here. As a point of refuge from the chill and blast of a Northern clime, Mobile is without a rival. Generally, the winters are exceedingly mild and but rarely at all harsh. It is delightful as a place of residence even in midsummer. The cool breezes from the sea sweep it continually and fan away the scorching heat of summer tide. Dotted the coasts of the Bay, opposite the city, are magnificent hotels which have become famous as summer resorts.

The timbers of the county include the oak, hickory, elm, magnolia, bay, cypress, sweet and sour gums, and yellow pine. The water outlets are furnished by the Mobile River and Bay on the one side, and the Escatawpa River on the other. Beautiful streams of perpetual flow ramify different portions of the county.

The natural, social, and commercial advantages possessed by Mobile indicate it as one of the coming cities of the South.

Mobile County contains 97,000 acres of land belonging to the Government.



### MOBILE.

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**DR. GEORGE A. KETCHUM.** Ralph Ketchum, the father of the subject of this sketch, who was born on Long Island, of Welch ancestors, in 1780, was married in 1807, in the city of New York, to Christiana Colden, a daughter of Gen. Griffiths of the British Army. Prior to his marriage, Ralph had made his home in Augusta, Ga., and there his English wife became the mother of five sons who have made their impress upon the

history of the South. Richard Colden Ketchum became a distinguished divine in the place of his birth; Major William H. Ketchum commanded a battery of artillery in the Confederate Army; Col. Charles T. Ketchum became the Colonel of the Thirty-eighth Alabama Infantry; Capt. John R. Ketchum died in the defense of Atlanta in the first battle fought after the removal of Gen. Johnston. The career of Dr. George A. Ketchum



Very truly yours  
C. C. Chapman





as physician, teacher and citizen, constitutes one of the brightest pages in the history of Alabama.

George Augustus Ketchum was born in Augusta, Ga., April 6, 1825, and there his youth was passed up to the time of the removal of his father to Mobile, Ala., which took place in 1835. His scholastic training, which was committed in turn to two teachers of distinction, was completed under the tutorship of Mr. A. A. Kimball, who prepared him for the Sophomore class at Princeton. At this juncture his father's failure in business disconcerted his plans, and led him, at the age of sixteen, to accept the position of assistant teacher then offered him by his tutor, Mr. Kimball, in his Academy at Livingston, Ala. After such wholesome preliminary training, he, in due time, began his studies in his chosen profession, under the guidance of the late Dr. F. A. Ross, and for two years he occupied the position of resident student in the Mobile City Hospital. While thus employed, the yellow fever epidemic of 1843 brought him for the first time into practical contact with a disease in whose treatment he was destined to win such wide and merited distinction. In the Medical College of South Carolina, at Charleston, he attended his first course of lectures at the session of 1844-1845. In the spring of 1845, he went for the completion of his studies to Philadelphia, graduating at the University of Pennsylvania as M.D. in the spring of 1846. While a student in Philadelphia, he formed the acquaintance of Miss Susan Burton, a daughter of one of the original Quaker families that came over with Penn, and to her he was married in November, 1848. Two years prior to that event he had begun the practice of medicine in Mobile, where his professional success was marked and rapid. The yellow fever epidemics of 1847 and 1848, which took place soon after his admission to practice, gave him the opportunity for an experiment which produced rich and permanent results. At this time, he, it was, who first ventured to administer large doses of quinine in the earlier stages of the disease, a treatment which was repeated with such success in the epidemics of 1853-58-61-70-73 and 78 in Mobile, that it has now become the general practice in yellow fever cases throughout the South. With such a beginning, and with a power to labor which has been seldom equalled, and with a charm of manner never to be surpassed, the young physician soon won his way into as large and lucrative a practice as any physician has

ever enjoyed in the city of Mobile. For many years his labors as a practitioner and consulting physician have been sufficient to exhaust the time and resources of any ordinary man, and to exclude all other pursuits. And yet in spite of this mass of work his activities have extended so far beyond the circle of his duties as a mere practitioner of medicine, that his achievements in that sphere constitute only a part in the sum total of his life work.

Dr. Ketchum's relations to the medical profession and to the cause of public hygiene, can not be measured by any standard that excludes from consideration the services he has rendered to the cause of medical education and to the preservation of the public health. To every movement which has been organized in his day, not only in his own State, but in the Union, for the advancement of the medical profession as a corporate body, and for the increase of its usefulness as a teacher of sanitary science, he has given his active and earnest support. The central aim of his life has been to teach the true science of medicine in its highest sense to the younger members of his own profession, and at the same time to practically demonstrate how the science of public hygiene can be utilized by the State for the preservation of the public health. In both departments of labor he has been eminently successful, and in both he has been awarded the very highest stations of usefulness and authority. In 1848, in conjunction with Dr. J. C. Nott and others, he organized the Medical College of Alabama, with which he has ever since been prominently connected. Since 1859, he has held the position of Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine; and since the resignation of the late Dr. Wm. H. Anderson, he has been the Dean of the Faculty. As a medical lecturer he is especially happy. An easy and natural delivery, coupled with a perfect mastery of English prose, render his lectures as attractive as they are instructive. In the sanitary government of Mobile, city and county, he has been the most important factor for nearly twenty years. President of the Board of Health since 1871, he has rendered, without compensation, services to the public which but few outside of his own profession either understand or appreciate. In the medical government of the State his influence has been hardly less potent. No one was more active than he in bringing about the organization of the Medical Association of Alabama, of which he be-

came president in 1873. For many years he has been a member of the Board of Censors and of the State Board of Health. His activity in the line of medical organization has not been limited, however, to the boundaries of his own State; as a member of the American Public Health Association, as a member of the American Medical Association, and as a member of the Ninth International Medical Congress, his name and fame as a leader in his profession have assumed a national importance.

No review of this many-sided man, however brief and incomplete, should exclude from consideration the influence which he has exercised as a citizen upon the political affairs of his State and country. With a perfect comprehension of the constitutional system under which we live, with a clear insight into all the details of executive administration, with great gifts as an orator and parliamentarian, had his tastes been otherwise, he might have figured as one of the foremost politicians of his time. Whenever duty has called him into service in that department of work, his great aptitude for public affairs, his immovable firmness, coupled with great tact in the management of popular assemblies, have invariably given to him a position in the foremost rank. For many years before the war he stood at the head of Mobile's municipal legislature as president of the Common Council; and when the stirring events of 1860-61 made every community in the South turn for counsel to its wisest and strongest men, the county of Mobile selected him as one of four to represent her in the convention which severed the relations of Alabama with the Union. As volunteer surgeon he went with the State Artillery to Pensacola, where he received his commission as surgeon of the Fifth Alabama. While on his way to Virginia with his regiment, he was solicited by Dr. J. C. Nott to accept a position as surgeon in an organization formed for the defense of Mobile, which was then sadly deficient, owing to the increase of population and the absence of physicians, in medical aid. In this laborious position he continued until the end of the war. After the surrender he was appointed by Governor Parsons, provisional governor under Andrew Johnson, a member of the Common Council; and for a short time he became, *ex officio*, Mayor of Mobile. In the councils of the Democratic party in his State and county, he has been recognized as a leader for twenty years.

And yet, neither in his capacity as physician at the bedside, neither in his capacity as teacher in the college to which he has given the best years of his life, neither in his capacity as a tireless administrator of health laws, nor yet in his capacity as political leader, can be found the record of services which will forever interlace the name of George A. Ketchum with that of the city of his adoption. When every other memory connected with his life has been forgotten, the fact will remain that his care for the public health, backed by his patience and indomitable will, has brought a pure stream of living water from distant hill tops to the cottage door and to the palace gate of every dweller in the city of Mobile. This great achievement is the legitimate outcome of his scientific instinct. His far-seeing eye perceived years ago that the public health of his city was imperiled by the lack of a bountiful supply of pure and wholesome water. With the heart of a humanitarian, with the foresight of a scientist, and with the pluck and patience of a man of business, he imposed upon himself the task of organizing a scheme for the relief of the city, and that scheme he has carried into successful execution. After selecting an available stream in the silence of the forest, he next employed competent hands to overcome the engineering and legal difficulties which forbade its ingress to the city, and at last induced capitalists to come from abroad and transform his dream into a reality. Through his efforts, after twenty years of working and waiting, Mobile to-day enjoys one of the most perfect and bountiful supplies of water that can be found in any city in the Union, not only for sanitary but for fire purposes. In the time to come, when his labors have euded, perhaps a grateful people will perpetuate the memory of this great service, by the erection of a public drinking fountain, over which the unselfish physician shall preside in bronze or marble.

In the social life of Mobile, Dr. Ketchum's splendid home has been a source of pleasure and an object of interest for many years. Here his warm-hearted wife and charming daughter (married a few years ago to Robert Gage, Esq., of Boston) dispense a hospitality as unaffected as it is attractive.

When, from every point of view—professional political and social—it appears that the life-work of a man has ripened into a full harvest of success, honor and usefulness, the fact is revealed that the author of such results must be a man, not only of well-rounded character, but of systematic

and conscientious habits of work. Of no one could this be more truly said than of Dr. Ketchum.

With high natural endowments, both of mind and person, he has trusted nothing to chance or genius; with him genius has been made the yoke-fellow of labor. By linking together great

natural gifts with habits of patient and systematic work, he has attained, not an eccentric eminence, but the highest legitimate distinction as a physician and citizen. When the roundness, the fullness, the completeness of his life-work is considered, the result may be well expressed—*"Simpler atque rotundus."*



## XIV.

### PIKE COUNTY.

Population: White, 14,368; colored, 6,272. Area, 740 square miles. Woodland, all. Oak and hickory uplands, 590 square miles; pine hills, 150 square miles.

Aeres—In cotton (approximately), 58,600; in corn, 50,648; in oats, 6,598; in wheat, 86; in rye, 127; in sugar-cane, 550; in sweet potatoes, 1,359

Approximate number of bales of cotton, in round numbers, 19,000.

County Seat—Troy; population, 3,000; located at terminus of Mobile & Girard Railroad.

Newspapers published at the County Seat—*Enquirer* and *Messenger* (Democratic).

Post-offices in the County—Barr's Mill, Brundidge, Buck Horn, Catalpa, Chesser, China Grove, County Line, Curry, Fleetwood, Flemington, Goshen Hill, Harmony, Henderson, Indian Branch, Josie, Linwood, Little Oak, Milo, Monticello, Olustee Creek, Orion, Pottersville, Troy, Wingard.

Pike County was established December 17, 1821, from portions of Henry and Montgomery, and was named in honor of General Zebulon M. Pike, who fell at York (now Toronto), April 27, 1813.

The Alabama Midland Railroad will pass through Troy, and diagonally across the county from the northwest to the southeast corner the Mobile & Girard, from Troy to Pollard, the Brunswick & Memphis Railroad, *via* Greenville, through Troy to Clayton. All the present indications favor and

justify the expectation that these roads will be completed within reasonable time.

The lands are generally level with sufficient undulation for proper drainage. Except in a few localities in the northern and central portions of the county, there is no land unsuited for cultivation on account of the abruptness of those undulations. The character of the soil varies, embodying red clay, black hummock and sandy soils. In the northwestern and southeastern portions of the county are large bodies of fine red lands, which are very productive and lasting. In the northeastern and southwestern portions it is generally sandy, with a sufficient admixture of lime to render them very productive when first brought into cultivation; but within five years their productive capacity exhausts, unless aided by fertilizers. In the central portion of the county every character of soil above enumerated can be found. The close proximity of a clay foundation renders all of these lands susceptible of the highest improvement by fertilization.

A chain of hills in the northeastern portion of the county contains iron ore of good quality in abundance. There are also beds of marl sufficiently rich in phosphoric acid to justify utilization in several localities in the county. There are also deposits of ochre, acid iron earth and other valuable minerals in the county, none of which have been utilized.

There are vast areas of pine timber in the county, which, with better facilities for shipment or being more accessible to a railroad line, would be very valuable.

There are also large quantities of hickory, white oak, red oak, and cypress in the swamps near watercourses, which could be utilized to advantage by a furniture or bucket and barrel factory. Several large contracts for staves are now being filled by residents of Linwood, and the staves furnished are classed A No. 1.

Immigrants of limited means will find all their hearts could crave or wishes prompt in regard to a cheap, pleasant, healthy home in Pike County. The price of land ranges from \$2 to \$10 per acre. Some highly improved command \$20 per acre, but in such cases the improvements represent over

half of the price. Immigrants would be kindly received and considerately treated. Regardless of nativity, they would be accorded that regard and esteem to which their merits and intrinsic worth would entitle them.

The people are law-abiding and orderly, very hospitable and kind, and ambitious to elevate and improve their condition and place their posterity on a higher plane of intelligence and usefulness. They study their business closely, and are prompt in adopting improvements that are practical and advantageous. Their homes are generally well kept, neat and tidy, and possess every comfort and convenience their ability will permit them to enjoy. By judicious management they have largely increased the productiveness of their lands within the past ten years.



## XV.

### WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Population: White, 3,000; colored, 1,500. Area, 1,050 square miles. Woodland, all. Undulating pine-lands, 800 square miles; lime hills and shell-prairie lands, 150 square miles; pine hills, 100 square miles.

Acres—In cotton (approximately), 3,300; in corn, 4,259; in oats, 464; in rice, 67; in sugarcane, 90; in sweet potatoes, 448.

Approximate number of bales of cotton, 1,400.

County Seat—St. Stephens; population, 200.

Postoffices in the County—Atchison, Bigbee, Escatawpa, Gondola, Healing Springs, Kocton, Lambertson, McIntosh Bluff, Millry, *St. Stephens*, Sims Chapel, Washington.

Washington is the oldest county in the State, having been created by Governor Sargent in 1800. It was named for the first President of the United States. Considerable historic interests attaches to the county. It has the honor of having within its limits the first capital of Alabama—St.

Stephens. It was in this county that Aaron Burr was arrested, in 1807. It is alike noted for the quiet tone of its people, its forests of timber, its health, and its healing springs.

Pine, oak, hickory, beech, ash, cedar, cypress, and dogwood are the trees which stock the forests of the county. Many of these are of matchless size, and are of great marketable value. Great quantities of turpentine are gathered from the pine forests.

St. Stephens and Escatawpa are the places of interest. A good common-school system exists in the county.

Lands may be had for \$1, or as high as \$8 per acre. The inhabitants would be glad to welcome, as accessions to their population, earnest and energetic citizens.

The county of Washington embraces 130,120 acres of Government land awaiting the occupation of settlers.

## PART IV.

# MONOGRAPHS OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS IN NORTHERN AND CENTRAL ALABAMA, TOGETHER WITH BIOGRAPH- ICAL SKETCHES OF MANY OF THEIR REP- RESENTATIVE PEOPLE.

### I.

## HUNTSVILLE.

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Huntsville, in the rolling highlands of the Tennessee Valley, bordered by mountain ranges, is the heart of the most pleasant, healthful and attractive canton on the continent of North America. It is the oldest English settled town in Alabama, and the county seat of the oldest county, Madison. Its early history is for that period the history of the State. In the undulating table-land between the State line, north, and the great bend of the Tennessee River, south, where it breaks through the Cumberland chain, at Guntersville, and turns its course to the northwest, the town lies at the northwest foot of Monte Sano, behind which wild-woods and mountain ridges rise to the east. On the eastern side of a beautiful and fertile valley, extending ten miles southward to the river, it looks out upon long ranges in the distance, and rounded spurs here and there looking up from the broad plateau, while north and west a semicircle of fields and forests is spread, with farm-houses, herds of cattle, horses and mules, crops of grain, clover and blue grass, cotton and corn, in their season, giving variety and life to the exquisite panorama.

Madison County is situated between 38° and 40° of longitude west of Washington, and between 34° 30' and 35° of north latitude. The

elevation of Huntsville, at the court-house, is 640 feet above the sea; that of Monte Sano, 1,500 feet. The climate, winter and summer, is unrivaled in America, and the air is light, and pure and sweet. The soil is similar to that of the region of Lexington, Ky. With a red clay sub-soil and limestone foundation, it is susceptible of the highest degree of fertility.

Ever since the discovery of Cat Island and Cuba by Christopher Columbus, in 1492, the territory, embracing Madison County and Huntsville, has been included in various grand land enterprises. With shipping furnished by Henry VII. of England, and authority to occupy and possess in the name of the King, Sebastian Cabot first discovered the continent of North America at Labrador in 1497, and in 1498-9 and 1500 he made further discoveries as far south as the Gulf of Mexico. Upon this basis of right, Queen Elizabeth, in 1585, granted to Sir Walter Raleigh, for settlement and development, the territory of America between 45° and 33° north latitude, which was named by him after the virgin queen, Virginia. But this enterprise soon came to naught, and in 1606 James I. granted to "the London Company" the territory from the Potomac River to the Cape Fear, to be called "South Virginia." Under its auspices,

the settlement was made at Jamestown, on James River. This company failed in 1624, and surrendered its franchises back to the crown. In 1663-5, Charles II. granted to eight of his principal adherents the territory lying between north latitude 36° 30' and 29°, from the Atlantic Ocean "westward to the seas beyond," to be called "the Province of Carolina." Under these charters, Edward, Earl of Clarendon; George (Monk), Duke of Albemarle; William, Lord Craven; John, Lord Berkley; Anthony, Lord Ashley; Sir George Carteret, Sir William Berkley and Sir John Colleton, their heirs and successors, were created "absolute Lords and Proprietors" of this magnificent domain, the King reserving only "faith, allegiance and sovereign dominion." These gentlemen of the "cavalier" party sent settlers, many of them relatives, to their colony, of which Charles Town (Charleston), established in 1672, became the chief seat. But in 1719 the people threw off the Proprietary government and placed the Province directly under the Royal Government of England. Within ten or twelve years, the successors of the original proprietors, surrendered for less than \$100,000, all title and interest in "Carolina," which included not only North and South Carolina, but the region now occupied by Georgia, the greater part of Florida, Alabama, Mississippi and "westward to the seas beyond." In 1732, George II. granted to General Oglethorpe and twenty-one trustees, for philanthropic colonization of imprisoned debtors and persons bound to service, the territory from the Savannah River southward to St. Mary River, for twenty-one years, to be called after the King, "Georgia." The period of this charter expired in 1753, and Georgia reverted to the British Crown. The Revolution of 1776, the independence of the colonies, and the formation of the Federal Government of the United States, changed the status. As a sovereign State, Georgia then claimed, under the Royal charter, the territory north of 318, westward to the Mississippi River. In 1783 the British Government ceded all rights to the United States, and in 1802, for the sum of \$1,250,000, Georgia ceded to the General Government the whole of her territory between the Chattahoochee and Mississippi Rivers, amounting to 1,000,000 square miles, stipulating that every sixteenth section should be donated for purposes of education.

The commissioners who effected this transaction on the part of the General Government, were

James Madison, Albert Gallatin and Levi Lincoln. Those who represented Georgia were James Jackson, Abraham Baldwin and John Milledge. North and South Carolina also ceded all claims to territory from the western boundary of those States to the Mississippi River and the boundary of Mississippi Territory was extended northward to the Tennessee State line.

But, previous to this great transfer, two episodes occurred, touching territory, in which Madison County is embraced.

In 1815, out of that portion of the then territory north of the Tennessee River, the State of Georgia, by enactment, created the county of Houston, called after John Houston, Governor of Georgia. Commissioners were appointed to organize it, and, with eighty men, proceeded to Muscogee Shoals for that purpose. A land-office was opened, and magistrates were made. But apprehension of the Chickasaw Indians arose. The party broke up and departed, and the enterprise fell through.

In 1794-5, the government of Georgia authorized the sale of 21,500,000 acres of land, now in Alabama and Mississippi, for the sum of \$500,000. The purchasers were companies of speculators called "The Yazoo Land Company," "The Georgia Land Company," and "The Tennessee Land Company." The measure was passed by bribery and corruption, and was afterward characterized as "The Yazoo Fraud." The Legislature succeeding obtained ample proofs of bribery, expunged the bill from the journal, and had the official engrossed act burned at Louisville, at that time the capital of Georgia. But, "The Tennessee Land Company" having received a deed over the seal of Georgia and sign-manual of its Governor, Matthews, to that part of North Alabama "from the Tennessee line, extending South to latitude 35° 10', and, with Bear Creek as its western boundary, thence running east one hundred and twenty miles," claimed a good title to all North Alabama for a distance of sixty miles south, including 1,000,000 acres among the richest, in agricultural and mineral resources, in the United States. While the Indians occupied the land, and called it their own, this corporation divided it into townships and sections, or lots, of one thousand acres each, and sold what they could on a credit of one, two, three and four years, without interest, about the years 1806-7. Deeds

thus given antedate other titles, except a few, and were recorded in 1810-11—the first that appear on the county deed books. The oldest deed is to Martin Beatty, in 1808, for one thousand acres in a square, including "the big spring," and nearly all of Huntsville. The consideration was one thousand dollars. Other conveyances were to Freeman Jones, 450 acres, William Campbell, 610 acres, G. Harrison, 200 acres, and to Henry L. Shelley, 10,000 acres—all at the rate of \$1 per acre. The last of these deeds recorded bears date of record in 1811, to Martin Beatty and Benjamin Estill, 40,000 acres, excepting 6,000 included and already sold at the rate of \$1 per acre. This tract covered land in the region of Huntsville, and was one of the finest in the South.

The Indian tribes had been recognized by the General Government as independent communities, and their right to remain in possession of their lands and to sell them when they pleased, was acknowledged, so that all sales of lands by companies or individuals, when the Indian titles were not extinguished, were held null and void and were disallowed by the General Government. And after lands were ceded by the Indians to the General Government, parties had no claims, except occupancy and preëmption, the same as other settlers on land, at the time of survey of the public domain for public sale. These just and proper decisions were arrived at in consequence of the claims set up by the corporators of the gigantic land speculations, mentioned.

In 1814, Congress appropriated \$600,000 of scrip, known as "Mississippi stock," for distribution *pro rata* among the claimants under the Land Company, and receivable in payment of public lands in the territory claimed by the "Tennessee Land Company." Prior to the land sales of 1809, Martin Beatty had relinquished his claim to the land about Huntsville and the spring, and entered other lands. The claims of many others were similarly settled by the General Government. After 1815, the few purchasers from the "Tennessee Land Company" who had not adjusted or filed their claims were ejected by troops, and the United States had undisputed title to the lands obtained from Georgia.

In 1805, John Hunt first came to the "Big Spring," and, in 1806, brought his family from East Tennessee to that locality. After him the town was named. He failed to perfect his title to

the land he occupied at first. One of his descendants was John Hunt Morgan, the distinguished cavalry officer of the Confederate Army, who was betrayed and killed at Greenville, Tenn. A year or two before 1805, old man Ditto was among the Indians at Ditto's Landing, now called Whitesburg; John McCartney, from Georgia, was living near the Tennessee line; and Joseph and Isaac Criner built a house near Criner's big spring, on Mountain Fork of Flint River, before the first visit of Hunt.

The land embraced in Madison County was the common hunting-ground of the Cherokee and Chickasaw Indian tribes, used by both and settled by neither. These were the finest of their race in physique, intelligence, and courage; and, though savage and cruel, they sometimes exhibited genuine magnanimity. The Cherokees in 1712-13 assisted the colonists of Carolina, under Cols. John Barnwell and James Moore, to defeat the Tascara Indians, who had seriously threatened the province, and helped to drive them northward, where they joined the Five Nations under King Philip. The Chickasaws are not known to have ever been defeated in battle. The rugged mountain region, eastward of Madison, with their stronghold at Nickajack, was occupied by the Cherokees; and the country, westward to the Mississippi River, north of the Choctaws, who inhabited the prairie section below them, belonged to the Chickasaws.

July 23, 1805, the Chickasaws ceded their claim to the land east of a line run from the mouth of Duck River on the Tennessee line, to the western part of "Chickasaw old fields" on the Tennessee River; and January 7, 1806, the Cherokees ceded their right to land west of a direct line from near the source of Elk River to Chickasaw Island, now Hobbs, in the Tennessee River. This area contained 322,000 acres. About thirty miles north and south, it was three miles wide on the river and twenty-five wide on the State line, and when organized was called "Old Madison." This occurred in 1808. Robert Williams, originally from North Carolina, the Governor of Mississippi Territory, by proclamation created the county of Madison. Here was made the first government survey in the territory, and in 1809, in the land office at Nashville, the first public sale of land in the territory was made of the lands of Madison County.

"The great bend of the Tennessee River," includes the counties of Madison, Jackson, Lauderdale and Limestone. The river crosses the thirty-

fifth parallel of latitude about ten miles northeast of Bridgeport and turns southwest, reaching its extreme southern point near Guntersville, at a point about forty-two miles due south of the Tennessee State line, and then turning northwest, again enters Tennessee at the northwest corner of the State, some ten miles down the river from Eastport. The distance from the Huntsville meridian, along the Tennessee line to Mississippi State line, is about ninety miles and from this meridian westward to the Tennessee River, is about fifty miles, and on from the river to the Georgia State line, at the corner of Jackson and DeKalb counties, ten miles. The great bend measured east and west along the Tennessee line, is one hundred and forty miles from entrance to exit of the river, and its greatest extent north and south is forty-two miles. Madison and Limestone counties occupy the middle portion of this territory, extending from the river to the State line. The early settlers of North Alabama were men who had fought the Indians in Western Georgia and Middle Tennessee, and were inured to the danger, privation, and suffering of pioneer life. But when they came to Alabama, they found a land of peace and plenty. Though nearly surrounded by savage tribes, there never was any war or disturbance in Madison County. The white settlers, who came in 1805-6, were never molested by the Indians. The Cherokees and Chickasaws visited it in autumn, and returned to their settlements, as winter set in, laden with game. Their camping-grounds can now be identified by the stone arrow-heads and hatchets, scattered over the fields in certain places. The pioneers who first settled the county, from Georgia and Tennessee, originally came from North Carolina and Virginia. They were enthusiastic in their praises of the beauty and fertility of the county; and those who were attracted to it by the glowing accounts of its wonders, said, "the half had not been told them." The beauty of the mountains and valleys, the numerous clear and sparkling streams running over pebbly bottoms, and the magnificence of the primeval forests, decked with the splendor of great giants of the woods, led them to think this the finest region ever trodden by the foot of man. They had at last reached the land of promise. In a climate, free from extremes of either cold or heat, with a deep, rich virgin soil, subject to neither floods nor drouths, a region abounding in game of every description—deer and turkeys, ducks and wild

pigeons by the hundreds, thousands and millions, and water-courses full of trout, bream and salmon, the native game fish, the means of living were abundant.

The lands once cleared and fenced, with little labor yielded a generous support to man and beast. Cattle and hogs required little care and multiplied rapidly. The seasons were regular, and good crops could be depended upon.

When the public lands were surveyed and sold, many of these pioneers, since known as "squatters," were able to purchase their homes, and, before the close of 1809, the ancestors of a large number of the best citizens were permanently settled on lands now occupied by their descendants. Up to the close of the year 1809, a population of nearly five thousand was in the old county limits; but, with a few exceptions, the population was of the pioneer type; however, stories of the beauty, fertility and salubrity of the county began to attract a more cultured and wealthy population from the other States, who developed here the refinement and luxury of their former homes. The tide of immigration flowed steadily in this direction, slaves were brought in considerable numbers, and lands were opened for cultivation, good houses were erected, and money became plentiful, with abounding prosperity.

In the year 1807, the general surveyor for Mississippi Territory was authorized to contract for the survey of public lands in his jurisdiction, to which the Indian title had been extinguished. Madison County was the first land surveyed in North Alabama, with the exception of the lands, in Range 2, East, surveyed by T. Roach. The old county was surveyed by Thomas Freeman, of Nashville, Tenn., and his work was well performed.

The first was the survey of Huntsville meridian, from the State line to the Tennessee River. The survey of "old Madison" was reported to the land office in May, and in August, 1809, the lands were offered for sale. The land office was at Nashville, Tenn., Gen. John Brahan being Register. These lands were eagerly sought for and taken up by a class of settlers who were, in intellect, enterprise and energy, the peers of any on the continent, and who, for over a quarter of a century were prominent in the State and National assemblies.

Immigration to the county, previous to 1809, came from the direction of Winchester, crossed into the county near its northeast corner, and fol-



lowed "the Cherokee line" down Flint River to Brownsboro. The fine water-power at Flint Bridge attracted many settlers, and Bennett Wood entered the lands from the Three Forks down to the Bell Factory, with the intention of erecting a mill thereon. John Hunt had made his way from the New Market country, through the wilderness, to the Huntsville Spring in 1805, and many followed that path. But the larger settlement was by way of New Market to Flint Bridge, and down the old Deposit road to the Brownsboro neighborhood.

At the land sales in 1809, a strong tide of immigration commenced down the Meridian road by persons from Williamson, Bedford and Maury Counties, Tenn., to make purchases in the newly-opened territory. A direct route, *via* Fayetteville, to Nashville was established; and the land office remained in Nashville until 1811, founding close business relations between the capital of Tennessee and Huntsville. The National road, when Natchez was the capital of Mississippi Territory, leading from Tennessee to the lower colonies, was first called "the Natchez trace," afterwards "the Military road," because the troops from Tennessee and Alabama travelled it in marching to the defense of New Orleans, and is now "the Limestone road." The right of way had been conceded by the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes in 1805. In 1809 Wallace Estell entered the quarter section of land where Cumming's Mill now stands, and there built the first mill in the county. Charles Cabaniss located at Powers' Spring, entered the old Tate place above Hazel Green, and built the first cotton factory in the county, on Barren Fork, in Section 8. H. Ford entered the land near the junction of Mountain Fork and Barren Fork, and built a cotton factory at an early period.

Between Flint Bridge and Huntsville, William Moore, Nathan Strong, James Roper, Matthew Weaver and John R. B. Eldridge lived. Down the Meridian road, the land was all taken up in large bodies. Robert Thompson and Thomas Bibb entered nearly all in sections west of the road from Birch Fork to Meridianville; and James Manning and B. S. Pope the land south to the Strong homestead. On the east of the road were John Lowry and John and William Watkins. Along the line of the western road from Pope's place, Powell, Richard Harris, Rowland Cornelius and others settled. From Strong's to Huntsville, John Connally, D. Humphrey, P. Cox, John W. Walker, Charles Cabaniss and Hugh McVay

entered. Out towards Russell's Hill, George Dilworth, Edward Ward and John Allison located lands; and east of Huntsville, in Power's Cove, Charles Cabaniss, Moses Vincent and Allen Christian lived. South and west of Huntsville many purchases were made in 1809, by ancestors of the present owners. Among these early buyers were Dr. David Moore, A. and J. Sibley, J. and S. Acklen, R. Langford, J. Withers, William Lanier, Archie McDonald, D. Carmichael, James and Andrew Drake, P. McLemore, J. and W. Blevins, William Simpson, William Robertson, Henry Haynes and the Turners. Large bodies of land were entered for speculation, and Petersburg, Ga., is remarkable for having been the former residence of a large number of the heaviest purchasers of public land. James Manning, R. Thompson, Leroy Pope, John W. Walker, Thomas Bibb, William Bibb and Peyton Cox, were all from that place, and probably purchased nearly one-half of the lands sold in 1809. They were, for a long time, prominent men in the county. Of other large purchasers, C. Kennedy was from Pendleton District, S. C.; B. Wood from Tennessee; Charles Cabaniss from Lunenburg County, Va.; S. Allen, Jacob Priest and William Robertson were living in the county before the land sales. In 1810 Thomas Brandon and Nicholas Reedy entered the Henry Motz farm; and John Baker, the Holding Brick house tract below McDonalds or Baker's Creek. At that time, J. H. Posey, C. C. Clay and Gabriel Moore made their first purchases of land in Madison County. G. Moore settled the homestead west of the brick schoolhouse; Posey, north of Huntsville; and Clay, a quarter section of land, south of Andrew Drakes, in Drake's Cove.

December 23, 1809, the Territorial Legislature passed an Act, that "William Dickson, Edward Ward, Louis Winston, Alex. Gilbreath and Peter Perkins, of Madison County, be elected commissioners, for the purpose of fixing on the most convenient place for establishing the public buildings in the said county, and they, or a majority of them, shall have power to procure, by purchase or otherwise, not less than thirty, nor more than one hundred, acres of land, at the most convenient and suitable place, which shall be laid out in half-acre lots, reserving three acres for public buildings, and sold at public auction, on twelve months' credit. The money to be applied by said commissioners towards defraying the ex-

penses of erecting the public buildings of the county."

For the quarter section of land containing the big spring there was no competition at the land sales of 1809, and Le Roy Pope paid over \$23 per acre. At that time there were two or three hundred inhabitants, scattered over the ground now occupied by Huntsville. The town was first laid out in 1810, and its plan was probably agreed upon between Pope and the commissioners. There were four half-acre lots in each square, and about sixty acres of ground were embraced in the plan. Pope was a wise and liberal man. The Spring Bluff determined the angle of the streets, which are thirty-four degrees from the true meridian. The first survey of the town was probably the work of John W. Leake. Hunter Peel came into Huntsville in 1816. The original plan of the town was not recorded and is not extant. The plat thought to be the original plan was drawn by Hunter Peel, by order of the trustees of the Pope donation, in 1821, and still exists. After the town was first laid out, the commissioners, who all lived in the neighborhood of the big spring, purchased thirty acres from Mr. Pope, paying the nominal price of seventy-five dollars. This deed was not recorded until 1815. They selected the south half of the town, the line running through the court-house square. This portion of the town was sold rapidly in half-acre lots, bringing from two to five hundred dollars each. Ten thousand dollars was realized and applied to public buildings. Pope afterward obtained more than twice as much for the northern portion of the town, which he had retained.

John Hunt, after whom the place was called, was not able to purchase at the sales the land on which he located. He did buy one quarter-section, but failed to make the payments, and it reverted to the United States. In 1811, the town was incorporated by the Territorial Legislature, as "Huntsville," with a board of trustees. The Legislature of 1843-44, granted a new charter to the town, dividing it into four wards, and providing for the election of a mayor and eight aldermen.

The first lot sold in the new town, was sold on the Fourth of July, 1810. The first court-house was commenced soon afterward, and court was held in it in the fall of 1811.

The first trading-house or store was that of Alexander Gilbreath, near the spring, about the

corner of Gates and Henry streets. After the town was laid out, Gilbreath and James White formed a copartnership, and did a large business in 1811-12.

The first houses on the public square were built by John Brown and J. O. Crump, on the north side, called "Exchange Row." Rose, LeRoy Pope and Hitchman built the first stores on the east side. John Reed, a clerk in the land office at Nashville, in 1809, bought the west half of the South Side, called "Commercial Row," and also the corner lot west, across Madison street. On this he built his first house and sold it to Andrew Jamison, who afterward sold it to Allen Cooper. Latterly it has been the property of F. O. Schandies. Reed sold lots on Commercial Row to J. Falconer, James Clemens, Stephen Ewing and Taylor and Foote. Stephen Neal, who was sheriff from 1809 to 1822, purchased the east half of Commercial Row, and sold it, by the lot, to Lather and Calvin Morgan, C. C. Clay, William Patton and Andrew Beirne, who were long and favorably known under the firm-name of "Patton & Beirne." Christopher Cheatham erected a tavern on the Huntsville Hotel lot. Thomas and William Brandon, the builders of the place, came here in 1810, with no property except their trowels and mechanical skill; and from a struggling village of wooden shanties, they made a town of brick and stone.

The Creek War began with the massacre of Fort Mims, in Washington County, on the Alabama River, on the 30th of August, 1813. General Jackson appealed at once to the militia of his division and soon found a considerable force at his command. Among his troops were four companies from Madison County, led by captains Gray, Mosely, Eldridge and Hamilton. Organizing his army at Fayetteville, he established a depot of supplies at Deposit Ferry, on the Tennessee River, and opened "Jackson's Trace," the Deposit road from New Market, through New Hope, to the ferry. Enthusiasm was great, and high prices were paid by some for the privilege of taking the places of the men enrolled. The Madison companies were put into a regiment with Tennesseans, commanded by Col. James Carroll, an intimate friend of General Jackson. Under him they participated in the important battles of Talladega and Emuckfaw, where, being on an exposed flank, they suffered severely. They were also at the battle of Tohopeka, which closed the war. The company of Captain Eldridge was raised in Hunts-

ville and Meridianville, and that of Captain Hamilton in the mountain settlements of Flint River. These companies bore a part in the occupation of Mobile and Pensacola.

On the 8th of January, 1815, the battle of New Orleans was fought, and on the 18th of June the battle of Waterloo. The Treaty of Ghent between England and the United States and the cessation of fighting between the nations of Europe, on the imprisonment of Napoleon at St. Helena, gave rest and opportunities of recuperation to the civilized world.

Cotton came into demand at a high price, and its cultivation, with negro labor, educated to the skillful use of the plow and the hoe, reliable and under control, promised large profits. In 1818 the magnificent lands of the Tennessee Valley of Alabama were placed upon the market. Speculation became the rage. The tobacco lands of Virginia had become worn and the profits of that staple had materially diminished. The price of cotton was high, 20 to 25 cents per pound; and in the rich virgin soil of the Tennessee Valley of Alabama, each good hand could make, annually, five or six hundred dollars. Besides, being unlike the sickly lands of the coast region, high and healthy, the increase of the negro slaves equalled the proceeds of the crops. Lands purchased in 1809, at \$2 per acre, sold at \$15 and \$20. For example: In 1817, Robert Thompson sold 640 acres, entered above Meridianville, to Thomas G. Percy, for \$10,800; Jacob Pruitt sold 137 acres, north of Mooresville, for \$20 per acre; James Manning sold the land on which Dr. Hampton now resides, at \$18 per acre. These were considered bargains, and shrewd business men like Charles Cabaniss, Dr. David Moore, John Brahan and Samuel Allen, who had purchased large bodies in 1809, considered their lands worth more, and preferred the profits of cotton planting to speculation. The value of town property kept pace with that of farms. For instance: John Reed paid the commissioners \$150 for lot No. 42, now Shandies' corner, and in 1815 sold it for \$1,500; Reed and Neal paid \$500 each for the lots on Commercial Row; Neal sold his for \$8,400. LeRoy Pope realized \$10,000 for the Holding Square, including the storehouse of Pope & Hickman.

On the 3d day of February, 1818, land sales began at Huntsville, then the only town in the valley. But, with the land-office and a bank, and twenty thousand people in Madison County eager

to invest in lands, the times were lively. Within two years the counties of Morgan, Blount, St. Clair, Jackson, Limestone, Lauderdale, Lawrence and Franklin were occupied and organized. And the towns of Bellefonte, Somerville, Montlon, Athens, Tusculmbia, Florence, Blountsville, Asheville and Russellville were founded, and nearly all of them incorporated. At that period there were no pre-emption laws for the benefit of the poorer classes of settlers, and men of means, chiefly from Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia, flocked in to buy and to settle. Lands covered with primeval forests sold from twenty, as high as one hundred dollars per acre, and all the best lands in the entire valley were taken up. Fifty thousand people settled in its limits within a period of two years, and the Tennessee River, from its entrance into the State, near the Georgia line, to its exit, near the Mississippi line, had a continuous farming settlement on both sides, with a teeming population.

In 1818, old Madison comprised about three-fourths of its present area (872 square miles); and the population was 20,000. Huntsville was the only town in the valley of the Tennessee, in Alabama; and outside of the county limits not a man owned an acre of ground. Madison received considerable accession of new territory, to which many of its citizens transferred their energies. But numbers of prominent men located lands farther down the valley, and became representatives of the new counties. At the public sales the lands added to Madison sold well. The uplands of the Matthews plantation, west of the Indian line, brought \$27 per acre; the Donegon place, \$20; the lands in Mullin's Flat, \$30. Toward Madison station, the Bradford plantation brought \$30; the Clemens place the same; while the Patton and Stevens plantations, near Swanoot, sold at \$50 and \$51 per acre, all wild woods. West of Madison the bottom lands brought higher figures, some, in the region of Tusculmbia, covered with timber, selling at over \$100 per acre.

During 1818 the United States Government laid off three sites for cities, "York Bluff," "Cold Water," and "Marathon," and sold the land in one acre lots. A corporation was also formed under the name of "Indian Creek Navigation Company"; and the bluff at Triana was marked off for a city, lots of which, at the first sale by the trustees, realized \$20,000. This enterprise was made a failure by the progress in transportation

through science, and the changes in the carrying trade effected by steam.

When the laws of the Territory were extended into Madison County in 1810, LeRoy Pope, Edward Ward, Wm. Dickson, John Withers and Thomas Bibb were appointed justices of the quorum, Pope being chief justice. In the year 1814, Wm. Dickson and Edward Ward resigned, and Dr. David Moore and Abner Tatum were appointed. These gentlemen served until 1819. Wm. H. Winston was recorder, and was succeeded by Henry Minor.

In May, 1810, by an Act of Congress, a judge of the Superior Court of Law and Equity for Madison County was appointed, and Judge Obadiah Jones opened court at Huntsville, attired, as customary in the older States, with black gown and cocked hat, the sheriff preceding him, hobbling in front a drawn sword. Peter Perkins was clerk of the court, and in April, 1811, Francis E. Harris, who remained in office until Alabama was admitted into the Union. John W. Walker served as attorney-general. On the second Monday in December, 1812, Eli Norman was tried for murder, and convicted. Motion for a new trial was overruled on Thursday. The criminal was sentenced on Friday and hung on Saturday. There was no lynch law or lynching in those days. This was the issue of the first trial for murder in Alabama.

In 1812, the Territorial Legislature incorporated the old "Green Academy" for boys; in Huntsville, with Wm. Edmanson, John Brahan, Wm. Leslie, James McCartney, Peter Perkins, C. Burns, W. Derrick, J. Neely, Jno. Grayson, H. Cox, B. Woods, S. Allen, A. K. Davis, W. Evans and Nathan Powers as trustees. Woods and Davis were ministers of the gospel. General Brahan donated the land on which the public school now stands; and until the establishment of the State University, in 1821, this was the leading institution in all this region. In 1816 the Territorial Legislature appropriated \$500 to the academy; and in 1818 Lennel Mead, Henry Chambers, Henry Minor, Jno. M. Taylor, C. C. Clay and J. W. Walker became trustees. In every part of the county there was an effort to keep up public schools, and very few of the early generation raised in Madison County were unable to read and to write. Many of them have scattered to the prairie region of South Alabama and Mississippi, to the Mississippi bottom, to Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas—and they have generally held their own.

Among the first ministers of the gospel men-

tioned in the county are: David Thompson, Thomas Moore, Woodson Loyd, Robert Hancock and William Lanier, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, all licensed before 1814; Bennett Woods, John Nicholson, John McCutchen, John Canterbury and Wm. Bird, of the Baptist Church; and A. K. Davis and J. W. Allen, of the Presbyterian Church.

The roll of attorneys who were admitted to practice in the Superior Court at Huntsville, from the year 1810 to 1830, is an exceptionally brilliant one. J. W. Walker became Circuit Judge and United States Senator; M. Williams, member of the Legislature and Judge of County Court at Tuscaloosa; G. Colter, Circuit Judge at Florence; John M. Taylor, Circuit Judge and Justice of the Supreme Court; C. C. Clay, Circuit Judge, Member of Congress, Governor, Justice of the Supreme Court, United States Senator and Codifier of the Laws of Alabama; Henry Minor, Circuit Judge and Supreme Court Reporter; John McKinley, Member of the Legislature and United States Senator; Samuel Chapman, Judge of Madison County Court for fourteen years and Circuit Judge of Tuscaloosa Circuit for twelve years; William Kelly, Member of Congress and United States Senator; Henry Chambers, Member of the Legislature and United States Senator; Hugh McVay, President of the Senate of Alabama and Governor; Wm. I. Adair, Speaker of the House of Alabama and Circuit Judge; James G. Birney, Member of the first Legislature of Alabama, and, on removing to the North, the first candidate of the Republican party for the Presidency of the United States; Arthur F. Hopkins, Circuit Judge and Justice of the Supreme Court from Mobile, where he moved; and James W. McCharg, twice Speaker of the lower house of the Legislature.

In the medical profession, during the early days, were two men of scholarly attainments and eminent skill, both as surgeons and practitioners—Dr. David Moore, elsewhere spoken of, and Dr. Thomas Fearn. The latter served under General Jackson in the war of 1812, and spent 1818 and 1819 in the medical schools and hospitals of Europe. An article he afterward published on the use of quinine in typhoid fever inaugurated a revolution in the treatment of that dread disease. He represented Madison County in the Legislature in 1822, and twice soon after. He was a Presidential Elector and Member of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States in 1861.

He was a handsome man, with a fine mind, great enterprise and public spirit, participating in many of the improvements about Huntsville and in the various projects of the day. Dr. Alexander Erskine came later, from Virginia also, and survived his distinguished confrères. He was popular and beloved, a man of high character. He practiced his profession after Drs. Moore and Fearn had withdrawn, and long did a lucrative business.

After these, Dr. Francis H. Newman came to Huntsville from Maryland. He was a physician of scientific attainments and general information. A man of heart, retiring in his disposition, devoted to his profession, and able in diagnosis and treatment, he possessed the confidence of his patients and of the community in which his life was passed.

The first newspaper published in Alabama Territory was printed at Huntsville, in 1812, by a Mr. Parham, and called *The Madison Gazette*.

The first bank was established under authority conferred by the Legislature upon LeRoy Pope, John P. Hickman, David Moore, B. Cox, John M. Taylor, Thomas Fearn, J. Searcy, C. C. Clay and John W. Walker to open books of subscription for that purpose, in 1816.

Hunter Peel, who came to Huntsville in 1816, was a useful citizen. He was an Englishman, and had served in the British Army as an engineer. He surveyed part of the public domain in 1818, and was an excellent draughtsman. His admirable map of Madison County was lost or destroyed during the sectional war. His map of the old Huntsville corporation is extant; and, in connection with J. Barklay, he constructed the Huntsville Water-Works, which have furnished pure, cold water, by iron pipes, throughout the town, for sixty-five years.

Alabama Territory had the pre-requisites to constitute a State. A convention of the people was called to frame a constitution and to apply for admission into the Union. This body convened at Huntsville, July 5, 1819, and was composed of forty-four delegates from twenty-two counties. Madison County was entitled to eight, Montgomery and Tuscaloosa to two each, and Mobile and Dallas Counties to one each. John W. Walker, of Madison, was made presiding officer. A Territorial Legislature also met at Huntsville, October 25, 1819. On the 14th of December, the same year, Congress, by joint resolution, approved by President Monroe, admitted Alabama as a State into the Union. The first Legislature of

Alabama assembled at Huntsville, on the first Monday in August, 1820. And the first Governor of the State was Wm. W. Bibb, of Madison County, who on his death was succeeded by Thomas Bibb, his brother, President of the Senate, also of Madison.

In the history of Alabama as a State, nine of its Governors have been identified by residence or by birth with Madison County, to-wit: the two Bibbs, Gabriel Moore, C. C. Clay, Reuben Chapman, John A. Winston, before the sectional war; and Robert Patton, D. P. Lewis and E. A. O'Neal, since the war. Eight United States Senators, and two Confederate Senators, have hailed from Huntsville, namely: John W. Walker, who served from 1819 to 1823; William Kelly, from 1822 to 1825; Henry Chambers, from 1825 to 1826; John McKinley, from 1826 to 1831; Gabriel Moore, from 1831 to 1837; C. C. Clay, from 1837 to 1843; Jere Clemens, from 1849 to 1853, and C. C. Clay, Jr., from 1853 to 1861; in the Confederate States Senate, C. C. Clay, Jr., served first and afterward Richard W. Walker. Gen. L. P. Walker was Secretary of War of the Confederate States, in 1861. In 1842 Dr. David Moore was defeated for the United States Senate by four votes from his own section of the State, influenced by personal or local motives; otherwise Huntsville would have had an unbroken succession of Senators in the Congress of the United States.

Before the war, in the Conventions of the Democratic party in Alabama, the basis of representation was the white vote in each county, and North Alabama, being overwhelmingly Democratic, was called "The Avalanche," because, going down solid from this region, it overran the more Whiggish counties below. Colonel Galloway, a native of Madison County, Ala., started an important newspaper at Memphis, Tenn., and mindful of this sobriquet, called it "*The Avalanche*," known and respected to-day. Under the new system of representation in Democratic Conventions, since the redemption of the State, the white counties of North Alabama have lost the power they formerly had in the councils of the party, and, through the material used in State elections, Democrats of "the black belt" dominate. There is no disposition to jeopardize the peace, safety and conservative influence of that section of the State. But the party is organized on Federal politics, not on State, county, town or personal issues; and

the election of the Presidential electors is the most unflinching, unmixed and important criterion of party allegiance. In the distribution of party power in the State, its fairness and squareness can not be questioned. When the Democracy of North Alabama require representation on that basis, it will be conceded as right; but not until a firm and decided stand is taken. In the mean time this section is dwarfed of the power justly belonging to it.

In 1823, the great thoroughfares of the country here were opened in various directions for convenience and to facilitate communication and the business interests, superseding the old Indian trails. The streets of Huntsville, many of them graded by Hunter Peel, were also macadamized with blue limestone rock from the mountain base. Drains were opened next to the sidewalks and deciduous trees set out for comfort, health and adornment.

Between 1820 and 1830, houses of worship were built in Huntsville by the different denominations of Methodists, Baptists, Presbyterians and Cumberland Presbyterians. They were occupied by large and liberal congregations, as they are now. Later the Episcopalians raised a gothic structure, and for several decades have had a full and prosperous church. Since the war the Roman Catholics have built a stone edifice for their services, on a main street. "The Christian" sect have recently completed a modest building. And the colored people of different persuasions have their churches. Among all, the spirit is liberal and harmony prevails, with absence of bigotry and jealousy.

In 1830, the population of Madison County was 27,390. In that year the Pre-emption Law was passed, having been earnestly advocated by C. C. Clay, Representative in Congress.

In 1832, great land sales took place in this valley, with additional influx and settlement by farmers of moderate means.

In 1831, the Female Seminary was established by Presbyterians, and has continuously sent forth young ladies of high education.

In 1832, "The Bell Factory" was incorporated, as "Patton, Donegan & Company," for the manufacturer of cotton cloths. It ran 100 looms and 3000 spindles, and for many years under direction of Dr. C. H. Patton distributed its excellent products at a handsome profit.

In 1836, the last remnants of the Indians were removed from Madison County to the Indian Territory.

In 1838, the present court-house was built by Wilson and Mitchell for \$52,000; and at the same time the structure of the National Bank was erected by George Steel. The streets were extended and graded, drainage was improved; and many private residences were put up.

In 1843, the Female College was inaugurated by Methodists, and has since been an admirable institution, popular throughout the South.

In the same year a new charter for Huntsville was obtained from the General Assembly, dividing the town into four wards and providing for a government of a mayor and eight aldermen.

In 1850, the Memphis & Charleston Railroad was projected by men of Huntsville, and soon constructed. The second president of the enterprise was George P. Beirne, and the third Archibald Mills, of this place.

In 1872, "The Huntsville Agricultural and Mechanical Association" was organized, for giving Fairs every fall, with exhibitions of farm produce and fine stock. It has greatly promoted the objects sought, has been well managed, and is undoubtedly the most prosperous and substantial Fair association in the Cotton States. In 1886, it had the best exhibit of farm produce at the State Fair in Montgomery, and last fall took the first premium of \$400 there.

In 1883, the population of Madison County was 37,625—White, 17,591; colored, 19,934. Acres in cotton, corn, oats, wheat, rye, tobacco and sweet potatoes, 213,221. The production of cotton, 29,879 bales. The rich, red valley lands constitute 360 square miles; the coal measures tablelands, 150 square miles; and sandy lands on the mountains, 50 square miles.

The latitude, the elevation, the configuration of the mountain chains, and the direction of the valleys and of the prevailing winds combine to create a climate, the finest throughout the year to be found in the United States. The beauty of the women of Huntsville is as proverbial as their culture. And the numerous ruddy children and robust, athletic men give the most substantial proof of beneficent surroundings.



**REUBEN CHAPMAN** was born in Caroline County, Va., in 1802. His father, Col. Reuben Chapman, was a soldier in the war of 1776 for the independence of the American colonies. His

mother's maiden name was Reynolds, and she was of Essex County, Va. Well educated in his native State, he came to Huntsville, Ala., in 1824, where he studied law in the office of his brother, Judge Samuel Chapman, who had preceded him. During that year he was chosen to carry the electoral vote of the State—the second it had cast—to Washington. In 1825 he was admitted to the bar. He practiced a year in Huntsville, and then removed to Morgan County. In 1832 he was elected to represent that county in the State Senate and was twice re-elected, when, in 1835, he was sent to Congress over Messrs. R. T. Scott, of Jackson, and William H. Glascock, of Madison, by a large majority. Two years later he was re-elected over ex-Gov. Gabriel Moore by 6,300 majority, after a close canvass. In 1841 he defeated Hon. John T. Rather, of Morgan, the candidate for this District on the Whig general ticket. He remained a member of Congress, until 1847, when he was nominated for the office of governor without his solicitation and to concentrate the strength of the Democratic party, threatened by personal divisions. He was elected over the nominee of the Whig party, Col. Nicholas Davis, by a majority of 6,255 votes.

During his career as a member of Congress, the Hon. Renben Chapman was bright, humorous and impressive in conversation, with courtly manners. Reared in the school of "John Taylor, of the Carolinas," he was a consistent Democrat of the States' Rights wing all his life. On the great questions of the tariff, independent treasury, Cumberland road bill, United States bank, Abolition petitions, and the admission of Texas into the Union, he stood squarely with the Hons. R. B. Rhett, Dixon H. Lewis, William L. Yancey and other staunch defenders of the rights and safety of the Southern States under the Constitution, against the sectional encroachments of the North. His accurate knowledge of the political history of the country, his strict adherence to principle, unswerving devotion to the true interests of his constituents, coupled with contempt of demagogism and fine judgment, made him a man of decided influence. He commanded the respect and confidence of his contemporaries. Of a calm and courageous spirit and comprehensive views, he was a statesman of practical ability. Besides understanding public men, his sympathies with the people were strong.

When elected Governor the State was suffering

great financial embarrassment, largely brought about by the gross mismanagement of the Bank of the State of Alabama and its branches, whose funds had been scattered broadcast in loans to local politicians, producing failure and general distrust. From 1845 to '47 the affairs of these banks had been placed in the hands of three commissioners: F. S. Lyon, C. C. Clay and W. Cooper, for settlement, and to apply the assets to the payment of the State bonds. The proceedings of these commissioners were formally recognized as faithful and able. But Governor Chapman conceived that, in negotiations of the sort, one commissioner was better than three, and Mr. Lyon was constituted "sole commissioner and trustee to apply the remaining assets of the banks, with power and discretion as to settlements with debtors, in buying exchange and taking up the indebtedness to the State, as he thought best for the public interest." In consultation with the Governor, who was a very able financier, the task was performed quietly, on the best information obtainable in each case, with integrity, firmness and good judgment. The result turned out greatly to the advantage of the State, which was much relieved, during this prudent and skillful administration of two years.

Governor Chapman was brought forward as a candidate for a second term before the Democratic State Convention in 1849. But Governor J. W. Martin, who preceded him in the office, elected as an independent, over the nominee of the Democratic party, had been superseded at the close of his first term, and now his friends within the ranks of the party retaliated on Governor Chapman and went to the support of Judge Henry W. Collier, of the Supreme Court. In this way the two-thirds majority of the Convention, requisite under the usage of that date, was not obtained for Governor Chapman's renomination, although he had a decided majority and the solicitous support of many of the ablest and most influential men in Alabama. The Whig party was strong, and in the next Legislature obtained a majority of the Senate. In the face, therefore, of a severe party contest in the State, and to avoid a heated struggle within the Democratic ranks, Governor Chapman had his name withdrawn and lent his support to Judge Collier, who, after two days balloting among four candidates from Middle Alabama, was unanimously nominated and elected in the fall.

On November 12, 1849, Governor Chapman

transmitted to the House his annual message. Toward its conclusion the following significant paragraphs occur:

"Having thus placed before you, for your consideration, every subject connected with the domestic policy of the State, and the immediate interests of her people, I should feel that I had not discharged my whole duty, if, before retiring from office, I did not call your serious attention to the question of slavery in the Territories, and the action of Congress on that subject. A more important subject never presented itself to the consideration of a people; for it concerns not merely our property, but is a question of State and individual honor—of self preservation.

"I recommend that provision be made by the Legislature, at once, for the calling of a convention of the people of the State immediately upon the passage of the Wilmot Proviso in Congress, or any similar measure having a tendency to exclude slavery from the Territories, or abolish it in the District of Columbia, or interfere with the removal of slaves from one State to another. I recommend also, that provision be made that, in any such contingency, our sister States, similarly affected, be invited to unite with us in general convention, to consult upon the state of the Union, and the best means of preserving our common rights."

In this message, Governor Chapman showed his thorough understanding of the political position between the North and the South, and suggested the only method of meeting sectional aggression. But his advice, based on superior knowledge, was not appreciated, and further submission to unconstitutional exclusion of the Southern people was submitted to under the so-called compromise, adopted in regard to the Territory acquired through the Mexican War. This postponed for ten years the inevitable issue, while the Northwest was filled up by hundreds of thousands of trained soldier immigrants from Germany, and thousands of miles of railroads were built between the sections, facilitating the invasion and conquest of the South.

Governor Chapman retired to private life and removed his residence to Huntsville in 1850. He devoted himself to his large landed estates in Madison, Morgan, and Sumter, Ala., and in Texas.

In Madison County, in 1855, the American or Know-Nothing party gained some foothold, and ex-Senator Jere Clemens was put up as a candi-

date for the lower house of the State Legislature. Upon the demand of the Democratic party, Governor Chapman consented to run against him, and defeated Colonel Clemens. This was his last official service.

In 1860 he attended the Baltimore Convention, held after the break of the Democratic party in Charleston, and used his utmost efforts to bring about an understanding between Northern and Southern men there. He came near succeeding, but was defeated by the irrepressibles on both sides.

During the war the Federal troops burned his residence, desolated his possessions, imprisoned and harrassed him, and finally forced him out of their lines. And his cup of sorrow was filled by the fall of his young son, Steptoe Chapman, on the field of battle.

Governor Chapman survived the war, residing in Huntsville until his death, in April, 1882. He was a man of fine proportions, six feet high, straight, sinewy and unencumbered with flesh. He had a florid complexion and chestnut colored hair. His wife was Miss Felicia Pickett, a sister of Hon. R. O. Pickett, of Lauderdale, and a relative of General Pickett, of Gettysburg fame. He left a son bearing his name, and four daughters, one of whom married Captain Humes, a prominent lawyer of Huntsville; another, Col. Turner Clanton, of Montgomery; a third, Mr. Hubbard, of Virginia; and the youngest, Mr. Taylor, of Colorado.

Notwithstanding the losses of the war, Governor Chapman left a large estate. He was a man of public spirit, took an interest in all matters of general benefit, and befriended those who were in trouble, with his credit as well as his advice. During his later years his mind was bright, and his social qualities and great fund of information and dry wit was greatly appreciated. He was a Nestor among the young men of the community, often sought after and consulted. Having been for years a consistent member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, he died suddenly and much regretted.



**MICHAEL J. and JAMES F. O'SHAUGHNESSEY.** In the annals of Ireland the name of O'Shaughnessey is among the oldest, and is identified with those patriotic struggles which have commanded the sympathy and respect of all true



Americans. For hundreds of years its representatives have shown qualities of manhood and sagacity which make a staying race.

"The great rebellion" of 1641, in Ireland, was brought on by penal laws as to the Catholic religion, which pressed on a whole people, and by the systematic iniquity of despoiling them of their possessions. With Roger Moore and other prominent men, the O'Shaughnessys suffered, and after the conquest of Ireland, effected by Oliver Cromwell with his powerful army in 1649, through several years of butchery and spoliation exceeded only by the Roman Titus in his destruction of the Jews, the landed estates of the O'Shaughnessys, in County Galway, were confiscated and allotted to men who aided in the reduction of the country, as were those of many other so-called "insurgents." For nearly two hundred years, until 1837, the Catholics of Ireland, numbering between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 of people, were debarred of the common rights of civil society and of political privileges. But members of the O'Shaughnessy family survived the bloodshed and the forfeiture of estates, and have held positions among the respected and prosperous, unbought and un intimidated.

In 1836, Thomas O'Shaughnessy came to the United States, and established, in Cincinnati, a commission house for the sale of dry goods in packages imported from abroad and dispatched from eastern factories. He succeeded in building up a large business, and acquired a considerable fortune.

In 1846, his brother James O'Shaughnessy came to this country, settled at Newport, Ky., and engaged advantageously in the manufacture of cotton goods.

MICHAEL J. O'SHAUGHNESSY the elder son of James, was born in 1833 on his father's estate in Kildare County, Leinster—his mother being an O'Kelly and the blood on both sides purely Celtic. He was educated at St. Xavier's College, Cincinnati, and then entered the commission house of his uncle Thomas.

In 1861, when Salmon P. Chase, who proved to be a great financier, was called by President Lincoln to assume the arduous responsibilities of Secretary of the Treasury of the United States on the eve of the sectional war, he found the department filled with expert officials opposed to the Administration; and, looking around for the means of security for himself and for the

Government, he sought from his own State, Ohio, ten competent and thoroughly trustworthy young men, to be put at once into positions of control.

Among these Michael J. O'Shaughnessy was selected and placed at the head of the important department of accounts, under General Spinner, the Treasurer. At that period the forms of business and of bookkeeping for the Government were obstructive and dilatory from unnecessary red tape and complicated entries. The emergencies of the times soon developed need for more direct and prompt methods, and Major O'Shaughnessy proposed and effected a change in the entire system, which, while securing the Government, offered facilities for the rapid transaction of the enormous and vital business of the Treasury Department. Those improved methods are in use in Washington to-day.

After the war, having no special interest in politics or in the society of Washington he joined his brother James, who had opened a commission house at Nashville, Tennessee.

Later on, Major O'Shaughnessy purchased the machine shops of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad at Huntsville, and converted them into a cotton-seed oil factory, which he has conducted with great success. Through his influence his brother became attracted to Alabama and embarked in plans for the development of Huntsville on a large scale.

Major O'Shaughnessy is president of the Huntsville Land and Improvement Company, which has done so much in this direction even in this, the commencement of its career. Possessing a fine residence in Nashville, he has just completed, north of Huntsville, a country-seat, "Kildare," superior in style and finish to any in the State; and he is about to establish in the town a factory for the production of a first class fertilizer. A man of uncommon business ability, he is scholarly, refined in manners and of cultivated tastes, an educated draughtsman, a musician and a connoisseur in art. He is a gentleman of sociable disposition and is fond of field sports, fine horses and fox hunting. His stable contains select thoroughbred riding horses and his kennel probably the best fox-hounds in the State. He married Miss Pyles, of Nashville, Tenn., a grand-niece of John C. Calhoun and of Major Nicholas Hobson of Nashville. They have a family of four sons and one daughter.

JAMES F. O'SHAUGHNESSEY, the younger son of James, was born in Dublin in 1841, and from St. Xavier's College, in 1859, went into a commission house in Cincinnati. At the close of the sectional war, he was in the Quartermaster Department under General Swigert at that city, having shown great ability in handling transportation facilities.

Opening a commission house in Nashville in 1865, Colonel O'Shaughnessey bought the first cotton of any volume which passed through that place in commercial circles. In 1868, he and his brother originated one of the first cotton-seed oil factories in the South. In order to conduct satisfactorily the sale of cotton seed products, he moved to New York in 1871, and was the first to open the way for that industry in the east and in the foreign markets of the world. He shipped the first cargo of cotton-seed oil to the olive growers of the Mediterranean. Shortly after going to New York he married a daughter of Judge Nelson J. Waterbury, a gentleman of wealth and influence in the State of Connecticut. In 1873, Jay Gould's corner in the currency of the country, which produced Black Friday, and wrought ruin to thousands, caught the O'Shaughnesseys, and temporarily crippled them; but, having credit, they soon recovered. Continuing the commission business with which he has been constantly identified, Col. James F. O'Shaughnessey established at Brooklyn a refinery of cotton-seed oil. By a judicious purchase made by him some years ago, these brothers own forty-three acres of land in Harlem, where the gaslights and sidewalks of New York city have now been placed. In the rapid spread of that great emporium, it may not take many years for this property to occupy an important position of untold value. Colonel O'Shaughnessey also purchased from the Government of Nicaragua the franchise of the Nicaragua Canal, for the sum of \$100,000. The fabulous expense of making the DeLesseps Panama Canal renders it impracticable and abortive, and the Nicaragua enterprise the only one likely to be accomplished. Colonel O'Shaughnessey has organized a company with a capital of \$60,000,000, and has obtained the passage of an Act by Congress which gives the protection of the United States Government to the project. Hence, if successfully carried through, this magnificent improvement for the commerce of the world will be identified with the administration of President Cleve-

land. Colonel O'Shaughnessey has also made investments in Pensacola, the only first-class harbor of the United States on the Gulf of Mexico from which ships of large tonnage can export coal and iron. And he has been a pioneer in establishing Brunswick, Ga., with its bar thirty feet deep and land-locked estuary, as the great seaport of the South Atlantic coast. This is likely to become the principal place of entry for the great trade with South America, and also the Eastern terminus of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which runs on the best line of latitude, and is free from obstructions of ice and snow. He has also projected, and is engaged in arranging, a great trunk line railroad from Brunswick to St. Louis, through Huntsville, Ala. and a line from the latter point to Cincinnati. These are grand enterprises, showing sagacity and breadth of mind, coupled with energy and courage, which, combined, constitute genius. But, while inaugurating these gigantic improvements and promoting them with his own money, as well as that of his friends, Col. James F. O'Shaughnessey prefers that others be chosen to carry out the details, and keeps himself in the background, free from care and drudgery. Never depressed and of great resources, he is a man of rare business intuition, buoyant temper and elastic spirit—as fresh in feeling as a boy, the sort of man to accomplish great results. Among the exclusive plutocracy of New England, he has an elegant residence at Buzzard's Bay, on the coast of Massachusetts, and on Monte Sano, Alabama, a pretty villa, for the accommodation of himself and his guests during his trips to Huntsville.



**ROBERT BARNWELL RHETT**, the father of a long lineage and of a conspicuous public service, was born in 1800. The son, of whom this brief sketch is given, was born in Charleston, S. C., in 1828. His accomplished mother was a Burnetts, whose paternal grandfather came from Aberdeen in the colonial days, her maternal grandfather being Daniel DeSaussure, whose son W. H. DeSaussure was first Controller of the United States mint and whose wife was Sarah McPherson, of Badenoch-Chny descent.

On both sides of his house Mr. Rhett is identified with the history of the United States, early and late.



*R. Barnwell Whitte*



Prepared for college chiefly by William R. Abbott, of Georgetown, D. C., he entered Harvard from Charleston in 1845. At the June exhibition of '47, being one of "the first eight" of a large class, he was a speaker; at that of '48 he was again a speaker; and on commencement day, 1849. For rank in scholarship he was chosen a member of "The Phi Beta Kappa Society." He was elected president and orator of "The Hasty Pudding Club," and he was an active member of "The Oneida Boat Club," pulling in several eight-oared races on the river Charles among the winning crew.

President Everett having advised against a two-years' travel in Europe, he returned to Charleston, studied law in the office of James L. Petigru, a personal friend of his father, and was admitted to the bar at Columbia, S. C., in 1851. He also served on the staff of Governor Means.

In 1853, suffering from laryngitis, having married a handsome and popular young lady of Huntsville, Ala., and being fond of country life, he became a rice-planter in Colleton district, S. C., working a goodly number of negroes.

After two years' close, practical attention to the business, supplemented by the study of "Leibig's Agricultural Chemistry," "Watson's Practice of Medicine," "Youatt on the Horse," etc., etc., he dispensed with the services of an overseer and managed his own planting. At the same time he supervised his father's plantations and overseer, with 350 odd slaves. To many of these both father and son were strongly attached, and the feeling was largely reciprocated and practically exhibited during the war.

While engrossed in these occupations, his cousin, Wm. R. Taber, editor of the Charleston *Mercury*, was killed in a duel, regularly fought. A challenge had been accepted for publishing an anonymous communication from a personally responsible author, who criticised in stringent terms a candidate to succeed Hon. Wm. Aiken in Congress. Regarding the conduct of the affair as pressed too far, especially in the demand for a third fire, which proved fatal, and as intended or tending to break down the politics represented by the paper, those of his father, Colonel Rhett bought the interests of Taber in the *Mercury* and afterward that of his partner, John Hoart. He quit planting with a handsome profit, and from March, 1857, edited the *Mercury*. In less than four years its circulation quadrupled, and it was the leading political organ of the Southern States, looked to by the

most prominent and influential public men, particularly in the Cotton States. The events of the Charleston convention and the results of the canvass of 1860 were the culmination of the long pending sectional issues.

Early in the summer of that year Colonel Rhett lost his first wife, and while at Saratoga for his health, in August, he was elected to the Legislature, from Charleston.

Upon the election of Mr. Lincoln to the presidency of the United States, in November, Colonel Rhett, through the Columbia *Guardian* newspaper, called a meeting of the members of the Legislature at Kinsler's hall, on Main street, at ten o'clock A. M. He had obtained a number of letters from public men, of the different Southern States, who had the confidence and respect of the people of South Carolina. The letters were replies to specific questions, propounded as to the course which South Carolina should pursue in the contingency anticipated. He presented them to the meeting and they were read by the secretary, Gen. Wm. E. Martin, the clerk of the Senate. Letters of similar character were offered by other members and were read, and the meeting adjourned. Colonel Rhett, then in the House of Representatives, offered a joint resolution, by precedent, for the call of a State Convention, and named December 6th for the election of delegates and December 17th for the assembling of the body. This, by consent, was referred to the Judiciary Committee, and the proposition was reported back in the form of a bill, prepared by the late Hon. Henry Buist, of Charleston, and was unanimously passed by both Houses. The State Convention, thus called, met at Columbia, adjourned to Charleston, and, on the 20th of December, unanimously adopted the ordinance of secession dissolving the Union.

On the 24th of December Major Anderson transferred his command from Fort Moultrie over to Fort Sumter. As this was held contrary to the understanding of the South Carolina commissioners, with President Buchanan, Colonel Rhett urged its immediate seizure by the State authorities, a stroke then easy of accomplishment; and this course was pressed on two considerations: first, to settle the issue under President Buchanan rather than under President Lincoln; and, second, to compel Virginia and other halting border States, to take sides definitely, so that the North might know what to expect in the event of war. But these views did not prevail, and the compli-

cation remained until April 12-13, with the results which followed. For the flag of South Carolina, Colonel Rhett, in the House, proposed the old blue field, and white crescent, with a colorless palmetto added, and the proposition was carried after opposition.

In an editorial of the *Mercury*, Colonel Rhett first suggested Montgomery, Ala., as the place of meeting for the convention of the seceding States. The suggestion was made, not merely on account of its central position below the mountains, but because the *Montgomery Advertiser* was thoroughly in accord with the movement and because it was the home of Wm. L. Yancey. The State convention adopted the proposal, and invited the delegates to assemble at Montgomery on the 4th of February, which they did.

In 1861-1862 Colonel Rhett served on the staff of Gen. R. S. Kipley, in South Carolina, and, during the war, he was repeatedly under fire in Charleston and on the islands adjacent. He edited the *Mercury*, and served as a member of the Legislature. His four brothers were in service under Beauregard, Johnston and Lee, from the beginning. One, Lieut. Robert W. Rhett, was killed at Cold Harbor, in 1862; Capt. Edmund Rhett and Maj. A. B. Rhett, survived the war, physical wrecks, to linger a few years. Col. Alfred Rhett, of Fort Sumter fame, is still living in Charleston, S. C. After the evacuation of Charleston, Col. R. B. Rhett received an appointment on the staff of Gen. J. E. Johnston, but the end came quickly.

The course of Colonel Rhett, in editing the *Mercury*, was throughout the war distinct and positive, in regard to foreign diplomacy, financial matters, and military and naval affairs. But in this brief notice it is impossible to convey any idea of the various policies projected, or the reasons offered in their support. Results, however, of the management pursued, under the lights of the present, go far to prove the political sagacity shown in the *Mercury* and the justice of its criticisms of the Confederate Government.

After the war, when suffrage was conferred upon the negroes, Colonel Rhett, at a meeting of prominent citizens, held at the office of "Porter & Conner," in Charleston, for consultation, argued the importance of canvassing among the new voters, utterly ignorant, before the agents of the Freedman's Bureau could array them solidly as Republicans against their white neighbors; but

he was alone, and the Union League had it their own way for ten years.

In November, 1866, the publication of the *Mercury* was resumed, and in 1868 its editor warmly advocated the nomination of General Hancock, for President, by the New York Democratic convention. When the motley reconstruction convention of South Carolina was held in Charleston, Colonel Rhett set forth, in plain terms, the unsavory antecedents of its various members; and during the period of deepest gloom, he contributed to holding up the hearts and hopes of the people of that depressed State, notwithstanding a threat made him of imprisonment at Castle Pinckney by General Sickles and menaces of assassination by Republican politicians, whom he had shown up.

The flush times following the war subsided, and cotton from 40 cents a pound dropped to 9 in 1867-1868, with wide-spread disaster at the South. Colonel Rhett sunk considerable money in the *Mercury* and in cotton planting at this period.

Having in 1867 married a second time, a lady of Huntsville, Ala., of rare beauty, he moved to Alabama in 1870, and since that time has attended to cotton planting in Madison County and in Noxubee County, Miss.

In 1872 he opened the State canvass of Alabama, with Colonel Herndon, nominee for Governor, offering resolutions in support of Mr. Greeley, not as a Democrat, but as an alternative to Grant.

Soon afterward he accepted an invitation from "The N. O. Printing and Publishing Company" to edit the *Picayune*, and through that canvass, and for a year after, during the stormy struggle of the people of Louisiana against Kellogg's fraud and usurpation, he controlled its columns. He vigorously and fearlessly exposed the great wrong and the various men conspicuously engaged in the enterprise, when an effort was made to muzzle the *Picayune* by two \$100,000 suits for libel, brought respectively in behalf of Chief Justice Ludeling and of Hawkins, made Judge of the Superior (or political) Court. Without going into detail, suffice it to state, that, in defending the cause of Louisiana, the *Picayune* and himself, Colonel Rhett became involved in a personal difficulty with Judge Wm. H. Cooley, counsel for Judge Hawkins. It sprung from a gratuitous and baseless imputation, made against the editor by the lawyer in his speech, and followed by a grossly insulting card in the *New Orleans Times*. A duel was fought between the parties, at Montgomery

Station, Miss., in which Judge Cooley fell at the second fire. Colonel Rhett's course was fully justified by people of the South, who understood the situation and the circumstances of the affair. By precept and example he inculcated the spirit which led to the needed political change in Louisiana under Wiltz, Nicholls, and Ogden.

In 1875, in Noxubee County, he took an active and responsible part in the canvass which freed Mississippi from carpet-bag domination.

In 1876, on account of dissatisfaction with the *News and Courier*, the Charleston *Journal of Commerce* was started (without the Associate Press dispatches, however), and Colonel Rhett was called to edit it. The *News and Courier* persistently advocated the support of Chamberlain, Republican, for Governor, by the Democrats of South Carolina. Colonel Rhett advised a straight struggle under a Democratic leader of sufficient prestige and popularity, to rouse the people to the supreme effort required, Hampton being the man indicated. Hampton was nominated in the *Journal of Commerce* by Gen. M. C. Butler. This programme was adopted by the State convention of the party, the *News and Courier* falling into line. An effort was then made to separate the State canvass from the presidential election, and confine the labors to the former, as a purely local affair. Colonel Rhett strenuously insisted that the canvass should be conducted abreast with and as a part of the presidential election, the issue of which was so vital. Tilden and Hendricks were elected, but the country was deprived of Tilden's administration of affairs. Hampton, after a long struggle, secured his office; and the Government of South Carolina got again in the hands of white men and Democrats. Colonel Rhett was elected to the Legislature with General Rutledge, at the head of the large delegation from Charleston; and he assisted in the rehabilitation of the State, in the settlement of the State debt, and in the reestablishment of her high credit.

Having returned to Huntsville, Ala., in 1878, in 1880 Colonel Rhett advocated the nomination of Hancock and engaged actively with voice and pen, in the election of General Wheeler to Congress from the 8th district.

In 1882, at Athens, Ala., he opened the canvass for State offices, by the first speech, taking the highest grounds for the Democratic party. He also spoke effectively on this plane, with Governor O'Neal, at Montgomery and at Mobile.

In 1884 he attended the Chicago Democratic convention, and on returning home, after the nomination, was made president of the Cleveland Club, at Huntsville. He canvassed the 8th district for the presidential nominees and for General Wheeler, who was again elected to Congress. At the Democratic convention of Alabama, in 1886, Colonel Rhett was chairman of the committee on platform and resolutions, which first endorsed the administration of Mr. Cleveland. Civil service reform and an equitable revision of the tariff for revenue, were the two planks proposed by him; the committee struck out the tariff plank. He was also elected at the head of the executive committee of the State; and he was appointed by Governor O'Neal as trustee of the University of Alabama.

His latest work in politics is an article among the "War Papers" of the *Century* magazine on the Confederate Government of Montgomery. In terse and pregnant sentences it throws much light on the events of that historic period.

In person, Colonel Rhett is five feet nine inches tall, with straight limbs, and weighs 140 pounds. His eyes are dark gray and clear. His bearing is simple, calm, direct and courteous. The correspondent of the New York *Herald*, from New Orleans, described him as follows: "Personally Colonel Rhett is represented to be high-toned, gentle and chivalrous—a quiet, low-spoken man, and the last either to court a quarrel or to recede from one, at the expense of his own honor; he has never hesitated to hold himself responsible for all language uttered in his journalistic columns or elsewhere."

Colonel Rhett is deeply interested in the development of the beautiful valley of the Tennessee River and presided over the first public meeting in Huntsville for the building of the Elora Railroad to connect with Nashville, and over the first concerning the Cincinnati, Huntsville & Birmingham Railroad.

**HENRY CLAY SPEAKE** was born in Lawrence County, Ala., June 17, 1834, and is a son of James B. and Sarah B. (Lindsey) Speake.

James B. Speake was born in Kentucky in 1806, where he received his education mostly after he was grown. He came to Lawrence County, Ala., in 1832, and located near Oakville, where he

taught school and followed teaching for a livelihood for several years. He married in June, 1833, and settled near Oakville on a plantation, and has remained there all his life. He and his wife, who are still living, have reared six children, of whom the subject of our sketch is the eldest. He has served as County Superintendent of Lawrence County several terms, and was a member of the Convention that framed the Constitution of Alabama in 1865. He was in the Legislature in 1870, '72, '76 and 1878. He has been very active in the Baptist Church, and is a member of the Masonic fraternity. His father, Basil Speake, came from Maryland to Kentucky about 1790, and his ancestors came from England with Lord Baltimore, and settled in Maryland.

Henry Clay Speake was reared on a farm; received a common-school education, and, at the age of twenty, taught school to procure money with which to attend the law-school at Cumberland University, from which institution he graduated in January, 1857. In February of that year, he located at Decatur, and with the exception of six months in Texas in 1860, he lived there until the war. He entered the army in August, 1862, as a private in Company D, Fourth Alabama Cavalry Regiment, and was soon afterward promoted to sergeant-major, and, later, to adjutant of the regiment. About January, 1864, he was appointed quartermaster of the regiment, and was captured, with a part of Forrest's command, near Columbus, Ga. After the war he settled in Moulton, and in 1874 was elected Chancellor of the Northern Division of Alabama, which position he held until 1880. In August of that year, he was elected Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of the State, and re-elected thereto in August, 1886. His present term will expire in 1892.

In December, 1876, Judge Speake located at Huntsville, where he has since resided. He was married January 27, 1860, to Carrie O. Mayhew, daughter of Jonathan Mayhew, remembered as an educator of more than ordinary ability. He was originally from New England. The three children born to Judge Speake, now living, are Kate M., Henry C., Jr., and Paul M. He has three dead: Sallie May, James M., and Carrie Belle.

The Judge is a Campbellite and his wife a Presbyterian. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

It is worthy of note that Judge Speake was called to the chancellorship and afterward to the judge-

ship by the voice of the people who considered his eminent fitness for the position, and that in neither case was it in response to any solicitation upon his part. His career, both as Chancellor and Judge, have shown the wisdom of the selection.



**THOMAS J. TAYLOR**, Probate Judge of Madison County, Ala., was born at Maysville, this county, July 2, 1829, and his parents were M. and Nancy J. (McCartney) Taylor, natives of Georgia. He received a common-school education, and, at the age of nineteen, began teaching. In 1858, he was elected County Surveyor, and held that office until January, 1862, at which time he entered the army as second lieutenant of Company K, Forty-ninth Alabama Regiment. After the battle of Shiloh, in which he participated, and at the re-organization of the regiment, he was elected captain of his company. He was captured at Port Hudson, and sent to Johnson's Island, at which place, Point Lookout and Fort Delaware, he was detained until the close of the war. For three years after returning home he taught school. At the end of that time he was again elected county surveyor, and held that office until 1871, when he was elected tax assessor for the six succeeding years. In 1880 he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, held that office six years, and in August, 1886, was elected Probate Judge.

In his early manhood Judge Taylor married a Miss Douglas, daughter of John and Catherine (Nowlin) Douglas, who came from Lynchburg, Va., about 1819, and the children born to this union are: Kate (wife of S. M. Seward); Nannie J. (wife of William L. Jones); Lillie (wife of W. A. Walls); and Laura L. The judge and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and he is of the orders of I. O. O. F. and K. of H.

The senior Mr. Taylor was born in Lexington, Ga., in 1801, and his wife in Madison County, Ala., in 1811. He came with his parents to this county in 1809, from Winchester, Tenn., whither the family had migrated in 1805. He was a farmer and merchant by occupation.

Of his children we are able to make the following notices: (1) The subject of this sketch. (2) John M., a newspaper man, went to New Orleans in 1852, thence to Baton Rouge, as editor of the *Baton Rouge Advocate*; was State printer at the



outbreak of the war; served through the war, rising from the ranks to the command of a regiment; after the war he was a member of the Louisiana Legislature, and died while of that body. (3) Grant, was a member of the Twelfth Alabama Regiment; died in the hospital soon after the battle of Seven Pines. (4) Charles was a private in the Seventh Alabama Cavalry; now a railroad man in Louisiana. (5) Felix M. was a member of the Fiftieth Alabama Regiment, and afterward Major of the Fourth Alabama Cavalry; served through the war; died in Memphis in 1886. (6) Waverly E. was a member of the Seventh Alabama Infantry, and afterward of the Second Louisiana Cavalry; was on Gen. Dick Taylor's staff; now a farmer in Louisiana. (7) George L., at the age of fifteen years, entered the Seventh Alabama Regiment; became a courier to General Wheeler; was killed at Murfreesboro. (8) Mary, wife of Clinton Hayworth, of Louisiana. (9) Lucy, wife of Pleas Davison, of Louisiana.

Mr. Taylor's father, George Taylor, was born near Richmond, Va., in 1762. He was a lieutenant under Henry Lee, and participated in the battles of Monmouth, Guilford Court House and King's Mountain. After the war he settled in Georgia, and was many years captain of militia. He moved to Tennessee in 1805, and to Madison County, Ala., in 1809. The Taylor family came to America with Lord Baltimore, and the McCartney family from Scotland.



**MILTON HUMES.** Attorney-at-law, son of John N. and Jane C. (White) Humes, was born at Abingdon, Va., in August, 1844. John N. Humes was born in Knoxville, Tenn., about 1800; was educated for the law and graduated from one of the New England Colleges. After marriage he settled in Virginia and became a planter on an extensive scale. He was a very influential man. His wife was a Presbyterian, but he was an admirer of the Swedenborgian doctrine. They raised a large family, viz.: Capt. John N., killed at Antietam; Gen. W. Y. C., a lawyer at Memphis; James W., deceased, who was a colonel from Tennessee in the Confederate service, and afterward an attorney at Abingdon; Andrew R., a captain from Virginia in the Confederate service—he died at Memphis during the yellow fever epidemic in 1878; Thomas W., a teacher at Huntsville; Frank A., an attorney

at Abingdon, Va., was a captain in the Confederate service; Milton, subject of this sketch; Elizabeth W., now widow of Dr. L. B. Shelley; Ellen W., wife of Dr. D. K. Tuttle, of Baltimore—he was a professor of chemistry in the University of Virginia; entered the army with the rank of colonel and in the capacity of a scientist.

John N. Humes died in 1872. He was a son of John N. Humes, who, with two brothers, came from Scotland. They settled in Pennsylvania, and he, at Knoxville, Tenn., where he became a successful merchant. He married Margaret, widow of James Cowan, of Knoxville, and sister of Gen. Gilbert Russel, of Virginia. They had three sons and two daughters, namely: John N.; Thomas W., who was for several years President of the University of Tennessee, at Knoxville; Andrew R., a farmer, who died young; Mary, wife of Hon. John White of Kentucky, who was, at one time, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the United States Congress; and Elizabeth, wife of a Mr. White, of Tennessee.

Jane C. (White) Humes, our subject's mother, was a daughter of James White, of Abingdon, Va., a native of Pennsylvania. He was eminently successful as a business man, and became very wealthy. He owned a large number of plantations all through the South besides, vast interests in iron, lead and salt. He married a Miss Elizabeth Wilson, of Virginia, and reared a large family, namely: James L., W. Y. C., Thomas W., Newton K., Addison, Frank, Milton, Jane C., our subject's mother; Eliza, wife of Dr. Hannum of East Tennessee; and Eleanor.

Milton Humes received his early education in an academy at Abingdon. He enlisted in the late war as a private soldier in Company A, Sixty-third Virginia Infantry, in the fall of 1861. He was engaged in battle at Princeton, W. Va., Charleston and Suffolk; at Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. He was made captain at Dalton; received a severe flesh wound, being shot through both legs near Marietta; was recommended for promotion to the rank of major, and assigned to the Army of Tennessee, and fought at Bentonville, N. C., which was his last battle. Captain Humes' mother having died during the war, and his home having been broken up, he came to Huntsville, and began the study of law with Beirne & Gordon. He took the degree of LL.D. in 1897 at Lexington, Va.; located at Huntsville, and has been enjoying a successful

practice there ever since. He has a large railroad practice, having for years been attorney for the Memphis & Chattanooga Railroad Company, the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad Company, and the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad Company in Alabama.

In 1884 Milton Humes was elected to the Legislature, and was made chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He is attorney for and director of the "North Alabama Improvement Company," also director of the "Alabama Black Band Coal, Iron and Railroad Company" of Jackson.

Captain Humes was married June 1, 1870, to a daughter of Reuben Chapman, ex-Governor of Alabama. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church.



**JOHN PATTON** is an honored representative of an old and distinguished family. His parents were William and Martha Lee (Hays) Patton. The former came from the North of Ireland to America prior to 1800, at the age of sixteen years, and settled in Virginia, where he was subsequently married, his wife being a native of that State. In 1812 he came to Huntsville and began merchandising, and in 1815 brought his family from Virginia, driving his wagon the entire distance. Mr. Patton continued to sell goods up to 1836, and was also largely interested in planting, owning a large estate in Mississippi and two in Alabama. Mr. Patton was a member of the firm of Beirne & Patton, and was the architect of his own fortune. He was a man possessed of rare business judgment, and at the time of his death, in 1846, left a large estate. He was the father of nine children, all of whom attained an advanced age and had descendants. Of these, Dr. Charles H. Patton was a celebrated physician and manufacturer, and accumulated a large property; Robert M. Patton was a planter, legislator and statesman; he achieved a high position among public men of Alabama; Jane became the wife of Wm. H. Pope; Martha married J. B. Bradford, who for many years was a merchant of Huntsville; Wm. R. was an old merchant and also a planter of Mississippi; Eliza became the wife of Lawrence Watkins, well known in Alabama and Mississippi; Mary Ann became the wife of Wm. G. Sellock, and after his death married N. M. Groch, and is again a widow; Margaret E. became the wife of Ned Richardson, a native of North

Carolina, who subsequently became a cotton factor and commission merchant of New Orleans. Mr. Richardson is a millionaire, and enjoys the reputation of being the largest cotton raiser in the world, conducting during the season of 1886 twenty-four plantations. Four sons and one daughter have been born to them. Mrs. Richardson died December 18, 1887.

John Patton was born July 5, 1814, in Virginia, and early in life entered his father's store, where he acquired business habits and methods which fitted him to succeed to his father's mercantile trade. He purchased his father's interest in 1836, and successfully conducted it until 1858, acquiring a handsome fortune. Mr. Patton has also been a leading planter, and was the owner of an extensive plantation in Mississippi, which he operated until 1868, since which he has retired from active business life and is now enjoying the autumn of life in his beautiful home in Huntsville. July 11, 1843, he was united to Miss M. Louise Walker, a daughter of James Walker, of Virginia, who had served in the State Legislature and was a large planter.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Patton; three, only, are now living: James H., of Huntsville, a planter and trader; Robert H., a merchant of Ellisville, Miss., and Leila D., wife of William H. Raymond, a prominent merchant and citizen of Selma, Ala.



**OSCAR R. HUNDLEY**, Attorney-at-law, was born in Limestone County, Ala., October 30, 1854, and is a son of Orville M. and Mary E. (Holding) Hundley, both natives of Alabama. His father is of English descent, and is a graduate of Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio, in classical course, class of 1853.

Oscar R. Hundley received excellent educational advantages, preparing for college at Phillips' Exeter Academy, of Exeter, N. H., completing his course there in 1872. He then entered Marietta College, where he pursued his studies during 1873-4. In 1876 he entered Vanderbilt University, and graduated from the law department, with distinction, in 1877, taking the degree of B. L. He was admitted to the Huntsville bar in December, 1877, and has been in active and successful practice since.

Mr. Hundley has achieved a flattering and ele-

vated position for a young man, not alone in the practice of his chosen profession, but in public life, into which he has been called by his political party.

In 1882 he was elected City Attorney of Huntsville, and re-elected in 1883. While an incumbent of this office he prepared and published the revised code of the city ordinances which are now in use.

In May, 1886, he received, unsolicited, the nomination for the State Legislature, and was elected the following August, by the largest vote of any candidate on the legislative ticket. He was placed upon important committees in the ensuing session, and made an exceedingly favorable impression. He was chairman of the Committee on Fees and Salaries, and a prominent member of the Judiciary Committee. He was recently renominated for another term in the Legislature, by the convention of his party, receiving the largest vote in the convention, over nine other candidates, on the first ballot.

In August, 1887, he was appointed, by Governor Seay, commissioner to represent the State of Alabama at the Constitutional Centennial Convention, held at Philadelphia, the 17th, 18th and 19th of September, that year. Mr. Hundley was chairman of the Huntsville & Elora Railroad Committee, and assisted materially in securing and building that important line of road. He is attorney for the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad for Alabama, and enjoys a general lucrative practice in the various courts.

Mr. Hundley was married in February, 1878, to Miss Anna E. Thomas, of Nashville, Tenn.

He is a Knight Templar Mason; has been an officer of the State Grand Chapter, and is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F. and Knights of Pythias, being now Past Grand Chancellor of the State in the latter order.



**JOHN D. BRANDON**, Attorney-at-law, was born at Huntsville, December 18, 1837. The senior Brandon came to Alabama from Tennessee, when nineteen years of age; began the study of law in the office of Gov. C. C. Clay, at Huntsville, and was admitted to the bar in 1822. He practiced law here up to the year of his death, which occurred June 2, 1838. He died in the thirty-eighth year of his age. Mr. Brandon was a successful lawyer and regarded as one of the ablest

jurists of his day. He died the possessor of a handsome estate. He was United States Attorney under Jackson seven years, and the Government Commissioner's legal adviser in their treaty with the Creek Indians. In 1825, he held the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel on the staff of Governor Pickens, and in 1838, was appointed, by President Van Buren, Consul to Campeachy and Tabasco, but died before assuming the duties of office. He left surviving him two sons, and three daughters, of whom John D. was the youngest child.

At the ages of fifteen years John D. Brandon accompanied his mother's family to St. Louis; there studied Latin and Greek under the Rev. Reel, and the following year entered Rochester, N. Y., Academy to prepare for college. In the fall of 1856 he became a student at Cumberland University, and graduated from the law department of that institution in 1859.

Returning to St. Louis, he engaged at once in the practice of law, but his health failing him, he came the year following to Huntsville, where he has since given his time to the profession. April, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company I, Fourth Alabama Infantry, one of Bee's regiments, and served to the close of the war. After the first battle of Manassas he was promoted from the ranks to second lieutenant, and in April, 1862, was advanced to the rank of captain. He served on the staff of the Fourth Alabama with this rank, as regimental commissary; and as captain he was assigned to duty under General Law, as assistant brigade commissary.

At Richmond, Va., Captain Brandon was entrusted with a letter from President Davis to General Lee. As he delivered the letter in person, he had his first opportunity of meeting the most distinguished hero of the war face to face. The General inquired of him about the people of Richmond, and of what they had to say regarding the campaign; and upon being told that the talk was, that the Federal Government was preparing to confront the Army of Virginia with General Grant, "and," the Captain added, "in which case General you will crush him as you have his predecessors?" General Lee replied "It must be; it shall be; it is our only hope." But the Grand Army of Virginia, under even the incomparable Lee, could not contend against fate.

In the latter part of 1863, Captain Brandon was assigned to duty at Camden, Ala., was there until the close of hostilities and surrendered

finally at Mobile. For the next succeeding three years he practiced law in Wilcox County, whence he returned to Huntsville, where he is known as an able lawyer, a public-spirited and energetic citizen.

The Captain was married in November, 1863, to Mrs. Rosalie C. Christian, a daughter of Dr. John D. Caldwell. Mrs. Brandon died October 19, 1869. The Captain is a member of the Masonic Order, Knights of Pythias, and Knights of Honor.

The mother of Captain Brandon was Miss Mary J. Caldwell, of Kentucky, whose paternal ancestors came from Scotland to Ireland, and from Ireland to Virginia; and her immediate family moved into Kentucky in the latter part of the last century. She and John C. Calhoun are descendants of the same Caldwell family, she being a third cousin of this great man and distinguished statesman.

**L. W. DAY**, Attorney-at-law, Huntsville, Ala., is a native of the State of Maine, and was living in Illinois at the outbreak of the late war. He came South with the Illinois troops, and after the cessation of hostilities, located at Huntsville, in the practice of law. He was appointed Clerk of the United States District Court, in January, 1866, held that office eight years, and was subsequently appointed Assistant United States District Attorney. He retired from the last named office in 1884.

Mr. Day is at this writing in the practice of his profession at Huntsville, and is ranked as one of the successful lawyers of Northern Alabama.

**ERNEST ROBINSON**, Attorney-at-law, was born in Huntsville, February, 1866, and his parents were James and Sarah (Smith) Robinson.

James Robinson was born in Hopkins County, Tenn., in 1805. In 1814, his parents immigrated to Alabama, and settled near Huntsville, where he received his education and fitted himself for the law, in which profession he attained considerable eminence. He served as City and County Attorney, and afterward in the Legislature; and was the father of three children, of whom our subject is the youngest.

Ernest Robinson received his education in

Huntsville and began the study of law at the age of seventeen, in the office of his father. He was admitted to the bar in 1877, and has been practicing since that time with considerable success.

**CHARLES P. LANE**, Lawyer, Politician and Real Estate Dealer, is a descendant of well-known Southern ancestry. He is a son of George W. and Martha (Davis) Lane, the former a native of Georgia, and the latter of Virginia.

George W. Lane was reared in Limestone County, Ala., and when young was elected probate judge of that county. He was subsequently elected Circuit Judge of Huntsville District, and in 1861, was appointed Judge of the United States District Court by President Lincoln, which office he held until his death in 1865. He was a Whig in politics, and a strong loyal Union man.

The mother of our subject was the daughter of Capt. Nicholas Davis, one of the most noted men of his time.

Charles P. Lane was born in Huntsville, Ala., March 18, 1854, and is the youngest of a family of eleven children. He received a good education, and before attaining the age of eighteen years was licensed to practice law in the circuit court of Limestone County. He began his public career in 1880, when he was elected to the State Legislature from his county, upon the Democratic ticket. In that session he became noted by his independence of strict party lines in favoring the minority report on elections, offered by B. M. Long, the only Republican in the House. By this action he became known as a "Republican-Democrat." In 1882, he was nominated by the Greenback Convention as their candidate for attorney-general, making the campaign upon a platform favoring fair elections and a repeal of the then existing convict laws. In 1884, he was honored with the nomination by the Republicans, Greenbacks and Anti-Bourbons for governor, but declined to make the race. The same year he served as a Blaine and Logan elector. In 1885, he established *The New South*, at that time the only Republican paper in the State.

In 1886, he was a candidate for the State Legislature. He is a young man of pleasing address and superior capabilities, and has a promising future. During the year 1887, he was the repre-

representative in the North of four large land companies—Sheffield, Decatur, Florence and Huntsville. Mr. Lane is now practicing law.

Mr. Lane was united in marriage in 1881 with Miss Ella Abercrombie, of Tuskegee, Ala., daughter of John Abercrombie, who died in the army, and granddaughter to Col. James Abercrombie, long known as the "Whig Congressman" from the Eufaula District.

Four children have been born to them: Madge, George, Mattie and Sarah.



**SAMUEL H. BUCK,** Vice-president and Manager of "The North Alabama Land and Improvement Company," at Huntsville, was born in the blue-grass region of Kentucky. His father is Thomas Mountjoy Buck, of a Virginia family, prominent in the time of Washington, and descended from the "cavaliers" of the war of Charles I. of England. His mother was Catharine Watkins, also of high lineage in "the Old Dominion."

The son was educated at Bethel, and at Union University, Kentucky. Before he graduated, the war between the States came on, and at the age of twenty he entered the Confederate service, April 11, 1861. He served in battles around Richmond, in Tennessee and in Kentucky, under General Whitefield and General Bragg. By both of these officers he was complimented for "gallantry on the field." Early in 1862 he was promoted to a captaincy, and in 1863 had reached the rank of lieutenant-colonel. He was then assigned to the staff of General Holmes, in command of the Trans-Mississippi Department. And when that officer was relieved, he was assigned to the staff of Gen. John B. Magruder, and took an active part in the campaigns against Generals Banks, McCook and Steele.

At the close of the war Colonel Buck settled in New Orleans, and in one year was a member of the cotton factorage house of Morrison, Buck & Co. He soon became influential in the cotton interests of that great mart. For three years from 1876 he was secretary of "the National Cotton Exchange of America," an office afterward held by Col. C. H. Parker, editor-in-chief of the *Picayune*. Afterward he was made chairman of the important "Committee on Appeals," to settle business misunderstandings among its members.

Colonel Buck was one of the marshals under Gov. F. N. Ogden, who in 1874 led the citizen soldiery of "the White League" against the plundering and tyrannical usurpers, a movement that resulted in the redemption of Louisiana and the re-establishment of a State government by the people for the people. He was elected a member of the Democratic Legislature of 1876, and served in three State conventions; also in the postal convention held at Old Point Comfort. And he was appointed, with Hon. Louis Bush as a colleague, a delegate from Louisiana to the Franco-American Congress, which met at Paris in 1878 to frame a commercial treaty between the United States and France. But, as he was about to sail, yellow-fever broke out in New Orleans and he returned to the city.

When Congress granted a charter for "The World's Industrial and Cotton Continental Exposition" at New Orleans, the Act authorized "The National Cotton Planters' Association" to nominate six out of the thirteen Governmental Commissioners to constitute the Board of Management. Colonel Buck was one of the six nominated, and he was commissioned by President Arthur. And when Col. E. A. Burke, who was made Director-General of this gigantic enterprise, retired, broken down by the strain of a position so responsible and arduous, Colonel Buck was selected to complete the work and afterward to close up the business of this, the most varied and interesting exposition ever held in the civilized world. In fulfilling the trying duties of Director-General he achieved so much reputation, that President Cleveland, unsolicited and of his own motion, appointed him postmaster of New Orleans. Here Colonel Buck instituted many desirable reforms and improvements, and then resigned the best office financially at the South, to take charge of the affairs of "The North Alabama Land and Improvement Company," at Huntsville. This fact alone and the guiding presence of such a man in the developments here projected, furnished the most satisfactory grounds for faith in the value of the advantages and in the great destiny of this point in the valley of the Tennessee as a center of industrial enterprises, population, thrift and progress.

But by all who know him, Colonel Buck is regarded as a typical southern gentleman. With a keen sense of honor, he is broad and just and conservative. Physically fearless, he enjoys a reputation for moral courage and candor, and is a safe

man in difficulties. In the social world he is the peer of the best, a man of courtly polish as well of as worldly wisdom.

Colonel Buck married Miss Annie Douglas Fleming, of Natchez, Miss., and their family consists of a daughter and a son.



**FRANK COLEMAN**, of Athens, Ala., Register of the United States Land Office, Huntsville, is the youngest son of the late Judge Daniel Coleman.

He was educated at the Southern University, Greensboro, Ala., and the Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va. Graduating from the last named institution, in 1869, he read law with the Hon. Luke Pryor, at Athens, and was admitted to the bar. He taught school a while; spent some time in the far West, and was for about one year connected with the editorial corps of the *St. Louis Times*. At the instance of Major Henry Heiss, with whom he had done journalistic work on the *St. Louis Times*, he came to Nashville, Tenn., and was for five years one of the editors of the *Nashville Banner*, a morning daily. His health failing, in 1875, he retired to his old home at Athens. In November, 1876, he became editor and half proprietor of the *Huntsville (Ala.) Independent*, a Democratic journal. Under his administration, the *Independent* became quite an influential paper, and was always fully identified with the greatest interests of its section of the county.

Mr. Coleman was four years a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee, and after the election of President Cleveland, he was strongly endorsed by the best men of the State for the position to which he was subsequently appointed and unanimously confirmed. His commission as Register of the United States Land Office was dated January 20, 1887, and upon taking possession of the office he severed his connection with the *Independent*.



**DR. DAVID MOORE**. The name of this influential and broad-minded gentleman stands conspicuous in the list of prominent and useful citizens of Huntsville, where he spent the greater part of his life. He was a leading spirit in all the

public enterprises which made it fifty years ago the most beautiful town in the South.

Dr. Moore was born in Brunswick County, Va., in 1879, of a Virginian mother, whose maiden name was Rebecca Fletcher. His father, John Moore, was a man of scholarly attainments and eminent piety from the Cape Fear region of Carolina.

Dr. David Moore received his education in Virginia, and was graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Moving to Nashville, Tenn., he entered on his profession, was soon recognized as a man of ability, knowledge and skill, and speedily obtained a lucrative practice. Here he married first Miss Harriet, an accomplished daughter of Judge Haywood, a man of note in Tennessee.

In 1809, at the first sale of lands in Madison County, Mississippi Territory, Dr. Moore became a considerable purchaser. He was also selected as one of the three trustees to whom LeRoy Pope deeded one-half of his purchase covering the site of Huntsville, with authority to lay off, sell lots and use the proceeds for the improvement of the projected town; and this work in the beauty of the place is still gratefully visible, for it is well done.

At Nashville Dr. Moore had been the family physician and attached friend of Gen. Andrew Jackson; and in 1813-14, during the bloody war which crushed the power of the Creek Indians in South Alabama, he served as surgeon on the staff of the General.

After the finishing battle of Tohopeka, on his return home, Dr. Moore was appointed one of five "justices of the quorum" of Madison County—an English and Virginian method of administering law; and he served until the admission of Alabama, as a State, into the Union.

Under an act passed by the Territorial Legislature December 11, 1816, Dr. David Moore was one of nine citizens authorized to open books of subscription for "The Planters' and Merchants' Bank," at Huntsville; and this was the first bank established in Mississippi Territory.

In 1820, after the admission of Alabama as a State, Dr. Moore was elected to the Legislature, and was returned thirteen times—five times at the head of the ticket chosen. From 1823 to 1825 he was sent to the State Senate; but, for influence, he afterward preferred the lower house, of which, in 1841, he was unanimously elected the Speaker.





*G. M. Harris*



Among the many important measures, which he influenced, it should be stated, that Dr. David Moore inaugurated and carried through "the woman's law," which creates a statutory settlement for the protection of married women from the possible vices or business misfortunes of their husbands, and generally considered just in its provisions without humiliating the husbands—a most wise and conservative measure, which has saved from ruin thousands of the families of Alabama.

Dr. Moore was eminent in his profession; but he had faith in land investments and in cotton planting. He bought the best lands, employed the best overseers and required them to account to him regularly. He made good crops, shipped his cotton to Liverpool, sold it at his own time, and furnished exchange to the people of the Tennessee Valley. He became the owner of nine choice plantations and many negroes.

In January, 1833, the Madison Turnpike Company was chartered under the auspices of Dr. David Moore and six other enterprising citizens. This company macadamized the roads ten miles south to the Tennessee River, and northward to Conally's, and west in the direction of Athens, Limestone County.

On the 24th of November, 1841, the Legislature of Alabama, entered on an election of a United States Senator, to fill the seat vacated by Governor C. C. Clay's retirement. Two ballots were taken. On the first ballot, Dr. Moore led by one vote; on the second ballot, Bagby was elected and Moore defeated, to the surprise of his friends, through the defection of a few men from North Alabama, who on this occasion misrepresented their constituents.

After losing his first wife, childless, he married in 1834 Martha L. Harrison, a daughter of Benjamin Harrison, of Brunswick County, Va., who afterward also moved to Madison County, Ala. By this marriage he had three daughters and three sons; and at his death, he left his widow and four children surviving him.

Dr. David Moore was a man of the blonde type, medium in stature, but of fine physique; calm and dignified in his bearing, courtly in his address, he was observant of men and careful and punctual in business. A man of affairs, he was successful beyond his contemporaries. At the same time, he was governed by principle, irreproachable in his habits and a Christian gentleman in the highest

sense of the word. His charities were wide and numerous. Hospitable and public-spirited, he was liberal to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a member. He was a substantial friend of worthy young men who needed help, and was not only generous during life to kindred, but provided in his will for the education of those of his nephews whom he considered in need of his aid.

Although a man full of the cares of business, his devotion to his family was remarkable. His heart was ever at home, and his watchful, tender love for his wife and little children was notably rare. The loss of such a guardian and guide in their early youth was an irreparable misfortune to his sons and daughters. He gave to his wife and children each an ample fortune, placed in the hands of trustees for safe keeping and ultimate division. He died in 1845.



**DR. GEORGE M. HARRIS** was born in Madison County, this State, July 11, 1820, and his parents were Frank E. and Mahala (Isbell) Harris, natives of the State of Virginia. The senior Harris was born in 1800 in Appomattox County, Va., and came with his parents to this county in 1809. The family settled at Blue Springs, four miles north of Huntsville. Some time in 1856 or 1857, Francis E. Harris removed to Jackson County, this State, and there spent the rest of his life, dying in 1877.

Dr. Harris' grandfather, Richard Harris, held the rank of captain in the Colonial Army, and served under Washington through the Revolutionary struggle. Coming to Madison County he purchased a large tract of Government land, and became one of the extensive farmers of that early day. He died near Huntsville at the great age of 94 years. His wife lived to be 80 years of age. The house, in which he lived for many years, was enclosed by a high picket fence, with blockhouses on each corner, and was used by his neighbors as a kind of fortress, into which they retreated nightly for protection against the Indians.

George M. Harris, whose name forms the caption of this sketch, was reared on his father's farm, and at the age of 19, when he began the study of medicine, he was probably as well informed as most any young man of his day, and he

entered upon his studies with a fair fund of general information.

Dr. Geo. R. Wharton, a distinguished physician, was his uncle, and became his preceptor in the study of physic. Dr. Harris was graduated from the Louisville School of Medicine, with the degree of M. D., in 1842, and located at once at Bellefonte, Jackson County, where he pursued the practice of his profession ten years. He was also an extensive farmer, and about 1850, established a tannery, in connection with which he carried on an large dry goods business. He also manufactured the leather produced by his tannery into such articles of commerce as were then found salable. In 1857 he removed to Meridianville, then an important village some miles north of Huntsville, and was there engaged in mercantile business until 1863. By this time the doctor had accumulated a pretty large fortune in lands, merchandise and slaves. He owned a large farm in Arkansas, to which he sent stock and negroes from North Alabama, and upon it annually raised many bales of cotton. Though he still owns his farms, it seems that he ceased to give them any personal supervision about 1870, as at that time he removed to the city of Huntsville. Here he is connected with some of the largest and most important enterprises, and gives them much of his personal attention. He is one of the largest stockholders of the cotton factory at this place; in fact, is the president of the company that owns it, and its great success is probably as much due to his judicious management and direction, as to any other cause. The Doctor was one of the organizers, and is now a director of the North Alabama Improvement Company; also an organizer and director of the Huntsville Electric Light Company; also largely interested in the hardware business; and to all of these, in his own quiet unostentatious way, he gives his personal influence and supervision.

Doctor Harris is a broad-gauged, wide-awake, enterprising, public-spirited, present-day man, and it is to such as he that Northern Alabama must be indebted to the grand future that awaits her, and in fact, is now dawning upon her.



**JOHN JEFFERSON DEMENT, M.D.**, was born 13th May, 1830, in Madison County, Ala., and is a son of John and Celia W. (Lowe) Dement. John

Dement was a native of Sumner County, Tenn. He received a common-school education, became a good, substantial farmer, and served as a justice of the peace. He was married in 1849, and came at once to Madison County, Ala., which was thereafter his home. He died in 1848, and his wife in 1852. They raised eight children, viz.: Alfred T., now dead; Susan, wife of G. B. Smith, of Phillips County, Ark.; John J., our subject; Elverton E., Cornelia J., widow of Robert Herelford, and now wife of Dr. R. T. Searcy, of Cullman; Mattie E., wife of L. B. Burnes, of Arkansas; Kate, wife of B. R. Thompson, of Madison County; and Lowe, a soldier under Breckinridge in the late war, and was killed at Jackson, Miss.

John Dement was a son of Charles Dement, a native of North Carolina, and one of the pioneers of Sumner County, Tenn. He raised a large family, viz.: Cader, Charles, Abner, James, David, John, and two daughters, Mildred and Clara. There is a tradition, that three brothers of this name came from France in the Colonial days, and were soldiers in the Revolution. One settled in Tennessee, one in Maryland, and the third went West.

The subject of this sketch, John J. Dement, received his education in the field. The early death of his father required him to stay on the farm and take charge of the family, which fact precluded the possibility of his receiving as good an education as he otherwise would have had.

At twenty he began the study of medicine, at Meridianville, Ala., under Dr. G. A. Wyche, now of Bossier Parish, La.

He took his first medical course at Louisville, in the winter of 1851-52; went to Philadelphia, and was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, in 1853. He then located at Meridianville, where he practiced with success until 1862, when he was commissioned surgeon in the Confederate Army, and was assigned to the Twenty-seventh Alabama Regiment. He served with this regiment until the surrender of Fort Donelson, when he was sent a prisoner to Camp Chase, and, later, to Johnson's Island. He was released in June, 1862. While the Doctor was in prison, his warm, personal friend, Judge Peter M. Dox, of Huntsville, wrote to a former classmate of his own, Judge L. Bates, of Ohio, to befriend Dr. Dement and relieve his wants; but when the hospitality of Judge Bates' home was extended to him, in consideration of the circumstances he declined to ac-

cept it and preferred to remain with, and minister to, the needs of his sick and imprisoned comrades, and the Judge supplied him with money for his personal needs. After the war was over the Doctor felt in honor bound to repay Judge Bates with the first money earned; and did so, with heart-felt thanks for his great kindness and magnanimous generosity.

In August, 1862, Dr. Dement was assigned to the Forty-ninth Georgia Regiment, at Gordonsville, Va., under General Jackson, and remained with this regiment until it was surrendered at Appomattox, and during this time was surgeon of General Ed. L. Thomas' Brigade. He was in all the battles in which his brigade participated. After the war he came to Huntsville, and has practiced there until the present time. He was, for a few years, a member of the American Medical Association, and a member of the American Public Health Association. He is now a member of the Medical Association of Alabama, and was its President in 1876. He is a member of the State Board of Censors; has been a member of the Madison County Medical Society since 1853, and is now its president; is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias, Ancient Order United Workmen, and a Knight Templar. He is vice-president of the Home Protection Fire Insurance Company, and has taken a part in every public-spirited enterprise in Huntsville.

For many years he has been president and an active member of the Board of Trustees of Huntsville Female College, and has been since its foundation a member of the Board of Trustees of Vanderbilt University. He was twelve years a member of the Board of Trustees of Alabama Insane Hospital; was Surgeon-general of Alabama Militia for eight years under Governors Houston and Cobb, and declined to act longer. He was appointed by Governor Seay as one of the examiners under the Color Blind Law. Dr. Dement has never sought office, but when it has been tendered him he has considered it his duty to accept. He was married January 27, 1869, to Miss Cornelia C., daughter of Dr. Henry A. Binford, of Huntsville. They have seven children: Henry B., Robert S., Sarah B., John J., William R., and Susie.

The Doctor and his wife are Methodists. Henry A. Binford, Mrs. Dement's father, was a leading physician of Huntsville. He received an excel-

lent education, taking the medical part of it at Philadelphia. He died in 1875, aged sixty-two years. He reared six children: William H., Peter, Thomas L., Henry, Cornelia C., and Sarah E. Henry, a son of Peter Binford; married Grace Lee, a near relative of Gen. R. E. Lee.

Doctor Dement's mother was a daughter of Jesse and Susannah Lowe. They raised the following children: George E., a farmer, who died in Virginia; Thomas, of Mississippi; John J., who died in Arkansas; Mary, of West Tennessee; Martha, who died in Alabama; and Celia W.



**SAMUEL H. LOWRY, M. D.**, one of the leading young physicians of Madison County, is a son of John T. and Virginia H. (Miller) Lowry. John T. Lowry was of Scotch Irish descent, and a son of Rev. Samuel Lowry, a divine of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, whose wife, Elizabeth Tate, belonged to the well-known family of that name.

The father of our subject was an old-time merchant of Huntsville in ante-bellum days, being a member of the firm of Lowry, Hamilton & Co., and also owning large plantations. Like all Southern planters, he lost heavily by the late war having a great number of slaves. He was connected with the commissary department during the struggle, and subsequently resumed farming, which, with an interest in the lumber firm of Mayhew & Lowry, occupied his attention until his death in 1886. He was a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and left one son, Samuel H.

Our subject was born October 16, 1850, and received a superior education, commencing with the schools of Huntsville, and continued at the University of Virginia. His medical studies began at the University of Virginia, and were supplemented by lectures at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, from which institution he was graduated in 1873. He began the practical study of his chosen profession the same year of his graduation in association with Dr. Dement, of Huntsville, and has been a successful and active worker since.

Dr. Lowry is a member of the Madison County Medical Society; is secretary of the County Board of Censors; member of the College of Counsellors of the State Medical Association; is Health

Officer for the City of Huntsville and County of Madison, and a member of the Order of Knights of Pythias.



**ALBERT RUSSEL ERSKINE, M.D.**, was born January 17, 1827, in Huntsville, and was the second son of Dr. Alexander and Susan Catharine (Russel) Erskine, natives, respectively, of Monroe and Loudon Counties, Va.

Dr. Alexander Erskine, who received an academic education, taught school for awhile, before entering the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated in 1816. In January, 1817, he located at Huntsville, where he became one of the most successful physicians, and where he remained until his death, July 5, 1857. He took a great interest in church and State affairs, as well as in the improvement of his town. He was for many years President of the Board of Medical Examiners of the State Medical Association, of which he was a conspicuous member. He was the first prominent Mason in Huntsville, and was one of the charter members of the Masonic lodge at this place. He became a wealthy citizen, and wielded much influence for good in that community. Eleven children were born to him, of whom nine grew to maturity.

The subject of this sketch received his education at Huntsville, and was a student for a time at Georgetown College, District of Columbia. While at the latter place, he received an appointment to West Point Military Academy, and attended that school two years. Finding that he had no taste for military life, he resigned, and began the study of medicine with his father, in 1849. He took his first course of lectures at the University of Virginia, and was graduated in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania in the spring of 1851.

The same year he located at Huntsville, in which place he successfully practiced medicine until the war. In December, 1862, he joined the Confederate Army, and was assigned to the Fifth Tennessee Regiment as Surgeon. Eight months later he became Gen. Pat Claiborne's Medical Inspector, and was in this capacity for four or five months, after which he was assigned to the Forty-fifth Alabama Regiment as its Surgeon. After

the battle of Jonesboro, having received intelligence of the illness of his wife, at his request he was assigned to Convalescent-Camp Wright, which he established, and finally to Marion, Ala., Hospital, where his family was then located.

He is a member of the Madison County Medical Society, and was for three years its president; was for several years a member of the American Board of Health Association and of the State Association, and is a member of the County Board of Health, and has been secretary of the County Board of Censors for some years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Erskine was married October 5, 1854, to Maria D. Matthews, a daughter of Luke and Judith (Peete) Matthews, of Huntsville. Her father was one of the wealthiest and most successful planters in Northern Alabama. He came from Campbell County, Virginia, at a very early date.

Dr. Erskine has three children: Alexander, Luke Matthews and Janet. The Doctor and his wife are Presbyterians, and he is an elder in that Church.

The family of Alexander Erskine, as far as known, sprang from the Rev. Ebenezer Erskine, of Scotland, who was the founder of the Secession Church, and who was born in 1680. Henry Erskine, our subject's great-grandfather, married Jean Thompson, of Stirling, moved to America and settled in Cecil County, Md., where he died.

Subsequently his wife and son Michael moved to Monroe City, Va. Michael married Margaret Paulee, *nee* Hanley, of Monroe City, Va. They had five children, Dr. Alexander Erskine being the fourth. His mother, with her first husband, John Paulee, was captured by the Shawnee Indians while *en route* from Virginia to Kentucky, whither they were going for settlement. The savages promptly slew Mr. Paulee after a desperate struggle, in which other associates were engaged; and the chief of the tribe adopted her as his daughter. His savage highness subsequently decided upon her death, but was dissuaded by other members of the tribe, with whom it appears she had grown to be a great favorite.

The son born to her soon after her capture, grew to manhood and was slain in battle with the Indians. After the chief's death, her friends ransomed her by the payment of \$200, and she lived to the age of ninety-one years.

**MILTON C. BALDRIDGE, M. D.**, son of William F., and Elizabeth Caroline (Mitchell) Baldrige, was born in Cornersville, Marshall County, Tenn., May 12, 1832.

William F. Baldrige was born in North Carolina in 1809, and brought in his infancy to Giles County, Tenn., where in due time, he learned the tanner's trade, in which business he afterward engaged quite extensively. In 1836, he removed to Perry County and embarked in merchandising and in 1844 he became a resident of Lauderdale County. In 1855, he established a nursery not far from Huntsville, which is said to have been the first enterprise of the kind in that section; and in 1867, he removed to Plano, Tex., where he still resides. He had eleven children: Milton C., James A., Jane C., Virginia C., Mary A., Parmella R., Elizabeth, William F., John C., Henry B. and Oscar.

Mrs. Caroline Baldrige died in March, 1866, and William F. was again married to a Miss McDonald, of Huntsville.

Milton C. Baldrige was reared upon a farm. He received a good education, and in 1850 began the study of medicine at Florence with Dr. J. P. Mitchell. In 1853, he attended lectures at the Medical College of Ohio, in Cincinnati, and practiced on a license until 1874, when he was graduated from the Medical College, of New York.

In the spring of 1862, he entered the army as assistant surgeon of the Twenty-sixth Alabama and Forty-eighth Tennessee Regiments, and continued there until ill-health forced him to abandon the field. After returning home, he practiced near Huntsville until 1871, when he located in that city, where he has since remained and established a most successful practice. He is a member of the State Medical Association, of which he has been Vice-president, Orator, and is now Grand Senior Counsellor and President. He has been Health-Officer of Madison County since 1882; is a member of the County Medical Society; Chairman of the Medical Board of Examiners, and is a frequent contributor to medical journals.

The Doctor is a Knight Templar, Scottish Rite, Mason, an Odd Fellow, Knight of Honor and a Knight of Pythias.

He was married January 16, 1855, to Miss N. C. Neely, a daughter of Anderson P. and Eliza M. (Cannon) Neely. Unto them were born seven children: James Alexander, Viola Beatrice, Mollie Bertie, Felix Edgar, Stella Corvin, Percy

and Katie. James Alexander died October 6, 1856, Mollie Bertie died March, 1866, Percy died 1872. Viola Beatrice is the wife of Bently H. Brooks, now of Paris, Texas. Felix Edgar, Stella Corvin, and Katie reside with their father in Huntsville, Ala. The Doctor's first wife died in April, 1878, and in September, 1880, he married Miss Ella M. Johnson, who has one child, Milton C., Jr. The Doctor and Mrs. Baldrige are members of Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**A. B. SHELBY, M.D.**, was born in Madison County, December 10, 1845, and is a son of Dr. David and Mary (Bouldin) Shelby. In April, 1861, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company I, Fourth Alabama Infantry, and was in the service until the close of the war. With the Fourth Regiment he remained about fifteen months, taking part in the battles of the first Manassas, Seven Pines, and the Seven Days battle around Richmond. In July, 1862, the term of his first enlistment having expired, he came home, and three weeks later rejoined the Fourth Regiment as a member of Captain Gurley's Company. He subsequently participated in the battles of Chickamauga, the Dalton and Atlanta campaigns, and was with Hood in his advance into Tennessee. After Hood's retreat he was in Forrest's command, and at Benton, Ala., was slightly wounded. After the final surrender he returned home, and in 1866, with his father as preceptor, began the study of medicine. After a course of lectures at Jefferson Medical College, he located at Meridianville, and here remained in the practice about ten years. He came to Huntsville in October, 1882.



**WILLIAM J. BARRON, D.D.S.**, was born near Gurleyville, Madison County, this State, January 22, 1832, and is a son of Samuel B. and Martha (Cotton) Barron, natives, respectively, of South Carolina and Tennessee. He came to Huntsville in 1855, as a salesman in a dry goods establishment, and in March, 1862, joined Forrest's command. He was with Forrest until 1863, when he was transferred with the Fourth Alabama Cavalry to Wheeler's command. He was captured near Winchester, Tenn., in September of that

year, and sent to Johnson's Island, where he remained until the close of the war. In June, 1865, he returned to Huntsville, and was engaged in the dry goods business until 1867, at which time he took up the study of dentistry. In the winter of 1867-8, he attended Dental College at Baltimore, Md., and has since that date given his time to the practice.

Doctor Barron was married June 6, 1872, to Miss Emma Halsey, daughter of William Irby and Martha (Cain) Halsey, and has had born to him four children: Noel Irby, Eugene, William LeRoy and Julia. Both he and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Samuel B. Barron, father of Doctor Barron, was born March 23, 1793. He learned the blacksmith's trade, at which he earned sufficient money to educate himself, and afterward made an enviable reputation as a professional educator. He spent many years of his life in Madison County, where he died May 15, 1842, leaving a wife and four young children. His father came from Ireland; the Cotton family came from England originally.



**REV. JOHN MONRO BANISTER, D.D.**, the son of John Monro and Mary Burton (Bolling) Banister, was born at Battersea, near Petersburg, Va.

His father, a native of that city, was educated at Princeton College, N. J., and was the son of Col. John Banister, who was educated in England, and bred to the law at Temple Bar.

He was a Burgess of the Assembly, and, afterward, a distinguished member of the Convention of 1776. In 1778-9, he was a member of Congress from Virginia, at New York and at Philadelphia; and in September, visited headquarters as a member of the Committee of Arrangement. He was one of the framers and signers of the Articles of Confederation. His father, a wealthy and distinguished scientist of England, in one of his botanical excursions, near the Falls of the Roanoke, fell from a precipice and was killed. As a naturalist, he was esteemed not inferior to Bartram.

Col. John Banister married, first, Mary, daughter of Col. Theoderick Bland, Sr., and an aunt of John Randolph of Roanoke. His second wife, the grandmother of our subject, was Anne Blair, sister of Judge Blair of the Federal Court.

The children of this marriage were—Theoderick Blair and John Monro. The latter married Mary Burton Augusta Bolling, daughter of Robert Bolling, of Centre Hill, Petersburg, Va.

William C. Banister, their oldest son, fell bravely defending his native city, on the 9th of June, 1864.

Robert Bolling Banister, a graduate of the Medical School of the University of Virginia, entered the Navy, as Surgeon, and died in Petersburg in the year 1843.

The youngest son, Rev. John Monro Banister, D. D., was reared in Petersburg, Va., and educated at Princeton College, New Jersey, where he graduated in the class of 1840, and was honored as its valedictorian. He read law under Judge Lomax, of Fredericksburg, Va., and was admitted to the bar in 1842; after which, determining to enter the ministry, he graduated at the Episcopal Theological Seminary, at Alexandria, Va.

In 1848 he married Mary Louisa, a daughter of Gen. William H. Brodnax, a distinguished attorney of Dinwiddie County. The same year, he moved to South Alabama, and after spending ten years of his ministry at Greensboro, he moved to Huntsville in November, 1860, and has continued to be the Rector of the Church of the Nativity since that time.



**J. A. B. LOVETT** is the youngest son of A. J. and Mary (Hardwick) Lovett, and was born in Walker County, Ala., March 3, 1847. At the age of thirteen he was placed in the village school at Ashville, Ala., where he continued until April, 1863, when he joined the Confederate Army. He was captured by the Federals in June, of the same year, and was held in Northern prisons two years.

On September 2, 1866, he was joined in marriage to Miss Frances P. Gilbert, of Shelby County, Ala. Soon after this Mr. Lovett joined the ministry of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, for which he was educated at Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn.

Professor Lovett has been connected with Southern education about twenty years. In 1882 he organized the Huntsville Graded Schools, and he is now their efficient Superintendent. In 1885 he established the *Alabama Teacher's Journal*, of which he is still senior editor and publisher.

In 1886 Professor Lovett was on the programme

of the National Educational Assembly, and read a paper on Federal Aid to Education, which was printed in pamphlet and furnished to the United States Congress, then in session. He was also a member of the same body in 1888, when he appeared before the House Committee on Education.

Professor Lovett is justly regarded as being one of our ablest and most progressive educators, and he enjoys the confidence and esteem of his many patrons. While he was eminently successful as a minister, having served his congregation in Huntsville a number of years as pastor, his principal qualifications lie in the direction of school management and class instruction.



**REV. AMOS B. JONES, A.M., D.D., LL.D.,** President and Proprietor of Huntsville Female College, was born December 4, 1841, in Randolph Macon College, Boydton, Mecklenburg County, Va. His father, Rev. Amos W. Jones, D.D., was a son of Amos Jones, a local preacher of North Carolina, and a native of Lewisburg, that State. He graduated at Randolph Macon College in 1839, with the highest honors; became tutor in his Alma Mater, and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church; located in Jackson, Tenn., in 1845, where he still resides. He has been President of the Memphis Conference Female Institute for nearly forty years. He is a man of sterling worth as minister and educator, and is much beloved by his hosts of friends. His wife's maiden name was Caroline Blanch, a daughter of Gen. William Blanch, of Virginia, and a woman of the highest type of Christian character. She died within one week after Amos B. was born.

The subject of our sketch received his early education in Jackson, Tenn. At different times he attended West Tennessee College, Andrew College, Union University, and East Alabama University, at Auburn, in all of which he gave evidence of decided thirst for knowledge and an invincible determination to take a front rank in the world of letters. But like hundreds of Southern boys, his education was arrested by the clash of arms. He gave up his studies in East Alabama University, returned to his home in Jackson, Tenn., and at the age of nineteen entered the Confederate service as second sergeant in the Sixth Tennessee Infantry. On the reorganization of the regiment,

his comrades in arms having recognized the courage and bravery of Sergeant Jones, elected him Captain of Company H, which position he retained until the war was over.

As Captain he was in many battles of the West, and was wounded at Murfreesboro and Chickamauga. Returning from the war he undertook to run a farm, as the only expedient for immediate employment. But his old thirst for knowledge began to revive, and by diligent study, he gathered up the fragments of his shattered education, and heroically began anew his much cherished aspirations for a professional life.

In 1868, he was happily united in marriage to Miss Mary G. Gates, near Aberdeen, Miss. They have had born unto them two sons and three daughters, of whom Amos W. and James T. are living, and Carrie, Blanch, Joseph N., and Mary Sue are dead. In 1869, Dr. Jones, was elected to a prominent professorship in the M. C. F. Institute, of Jackson, the home of his boyhood. This position he held for nine years, while the rapid, solid and continuous growth of the Institute fully demonstrated his preëminent qualifications for such work. He was elected president of this institution in 1878, served two years most efficiently, and resigned in 1880 to take charge of the Huntsville Female College.

Under the conduct of Dr. Jones, with his broad culture, liberal education, and fine business administrative ability, this institution has enjoyed such solid and continuous prosperity as it never did before. The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon Dr. Jones by the Southwestern Baptist University, at Jackson, Tenn., his old home, and where he was best and most favorably known. The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by the State University of Alabama.

Aside from his work as an educator, Dr. Jones, is an able and eloquent gospel minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in which he was licensed to preach in 1853, by the Memphis Conference. While in Tennessee, he held various offices of trust and honor in several benevolent orders. In Masonry, he was at one time R. W. Deputy Grand Master, and at another, Right Eminent Grand Captain-General of the Grand Commandery, of that State. He has been president of the Alabama Y. M. C. A.; is a professor in the Correspondence University of Chicago, and was lately elected a member of the American Institute of Christian Philosophy.

**REV. HENRY HARRISON SMITH**, Pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, Ala., was born in Richmond County, N. C., October 25, 1847.

Mr. Smith's father, Henry Benjamin, was a planter by occupation, and was born in South Carolina in 1809. His ancestors came from England. His mother, Sallie (Nicholson) Smith, was born in 1820, in North Carolina, and was of Scotch descent. They emigrated from North Carolina to Mississippi in 1849, where his father died in 1873. His mother still survives. Mr. Smith joined the Confederate Army the 1st of August, 1864, as a member of the Twenty-fourth Mississippi Regiment, and at the battle of Jonesboro, Ga., during the latter part of the month of his enlistment, he was severely wounded. He is a self-educated man, and, after his education was completed, filled for some time the Chair of Natural Science and English Literature at the Cooper Institute.

Feeling called to preach the Gospel, he joined the New Hope Presbytery, of Mississippi, in December, 1873, and in July following was licensed to preach. He was ordained in July, 1875, and his first charge was Pleasant Hill, Ala. In 1877 he accepted a call to Jackson, Tenn., where he remained for two years, when, on account of failing health, he resigned. In 1879, his health having been restored, he accepted a call to Selma, where he labored with great acceptance and success until May, 1887, when he was called to his present charge in Huntsville. He was married, October 7, 1875, to Mrs. Mattie G. Terrell, of Crawford, Miss., and has had born to him two children: Guthrie and Henry Harrison.



**REV. JOHN WALKER NEWMAN**, Pastor in charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Huntsville, was born in Van Buren, De Kalb County, this State, October 23, 1846, and was educated at the common and high schools.

In the spring of 1864, he entered the army as a private in the Third Confederate Regiment, and within a very few days thereafter, saw actual service near New Hope Church, Ga. He was in Wheeler's command, and participated in that General's campaigns to the end of struggle. At the close of the war he returned home and resumed his studies, and after having taught school for

about two years, he was, in May, 1870, licensed to preach. He joined the Northern Alabama Conference, in November of that year, and in 1880, after having been several years in the pastorate, was made Presiding Elder. He held that office two years, and was then assigned to the First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Birmingham. He was appointed to Huntsville, in December, 1885.

Mr. Newman was married, in October, 1869, to Hannah W. Berry, a daughter of one of the old and substantial families of De Kalb County, and has had born to him four children: Carrie S., Mary S., Olin B. and Albert U. Mrs. Newman died at Gadsen, Ala., November, 1885.

Mr. Newman is Treasurer of the Mission Board of his Conference; Secretary and Treasurer of the Mutual Insurance Association of the Northern Alabama Conference; is a Mason and an Odd Fellow.

Moses C. and Elizabeth (Smith) Newman, parents of the subject of this sketch, were born in South Carolina, the former in 1815, and the latter in 1824. Mr. Newman was early orphaned, and virtually thrown upon the world while an infant. His mother moved from South Carolina to Lincoln County, Tenn., and from there to De Kalb County, this State. He married in the latter county, and there followed farming for some years and represented that county one term in the Legislature. For some years before the war he was merchandising, and resumed that business after the war, and followed it until 1874. He always took an active interest in politics: was in full sympathy with his State during the American conflict, and has for many years been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He reared a family of eight children.



**ADDISON WHITE**, was born at Abingdon, Va., May 1, 1824, and was a son of James and Eliza (Wilson) White, natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and of Irish and Scotch-Irish descent, respectively. When a youth James White went to Baltimore, and was there for a time employed by a wholesale dry goods firm. Later on he went to Abington, Va., where he engaged in the mercantile business, and was married to Eliza Wilson, of Pittsylvania County.

He became largely interested in the production



of salt, iron and lead, and at the time of his death, which occurred in Wythe County, Va., 1838, was reported to be worth over a million dollars. He took an active part in the war of 1812, holding the rank of colonel.

His father, William White, was a farmer near Carlisle, Penn., and spent his life in that State.

Addison White grew to manhood in his native village, receiving an academic education, which he completed at Princeton, N. J., in 1842. In September, 1844, he was married to Miss Sarah Irvine, a daughter of Col. David Irvine, of Richmond, Ky. Soon after his marriage he became a resident of Kentucky, and was elected to the Thirty-second Congress for the Sixth District of that State. At the close of that Congress, coming into possession of his inheritance, he removed to Huntsville, Ala., and engaged in planting in Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas. He has six children: Alice, wife of Dr. G. C. Greenway; Eliza W., wife of O. B. Patton; David Irvine, Susan McDowell, Newton K., and Shelby, wife of Richard W. Walker. Mrs. Sarah Irvine White, is a grand-daughter of the illustrious Dr. Ephraim McDowell, of Kentucky, and great-grand-daughter of Gov. Isaac Shelby.

Her father, Colonel David Irvine, was a son of Capt. William Irvine, of Madison County, Ky., who, being an early settler, participated in many of the bloody battles with the Indians, and in one of them known as "Estill's defeat," or "the battle of Little Mountain," received wounds from which he ultimately died. He and another, named Proctor, were the only whites, with one Indian, left to recount the deeds of that sanguinary fight. Mr. White's family are members of the Episcopal Church.

**BENJAMIN POWELL HUNT** was born in Franklin County, Tenn., in September, 1849, and is a son of George W. Hunt, a native of Franklin County. His mother's maiden name was Priscilla Powell.

Ben. P. Hunt spent his younger days near Salem, Tenn., but when the war broke out his parents moved to Winchester, that State, and there he received his education. When twenty years of age he began the study of law, and in 1870 entered the law department in the University of Virginia, remaining there about six months. He

was admitted to the bar in November of the same year, and practiced in Winchester until February, 1882, when he located at Huntsville, and there practiced law one year. After this, he became connected with the Huntsville *Mercury* as its editor, and began the publication of the daily issue of that paper August 21, 1885.

When Mr. Hunt first took charge of the editorial columns of the *Mercury* it was a weekly paper with a patent outside, and with a circulation not exceeding 500, but when he severed his connection with it, in August, 1887, the weekly had a subscription list of about 1,100, and the daily was fairly upon its feet and making money.

Under his administration, the *Mercury* was the telling champion of Huntsville and her growing industries, and the present prosperity of her various manufactures and the "great boom" of the city is largely due to Mr. Hunt's influence. He was the prime mover in the organization of the Huntsville & Elora Railroad, and he devoted the columns of his paper, and his individual influence to the consummation of that important enterprise.

Having severed his connection with the *Mercury*, Mr. Hunt, on the 23d of August, 1887, accepted the editorship of *The Independent*, a rival daily, then but recently established at Huntsville, and this publication has since been the chief recipient of his labors.\* He is also correspondent for several foreign newspapers and magazines.

Mr. Hunt is justly ranked as one of the most brilliant writers in the South, and as one of the most perfect gentlemen.

**AUGUSTUS W. McCULLOUGH** is a son of James and Sarah (Garvin) McCullough. His parents are of Irish descent; his father, coming to America at the age of fourteen, settled in Lancaster County, Pa., where he resided until his death.

Our subject was born in Lancaster County, Pa., September, 1836, and received a good education, graduating from the Normal School at Millersville, Pa., in 1854. He followed teaching for several years in Pennsylvania, and in 1865, came to Alabama as the agent of the Freedman's Aid Society

\* Since the above was written, Mr. Hunt has severed his connection with *The Independent*, and is identified with the North Alabama Improvement Company. Ed.

of Philadelphia and occupied that position two years, having the organization and control of the schools at Huntsville. He was appointed superintendent of Public Schools for Madison County by the State authorities in 1868, and in 1872 was elected to the same office. In 1874, he was appointed Clerk of the United States Circuit Court by Judge Woods, who was afterward elevated to the Supreme Bench, and has held this important position since. In 1875, he was appointed Clerk of the United States District Court by Judge John Bruce.

Mr. McCullough has been a most influential man in the political affairs of Alabama since his residence here. He was a delegate to the Chicago Convention which nominated Garfield, and was one of the "Old Guard" of 306, who voted thirty-six times for Grant; and was also a delegate to the Convention which nominated Blaine in 1884. He has been chairman of the Republican Central Committee of Madison County, for fourteen years; was chairman of the Congressional Committee eight years, and a member of the State Committee several years.

Mr. McCullough has been twice married. July 18, 1864, he was united to Miss Mary A. Zell, of Pennsylvania, who died leaving one child. He was married to Miss Laura B. Jones, of Philadelphia, in 1885.

He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Knights of Pythias, A. O. U. W., and of the Forresters.



**WISE & CO.,** Wholesale and Retail Grocers, are located on Jefferson street, in the McGee Hotel Block, the present firm consisting of Isaac H. and David Wise, two brothers, who are sons of Bernhard and Sarah G. (Alcon) Wise.

Bernhardt Wise was born in Bavaria in 1811, and came to America in 1832, locating in Cincinnati, where he engaged in business. He was a charter member of Bethel Lodge, No. 4, Independent Order B'nai B'rith, of that city. He came to Huntsville in 1865, and embarked in business, which he continued for about fifteen years. He served as a member of the city council several times, and was the founder of the Jewish congregation of Huntsville, and has been its president since its organization in 1876. Five children are now living; Mrs. Mary Moss, wife of a large wholesale clothing merchant of Cincinnati; David, who was born in Cincinnati in 1847, where he re-

ceived a commercial education and followed book-keeping for a number of years. He came to Huntsville in 1866 and began his business career, where he has continued since. In 1877 he became a partner in the present firm by purchasing the interest of his brother, Abe W. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, and Knights and Ladies of Honor, and is a director of the Huntsville Building and Loan Association. Meyer B. Wise was born in Cincinnati in 1849, and came to Huntsville in 1865, entering the store of his father as an assistant. In 1873 he established the present firm of Wise & Co., and continued as the senior partner until he withdrew on account of his health in 1881, consigning the business to I. H. & A. W. Wise. He subsequently went to Mobile, and from thence to Texas. He is a member of Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, and Knights and Ladies of Honor, and has served as a member of the city council six terms. He is now connected with the firm as an assistant. Isaac H. was born in 1851, and came with the family to Alabama in 1865. He was employed by his father for a time, and subsequently, in 1872, went to Farmersville, La., and thence to Ouchita City, where he was elected the first mayor. Returning to Huntsville in 1878, he has since resided there and established a good business reputation. He is a Mason and a member of the Knights of Honor. Mr. Wise was married in January, 1878, to Miss Nettie Shuster, of Louisiana. Abe W. Wise was born in Cincinnati in 1853, and has been engaged in mercantile pursuits all his life. He was for a time partner in the firm, but is now an assistant; is a member of the Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias, Knights and Ladies of Honor, and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

It will thus be seen that the firm and assistants are all practical business men, and their success is the legitimate result of a thorough knowledge of their business. They have the largest retail grocery trade in Northern Alabama, employing four delivery wagons in the city, and have a fair wholesale trade. Their salesrooms are among the finest in the city.



**OLIVER B. PATTON** is the only living son of Dr. Chas. H. and Susan (Bieme) Patton. His mother was a daughter of Andrew Bieme, who was a native of the "Old Dominion" State.

Oliver was reared in Huntsville and educated at

the University of Virginia; and inherited the large estate of his father. He has devoted his attention to the care and development of his property and has been a successful planter, and ranks as a popular and generous citizen.

Mr. Patton formed a matrimonial alliance with Miss Bettie White, daughter of the Hon. Addison White, of Huntsville, and six children have been born to this union, viz.: Susie B., Irvine W., Oliver B., Mattie Lee, Alice G. and Milton H.

A sister of Mr. Patton, Mary B., married Wm. Echols, (manufacturer,) a graduate of West Point.

Mr. Patton and family belong to the Episcopal Church.



**BERNARD F. LUDWIG** was born in Prussia April 5, 1842, and came with his parents to America in 1848, settling near Memphis, Tenn., where he became a resident of Huntsville, in 1856, where he finished his education, and afterward engaged in business until 1876. Mr. Ludwig was initiated in the Masonic fraternity when twenty-one years of age, and has served for several years as Master of Helion Lodge, No. 1. He has taken all of the York Rite degrees, and is now Generalissimo of Huntsville Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar. He was for several years High Priest of Eonomia Chapter, No. 5, Royal Arch Masons, and in the Royal Masonic Rite he has taken the highest degrees. When Monte Sano Lodge, No. 1, Knights of Pythias, was organized in 1870, Mr. Ludwig was one of the charter members, and was elected its first Vice-Chancellor, and later, Chancellor-Commander. He was chosen a representative to the Grand Lodge of the State in 1872, and was there elected a Past Grand Chancellor of the State. In 1874 he was elected Supreme Representative of Alabama to the Supreme Lodge, Knights of Pythias of the World; and was the first to submit a plan which resulted in the endowment feature of the Order, at the Washington Session, in 1875. He has since served as Supreme Representative for two terms of four years, closing said service in 1884. At the recent session of the Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias (1888) he was elected as G. K. of R and S. of the State.

He is also a charter member of Delphic Lodge, No. 309, Knights of Honor, having served as Grand Dictator of the State and as Representative

to the Supreme Lodge at Baltimore, and Galveston, Tex., Sessions. He is also a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights and Ladies of Honor, and is the secretary of these societies. He is also secretary of the "Huntsville Building and Loan Association," comprising over three hundred members, which is prospering greatly and aiding, in a marked degree, the building up of Huntsville.

Mr. Ludwig is an active and enterprising citizen, progressive in his views and charitable in disposition.

In 1876 Mr. Ludwig married Miss Annie Estes, daughter of I. H. Estes, a well-known citizen of Columbia, Tenn., and more recently of Huntsville. Mrs. Ludwig is a sister of Judge I. H. Estes, of Memphis, Tenn.



**WILLIAM C. WELLS** is a son of Rev. W. G. Wells, who was a native of Virginia, subsequently removing to Ohio, where he engaged in the ministry of the United Brethren Church for some twenty-five years, when he retired on account of bad health. The mother of our subject was a native of Pennsylvania. Her maiden name was Sarah Shupp. They reside in Dayton, Ohio.

William C. was born in Ohio August 16, 1843, and was educated near Dayton. He was early engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1864 he enlisted in Company G, of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Infantry (Ohio National Guards), serving one hundred days. In 1870 he came to Huntsville, and engaged at farming and gardening. In 1872 he removed to Little Rock, Ark., where he was engaged in growing and shipping vegetables. Returning to Huntsville in 1874, he has since resided there, and has occupied high positions of trust with honor and fidelity. In 1875 he was appointed Deputy Clerk of the United States Courts, under A. W. McCullough. In 1879, November 25th, he was appointed United States Commissioner by Judge Woods, of the United States Circuit Court.

President Arthur appointed him Register of the United States Land Office at Huntsville, and in December, 1881, he assumed charge of the office. He was removed by President Cleveland, and vacated the office in December, 1886.

Mr. Wells is interested in the operation of a coal mine near Birmingham, and also in the de-

velopment of coal lands on the Tennessee River, in Jackson County, Ala. He is now engaged in the real estate business.

He was married in Huntsville April 16, 1871, to Miss Emma E. Zell, of Lancaster County, Pa. Two children have been born to them: Alice Frances, deceased, and Roberta Virginia.



**JAMES B. WHITE**, son of Thomas W. and Susan (Bradley) White, was born in Huntsville, February 22, 1845, where his home has always been. He received the advantages of the schools of his native city, and when sixteen years of age joined Company F, Fourth Alabama Infantry, and was with that regiment two years, participating in the first battle of Manassas, Williamsburg, Yorktown, the entire peninsular campaign, Seven Pines (where he was slightly wounded), and the Seven Days Fight around Richmond. He was transferred after the second battle of Manassas to Mobile, and promoted to sergeant of artillery, and in 1863, was commissioned lieutenant and assigned to General Humes' Cavalry Brigade, serving upon his commander's staff until the end of the war. He was in the battles of New Hope Church, Resacca (where he was again wounded), Kennesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, the Atlanta campaign, Wheeler's raid through Tennessee, and opposing Sherman's March to the Sea. He was taken prisoner near Macon, in 1864, but escaped after three week's confinement, and joined his command in South Carolina. In January, 1865, he was promoted to the rank of captain, in the provisional army. His command was in Sherman's front until the battle of Fayetteville, N. C., where his commander, General Humes, was severely wounded, and our subject carried him from the field to Raleigh and remained with him until General Johnson surrendered. Truly a gallant record for the young soldier.

After the war, Mr. White became connected with the Memphis & Charleston Railroad and has been associated with that corporation since. He rose from the position of brakeman, to that of a freight and subsequently passenger conductor, and since 1876 has been the company's agent in the Law and Stock Department. Mr. White married, in 1866, Miss Susie Withers, of old and reputed ancestors. They are the parents of five children, and members of the Episcopal Church. Mr.

White is a member of the Masonic, K. of P. and K. of H. fraternities, and of the Order of Railroad Conductors.



**NICHOLAS DAVIS**, deceased, was a prominent representative of an old and distinguished family, a son of Col. Nicholas Davis, of Limestone County, Ala., who was a native of the Old Dominion State, and one of the early settlers of Alabama.

He at once became prominent in the public affairs of the State and was a representative in the first State Legislature, 1819; subsequently he was chosen a State Senator, serving from 1820 to 1828 inclusive, and for five sessions he was the presiding officer.

He occupied the highest rank, in the estimation of all parties, as a private and public citizen, and was remarkable for his eloquence. In 1844, he was placed at the head of the Whig electoral ticket, and in 1847 was the Whig candidate for Governor of the State. His wife, Martha Hargrave, belonged to an old and wealthy Quaker family, and was a beautiful and accomplished lady. Col. Jeremiah Clemens, in dedicating his work entitled "Mustang Gray" to Nicholas Davis, the son, after speaking of the endearing friendship with which prompted it, uses this language: "But it is not these alone that move me to write your name on the first page of this volume. The last words your mother was ever heard to speak, were words of warm regard for me, and to the hour of his death your father honored me with a friendship which is among my proudest recollections. In the whole range of my acquaintance I have never known two persons more remarkable for unswerving integrity of thought and action or more distinguished for a lofty scorn of all that was low or vile in humanity."

A son, Lawrence Ripley Davis, was a Whig like his father. He was elected to the lower house in 1849, and by his fine talents and address contributed no little to the success of his party. He was returned in 1861 and threw his influence into the secession movement.

Nicholas Davis, the subject of this biography, was born in Limestone County, and was reared and educated in Alabama. He served as a lieutenant in a company commanded by Captain Higgins, of Col. Jere Clemens' Regiment throughout the Mexican War, a portion of which period he was a staff officer.

He subsequently chose the legal profession, and was admitted to the bar, at Huntsville, in 1852; and also became a prominent political factor during the exciting period which followed. He served two terms in the State Legislature, and when the secession movement was agitated he took a decided stand against it, and vigorously advocated his views by stumping Northern Alabama, during which he developed remarkable power as an orator. He also advocated the election of Stephen A. Douglas, was an elector upon the Douglas ticket, and served as a Union delegate from his county in the Secession convention.

Colonel Davis subsequently became lieutenant-colonel of the Nineteenth Alabama Infantry, but was not in active service; and after the close of the war resumed his practice in Huntsville, in which he attained prominence, devoting much of his time to criminal law.

Colonel Davis died in Huntsville in 1874.

His wife's maiden name was Miss Sophia Lowe, and was also a descendant of an old and noted family. Her paternal ancestors came from England to Maryland with Lord Baltimore. Her father, Gen. Bartley M. Lowe, was a native of South Carolina, but his father, who was a captain in the Revolutionary War, soon after moved to Florida, and accepted service under the Spanish Government, for which he secured a large grant of land. General Lowe subsequently came to Huntsville and engaged in mercantile pursuits, and such was his success that he was sometimes called a "merchant prince." He was the first president of the Huntsville Bank and prominent in many business movements.

He was in active service during the Indian War of 1836, and in 1838 became a resident of New Orleans, where he was a leading cotton factor until his death. He left three sons: Dr. John T. Lowe, who was chief surgeon of General Loring's Division of Infantry during the late war; Robert J., a lawyer, legislator and soldier; and William M. Lowe, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

Mrs. Davis is living in Huntsville with two children: Nichols C., Jr., and Sophie E.

born. His parents were Colonel James and Eliza (Wilson) White. The former was one of the first business men in Northern Alabama, and a large land-owner in the vicinity of Huntsville. He died in Virginia in 1838.

Our subject was born in Virginia in 1817, and resided there until he came to Huntsville in 1839. Mr. White has been a planter all of his life, and owns a fine plantation on each side of the Tennessee River, at Whitesburg. While, in no sense, a politician, he has been honored by his fellow-citizens who elected him to the mayoralty of Huntsville in 1881 and 1882.

Mr. White is a man of commanding presence, and a noble type of a Southern gentleman. In 1840 he was united in marriage with Miss Susan Bradley, a daughter of Major James Bradley, a cotton broker and commission merchant, well-known in Huntsville and New Orleans. Twelve children have been born to them. Three sons were in the Southern army, Alexander, James and William.



**JAMES M. HUTCHENS**, a prominent Contractor and Builder, is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Jordan) Hutchens. His father was a native of England and came to America at an early day, settling in South Carolina, subsequently removing to Eastern Tennessee, where he remained until his death. He was a manufacturer.

James M. was reared and educated in East Tennessee, and early learned the trade of a carpenter, which he has followed with success all of his life. He served gallantly in the Confederate service, entering the Fourth Alabama Cavalry, Company B, in 1861, and served under Forrest, Wheeler and Longstreet. He was with Forrest through all the Tennessee raids, Fort Donelson, and in March, 1863, was taken prisoner at Unionville, Tenn., and confined for four months in Camp Chase, at Columbus, Ohio. He was then paroled and soon after exchanged and re-entered the army, participating in Longstreet's Campaign in East Tennessee, and serving until discharged at the end of the war. He became a resident of Huntsville in 1857, and has since made his home there. He is one of the leading contractors of that city, and employs a large number of assistants. He is an enterprising and respected citizen and has served as alderman for a number of years. Mr. Hutchens



**THOMAS W. WHITE**, one of the representative Planters of Northern Alabama, is a native of Virginia, where his father and mother were also

was married to Miss Lucy Hodges, of East Tennessee, in 1859. They have four children, and are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



**JOHN M. CROSS**, a prominent Real Estate Operator, is a native of Huntsville, where he was born in 1833 and has resided all of his life.

He is a son of Andrew Cross, a native of Virginia, who was of English stock, and one of the first settlers in Huntsville.

Our subject was in early life a clerk, and from 1859 until 1867 followed planting. He was opposed to the war, and at the first election after the war he was elected Tax Assessor by the Republicans.

In 1872 he was appointed Register of the United States Land Office at Huntsville, and held that position twelve years. Since that period Mr. Cross has devoted his attention to real estate transactions, and is now a member of that well-known firm of Lane, Cross & Gill.

Mr. Cross was a candidate for the office of Probate Judge on the Republican ticket in 1886, and has always affiliated himself with that party. He has accumulated some property, and is an esteemed citizen.

Mr. Cross has been thrice married and has nine children living.



**EDMUND I. MASTIN**, Mayor of Huntsville, is a son of William J. and Mary (Clark) Mastin, both natives of Virginia.

Wm. J. Mastin was of English stock and his progenitors came to America with Lord Fairfax. Frank Mastin, grandfather of our subject, was a captain in the War of 1812.

Wm. J. Mastin came to Alabama in his youth, and resided in Huntsville until his death in 1845. He was a graduate of the Law and Classical Department of Yale College, and a staunch Whig in politics. He was a member of the convention which nominated Henry Clay in 1844. His mother was also of English lineage, and died in 1881.

The subject of this biography was born in Huntsville, in 1841, and has lived here all of his life. He is one of three brothers. Wm. F., who served as adjutant-general with General Buckner

during the war, died while Mayor of Huntsville in 1871. Gustavus B. commanded a company in the Fourth Alabama Infantry, and was killed in the battle of Seven Pines, in 1862.

Our subject was educated in the schools of Huntsville and at the Lagrange Military Institute, which was destroyed during the war. He entered the army in 1861, as drill-master, and subsequently became adjutant of the Eighth Arkansas Regiment; adjutant-general of Kelley's Brigade of Infantry under General Buckner, and also adjutant-general of the Fourth Division of Cavalry, commanded by Gen. J. H. Kelley, in Wheeler's Corps.

He was taken prisoner at Charleston, Tenn., in 1864, and sent to Camp Chase at Columbus, Ohio, and from there to Fort Delaware, where he was selected as one of 600 men for special retaliation, sent to Morris Island and placed under the fire of Confederate batteries. He was fortunate enough to escape unharmed, and was released from Fort Delaware in June, 1865.

Since the war Mayor Mastin has been engaged in the family grocery trade; as contractor on the Memphis & Chattanooga Railroad, and is now engaged in brick manufacture and contracting and building. He has served as City Clerk for four years, and is serving his sixth year as Mayor of the city. He is a genial and accomplished gentleman, and deservedly popular with all classes. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P. fraternities.



**JAMES H. BONE**, United States Commissioner, was born October 27, 1836, in Warren County, Ohio. His parents were John and Christiana (Maple) Bone, natives of Ohio and New Jersey. The senior Bone was a farmer and trader. He was a Whig before the war; served his county as commissioner ten or twelve years, and died in 1887.

The Bone family first appeared in America in North Carolina, whence James Bone removed to Virginia, where he married Nancy Hart, and soon afterward emigrated to Warren County. He was J. H. Bone's grandfather. He served as an officer in the war of 1812. His father came from Scotland and settled in North Carolina.

J. H. Bone was reared on a farm and educated at Lebanon Academy. At the age of seventeen, he entered a store as a clerk and soon began dealing in supplies and provisions on his own account and con-

timed this business until 1861. In July, 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Thirty-fifth Ohio Infantry, as a private, and in a very short time was promoted to the second lieutenantcy of that company. He was at Mill Springs, Kentucky, and Shiloh; wounded in the shoulder at Corinth; fought at Perryville and Tullahoma, and in the campaign after Stone River; was promoted in 1863 to a first lieutenantcy and soon again to adjutant of the regiment. In this capacity he had been acting during the most of the time of his service. He was wounded twice at Chickamauga, but did not leave the field, and soon after was commissioned as captain. He fought at Missionary Ridge, Ringgold, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta, Chattahoochee River, Big Shanty, Peach Tree Creek, and all the way from Ringgold to Atlanta. In fact, he participated in all the battles in which the Army of the Ohio and of the Cumberland were engaged, and was with Gen. Geo. H. Thomas throughout his whole career after he received his commission as brigadier-general.

During Sherman's campaign to Atlanta, Captain Bone was ranking line officer, and much of the time in command of his regiment, and so great was the attachment between himself and his comrades, that, when he was tendered the commission of colonel in a new regiment, by the Governor of Ohio, in 1863, he declined the honor, preferring to serve as captain in his old regiment. During the battle of Chickamauga, Captain Bone's regiment lost two-thirds of its number in killed and wounded, and was among the very last to leave the field. In the battle nearly all the company officers of this regiment were killed or wounded. There was only one line officer of the regiment promoted to the field during the whole term of service.

Captain Bone had some very remarkable experiences while in service. During the siege of Corinth, he had one of his shoulder straps shot off by a sharp-shooter; on the second day of the battle of Chickamauga (September, 1863), in the thickest of the fight, he was struck squarely by a minie ball on the buckle plate of his sword belt. The force of the ball dishing the plate, flattened and welded the ball to it, and heated the plate to such an extent that an impression of the threads in his coat was left on the back, or inside of the plate, and the Captain was prostrated and unconscious. In less than half an hour after this incident, in which the plate had saved his life, another minie ball hit a large silver watch in the fol-

pocket of his pantaloons, glanced off, making a flesh wound. This watch and belt plate are now in possession of the Captain's family, and highly prized as mementoes. The Captain was also struck by a minie ball at the battle of Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863. Captain Bone was mustered out in March, 1865. In that same year he came to Huntsville, and became interested in mercantile business and planting. In 1868 he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, and served six years; was appointed United States Claim Commissioner, and served some three years; was chief deputy in the United States Marshal's office for Northern District of Alabama four years, and is now United States Commissioner by appointment of late Justice Wm. B. Woods of the United States Supreme Court.

Captain Bone is senior member of the North Alabama Real Estate Agency, doing business under the firm name of Jas. H. Bone & Co. He is a member of the Episcopal Church, F. & A. M., K. of P., K. of H., and G. A. R.; one of the solid citizens of Huntsville, and a leading spirit in all public enterprises.

He was married in 1857 to Anna Hutchinson, daughter of Thos. P. Hutchinson, Esq., of Warren County, Ohio. To this wife were born two children: Horace J., now of Kansas City, Mo., and Cynthia Delia, wife of William Holloway, of same place. Mrs. Anna Bone died in March, 1880, and in March, 1883, Captain Bone married Mrs. Laura Gunnell, daughter of Hon. Thomas George, of an old Virginia family, and a grand-daughter of Chapman Lee, who was a cousin of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Capt. J. H. Bone has two children by his second wife: James Holding Bone and Chapman Lee Bone.



**WM. H. ECHOLS** was born at Huntsville, March 11, 1834. In 1854 he entered West Point Academy, and after graduating therefrom in 1858, was an engineer in the United States Army. In 1861, he resigned and entered the engineering corps of the Confederate Army, with the rank of captain, and soon rose to major. He was stationed at Fort Jackson, on the Mississippi River, at Savannah, and at Charleston. After the war he was for a time civil engineer on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad. From there he became book-keeper in the Bell Factory Cotton Mills.

near Huntsville, Ala., and afterward was secretary, treasurer and superintendent, a position he held until the mills were closed in 1884. He is now a director in the Huntsville National Bank.

Mr. Echols was married in January, 1859, to Miss Mary B., daughter of Dr. Chas. H. Patton, and they have two sons and one daughter. William H. Echols, the eldest, is a graduate of the University of Virginia, a civil and mining engineer, and is now a professor in the Mining School of Rolla, Mo. His daughter, Susan P., is the wife of Robert E. Spragins. Chas. P. is now a cadet at West Point Academy.

Mr. Echols is a Freemason and a Knight of Pythias.

His family tree is old and full of branches. He was a son of William and Mary (Hobbs) Echols, who were both born in Virginia,—he in 1800 and she in 1808. William Echols came from Pittsylvania County, Va., about 1812, with his parents, who settled near New Market. When a young man he came to Huntsville, and clerked for Patton & Bieme. When he became of lawful age he embarked in merchandising on his own account, and continued in business until 1853, when he retired.

He served several terms as Mayor of Huntsville, and was for some years Probate Judge of the county.

He was an active, enterprising business man and a broad-gauged citizen, with liberal ideas. He died in 1864. He had twelve children, of whom W. H. Echols was the eldest. John H. Echols was Secretary of State of Mississippi during the war; Larkin W. Echols was a soldier in an Alabama regiment, and was a successful planter and merchant at Senatobia, Miss.; David H. Echols was a railroad man—he was drowned in the Yazoo River, Miss., while on a hunting tour; James H. Echols was a Lieutenant in Russel's Regiment, Wheeler's command, and was killed at Atlanta; Chas. P. Echols is a farmer in Mississippi; Martha, was the wife of W. H. Muse, an attorney, who was once Secretary of State of Mississippi; Mary was the wife of Col. E. J. Jones, of the Fourth Alabama, who was killed at the first battle of Manassas; Ellen is the wife of Dr. Walker, and lives at the Cape of Good Hope, Africa; Eliza, once widow of Capt. Oliver Gaston, is now the wife of Dr. N. D. Richardson, Nashville, Tenn.; Susan is the wife of Wm. C. Collier, Nashville, Tenn.

**MURRAY & SMITH**, Books and Stationery, are successors to the well-known merchant, A. F. Murray, who established the business in 1866, and successfully conducted it for twenty years, carrying the largest stock in North Alabama.

M. R. MURRAY, son of A. F. Murray, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1864, and, since 1866, has been a resident of Huntsville, where he received his preliminary education. He also received the benefits of the State University at Tuscaloosa and of the State Normal School at Florence. He began his business career as clerk in his father's store, and, January 1, 1887, became the proprietor, soon after admitting S. F. Smith, thus forming the present firm of Murray & Smith.

Mr. Murray was married in January, 1886, to Miss Mary Fearn, of Huntsville.

S. F. SMITH is a son of R. C. and Jennie (Farriss) Smith, the former a native of East Tennessee, and the latter of Mobile. The father of Mr. Smith was a dry-goods merchant of Huntsville for many years, and his grandfather, J. L. Farriss, was an old-time merchant and broker of Huntsville.

Our subject was born February 28, 1862, in Huntsville, where he received his education. He was an assistant of Mr. A. F. Murray for six years, and subsequently had business experience in Chattanooga and Nashville.

Returning to his home, the present firm of Murray & Smith was formed, May 1, 1887, and has increased its business one-third.

Messrs. Murray & Smith are young men possessing excellent business attributes, and enjoy the confidence and esteem of the entire community.



**BURWELL J. CURRY** is a distinguished son of Alabama, who has won fame by inventions that are destined to be of incalculable value to the cotton-growing States.

His father, Jabez Curry, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and a native of Georgia, where his father, a Revolutionary soldier, had settled at an early day. He came to Alabama in 1823, settling in Perry County, where he was one of the largest planters of that section. He died in 1869. The mother of our subject was Rebecca Jordan, of English and French origin; she was a descendant of Lord Burwell, who settled a colony in Virginia,



and also of the Dupree family, early settlers in Virginia. She died in 1874.

Burwell J. Curry, our subject, was born in Perry County, Ala., in 1836. He received a liberal education, first under a private tutor, and two years with Professor Tutwiler, of Green Springs. In his fourteenth year he entered the sophomore class of the University of Alabama, where he pursued his studies two years, going thence to the University of Virginia, where he remained two years.

He commenced his business life in Mobile, and was also engaged in planting in Perry County prior to the war. He entered the army with a captain's commission, with authority to raise an independent troop of cavalry—used for special service and scouting. After the battle of Perryville he was retired from active service on account of disability, and served as post quartermaster, at Marion, Ala., until the close of the conflict.

Subsequent to the war he was engaged in merchandising and cotton dealing, also planting in Hale and Marengo Counties, and in January, 1868, became a resident of Madison County, where he purchased a large plantation.

He accepted a lucrative position as general Southern manager for an insurance company, and was connected with them until 1874, when he resumed the management of his plantation.

Possessed of superior mechanical ideas, and being a practical machinist, he soon evolved the idea of perfecting machinery which would solve in a great measure the economic question of how to raise cotton profitably. This he has done, beyond peradventure, in inventing the Curry Cotton Cultivating Machine, which has lately been placed upon the market, and has met with unbounded favor.

Mr. Curry removed to Huntsville in 1881, and commenced manufacturing and experimenting with his different inventions, spending a large private fortune in perfecting them, until he has finally achieved well-deserved success. His inventions are thus briefly described:

The Curry Cotton Cultivator and Chopper, with its suitable attachments, may be used to fallow or broadcast the land, for bedding for cotton, corn, or other drilled crops. In one single action the machine forms the bed, opens the drills, sows and covers the seed, in perfect order; also a device for distributing fertilizers may be attached, which, with the work as above described, will save the

labor of at least ten men and mules, as compared with the old method.

In chopping cotton the machine executes the work of from twelve to fifteen men, cutting out the young plants with uniformity, and imparting a thorough surface cultivation; and can be used for the cultivation of cotton, corn, sugar-cane, peas and potatoes, etc. The machine is a marvel of mechanical skill, one of the greatest labor-saving implements that can be used by agriculturists, and is meeting with large sales.

*The Curry Cotton Compress.*—The first working model was constructed and erected by Captain Curry at Huntsville, in the fall of 1885. This machine, although crudely made, when tested demonstrated the success of Captain Curry's theory, as bales of cotton of 500lb weight upon this experimental machine were compressed to a density of twenty-four pounds to the cubic foot; soon thereafter a company was organized to manufacture the compresses, and a contract was made with W. P. Calahan & Co., of Dayton, Ohio, in December, 1886. The first working machine was erected at Huntsville, and there thoroughly tested in compressing several thousand bales of the crop of 1886. It was then sold to Landman & Co., cotton buyers of Huntsville, Ala., and has been continuously operated by them, and has stood the severest tests, meeting every requirement of railroads and export shippers. Other presses of this pattern, but greatly improved in material and construction have been erected by the Curry Press Company at Holly Springs and Florence. The average density of bales compressed by these machines is twenty-eight pounds to the cubic foot. The presses, from their efficiency, durability and cheapness in cost and great economy in expense of operating, have attracted great interest toward them. These presses cost about one-fourth the price of the steam compresses now in use, and will run ten hours, consuming only about one ton of coal.

Captain Curry has also invented a Portable Hay Press, which is remarkable for its simplicity and efficiency. This press is portable, of light draft, can be traveled through the meadow between the winrows or shocks of hay, making bales as it goes. The power is attached to and is a part of this machine, and therefore, unlike other portable hay presses, does not require to be set up in the field, but travels through to its work. Captain Curry is also the inventor and patentee of fruit cider

and wine) presses, tobacco and cheese presses, and of several other mechanical appliances.

Captain Curry was married March 9, 1865, to Miss Bettie Hammond, daughter of Judge F. L. Hammond, of Huntsville.

Two children have been born to them: F. L. Hammond Curry and Anna Lunar Curry.



**ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL** was born September 6, 1828, in Cavan County, Ireland, and is a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Coomey) Campbell, natives, respectively, of Derry and Cavan Counties, Ireland.

Robert Campbell was a Presbyterian clergyman. He emigrated to the United States in 1829, and settled in Brooklyn, N. Y. He soon after connected himself with the Episcopal Church. He spent a short time in Havana, and the rest of his life in New York. He reared nine children.

Our subject received a good commercial education. At the age of fifteen he became a clerk in a dry-goods store, and a few years subsequently was made a partner. In 1862 he went to Memphis, Tenn., and embarked in the book and stationery business. In 1865 he located in Huntsville, and, in partnership with a man by the name of Lutzelt, engaged in the dry-goods business. This partnership continued for two years. He then carried on the business alone for two years, and formed a partnership with a man by the name of Bailly, which lasted six years. Since 1878 the firm name has been Campbell & Son, and the business has been very successful. Mr. Campbell is interested in the North Alabama Improvement Company, and the Huntsville Land, Building and Manufacturing Association. He married Caroline E. Berry, a daughter of Thomas and Catharine (Coomey) Berry, natives of Ireland. They have six children.



**JAMES R. STEVENS.** Banker, was born in Caswell County, N. C., and is a son of George and Susan P. (Richardson) Stevens, natives of Virginia and North Carolina, respectively. George Stevens was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a man of Scotch blood. He married in North Carolina and moved to Christian County, Ky., where he died. His wife died at Huntsville in July, 1887, at the age of seventy-four years. She was a

daughter of James Richardson, of North Carolina.

The subject of this sketch was six years old when his parents settled in Kentucky. He received his education in the schools of the vicinity, mostly at Penbrook and Hopkinsville. At the age of eighteen he entered the store of his uncle, Edward Richardson, as a salesman at Brandon, Miss., and succeeded his uncle in the business in 1860. In July, 1861, he entered the Confederate Army as a member of Company I, Sixth Mississippi Regiment, and was elected its third lieutenant. He participated in the battle of Shiloh, and after this battle, when the regiment was re-organized, was elected its major. He fought at Corinth, Fort Gibson, Fort Hudson, Baker's Creek and in the siege of Vicksburg, where he was captured July 4, 1863. After the war he returned to Brandon, and re-opened his business and conducted it until 1874, when he moved to Huntsville, Ala., and there engaged in mercantile business until 1880, when he retired. After this he was elected president of the National Bank of Huntsville, in January, 1881, which position he now holds. He was one of the incorporators of the North Alabama Improvement Company, and is a director and treasurer of the same. He is also one of the incorporators and a director of the Decatur Land, Iron and Furnace Company.

He was married in December, 1867, to Miss Mattie Lee Patton, daughter of Dr. Chas. Patton, of Huntsville. He has one son, James R., who is now in the Episcopal High School, at Alexandria, Va. His wife died on the 22d of December, 1875.

Mr. Stevens is a K. of H., K. of P., an Odd Fellow and a Freemason.



**JOHN LEWIS RISON,** Druggist, Huntsville, was born in this city October 18, 1839. His father, Archibald Rison, was born near Carthage, Tenn., November 3, 1803. After receiving a good education, he came to Huntsville about 1822, and became a manufacturer of cotton gins, his being among the first establishments of that kind in the city. He continued this business until his death in 1862. He was a member of the Methodist Church and of the Masonic fraternity. He reared three sons, Wm. R., John L. and Wilson B. William R. was a lieutenant in the Fourth Alabama Cavalry Regiment in the late war; Wilson B. was a lieutenant in the Fourth Alabama Infantry and afterward a member of

Fourth Alabama Cavalry Regiment, and was killed at Lexington, Tenn. The mother of these sons, Martha (Bibb) Rison, was born in Huntsville February 22, 1816. J. L. Rison's grandfather, Richard Rison, a native of Virginia, immigrated to Tennessee about 1785, became a planter, and spent the balance of his days there. He reared a large family, and two of his sons fought in the battle of New Orleans. His ancestors came from Wales.

Our subject was reared and educated in Huntsville. When but fourteen years of age he began the drug business as a salesman. In 1860 he established a drug store of his own, and has conducted the business until the present time with marked success. Mr. Rison is a public-spirited man, and has taken an active part in the various schemes to develop Huntsville, and place her upon her present high road to greatness.

He was married February 22, 1860, to Miss Martha T. Erwin, daughter of Rev. A. R. Erwin, a minister of the Tennessee Conference (Methodist Church), and President of the Huntsville Female College. Her mother was Louisa Boyd Erwin.

Mr. Rison is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Knight of Pythias and a Knight Templar Mason.



**HENRY BENTLY ROPER**, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Huntsville, Ala., son of William M. and Lavinia (Bently) Roper, was born near Huntsville January 19, 1839. He received a common-school education, and, at the age of fifteen years, came into Huntsville, where he was clerking in a mercantile establishment at the outbreak of the war. In the spring of 1861 he enlisted in the Fourth Alabama Infantry, and at the first battle of Manassas was wounded. In the winter following he re-enlisted, and was connected with the service until the close of hostilities. He was in all the battles around Richmond, and, in the second day's fight at Gettysburg, was shot through the body and left on the battle-field for dead. He was at that time a lieutenant. He lay at Gettysburg, in hospital, for two months, when he was taken to Fort McHenry, and there and at Point Lookout was kept in prison eight months. Being exchanged he returned to Alabama, where he remained to the close of the war. He was married January 30, 1869, to Miss Cornelia Clopton, the accomplished daughter of Dr. James A. Clopton,

and has had born to him two children: Irene C., February 24, 1870, and Bell G., March 18, 1871. Mrs. Roper died April 1, 1874.

William M. Roper, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Cumberland County, Va., March 31, 1801, and died in Madison County, Ala., December 8, 1883. He was one of the most substantial planters of this county. He started in life without money, but the beginning of the war found him possessed of a handsome competency. His eldest son, William M., was born December 6, 1830; was clerk to the quartermaster of the Fourth Alabama Regiment during the war, and is now a farmer in Texas. The second son, Alex B., was born December 19, 1832, and died September 10, 1835; Mary E., born April 4, 1835, died September 22, 1837; Elvira G., born November 4, 1837, died November 15, 1878; Ellen M., born March 8, 1851; Caroline, born June 17, 1855. James Roper, father of said William M. Roper, also a Virginian, married Mary Sims, and came to Alabama in 1813. He died in 1814.



**WILLIAM T. DUNCAN**, Merchant, Huntsville, a native of Buckingham County, Va., was born January 31, 1844. His parents Geo. M. B. and Mary Jane (Gills) Duncan, were natives of Tennessee and Virginia, respectively. He was graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in 1864, and was at once appointed to the Engineering Department of the Confederate Government with the rank of captain. He was connected with the service until the close of the war, and surrendered with Gen. Joe Johnston at Greenboro, N. C. Returning home he taught school one year, and in 1867 embarked in mercantile business. In January, 1871, he came to Huntsville, in a clerical capacity, and in 1876 formed a partnership with Mr. E. S. Johnston. In addition to his general merchandise business, he is prominently identified with the Huntsville Compress Company and with other important industries. He was married in February, 1869, to Miss Louisa Johnson, the accomplished daughter of Alex. Johnson, Esq., of Virginia, and has had born to him six children, three only of whom are living. The family are members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. Duncan is a Knight of Honor.

The senior Mr. Duncan, a planter by occupation, and teacher by profession, was a graduate of Nashville University, and died in Virginia in 1885, at

the age of 69 years. His father, William Duncan, was a native of Virginia, and migrated in an early day to Tennessee. The Duncans came originally from Scotland, and the Gill family came to this country from England.



**GEORGE P. LANDMAN.** Cotton Broker, Huntsville, son of George P. and Eliza (Griffin) Landman, was born in Madison County, this State, in January, 1839. At the age of fifteen years, with John Reed, at Huntsville, he began life as a clerk. Two years later he was with Bradley, Wilson & Co., of New Orleans, in charge of their branch office at Huntsville. Early in the beginning of the war he joined the Fourth Alabama Cavalry, and remained with it, participating in all of its battles, to the close of hostilities. After the war he engaged at merchandising, and in 1869, at the head of the firm of Landman, Scruggs & Co., engaged in cotton commission business. At this writing (and since the fall of 1887), the style of the firm is Landman & Co. This firm does purely a cotton brokerage business, and handles from 15,000 to 18,000 bales per annum. In addition to his cotton interests, Mr. Landman is variously interested in other important Huntsville industries, and is altogether one of the most enterprising and successful business men of his city.

Mr. Landman was married, August 30, 1860, to Miss Mary F. Sivley, and the children born to this union are named respectively: Lucy Lee, Lillie B. (Mrs. R. S. Halsey), Laura M. (Mrs. Kepley), Emma E., Arthur, Joseph and George P. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Landman is a K. of P.

The senior Mr. Landman, was born in this county, near Huntsville; was a planter by occupation, and died while yet a young man. His widow married a Mr. Reedy, and is still living.



**GEORGE W. HUNT** was born in Franklin County, Tenn., October 20, 1813, and is a son of David and Elizabeth (Larken) Hunt, natives of Virginia. He was reared on a farm, and received a common-school education. At the age of twenty

years he began clerking in a store at Salem, Tenn., and from there, three years later, he moved to Jackson County, Ala., where he was similarly employed. He was twenty-six years of age when he came to Huntsville. Here he was for a while receiver and manager of stage lines, and also ran a hotel for a short time. He returned to Tennessee, and was there engaged in mercantile and milling business until 1861. In that year he located at Winchester, and in 1882 returned to Huntsville, where he has since resided, retired from all business.

Mr. Hunt was married in 1844, to Miss Priscilla J. Powell, at Winchester, Tenn., and has reared four children: Benjamin P., David (deceased), George R. and Addie B. The last named is the wife of Samuel L. Nelson, of Baldwyn, Miss. The mother of these children died July 24, 1873, and in November, 1882, Mr. Hunt married Mrs. McCalley, a daughter of Joel Rice, Esq.

David Hunt, George W. Hunt's father, when a lad, accompanied his parents to South Carolina, and from thence to Rogersville, Tenn., in the early part of the present century. In 1806, he located in Franklin County, Tenn., where he lived until the time of his death, which occurred in 1839. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and held the rank of major. He was a quiet, unostentatious, Christian gentleman. He reared a family of ten children. His father, John Hunt, was a Virginian by birth, and was a Revolutionary soldier. It was for him the town of Huntsville was named. About seventy-five yards south of the Huntsville Springs he erected the first building at this place, a small log-cabin.



**A. FRANKLE.** Merchant, Huntsville, was born in Russian Poland in 1835, and came to the United States in 1860. He located first at Mobile, and subsequently joined the Twenty-second Louisiana Regiment, while it was encamped at Mobile. He served with this regiment until the surrender of Vicksburg, after which he was in heavy artillery. From Mobile he moved to New Orleans, and from there to Shelbyville, Tenn., where he engaged in the dry goods and clothing business. In November, 1886, he came to Huntsville, where he carries on one of the largest dry goods establishments in Northern Alabama. He

was married in Shelbyville, Tenn., to Miss Lizzie Yancey, of that place. Miss Yancey was the daughter of James Yancey, and was distinguished for her beauty. The Yanceys are among the oldest and wealthiest families of Tennessee.

Mr. Frankle is a member of the Masonic fraternity, K. of P., K. and R. A. C. In addition to his Huntsville business, he still carries on his establishment at Shelbyville. He began life in America penniless, but has succeeded in amassing a fortune.



**JOSEPH HUMPHREY SLOSS**, a native of of Somerville, Ala., son of the Rev. James L. and Letitia (Campbell) Sloss, was born October 12, 1826. He was educated at Florence this State; read law, and was admitted to the bar at the age of eighteen years. He began the practice of law at St. Louis, from which place, at the end of three or four years, he moved to Edwardsville, Ill. He was living in Illinois at the outbreak of the late war, and early in 1861 came to Alabama, and raised a company of which he became captain, and with it joined the Fourth Alabama Cavalry Regiment. He was promoted to major in 1863. He was in active service from first to last, and took a gallant and conspicuous part in many hotly contested engagements.

After the war Major Sloss resumed the practice of law at Tusculumbia, this State, and formed a partnership with Robert B. Lindsay, afterward Governor of Alabama. This partnership continued until Major Sloss was elected to Congress in 1871. He served in both the Forty-second and Forty-third sessions of the United States Congress, and

in 1879 was appointed United States Marshal for the Northern District of Alabama. This office, which he held three years, necessitated a change of residence, and he moved to Huntsville in 1879. He resigned the marshalship in 1882 to engage in real estate business.

Major Sloss is prominent in both the Masonic and Odd Fellows' societies. He was married April 2, 1850, at Edwardsville, Ill., to Miss Mary L. Lusk, and has had born to him five children: James L., deceased; Mary L., deceased; Josie L., deceased; Percy M., Annie C.

Rev. James L. Sloss, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Northwest Ireland in 1792; came to the United States when a boy and settled in South Carolina; and was educated at Princeton (N. J.) College. Immediately after graduating he entered the Presbyterian ministry and located at Cahaba, Ala. He was there married, and soon afterward moved to Somerville. In 1830 he moved to Florence, and there died in 1844. He was a teacher in the schools at Somerville and Florence. He reared a family of four sons and three daughters. His eldest daughter, Ann Eliza, became the wife of Col. A. D. Coffee; Mary L. married M. J. Warren, of Tusculumbia; Titia V. married Gen. F. S. Rutherford, now of Alton, Ill. His son, Thomas M. Sloss, died in 1873. Thomas M. was captain in the Seventh Alabama Cavalry during the war, and afterward moved to Texas, where he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court. Another son, Robert C., is a farmer in Madison County, Ill. His wife, *nee* Letitia V. Campbell, was born at Washington, Tenn., in 1801. Her father, David Campbell, was the first United States Judge of Tennessee Territory.



## II.

### FLORENCE.

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FLORENCE is situated on the north bank of the Tennessee River, at the foot of the Mussel Shoals, and consequently at the head of navigation of the Lower Tennessee River. It is the county seat of Lauderdale County, and has long been an important town. Its population is now estimated at 3,000.

In the year 1818 a company of men, operating under the name of the Cypress Land Company, bought from the United States the land whereon the town is situated. In the year following the purchase of the site, the land company had a great auction sale of town lots. The prices realized were almost fabulous, considering the amount of land then open for settlement. The land was divided into lots of a half-acre each, and one of these brought the sum of \$3,500, the purchaser being James Jackson, who was afterward one of the foremost citizens of the place. A lot on the river bank, near the present railroad bridge, together with the ferry privilege, was sold to John J. Winston for \$10,100. The total amount of sales aggregated \$319,513.

It is naturally a matter of wonder, what were the expectations in regard to Florence that caused real estate to bring such enormous prices. The men who had in hand the work of building up the young city were men of wealth and note, and the weight of their reputation possibly had something to do with it, but more particularly did the unrivaled location and the wonderful natural advantages of the place lend aid to the project. It must be remembered that at this time Memphis was simply a ferry landing, Nashville a small village, and Louisville a town of only a few thousand inhabitants. All this vast domain west of the Alleghany Mountains and south of the Ohio River was at that time just being opened up to the white settlers. The East was sending out emigrants in a steady stream. The land was found to be peculiarly adapted to the raising of cotton, the cultivation of which had just begun to be a matter of

importance. The forests were filled with fine timber of endless variety, the woods and streams with fish and game. It was, therefore, not unreasonable to conclude that here, at the head of navigation of a large river, in the center of a magnificent agricultural country, there would soon be built a great city. In the absence of railroads, the Tennessee River, nature's great highway, would furnish transportation, and the founders of Florence no doubt often pictured it as a busy metropolis, its streets filled with rushing throngs, and the air resounding with the hum of many industries.

During the first decade of the young city's history, her growth was tremendous. Capital began to flow in, and moneyed men began to show their faith by their works. Florence was the great distributing point for all the merchandise brought back from the North in exchange for the agricultural products annually sent thither. Large warehouses were built on the banks of the river to receive freight and goods consigned to Huntsville, Athens, Fayetteville, Tenn., and other interior towns; beautiful residences were built, storehouses were being erected, and a large wholesale as well as a retail trade was growing up.

At this time (1832) the cultivation of cotton in territory east of Florence had become so great that it was found necessary to have increased facilities for transportation, and the question of digging a canal around the Mussel Shoals began to be talked of. Congress made an appropriation of land for that purpose, and by the year 1840 work had so far advanced as to enable flat-boats to pass through the canal, but when the first steamboat attempted to enter, the locks were found too short. In the following year a break occurred, and the Federal and State Governments having both refused further aid, the work was allowed to go to destruction. In 1846, however, the General Government again began the building of a canal, this time on a larger scale. This great work has

progressed as rapidly as could be expected, and it is thought will be completed during the present year.

Another enterprise almost as important as the canal, and one begun at about the same time, was the building of a bridge across the river. This was completed at a great cost about the year 1840. The bridge was partially destroyed by a tornado in 1854, and in 1855, exactly one year after, the remainder was swept away. In 1858 a railroad bridge was built, which was burned by Confederate troops during the war. Since that time the Memphis & Charleston Railroad Company have built a third bridge, which is still in use.

Although farming and stock raising was the principal occupation of the people contiguous to Florence, the trade of these people being the principal source from which the town derived its support, yet there were several manufacturing establishments of no mean importance erected in the county. Samuel Vanlier built an iron furnace near the northern edge of the county, and the iron manufactured by him was brought to Florence in wagons, and shipped to market by river. Flowing by the western part of the place is Cypress Creek, a noble stream that has its rise in Tennessee; on the banks of this creek were erected cotton mills, woolen mills and lumber mills. Almost within sight were the two extensive cotton factories of Martin, Weakley & Co. All of these establishments, with the exception of one factory owned by the latter firm, were destroyed during the war, and have not since been rebuilt. The one cotton factory remaining passed into the hands of the Cypress Mills Company and was run by them until recently, when it was purchased by a syndicate of foreign capitalists who are at present operating it to great advantage.

The Kernachan mills is another cotton factory situated also on the Cypress Creek, and was more recently erected. It is now operated to its fullest capacity, and pays a handsome dividend.

The iron foundry of Wright & Rice was another one of the important enterprises of early days.

While the chief advantage of early Florence was its remarkable facilities for water transportation, yet her citizens were not slow to recognize the importance of quicker communication by means of railroads. Her people subscribed liberally to the building of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, expecting that the line at this place would run on the north side of the river. When

the road was located on the opposite side, they secured the building of a branch from Tusculumbia and the reconstruction of the bridge across the Tennessee River. The importance of having a northern outlet by means of a railroad leading to Nashville, has long been recognized, and the want of this, together with the failure of the Government to complete the canal, more than anything else conspired to hold the town at a stand still for forty years. Various attempts have been made to have this road built, and the citizens of Florence have always been ready to contribute liberally to its construction. It has only been since the organization of the Florence Land Company and the locating of many new enterprises at Florence, that capitalists have looked favorably upon the building of this line. The Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, with an eye to the ever increasing freight traffic of Florence and Sheffield, finally closed a contract with representatives of the two places, by which they bound themselves to build, equip and operate the road. The greater part of the work is already completed, and trains will be running over the new line in a short while.

Save for a short time during the war, Florence has never been without a newspaper. The Florence *Gazette* was established in 1819, by W. S. Fulton, and has been, since its foundation, a conservative democratic paper. Its founder was also the first editor, and judging from the public records, Fulton must have been a leading spirit in the early history of the place. He was the first Judge of the County Court, and also the first postmaster of the place. He was followed by numerous other men as prominent as he, and, possibly of his successors, the one most widely-known in newspaper circles, was M. C. Galloway, now of Memphis, and until recently, the editor-in-chief of the Memphis *Appeal*. Colonel Galloway went to Florence from Moulton, Ala., and from Florence to Memphis, where he now lives in honored retirement. There have been many other papers published in Florence, among the number were the Florence *Engineer*, the *American Democrat*, the Florence *Journal*, and the *Landerblos Times*. In the latter days, many papers have suddenly bloomed forth, and almost as suddenly faded away. The interests of the town are now zealously guarded by three excellent weekly papers: the *Gazette*, the *Banner* and the *Ware*.

The principal churches of the place have always

been the Presbyterian, Methodist, and the Episcopalian: but, since the recent growth began, other denominations have come in. The Catholics have already erected a church, and the Campbellites and Baptists are now preparing to build houses of worship.

The first pastor of the Methodist Church, and, probably, the first one of the place, was Nathaniel Garret, and, since his time, there is a long list of men, who have been, and are yet, more or less prominent throughout the South. Among the number were Dr. R. H. Rivers, who was also president of the Wesleyan University; Rev. J. D. Barber, Dr. R. A. Young, Dr. Hardie Brown, and others equally as well known.

The first pastor of the Presbyterian Church was Dr. Campbell. From the articles of faith which were adopted, and which are to be found on the county records, we learn that the church was organized on July 29, 1837. The trustees were five in number, and all intimately and prominently connected with the early history of the town. John McKinley, who was afterward a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, James Irvine and John Simpson, two leading citizens, Robert M. Patton, a merchant and afterward Governor of Alabama, and Dr. Neal Rowell, a highly respected and prominent physician of the county, formed the board. Rev. J. L. Sloss and Dr. W. H. Mitchell, both accomplished divines, have filled this pulpit. The present pastor is Rev. M. L. Frierson.

The first school taught in Florence was presided over by Mr. Charles Sullivan, and the next by Mr. Wall, an Episcopal clergyman. The building used by him is still standing. One of the most prominent of early educators was Mr. James L. Sloss, who had charge of the male academy for a number of years. He was at the same time pastor of the Presbyterian Church: a fine scholar, greatly beloved and esteemed by all denominations.

In 1854 the project of removing La Grange College to Florence was started. It was not in a flourishing condition at that place, and the Methodist Church, to whom the property belonged, desired to move it to some place where the field of usefulness would be enlarged. The citizens took kindly to the idea, and offered such inducements that the removal was finally accomplished. A large and commodious three-story brick building was erected in the center of a beautiful grove, near the then suburbs of the town, and with Dr. R. H.

Rivers as president, the new institution of learning began a prosperous career under the name of the Wesleyan University. The school flourished until the war, when both preceptor and pupil were called upon to shoulder the musket. An attempt was made to reorganize it after the war, but owing to the impoverished condition of the country it never succeeded. The building and grounds were afterward turned over to the State Board of Education, and in the year 1873 the State Normal College was established. For the support of this institution the State makes an annual appropriation of \$1,500; and since its foundation the school has been in a most flourishing condition, steadily growing in popularity and strength. Its graduates are scattered all over the State, and their system of teaching has had a marked influence over the public schools of Alabama. The president of the faculty is Prof. T. J. Mitchell.

There have been good female schools in Florence since the founding of the town, and among the best of these was that taught for a long while by Mr. N. M. Hentz and his accomplished wife, Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz. They moved away in 1842, much to the regret of the people, and took up their residence at Tuscaloosa. After their departure, the Florence Female Academy was opened, which was afterward merged into the Florence Synodical Female College, which was under the control of the Memphis Synod of the Presbyterian Church. The citizens were again called upon to assist in erecting buildings, and two handsome brick edifices now stand as evidence of the high estimate placed upon female education. The school had for a number of years, as its efficient principal, the Rev. Dr. W. H. Mitchell, who was also pastor of the Presbyterian Church. It is a quite well-known fact that this institution was the especial care of the late lamented ex-Gov. R. M. Patton, who was the President of the Board of Trustees till his death. He lent the weight of his influence and his purse unstintingly to its support, and his name is still held in most affectionate remembrance by its many pupils. The school is now under the charge of Miss Sallie Collier, and still retains its reputation as an institution of learning and refinement.

The civil administration of Florence has always been in the hands of honest and capable men. There have been no defalcations, no dishonesty in high places. When the people find they have an efficient officer in charge it has been their custom



to re-elect him with persistent regularity. The same is true of the County officers. William W. Garrard, who was one of the foremost of the early settlers, held the office of Clerk of the County Court for twenty years. He was succeeded by Wiley T. Hawkins, who remained in office for ten years, till the County Court was abolished and the office of Probate Judge created, which office he filled for twelve years till his death in 1862.

The city government is in the hands of a mayor and five aldermen who are elected annually.

The present mayor is Hon. Z. P. Morrison, a Virginian by birth and a man highly esteemed for his integrity of character and great executive capacity. He was first elected in 1881, and has held the office since that time. To him more than any one else is the town indebted for the reputation it enjoys as being a well governed community and comparatively free from crime. Since his coming into office the streets have been greatly improved, drainage perfected, the city has been lighted, and various other improvements have been made.

Enough has been said to give an idea of the Florence of the past; but the wide-awake business man asks, "What of the future?" "A beautiful town, a refined community, and good schools are very much to be desired; but what of the business prospect?"

The same reasons that, seventy years ago, brought the place into existence still hold good, and the great changes wrought in the industrial character of the South, during that time, have added others equally as strong.

A glance at a map will show that Florence is the centre of a circle, of which Birmingham, Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga, standing at the average distance of 125 miles, are points on the circumference. The Tennessee River might be called the diameter of this circle; and completed lines of railroad, running from each of these points, form its radii. Within this circle, on the north, is to be found the brown hematite ore of Tennessee, and on the south and east are deposits of coal practically inexhaustible. The farm lands of the Tennessee Valley are the most productive in the South, and throughout Lauderdale County are large forests of timber yet untouched. The trade of this region must have a center; there must be a distributing point, and that point must have transportation facilities.

Florence replies to the demand with the Tennessee River and three completed lines of railroad.

Nature has been lavish in her gifts to North Alabama, they are hid underneath the surface, it is true, but they are here nevertheless. And it was to develop these resources that our forefathers, seventy years ago, pushed through thicket and wilderness till they halted on the banks of the beautiful Tennessee, and like the red man said: "Alabama: Here we rest."

A celebrated newspaper writer, speaking of the place, says: "Five years ago Florence was as dead as a town could be killed, but now it is brim-full of energy and enterprise."

What brought about the change?

In 1886 her citizens, having seen Sheffield spring up from almost beneath her feet, began again to put their wits together, to evolve some plan for the advancement of the place. The result was the formation of the Florence Land Mining and Manufacturing Company. This company had, as a basis for its organization, a large number of valuable town lots, extensive tract of mineral lands, and about \$500,000 in cash subscriptions. Its object is the building of manufacturing enterprises of all kinds, inducing immigration, and, in fact, the general development and improvement of the place. The president of the company is Hon. W. B. Wood, a man who has always been a leading spirit in every movement, looking to the good of the place. The great object in the organization of this company was to obtain a concentration of effort. The citizens, with a strong and abiding faith in the success of the enterprise, subscribed liberally to the capital stock. It was, in fact, a popular uprising, a determination of the people to combine their forces, and to work together for the common good.

The scheme has been a success. The town has been well advertised, the claims of her people have been recognized and capitalists have not been slow to invest where such handsome returns have been assured. Within the last twelve months the town has almost doubled her population; her taxable values have largely increased.

The enterprises which have already been established, will, when completed, give employment to over two thousand men, thus assuring to the town, in the early future, an additional population of ten thousand souls.

In addition to those manufacturing establishments already spoken of, there are other corpora-

tions that have invested largely in Florence. The North Alabama Furnace, Foundry and Land Company, organized in the spring of 1887, is now building an iron furnace, whose daily output will be one hundred tons. The furnace will be completed in the present year. The stockholders of this company are among the wealthiest men in the South, and it is the purpose of the company to increase, as early as practicable, the amount already invested by building other furnaces or rolling mills as the occasion may demand. The capital stock is \$2,000,000, and the president of the company is Major A. S. Lawton, of Atlanta, Ga.

The Florence Wooden-ware Works, and the Russell Handle Factory, are two manufacturing establishments under the management of Mr. H. W. Russell. There is abundance of material in easy reach to supply these factories. They are now in active operation, and are yielding a handsome profit on the investment. The building of these concerns is but the first step toward utilizing the vast forests of timber in North Alabama, and a decade more will show the number greatly increased.

The W. B. Wood Furnace Company is erecting what will be when finished, the most complete furnace plant in Alabama. It will be of 150 tons daily capacity, and its early completion is an assured fact. The company has as its superintendent of construction an experienced furnace builder, in the person of Maj. John M. Norton.

The Florence Cotton Compress, erected in 1887, was built entirely by local capital. There are annually received at Florence, 10,000 bales of cotton. The building of a compress, and large warehouses, will materially increase this amount, and add much to her prospect of becoming the most important cotton market on the Tennessee River.

There are other enterprises in Florence that attest the steady and substantial growth of the place. A system of water works have been built, which supplies the town with pure and wholesome water. The dull glow of the coal oil lamp has given place to the brilliant rays of the electric light. A furniture factory, planing mills, and saw mills have been erected, and their product fails to fill the orders for home consumption; and there might also be added many other industries of minor importance.

This is preëminently a building age. In Alabama the development has just begun. Decatur,

Sheffield and Florence have well advertised the many advantages of the Tennessee Valley, and the rapid growth of these places attest the strength and truth of their assertions. There can nowhere be found a locality more desirable as a place of residence, nor any field where such inducements are held out to the business man of the rising generation.

The wise old heads that founded Florence, and predicted for it such a brilliant future, have long since passed away, and, even now, the moss is forming on their headstones. Their dreams will yet be realized. A rejuvenated city, merging from the stagnation and decay of forty years, will fulfill her destiny.



**EDWARD ASBURY O'NEAL**, distinguished in Alabama as a Soldier, Statesman, Lawyer, Citizen. His parents were Edward and Rebecca (Wheat) O'Neal, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter, of Huguenotish extraction, of South Carolina.

The senior O'Neal, after his marriage in South Carolina, came early to Alabama, and settled in Madison County, where he died, when his son, the subject of this sketch, was but three months old. His widow survived him several years and died, also in Madison County, in 1856. Of their two sons, Edward A. is the younger. The elder, Basil Wheat O'Neal, died in 1881, in Texas, where he was for many years a planter.

Edward Asbury O'Neal, after receiving an academic education, mastering the classics and English literature, entered LaGrange College, and graduated as A.B. in 1836, taking the first honors of his class, and delivering the baccalaureate address. He studied law under Hon. James W. McClung, of Huntsville, and was there admitted to the bar in 1840. He began the practice at Florence, and made his first appearance at the trial of a cause before the late Daniel Coleman, and so successfully conducted the issue as to place himself at once in the van of popular favor. In 1841 he was elected solicitor of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, and held the office four years. This appointment was made by a called session of the Legislature and was to fill out the unexpired term of George S. Houston, who was then first elected to the United States Congress. From that period it seems that Mr. O'Neal de-



*E. A. O'Neal*



clined further official position for many years, preferring to devote his time to the practice of law, although never losing his interest in political affairs nor abating his efforts in the advancement of his friends and the interests of his party, of which he was so conspicuous a member. He was regarded as the leading Democratic speaker in North Alabama, and in fact, he had no superior, and but few equals in the State.

June 4, 1861, with the commission of captain, he took his departure from Florence, for Richmond, Va., taking with him a battalion of three companies of soldiers, then but recently recruited in Northern Alabama. Arriving at the seat of the Confederate Government, he was at once made major of the Ninth Alabama Infantry. In the spring of 1862 he was commissioned colonel and assigned to the command of the Twenty-sixth Alabama Infantry, and in the summer of 1863 was promoted for gallantry in action to the rank of brigadier-general. From the first to the last he was in the army of Northern Virginia, and participated in almost, if not every, distinguished battle fought by that incomparable army. He was at Williamsburg, Seven Pines, in the Seven Days' Fight in front of Richmond, Boonesborough, South Mountain, Chancellorsville, through all the battles from the Rapidan to Petersburg, and in many others equally famous now in the history of the American conflict. In all of these General O'Neal conducted himself with distinguished gallantry, and won for himself fresh laurels with each succeeding engagement. He was wounded at Seven Pines, but slightly; also at Boonesborough. He carries upon his person other honorable scars, as souvenirs of the terrible war through which he passed as one of its most conspicuous actors.

At Chancellorsville, the brigade under his command won the honors of the day by whipping and driving from the field Howard's entire division, and capturing two or three thousand prisoners. In 1863, in Rhode's division, Jackson's corps, his brigade accompanied the invasion of Pennsylvania, and he led them at their head and front, like a Navarre, during those three most terrible days of a war unparalleled in the histories of battles.

He was mustered out of the service just four years from the day he left Florence, and returning directly home, resumed the practice of law.

Of the many advocates of secession in North Alabama who distinguished themselves as its advocates, it is remarkable that O'Neal and not to

exceed four others went to the front when war became a reality. With him, the right and justice of secession was accepted as fundamental, and he believed in it and advocated it prior to its culmination, and had the courage and manhood to fight for his convictions when it had resulted in war. In 1874 he devoted his time and his talents to the fight that was that year waged in Alabama for the supremacy of the Democratic party; and in August, 1875, was elected by the popular voice of the people to the Constitutional Convention. In that assembly, he was one of the most conspicuous factors. He was chairman of the Committee on Education, and, as such, framed and secured the adoption of Section 9, Article XIII., which gives authority for the re-organization of the Universities, Normal Schools, the Agricultural and Mechanical College, etc., and placed the educational system of Alabama to the very front and opened the doorway to the flood gates of her succeeding prosperity; for it is a well-known fact that without superior educational facilities, immigration would never render the State populous.

In 1880, Gen. O'Neal was elector for the State at large, and stumped the State in behalf of Hancock and English.

In 1882, he was elected Governor of Alabama, and succeeded himself in that high office in 1884. His administration of the affairs as chief executive of the State during those four years has passed into history, and we can not better gather the results and the consequent impressions upon the people than by referring to the evidences of public sentiment as disclosed through the then leading current publications.

Upon his retirement from office, the *Mobile Register* said: "Governor O'Neal leaves the executive office with the proud consciousness that the people are satisfied with his rule, and can heartily say to him 'well done good and faithful servant.'" The *Montgomery Dispatch*, in a leading editorial, says: "His administration has been characterized by sincere regard for the welfare of the State in her various departments, and his policies, in the main, bear the impress of a statesmanship, wise, broad and enlightened; to it will be traceable much of the good of future administrations, and in it ended much that was bad of those that indirectly preceded it."

These are but specimens of the utterances of the press, not alone in Alabama, but in many other States of the Union. Congratulations were

heaped upon him by newspapers and people, to copy which would of themselves fill a volume. His final message to the Legislature, November 10, 1886, is regarded as one of the greatest State papers that has ever emanated from any governor.

In the maxim, "a public office is a public trust bestowed for the good of the country," he preceded the present popular chief executive of the United States in its utterance very nearly two years, for we find it in the Governor's inaugural address, December 1, 1882. We also find in that magnificent address, so replete with wisdom, the following few words, which, with Governor O'Neal, judging from the part he took in the Constitutional Convention of 1845, seems to be a motto: "The test of a country's civilization and prosperity is to be found in its educational institutions."

Under his administration, the revenue department of the State underwent the most severe trials of its history; but his administration, that was confronted at the outset with so many difficulties, survived them all, and the future will verify the fact that it was one of the strongest and best administrations the State has ever had.

Brought into official life amid those stormy scenes, with a plundered treasury and the consequent demoralization of finances, the prospect was certainly inauspicious; but despite all these unfavorable conditions he bore himself as a courageous and incorruptible public servant, earnestly devoted to Alabama and all her interests; and the historian will have to conclude that his efforts to correct abuses were crowned with success.

April 12, 1838, at Huntsville, Ala., Mr. O'Neal was married to Miss Olivia Moore, the eldest daughter of Dr. Alfred Moore, and a brother of the late distinguished Dr. David Moore. To this union nine children were born, two of whom died in infancy. The eldest son, Alfred M., is a merchant in New York City; Edward A., Jr., a brilliant young lawyer, died February 13, 1876; and Emmet is associated with his father in the practice of law. One of his daughters, Rebecca, is the wife of Col. R. H. Shotwell, of St. Louis; another, Georgie, is the wife of Mr. E. F. Williams, of St. Louis; the third, Sydenham Moore, is the wife of George H. Dudley, Esq., of Montgomery, and Miss Julia is, at this writing (1887), yet of her father's household.

Governor O'Neal is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and the family are of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**RICHARD O. PICKETT**, Attorney-at-law, Florence, Ala., son of Steptoe and Sarah O. (Chilton) Pickett, natives of Virginia and descended from French and English ancestry respectively, was born in Fauquier County, Va., August 22, 1823. The family came into Alabama in 1829, and settled in Limestone County, where the old people spent the rest of their lives. They reared a family of six sons and three daughters, and the subject of this sketch is the second son. He was educated at the common schools of his neighborhood; began the study of law in 1843 in the office of James Irvine, at Florence; was admitted to the bar in 1845, and began the practice of law at once at Moulton, where he remained until the out-break of the war. In 1862, he raised a company in Lawrence County of twelve-months' men for the State's service. Owing to a change in the law, requiring enlistments to be for three years, or during the war, the company was refused admission into the service; so they were immediately disbanded, and Pickett proceeded to raise a company of volunteers, which became Company H, Thirty-fifth Alabama Infantry. In November, 1863, he was commissioned Colonel of the Tenth Alabama Cavalry; served to the close of the war, and was mustered out at Pond Springs, in May, 1865. While with the Thirty-fifth Regiment, Captain Pickett participated in the battles at Baton Rouge, Champion Hill, and a number of skirmishes; in the Tenth Cavalry, as colonel, he led that regiment under General Roddy, through the various battles in which that General's command participated in Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. Colonel Pickett was captured at Corinth, Miss., in May, 1862, upon the evacuation upon that place, and was held until the September following, when he was exchanged at Vicksburg. His regiment was not captured, and he fell into the hands of the enemy because of his illness which rendered it impossible for him to get away, or to be removed with the sick. At the close of the war, he returned to Moulton, resumed the practice of law, and in December, 1867, removed to Florence.

Mr. Pickett was elected Judge of Lawrence County away back in 1846, and was in the Legis-

lature from that county, sessions of 1853, 1855, 1857 and 1861, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention from Lauderdale County, 1875. He was again in the Legislature (from this county) sessions of 1884-5, and 1886-7.

Judge Pickett is an active Democratic worker at all times; is a forcible political speaker, and, as a lawyer, is regarded among the best in North Alabama. The Legislature of 1861 unanimously elected him adjutant-general under Governor Shorter, but he declined it to enter the Confederate service. He was a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Seymour, and took a prominent part in the ensuing campaign. Before the war he was a man of wealth, a large planter and slave-holder, but, like most others, the dawn of peace found him with but little left else than honor.

He was married at Florence, when about twenty years of age, to Miss Fannie L. Boggs, and, of the nine children born to him, three only are living: Mrs. Chas. H. Patton, Mrs. Paul King and Mrs. S. E. Rice.



**HENRY C. JONES**, Solicitor of the Eighth Judicial District of Alabama, son of William S. and Ann (Coy) Jones, natives of the State of Virginia and of English descent, was born in Franklin County, this State, January 23, 1821.

The Jones family was among the early colonial settlers of Virginia, and H. C. Jones' grandfather, Thomas S. Jones, is known in the history of the United States as a gallant colonel in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Jones' father came to Alabama in 1813, settled in Madison County, and moved from there to Franklin County in 1819, where he died in 1874, at the age of seventy-six years. He reared a family of four sons and three daughters, all of whom are now living.

Henry C. Jones was educated primarily at the country schools, graduated from LaGrange College in 1840, read law under Professor Tutwiler at that college and the Hon. Daniel Coleman, of Athens, and was admitted to the bar in Franklin County, in 1841. Soon after coming to the bar—in fact, during the same year he was elected Probate Judge of Franklin, and resigned the office at the end of eighteen months to go to the Legislature. In speaking of Judge Jones, another writer says: "Judge Jones brought into the Legislature a mind

well cultivated and practical, with ready speaking abilities, and soon became one of the active business members. After serving many years in the House, he was transferred to the Senate, exhibiting maturity of mind, and legislative talent, which gave him prominence in the deliberations of that body. He was a Democrat, and entered fully into the councils of the party. In 1861, he was a member of the State Convention called upon the election of Mr. Lincoln, and took a decided stand against the ordinance of secession, opposing it with all his influence and ability in debate. Notwithstanding this, he was elected a deputy to the Congress of States, to assemble at Montgomery, for the purpose of forming a separate government for the South. This was no small compliment to him, considering how he had opposed the wishes and views of the majority."

Judge Jones settled at Florence in 1856, and has here since made his home. He was a Douglas elector and in the convention of 1860, as has been seen, strenuously opposed secession. Notwithstanding this, he was elected to the Confederate Provisional Congress, in which body he served one year. During the war he was engaged at the manufacture of cotton and woolens in Mississippi, under a contract, for the Confederate Government. After cessation of hostilities he resumed the practice of law at Florence, where he readily took high rank in the profession. He was associated at different times with two of the most distinguished lawyers at the South, viz.: Sidney C. Posey and the Hon. Josiah Patterson, the latter now of Memphis.

Judge Jones has always been an active politician in the higher sense of that term. During the period of re-construction he was for five years chairman of the Democratic Central Committee, and displayed therein much more than ordinary executive ability. In 1876 he was the Tilden and Hendricks elector from his district, and in support of the ticket spoke throughout Northern Alabama.

The Legislature of 1874 elected Judge Jones to the office of Solicitor of the Eighth District, a position to which he has been successively returned up to the present time, and is now serving his third term, which will expire by limitation in 1892. He is a public-spirited man, a superior lawyer, a conscientious prosecutor of the pleas of the State; is identified more or less with all the leading industries of Florence, and, though well

advanced in years, gives the various matters in which he is interested his personal attention, and brings to them the activity of a vigorous and perfect mind.

At Athens, Ala., October 13, 1844, Henry C. Jones was married to Martha L. Keyes, who died at her home in Florence, May 6, 1887. She was the mother of ten children, six sons and four daughters. The eldest son, William S., a gallant soldier under Forrest, was killed at Pulaski, Tenn., September 27, 1864; the second son, Geo. P., is a prominent lawyer at Florence; Henry C., Jr., also a lawyer, is located at Decatur; Robert Y. is a doctor of dental surgery at Nashville; and John is a railroad man in St. Louis. One of the daughters is the wife of L. M. Allen, cotton manufacturer; and another is an accomplished teacher, now at Birmingham.

Judge Jones is a man of high-moral character, a member of the Masonic fraternity, and one of North Alabama's most prominent citizens.



**ROBERT MCFARLAND**, Attorney-at-law, was born in County Londonderry, Ireland, August 6, 1836. His parents were William and Jane (McCulley) McFarland.

Robert McFarland was educated at the best schools in Ireland, and was there prepared for the army, but, failing to get into the Crimean War, he left the old country in May, 1854, landed in New York, and soon afterward entered Washington College (now Washington and Lee), from which institution he was graduated third in the class of 1858. At Lexington, Va., he studied law under John W. Brockenborough, and was graduated as a Bachelor of Law in 1860. He came to Florence in April of that year, and, forming a partnership with James B. Irvine, entered at once into the practice of his chosen profession. April 28, 1861, as Captain of the Lauderdale Volunteers, he entered the Confederate service. His company was subsequently organized into the Fourth Alabama Infantry, and at Harper's Ferry the command joined Stonewall Jackson's Corps, and participated in the first battle of Manassas.

Major McFarland knew General Jackson personally, having frequently met him while in Lexington. At Manassas the Major was watching the progress of the fight, and heard General Bee refer to Jackson's command in the memorable words

attaching themselves forever thereafter to the great hero of Manassas, to-wit: "See Jackson's men standing like a stone wall." (General Bee was killed on that day.)

The twelve months for which Captain McFarland had entered service having expired, he was authorized to recruit a cavalry regiment, which he did, and with a portion of it joined Gen. John H. Morgan at Knoxville, Tenn., and remained with the redoubtable Morgan until after the Ohio raid. He accompanied Morgan across the Ohio River and was the first man in the command to leap on to Indiana's soil. After Morgan's capture, McFarland was assigned by the Secretary of War to General Cleburne's command, and was with him to the close. He led the famous charge at Dug Gap, and for gallantry was complimented by the commander. At Villa Rica, Ga., he was wounded by having his horse killed under him, the horse falling upon him and injuring him to such an extent that he has never fully recovered from it. In December, 1864, he was in command at Huntsville, and remained there until the Federals drove him out in January, 1865. He was finally paroled at Pond Springs and came to Florence.

He had no money, and as he expressed it, "no home," and the only clothing that he had was his much worn Confederate uniform. This he continued to wear until a Federal officer issued a peremptory order that the Confederate uniform be taken off. Having nothing else to wear, the Major was in a pretty bad fix until a friend who was clerking for a Jew volunteered to go his security for a linen duster.

In October, 1865, he opened an office at Florence and began the practice of law, and here he has remained. He at once stepped into a good paying practice; became popular with his clients and rapidly made a reputation as one of the most successful lawyers of the North Alabama bar. He was married in March, 1868, to Miss Kate Armistead, daughter of Fontaine Armistead, Esq., then of Franklin, now of Colbert, County, and has had born to him seven children, six of whom are living. Major McFarland, since the close of the hostilities in which he took such a prominent part, has openly and at all times, advocated a loyal support of the General Government.

He was a Douglas man before the war, and a Union man up to the time his State had withdrawn, when he gave his services freely, and laid his life, as it were, upon the altar of his convic-



tions. No man in any part of the State was more loyal to the South than Robert McFarland.

He is an active Democratic worker; takes part in all the National and State campaigns; is a speaker of rare force, has a ready command of language, quick of repartee, and possessed of the ready wit so characteristic of his race. He was a delegate to the Baltimore Convention that nominated Greeley.

He is a member of the Knights of Pythias.



**ROBERT TENNENT SIMPSON**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Florence, Ala., son of John and Margaret (Patton) Simpson, natives, respectively, of Tyrone and Belfast, Ireland.

The senior Mr. Simpson came to America in 1818, settled at Florence, engaged at mercantile business, and at the end of seven years, returned to Ireland and married. Bringing his wife to America, they lived at Florence the rest of their days. They reared four sons and two daughters. Three of his sons were in the Confederate Army. John Simpson, Jr., First Lieutenant of Lauderdale Volunteers, was killed at Manassas.

The subject of this sketch is a graduate of Princeton College, class of 1857, and of the law department of the Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., class of 1859. Immediately after leaving Lebanon, he began the practice of law at Des Arc, Ark., and was there at the outbreak of the war.

In April, 1861, he enlisted as private in the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and took part with that regiment in the first battle of Manassas, and, shortly thereafter, was appointed second lieutenant in the First Alabama Battalion of Artillery. He was afterward promoted to first lieutenant in that command. He was cut off from his command when Fort Morgan was besieged, and assigned to duty as adjutant-general of General Liddell's Brigade. While serving in that capacity, he was elected captain of one of the companies in the Sixty-third Alabama Regiment, which position he accepted, and commanded the company through the sieges at Spanish Fort and Blakely. At the surrender of his command, at the last named place, on April 9, 1865, he was taken as a prisoner of war to Ship Island, where he remained till the command was brought to Jackson, Tenn., and there paroled in May, 1865.

After the close of the war he settled at Camden, Ala., where he practiced law until 1870, at which time he returned to Florence. He was elected to the Legislature in 1882, and to the Senate from the district composed of Lauderdale and Limestone Counties in 1884. In both houses of the General Assembly, Captain Simpson proved himself an active and useful member.

He was married at Florence, September, 1861, to Miss Mattie Collier, daughter of Mr. Wyatt Collier, of Lauderdale County. To this union have been born one son and four daughters; the former is a student at law, in Kansas.

Captain Simpson is a member of the Knights of Honor and Knights and Ladies of Honor; President of the Board of Trustees of the Female Synodical College of Florence, and is an elder in the Presbyterian Church.



**EMMET O'NEAL**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Florence, Ala., son of the Hon. Edward Ashbury O'Neal, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this volume, was born at Florence September 29, 1853.

Mr. O'Neal was educated at the Florence Wesleyan University, University of Mississippi, and was graduated from the University of Alabama in 1873. After leaving college he at once entered upon the study of law in the office of his father, and was admitted to the bar in 1876.

Before entering the University, Mr. O'Neal was tendered and accepted an appointment to West Point Academy, but admission was refused him on account of his politics.

Since his admission to the bar Mr. O'Neal has given the profession almost his undivided attention, and it is but just to say of him that he has risen by merit to an elevated position at the North Alabama bar. He is a prominent factor in the Democratic party; an eloquent, forcible speaker; a lawyer of recognized ability, a polished, courteous gentleman; a terse and vigorous writer; and altogether promises to be a brilliant successor to a brilliant father in the hearts and confidences of the people. He was married at Tuscaloosa July 24, 1881, to a young lady of Florence, Miss Lizzie Kirkman, the beautiful and accomplished daughter of Samuel Kirkman, Esq.

Mr. O'Neal is a member, at this writing (1888), of the State Democratic Executive Committee; a

member of the Board of Aldermen of Florence; and was a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Hancock and English. In a business way he is a director in the W. B. Wood Furnace Company, Sheffield Marble and Phosphate Company, and is more or less identified with other North Alabama enterprises.

He is a member of the order of Knights of Pythias and of the Knights of Honor.



**GEORGE P. JONES**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Florence, was born near Russellville this State, January 11, 1850, and is the son of the Hon. Henry C. Jones, a sketch of whom will be found in another part of this volume. He was educated at Florence; read law under Chancellor Keyes, and was admitted to the bar in 1871. After spending a few months in the office of Josiah Patterson, he, in the latter part of 1872, embarked fully into the practice of the law and readily took high rank in the profession. He is now of the firm of Simpson & Jones.

Though devoted to his profession, Mr. Jones gives much attention to other matters. He is President of the Board of Directors of the Normal College at Florence; identified with some of the leading industries of the place, and is regarded as a wide-awake, public-spirited, present-day North Alabamian.



**JOHN JACKSON MITCHELL**, Probate Judge, Lauderdale County, was born at Florence, September 15, 1854, and is a son of the late Rev. Wm. H. Mitchell, D.D., of the Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Dr. Mitchell was a native of Ireland. He came to America in 1843, and died at Florence in 1872, at the age of 59 years.

J. J. Mitchell was educated at Florence, and at the University of Mississippi, afterward graduating in bookkeeping at Eastman College, at Atlanta. He studied law at the Lebanon Law School, Lebanon, Tenn., and was admitted to the bar of that State. He subsequently purchased the *Chilton County Courier*, published at Canton, Ala., conducted it a few months, sold out, and came to Florence, where, in 1876, he purchased the *Gazette*, of Jas. B. Ervine. He edited the *Gazette* up to January, 1881; and, having in No-

ember of the preceding year been made Clerk of the Probate Court, he sold the paper to Major Morgan.

He occupied the position of Clerk of Probate until January, 1884, and, having in that year purchased the *Alabama Progress*, published at Florence, he changed its name to the *North Star*; conducted that paper for twelve months, and sold it out to Mr. I. S. Barr, who, in 1885, merged it into the *Banner*.

In 1886 he was elected Judge of Probate.

Mr. Mitchell was married at Prattville, Ala., June 25, 1879, to Miss Etiole Hurd, and has had born to him two children.

Though quite a young man, Judge Mitchell is regarded as one of the best officials Lauderdale County has had. His popularity is attested by his successful election to the office over a combination of independents and others, of supposed great strength, by a neat majority.



\***JOHN COFFEE** was born in Prince Edward County, Va., on June 2, 1772. His father, Joshua Coffee, was born in the same county January 26, 1745. His mother, Elizabeth Graves, was born in Hanover County, Va., January 28, 1751. They were married June 2, 1767.

Joshua Coffee was a tobacco-planter, and after his marriage continued to reside in Prince Edward County until 1775, when he removed to Granville County, N. C., where he remained until the close of the Revolutionary War, when he removed to the County of Rockingham. Here he continued to reside until his death, which occurred September 8, 1797. During 1780 he commanded a company of mounted gun-men.

During the month of April, 1798, John Coffee removed with his mother to Davidson County, Tenn., where she died in 1804.

Mr. Coffee engaged in merchandise and continued in it until 1807, and (to use his own words) "from some accidents and losses, and from bad management," it proved to be a losing business. He engaged in surveying in the then newly acquired country on Duck and Elk Rivers, which business, by his great exertions, and unremitting attention, proved to be profitable. In the course of two years thereby he was enabled to pay the

<sup>\*</sup>The sketch of General Coffee was written by Col. James E. Saunders.

arrearages of his mercantile debt, amounting to six thousand dollars, besides reserving to himself several valuable tracts of land.

On October 3, 1809, he married Mary Donelson, then sixteen years of age, a native of Tennessee, and a daughter of John Donelson, who carried the wives and children of the party, who went in advance with Gen. James Robertson to Nashville in 1779 to build houses. The voyage was performed in boats from East Tennessee, down the Tennessee River and up the Cumberland through a nation of hostile Indians. Rachel, the eldest sister of Mary Donelson (not then born), would sometimes fearlessly take the helm, when the boats were attacked, to enable her father to take a shot at the enemy. This Rachel became the wife of Gen. Andrew Jackson, and when John Coffee married Mary Donelson, this family union cemented a friendship which had existed between them for some years before, and continued during their joint lives. About this time Mr. Coffee was elected Clerk of the County Court of Rutherford, a position he was holding at the outbreak of the Creek War.

General Coffee was engaged with General Jackson in the bloody fight which occurred between the Jackson and Benton factions, just before the Creek War of 1813; an unfortunate affair, which was brought about by the rashness of Jesse, a brother of Thomas H. Benton, afterward the distinguished senator from Missouri. In a few months the feud was at an end between the principal parties, and the latter was actively engaged in making speeches to raise volunteers to serve under General Jackson; took command as colonel of one of the regiments raised, and was the confidential personal and political friend of Jackson ever afterward. But Jesse Benton never made friends with any of the other party; and, it is said, never spoke to his brother Thomas afterward. He was a little volcano which was *always* in a state of eruption.

Coffee was not only a sincere, but a fearless friend. An amusing illustration of this is given by Judge Guild. Jackson was very fond of the turf; had the finest horses, and for some years was the ruler of it. At length his competitors brought in a chestnut filly, named Haynie's Maria, that ran away from every horse entered against her. This worked up Jackson to a lively resolve that she should be beaten. He canvassed Virginia and gave his friends *carte blanche* to buy

for him the best horse in that or any other State. He finally bought Paolet of Wm. R. Johnson, at a fabulous price, with which he made a race against Maria. The appointed day and hour came. Monkey Simon, who rode Maria, had orders to pull the mare at the end of each quarter and fall back, their object being to get bets. This order was strictly carried out, Jackson was thus led to believe that Maria would not win, and proposed to bet \$10,000 that she would be beaten. Elliott said he would take the bet. General Coffee, who was a giant in stature, endeavored to dissuade Jackson from betting, but, not succeeding, he stepped behind him, lifted him on his shoulders and carried him out of the crowd, kicking and cursing, and never put him on the ground again until Monkey Simon applied the whip and won the race.

The war of 1812 was ushered in with so many reverses in the northern part of the Union that the fiery Tennesseans found vent for their energies by engaging zealously in the contest. General Jackson and his friends raised a brigade of volunteers; one regiment of cavalry was commanded by Colonel Coffee, one of infantry by Col. Thomas H. Benton, and another of the same by Colonel Hall. The infantry descended the river in boats, under the immediate command of General Jackson, to Natchez, and the cavalry, under Colonel Coffee, marched by the overland route to the same place, where they were ordered into a cantonment in the little town of Washington, Miss., and remained for several months. At length an order came to General Jackson, from the War Department, "to consider his force dismissed from service, and to take measures for the delivery of all articles of the public property in his possession to General Wilkinson," who was a brigadier-general in the regular army.

The effect of this disgraceful order would have been to have turned these patriotic men loose, hundreds of miles from home, without supplies or transportation, to make their way home as best they could, through the territories of two Indian tribes, where subsistence was always scant. General Jackson assumed the responsibility of disobeying the order, and marched them back into Tennessee. In this movement he was firmly sustained by Colonel Coffee, and his attitude was remembered gratefully; for in the fall, when he called his men to fight the Creek Indians, two regiments instead of one, came to his standard.

This call occurred in September, 1813. The massacre at Fort Mims on the 30th of August sent a thrill of horror through the bosoms of the brave Tennesseans, but it was succeeded by a reaction as powerful. As slowly as news was then transmitted, a strong volunteer force came to rendezvous at Fayetteville on the 3d of October. On the 4th, General Jackson dispatched General Coffee with a large detachment to Huntsville, Ala., to keep an eye on the Creek warriors, and shortly afterward followed with his whole command. He failed to get the supplies he expected down the Tennessee River. In this emergency he determined to forage upon the enemy, and moved his force into the Indian country.

On the 2d of November he issued an order to Coffee, now promoted to the rank of Brigadier, to take 1,000 men and proceed to the town of Tallaschatche, thirteen miles distant from the camp, and destroy it. He surrounded the town about sunrise, and was fiercely met by the savages, with war-whoops and the sounding of drums, the prophets being in advance. The troops charged them, with great slaughter. After a short but terrible action about two hundred warriors lay dead on the field. Not a solitary one begged for his life. Late in the evening of the same day Coffee recrossed the Coosa, and returned to headquarters.

Talladega was the next battle fought by General Jackson in person. Here was a small fort, in which a number of friendly Indians had taken refuge, and were closely surrounded by the hostiles. They were out of food and water in the garrison, where a noted chief enveloped himself in a hog-skin, and went rooting and grunting around, until he made his way through the lines, and, as fleet as the wind, reached the camp of General Jackson. He implored the General to march immediately to the rescue of his friends, which, midnight as it was, he did. He forded the Coosa, here 600 yards wide, with a rocky, uneven bottom. Each horseman carried behind him a foot-man until the whole army was over. He encamped in the evening within six miles of the fort. At four o'clock next morning he surrounded the enemy, numbering 1,100 warriors. After a sharp but decisive action, he defeated them. They left 295 warriors dead on the field. This brilliant victory exerted a powerful influence on the enemy as well the country. General Coffee, with his force of 1,000 mounted volunteers, participated in this battle, and contributed largely

to the victory achieved on that hotly contested field. He was a giant in stature, finely proportioned, taciturn, with nothing of the braggart or pretender about him. While he was determined to do his duty, he was wholly unconcerned as to who should reap the glory. He was the first in the field, and had been in the saddle for a month, leading his brave soldiers up and down the country, keeping the enemy from the frontiers, which they were watching like a wolf ready to pounce on the flock. His presence on the frontier dispelled the alarm of the citizens, while his swift movements indicated that he meant business, and made him a terror to the Indians. He and Gen. William Carroll were the right arm of General Jackson, and faithfully they performed the duties entrusted to them.

After this battle General Jackson marched his small army, which was out of provisions, back as rapidly as possible to Fort Strother. Arriving there, he was deeply mortified to find that no provisions had arrived at that point. The men were hungry, and there was great dissatisfaction in the camp. Bonaparte was asked once, what were the two things most essential to a soldier, and his reply was, "A full belly and a strong pair of shoes." The men who had behaved so well in battle were impatient of hunger, and took up their line of march for Tennessee. He threw himself ahead of the men who were moving off, and, with General Coffee, Carroll, and a few brave fellows, he formed a line in front of them, seized a musket from one of his men and declared that he would shoot the first man who dared to march. They only saw his flashing eye and determined look, and the power of numbers quailed before the iron will—the moral greatness of one man. He, however, promised the men, that if in a reasonable time provisions did not arrive, they might go, as their time of service was about to expire.

He kept his word, and in a few days he was left in a savage land, with only one hundred men. But they were choice spirits, with gallantry enough to leaven a small army, as will be seen in the two following battles, in which there were feats of valor, not excelled in the pages of romance.

At length two regiments arrived, numbering about 850 men, which had only been enlisted for sixty days. As their time was short he employed no drill-master; determined to drill them in actual battle. He marched them across the Coosa,

was joined by 200 Cherokees and friendly Creeks, and sought the enemy at Emuckfaw. Besides these there was a company composed of officers entirely, whose command had returned home, forty-five in number, amongst them General Coffee, Inspector-General Carroll, and Adjutant-General Sitter. "When the alarm was given the whole line was led to the charge by General Coffee, and the Indians were forced to abandon the ground in a rapid manner. Shortly afterward a body of the enemy boldly advanced and attacked the right wing of Jackson's encampment. Coffee again charged, but, through some mistake, only forty-five men followed, composing his own company of volunteer officers; but the friendly Indians were sent by Jackson to his support. Dismounting his men he soon pursued the 'Red Sticks' to the swamp of a creek. Jackson had ordered his left flank to remain firm, and now the Indians came rushing with yells against it: but they were repelled by a charge made by the impetuous Carroll. In the meantime, Coffee kept the enemy at bay, who had now returned upon him from the swamp, until General Jackson strengthened him with a re-enforcement of one hundred friendly warriors. Coffee again charged, when the Indians once more gave way; and the pursuit was continued for three miles, with the loss of 45 savages." The brave Creeks had now been repulsed on every attempt, but they exhibited a ferocity and daring which commanded the serious consideration of General Jackson. He had no forage for his horses, and very few rations for his men, and his force was weaker than he desired. He determined to return to Fort Strother, with all possible dispatch. In this battle Alexander Donelson aide-de-camp of General Coffee, and eldest brother of his wife, was killed. Next morning the army commenced its retrograde movement, bearing the wounded in litters, constructed of the hides of the slain horses. In one of these lay General Coffee, who, at the conclusion of the third charge, was wounded, as it was thought, mortally.

Before night Jackson encamped near the ford of the Entochopee, which they had crossed in marching down, and fortified himself. The Indians were prowling around, but refrained from an attack. Dreading an onset at the ford of the creek, which had great facilities for ambuscades, he selected another crossing six hundred yards lower down.

Next morning the march was begun. The

front-guard with the wounded had passed the creek, and the artillery was in the creek, when an alarm gun was heard which was succeeded by a fierce attack of the savages on the rear-guard. The new regiments, seized by a sudden panic, fled without firing a gun. A scene of wonderful confusion prevailed for awhile. The six pounder was brought on the hill, but in the confusion the ram-rod was lost and Constantine Perkins rammed down the charge with his musket, and Craven Jackson picked the touch-hole with his ram-rod. While Carroll was scarcely holding the rear with a few brave men, Gen. Coffee leaped from his litter, mounted his horse and dashed forward to assist in rallying the men: and when Jackson with surprise saw his tall form, pale from the loss of blood and swathed in white bandages, the apparition was so unearthly, that he exclaimed, "We'll whip 'em, boys, we'll whip 'em — even the dead have risen from their graves, to help us."

Tohopek (or the Horse Shoe) was the closing scene of the Creek War. About five miles from the battle ground of Emuckfaw is the great bend of the Tallapoosa, where the warriors of the nation, nearly 1,000 strong, had concentrated their forces for a last desperate struggle. Across a narrow neck of land, or isthmus, the Indians had erected a breast-work of logs, from five to eight feet high, with double port-holes, arranged with no little skill and ingenuity. This was the entrance to the great bend of about one hundred acres of land. The center was high ground, and on the river bottom at the lower extremity of the peninsula was the Indian village.

Early on the morning of this battle, General Coffee with his brigade of cavalry, the friendly Indians under command of Col. Gideon Morgan, and Captain Russell's company of spies, was detached by General Jackson, with instructions to cross the river two miles below the bend, and take possession of the high grounds on the opposite bank, so as to cut off all chance of escape in that quarter. General Jackson then marched the remainder of his forces to a position in front of the breast-work, where he halted his men until the pre-arranged signal announced that General Coffee had drawn a cordon of soldiers around the elevated ground overlooking the river and the hostile town and fortifications. The main column immediately moved forward. The two pieces of artillery, a six and a three pounder, were planted on a hill, and about 10 o'clock in the forenoon the

action commenced. The firing on the American side was mostly confined to the artillery.\*

For two hours the fire of the artillery was kept up without doing any material damage to the strong log wall. Meanwhile, General Coffee sent some of his expert swimmers among the friendly Indians across the river, who cut loose and brought away the canoes of the beleaguered Creeks, in which he transported a portion of his force, under command of Colonel Morgan, to the side of the river occupied by the Indians, landing in the rear of where the fight was going on. They reached the town and wrapped it in flames.

This had the effect of distracting the attention of the Indians. The troops had been clamoring for some time for permission to charge, but Jackson waited until his operations in the rear had been perfected, and when the smoke of the burning village rose to the heavens, he ordered the charge. Surrounded as they were, the warriors fought with desperation, and, it is computed, that they were all killed except about two hundred. Thus was the power of this brave people effectually broken, and they sued for peace. Every reflecting reader will see how skillfully General Coffee performed his part of the plan of this battle.

Florida was then a possession of Spain. The Governor residing at Pensacola had made this place a harbor for our enemies. It was the home of the British fleet on the Gulf. One of their war vessels had brought in a supply of arms which were put into the hands of the Indians. These savages were openly drilled by a British officer in the streets of Pensacola, under the eyes of its Governor. When the massacre occurred at Fort Mims, British agents bought the scalps at five dollars apiece openly, there, and its perfidious Governor had written a letter to the chief Weatherford, congratulating him on the massacre. General Jackson boiled with indignation and waited impatiently for his reinforcements.

At length General Coffee arrived with the Tennessee Mounted Volunteers at the cut-off above Mobile. He was ordered to take one thousand of his men, and, with two thousand more of other commands, General Jackson marched directly on Pensacola. He arrived there on the 6th of November, 1814. Next morning he sent a flag of truce which was fired upon, when he took the place by storm. The Spanish Governor received a most vigorous lecture, the peroration of which was: "And now Sir, you must behave your-

self hereafter, or by the Eternal I will return and hang you upon the first tree which may be the most convenient." "Old Hickory" was terribly in earnest, and the Governor said afterward, that he would rather encounter a Bengal Tiger, than General Jackson.

On the 2d of December, 1814, General Jackson entered New Orleans, without an army and attended only by the members of his staff. Why had he delayed so long? An expedition of so great strength had been planned so skillfully and executed so secretly that it was not known where the blow would fall. A squadron, having on board a strong infantry force, sailed from Plymouth, in England, and another from the Chesapeake, for a rendezvous in Jamaica, both giving out that they were bound for Halifax and setting out in that direction, and then changing their course for their destination. Not more than three officers of the fleet knew (until they were at sea) the object of the expedition, which was the capture of New Orleans. They united in Jamaica in the harbor of Negril on the 24th of November, and had a general review of the ships and troops which Great Britain had so marvelously assembled in this remote quarter of the Globe. Two large squadrons had been combined, those of Cochran and Malcolm. Rarely, if ever, had Great Britain collected a braver or more powerful fleet. It was commanded by chiefs whose valor had built up for England those impregnable wooden walls, which enabled her to defy the Conqueror of Europe. There were at least fifty sail, carrying more than one thousand guns. Why was it that Great Britain could afford to send such an expedition across the Atlantic? It was because Bonaparte the Conqueror had been conquered, and was in prison bound.

This great fleet, carrying an army of renowned soldiers (of whom we shall speak as the regiments, respectively, come into action), cast anchor in Lake Borgne, on the 9th of December. On the 14th, they destroyed the American gunboats off Pass-Christian, after a bloody action. In the meantime, New Orleans was galvanized into life by General Jackson. He organized the fighting men of the city into regiments and companies, and hurried on his reinforcements by special messengers.

"Coffee's brigade, which had performed a long and tedious march, from Fort Jackson on the Alabama, around Lake Pontchartrain to the Miss-

\* Walker's Life of General Jackson.

issippi River, which they reached by the old Spanish road, at Sandy Creek, a few miles below Baton Rouge. Hastening to this town, he found a messenger from Jackson, directing him to push forward with all rapidity, leaving the sick and baggage at Baton Rouge. Coffee immediately selected all his strong men and horses, and with them started for New Orleans in a brisk trot. In two days he reached the suburbs of the city, having in that time marched one hundred and fifty miles with men and animals who had just performed a wearisome journey of eight hundred miles through a wilderness. There is no march to equal this in the history of modern warfare. Encamping just above the city, he rode to town to report to General Jackson. It was a warm meeting between these two gallant soldiers, who had shared so many perils and hardships together." General Carroll's brigade, which came in boats down the Mississippi River, arrived on the evening of the 23d December.

Major-General Keane, who commanded the British Army, was a young officer, gallant and ambitious. He had been colonel of the celebrated fighting regiment, the Twenty-Seventh, or Enniskillens. After careful reconnoissances he selected an obscure bayou leading into the Missouri at General Villere's plantation, twelve miles below New Orleans, and started his advance of three regiments under Colonel Thornton, a most active and most enterprising officer, who arrived at daybreak on the 23d of December.

General Jackson was engaged the same day, at half past one o'clock p. m., when his attention was drawn from certain documents he was perusing, by the sound of horses galloping rapidly, and suddenly stopping before his headquarters. Three French gentlemen who lived on the coast below, came in. "What news do you bring, gentlemen?" eagerly inquired the General. "Important! The British have landed below." Governor Claiborne, who was present, inquired into all the facts, and when the colloquy came to a full stop, General Jackson who had been listening with his head down, raised it firmly and said to the members of his staff: "Gentlemen, we will fight them before midnight." Orders were sent for the march to commence at 3 p. m. The rendezvous was old Fort St. Charles, now the site of the United States Mint. Mr. Walker mentions each command as they passed in review before General Jackson, and says, "Then followed, moving in a

rapid trot, the long line of Coffee's mounted gunmen. Their appearance, however, was not very military. In their woolen hunting-shirts and copperas-dyed pantaloons; with slouched wool hats, or caps made of the skins of raccoons or foxes; with belts of untanned deer-skin, in which were stuck their hunting knives; but they were admirable soldiers, remarkable for endurance and possessing that admirable quality in soldiers, of taking care of themselves. At their head, rode their gallant leader, a man of noble aspect, tall and herculean in frame, yet not destitute of natural dignity and ease of manner. His appearance, mounted upon a fine Tennessee thorough-bred, was stately and impressive."

Jackson's plan of the battle was very simple. The "Carolina," under Commodore Patterson, was ordered to drop down and anchor abreast of the British camp, and open her batteries on them at half past seven o'clock. The right division of his army, under Jackson himself, at this signal was to attack the enemy's camp near the river, guided by Major Villere. Whilst they were thus engaged with the left division, Coffee (guided by Colonel De La Ronde, whose plantation was near) was ordered with his Brigade, with Hind's Dragoons and Beale's Rifles, to scout the edge of the swamp, and, advancing as far as was safe, to endeavor to cut off the communications of the enemy with their fleet, and thus hem in and, if possible, capture or destroy him. And what regiments were these which these undisciplined Americans, with no advantage in numbers, are seeking to surround? They were the Fourth, the Eighty-fifth and the Ninety-fifth Rifles, all tried Peninsular soldiers; whilst other Regiments were on the way, which might arrive at any moment during the battle on the flank or rear of Coffee's division.

About seven o'clock a vessel was stealing slowly down the river, and, letting go her anchor, she swung her broadside to the British camp. She was hailed but returned no answer. At length, a loud voice was heard, "Give this for the honor of America." The words were followed by a perfect tornado of grape-shot and musket-balls, which swept the levee and the British camps. The havoc was the more terrible for its suddenness, and the enemy was struck with consternation. It was the "Carolina," under Commodore Patterson, which had dropped down so suddenly to perform her part in the dark tragedy. The enemy sheltered under

the levee. Presently a blaze of fire seemed to encircle the camp, and it was evident that they were surrounded. They were soon engaged in one of the fiercest and most evenly contested night battles which ever occurred.

General Coffee, in charge of the left division, had, before the signal, taken the position assigned him. When he believed he had gained the enemy's right, he wheeled his column and advanced with front face to the river. Beale's Rifles on his left, extended in open order, penetrated to the center of their camp. Soon the British Eighty-fifth rushed forward, and the two lines became warmly engaged." Coffee seemed to be in every part of his extended lines at the same time. Cool and self-possessed, he kept his men well together, and restrained, within the bounds of prudence, the natural impetuosity of the frontier-fighter, which is continually pushing him on to fight "on his own hook." A fog settled over them and the battle still raged fiercely, but it was not of much order or system. Friends could not be distinguished from foes. The British Rifles among Lacoste's negro cabins, kept up a running fire on Coffee's right companies. The Tennesseans, however, learned to distinguish the crack of their rifles, and directed their particular attention to them. Concealing themselves behind the huts, the British waited until they got into the midst of them. Then they rushed forward and engaged them hand to hand. Neither party having any bayonets, they were forced to club their guns. But the more cautious of the Tennesseans preferred their long knives and tomahawks. The Ninety-fifth Rifles fell back before Coffee's steady advance, rallying, however, whenever they received fresh reinforcements. At last they gained the old levee, and took refuge behind it on the river side, preferring to stand the artillery of the Carolina to the rifles, knives and tomahawks of their assailants. This position, Coffee thought, was too strong to be assailed, and, moreover, his men were exposed to the fire of the "Carolina." Accordingly, he sent a dispatch to General Jackson, acquainting him with the position, and received in return an order to join the right division. As the Ninety-third Highlanders were expected every moment to reach the field, Major Mitchell, who commanded in the fog the Ninety-fifth Rifles, about this time thought he saw the Highlanders coming. But he mistook the hunting-shirt for Scotch, and was made prisoner. This was a great

mortification to that rising officer, who had won great distinction in heading the storming party of Ciudad Rodrigo, and in other actions in the Peninsula. The Highlanders did arrive on the field a few moments afterward, captured a large proportion of Beale's Rifles, and they were ordered by Keene to push forward with bayonets on Coffee's division, but they did not succeed in reaching it. Coffee, after delivering a heavy fire, continued to oblique until he joined Jackson's division. Seven hundred British soldiers were in this action at the close—more than commenced it. [The above is a condensed account of the battle of the 23d of December, taken from the pages of Walker's Life of General Jackson. The author of it (a journalist of high order) resided in New Orleans, and had intercourse, for many years, with with the most intelligent survivors of the campaign of New Orleans, and his book is one of great merit.]

A few days after this battle General Keane was superseded in his command by Lieut.-Gen. Hon. Sir Edward Pakenham, the hero of Salamanca. He was the brother-in-law of the Duke of Wellington; but he did not owe his promotion to his noble birth or to his friends. He had fought his way up through every grade. For every grade he had a scar; and ere he had reached his meridian his body was all scroled over with such insignia of his gallantry. In the Peninsula he was in constant service by the side of the Duke of Wellington, and was brigadier of that impetuous Welshman, General Picton. Since the death of Wellington and the publication of his papers, it has come to light that in the British Cabinet the project was seriously considered of placing him in command of the expedition to New Orleans. He did not, from his letters, seem to be unwilling to take the command; and expressed the opinion that the troops then being embarked for America must be very badly handled if not victors in any contest in which they might be engaged. What would have been the result upon the destinies of Europe if the Duke had accepted the command and shared the fate of Pakenham? Waterloo would then have been fought without a Wellington!

Pakenham for the first time found himself at the head of an independent command. He brought with him as reinforcements the Seventh Fusiliers (Pakenham's "Own") and the Forty-third, both under the command of Major-General Lambert, a



young but promising officer. Packenham ran his eye over the list of his regiments with pride. They consisted of ten thousand of the best soldiers in the world, all veterans under Wellington, except the Ninety-third, which had gained distinction in Africa, and was the strongest one in the army, numbering 1,050 Highlanders. His second in command was Major-General Samuel Gibbs, a very active officer who had greatly distinguished himself at the storming of Fort Cornelius, on the Island of Java, and in the Peninsula War.

General Jackson made the most effective preparations to meet the enemy. General Coffee he placed in command of his extreme left. It was not exactly "in the air," or on the earth, but terminated in a swamp. At first, such awful tales were told to the British about men who had ventured into it, having sunk down, gone out of sight, and never been seen any more, that they regarded it as a barrier equal to the Mississippi River on the other flank. But in the affair of the 28th December the fearless Colonel Rennie (who lost his life on the 8th of January in sealing a redoubt) entered the swamp and came very near turning our left. After that General Jackson had Coffee's men constantly employed in extending the ditch and works into the swamp; but still the condition of this flank rested uneasily upon his mind.

In the final struggle between the two armies on January 8, 1815, the British advanced in two columns, one near the River and the other near the Swamp, and the engagement commenced. "The roar of cannon, the hissing of shells, the crack of the rifles, the wild scream of the rockets, the whizzing of the round shot, and the crash of grape formed a horrid concert." There were not more than fifteen hundred pieces brought to bear on the British columns, but in the hands of the Tennesseans and Kentuckians, they were made as effective as ten times the number fired by the regulars in the best armies of Europe. Whilst the terrible slaughter was going on upon the right and left of the American lines, the center remained inactive.

It is a rare thing in battle that martial music can be maintained throughout the action; but the moment the British came into view and their signal rocket pierced the sky with its fiery train, the band of the Battalion D'Orleans struck up "Yankee Doodle," and thenceforward during the action it did not cease to discourse all the National

and military airs, in which it had been instructed. About one-half of Coffee's Brigade were in the open field, and united with Carroll's men, in repelling the attack of the British right column. But Coffee's left were denied the luxury of firing into the solid column, and, through the leafless trees of the forest, had an indistinct view of the magnificent spectacle. They were mad with vexation, when they reflected that for two weeks they had been ditching in the mud of days, and sleeping on boat gunnels and logs at night; without even clean water enough to wash their faces. A detachment, however, under Lieutenant-Colonel Jones, composed mostly of black troops, from the West Indies, was sent in to turn Coffee's left. They came quite near his line, when the leader became tired and was killed, and most of the white soldiers who were with him, and the rest were captured by the Tennesseans, who astonished the British by the squirrel-like agility with which they leaped from log to log. "The prisoners were mostly black, and were greatly comforted in their forlorn condition by the idea that they were captives of their own color and race; deceived by the appearance of the Tennesseans. The unfortunate red-coated Africans soon discovered their error, when they were required, by their facetious captors, to "dance juba," in mud a foot deep.

The Legislature of Louisiana passed a resolution of thanks to General Coffee for the services he had rendered during this campaign. He modestly answered that the splendid victories they had achieved were chiefly due to his commander, General Jackson.

General Coffee was made Major-General after the battle of New Orleans. He was several times associated with General Jackson as Commissioner to treat with the Indian tribes.

In 1817 he was appointed Surveyor-General of Alabama, and moved to Huntsville. In 1819 he moved to Lauderdale County, and the Land office for his district was removed to Florence. He held the office of Surveyor-General during the remainder of his life. If he had been ambitious he could have had from the people of Alabama the highest office within their gift.

General Coffee was a robust man, six feet two inches tall, weighed two hundred pounds, rather dark skin, with brilliant black eyes. A handsome steel plate engraving of him embellishes this chapter, and is copied from an oil painting, the work of the celebrated Earle, who lived in General

Jackson's family and was intimately acquainted with the subject.

General Coffee lies buried in the little family cemetery at his old home, three miles north of Florence. Upon the large gray stone, which marks his resting place, is the following epitaph written by General Jackson:

"Sacred to Memory  
of  
GENERAL JOHN COFFEE,  
who Departed this Life  
7th Day of July 1833;  
Aged 61 years.

As a husband, parent and friend, he was affectionate, tender and sincere. He was a brave, prompt and skillful general, a distinguished and sagacious patriot, an unpretending just and honest man. To complete his character, religion mingled with these virtues. Her serene and gentle influence, and gave him that solid distinction among men which detraction can not sully, nor the grave conceal. Death could do no more than to remove so excellent a being from the theatre he so much adorned in this world, to the bosom of the God who created him; and who alone has the power to reward the immortal spirit with exhaustless bliss."

The children of General Coffee are: Mrs. Mary Hutchings, John Donelson Coffee, Elizabeth Coffee, Andrew J. Coffee, Alexander Donelson Coffee, Mrs. Rachel Jackson Dyas, Catherine Coffee, William Donelson Coffee, Joshua Coffee. Those were all living when their father died.



**ROBERT MILLER PATTON.** R. M. Patton was born in the State of Virginia July 10, 1809. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; his mother of Virginia. In the year 1812, with three small children, the Pattons came to the Territory of Alabama (then Mississippi), then occupied by native Indians and a few pioneer settlers.

This family settled at Huntsville, where the father, William Patton, subsequently did a large and successful mercantile business. William Patton was one of the founders of perhaps the first cotton-mill in the Gulf States. It was known as the "Bell Factory," on Flint River, ten miles from Huntsville, established more than half century ago. This cotton-mill continued in successful operation during the lifetime of the elder Patton, and at his

death the ownership vested in Dr. Charles Patton, brother of Robert Miller Patton, who operated it with more than ordinary success during his lifetime, and since his death it has been operated and owned by his children.

Robert M. Patton, in one of his letters, writes: "This mill has enriched three generations of the Pattons, and I am inclined to think that my worthy and enterprising brother-in-law, Col. Ed. Richardson, was encouraged from his knowledge of the success of this factory to take hold of the Wesson Mills, which have proved in all respects so valuable to him, and, for that matter, to the whole South."

In the year 1829 R. M. Patton moved to Florence. Here he began a long and prosperous career as a merchant, in connection with large planting interests. In 1859 he was succeeded in business by his two sons.

In 1832 he married Jane Locke Brahan, daughter of General John Brahan, of Huntsville. He and his accomplished wife, for more than half a century, made Sweet Water, near Florence, the typical home of Southern hospitality.

This excellent couple were blessed with gallant sons and charming daughters. Two sons, J. B. and W. A. Patton, were merchants at Florence until the breaking out of the late civil war. John Brahan Patton, the eldest son, enlisted in the ranks of the gallant "Florence Guards;" survived the dangers of the field and is now quietly domiciled at the pleasant country home presided over by the venerated widowed mother. William Anderson Patton was educated at the Military college, LaGrange, Ala. When the tocsin of war sounded he hastened to obey the call to defend his native State. He was elected first lieutenant of his company, and was killed at Shiloh 6th of April, 1862. Robert Weakley Patton, then a student at the University of Alabama, with the "Cadet Corps" bravely assisted in the defence of Alabama. He was wounded at Selma, April 3, 1865, and died in hospital April 6. John Simpson Patton died at an early age. Charles Hays Patton resides at Florence and is at present engaged in the banking business. Mary Jane Patton married J. J. McDavid, attorney-at-law, Huntsville. Mattie Hays Patton, married Col. John Weedon, a prominent lawyer of Huntsville.

The friends of Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Patton were called upon to sincerely sympathize with them in the terrible affliction that fell upon the happy household at "Sweet Water." The war over,

peace restored, time on its healing wings had brought resignation and a chastened sorrow for the loss of the gallant sons; the daughters were happily married; loved and loving grandchildren made the halls of the old homestead ring with mirth; two sons were at home, but misfortune was to overtake the youngest. Andrew Biene Patton returned home from his studies at Green Spring, to become a confirmed invalid, and was confined to his bed or room for nearly seven years before death released him from his terrible suffering.

From this outline sketch of the family of Robert M. Patton we return to the subject of himself, with a brief record of his public life. In 1836, although a Whig in politics, he was, at the early age of twenty-five, elected to the Legislature from Lauderdale County, which had several hundred Democratic majority. A writer says of him: "He was chosen by the people for his energy, prudence and financial capacity, as a member of the Special Legislature, called by Governor Bagby, in 1837, to relieve the people of the unprecedented financial panic of that year." He was for several terms elected President of the Alabama Senate, and always occupied a prominent position with the committees which required financial ability and business experience. When quite a young man he was one of the leading directors of the State Bank at Decatur, and also a Trustee of the State University. He was a member of the National convention which met at Charleston, S. C., in 1860. A biographer says of him: "He opposed the passage of the Alabama Ordinance of Secession, believing that such measures would produce war and its attendant horrors. But when the ordinance was passed, he bowed to the inevitable, and, uniting with the will of the people, threw his whole soul into the work of aiding the Southern cause." His time and fortune were generously given for the support of the rights of his loved Southland. Three sons were given to the Confederacy, two of whom gallantly fell in battle. As commissioner under the Confederate Government, he raised millions of dollars in cotton and money for the support of Alabama soldiers in the field. He was a prominent member of the Constitutional convention which met in 1865 for the purpose of revising the Constitution of Alabama, to meet the changed condition of affairs.

In 1865 Robert M. Patton was elected Governor of the State. His inaugural address was an embodiment of plain practical ideas. He had never been

an ardent disseverer of the loved Federal Union. His heart still lingered amidst the dear and well-remembered scenes of his early life and associations. Standing before the vast assemblage gathered in the hall of the House of Representatives, with his "blushing honors thick upon him," his memory reverted to the days of Alabama's prosperity. "The land so fair; its people so happy." Alas! how changed! desolation and ruin—the wrecks that marked the foeman's paths.

Standing with the changes all around him, he says: "At the beginning of the year 1861, Alabama contained nearly one million inhabitants, and all branches of industry and trade were prosperous. Villages, towns and cities were flourishing, and internal improvements were rapidly and satisfactorily progressing. \* \* \* \*"

"On the 11th day of January, 1861, a convention of the State passed an ordinance declaring, in effect, that the people of Alabama were thenceforth absolved from all allegiance to the government of the United States. Those who took this step maintained the theory that a State had the constitutional right to dissolve its connection with the Federal Union, and decided that the time had come when it was expedient and proper to sever the relations which bound us to the General Government. I trust that it will not be inconsistent with the proprieties of the occasion to state that I did not concur in this reasoning. My judgment did not approve of either the doctrine or act of secession. I thought that the position assumed by Alabama and the other Southern States would precipitate the Northern and Southern States into an unnatural and protracted war. But while firmly entertaining this opinion, I deemed it a duty, as a citizen of Alabama, to yield a peaceful obedience to what had been done. Painfully apprehending that the step which had been taken would bring ruin upon us, I nevertheless held myself bound to the authoritative decree which was deliberately pronounced by the people, through a convention of their own choice. I can point to this action, on my part, as at least attesting my devotion to all the regular forms of authority in the State and as some proof of my readiness to share the fate of my fellow citizens under any and all circumstances, whatever the fate may be. In this brief reference to the events of the last four years I do not wish to be understood as seeking to vindicate the correctness of opinions which I entertained and expressed at the inception of our

late troubles. It is true that disaster and ruin were predicted; but Heaven knows I take no pleasure in pointing to the fulfillment. Those events are now historic, and we should only recur to them in that calm and philosophic spirit with which we may appeal to any other history for profitable lessons to guide us in our actions while dealing with the momentous present, and preparing for the dubious and even threatening future. For this purpose I think we may all profit much by contrasting the prosperity and happiness which our country enjoyed at the beginning of the recent war, with its crippled and almost ruined condition. In doing this, we should forget the contention, bickerings, passions, excitements and dissensions through which we have passed; or, if we cannot forget, let us at least rise above them; let us be as one man; and if we are unable to recover that which has been lost, it becomes us to bend our united energies in saving and improving that which remains to us.

These extracts from his inaugural address conclude the sketch of his political career. When his term of Governor expired he organized an association of Eastern capitalists to connect Chattanooga, Mobile and New Orleans by rail. He was made President of the road from Chattanooga to Meridian, a distance of three hundred miles, and subsequently succeeded John Whitney as President of the South & North Alabama Railroad Co., extending from Decatur to Montgomery.

These two offices he held at the same time and successfully consolidated the several incorporations of these two roads. He was active in building the Memphis & Charleston Railroad.

In 1876 he received an appointment as a member of the honorable Board of Finance for the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. He was also appointed Vice-President of the National Cotton Planters' Association, and a member of the board of management of the World's Industrial and Cotton Exposition at New Orleans.

The educational interest of his State always found in him an earnest advocate.

Robert M. Patton attended school at Greene Academy, Huntsville, Ala. When quite young he was placed in a commercial house to learn the routine of business. His education was somewhat limited, and this fact may have been the inspiration of his untiring zeal to promote the advantages of proper educational training. For many years, and up to the time of his death, he was

President of the Board of Trustees of the Florence Synodical Female College and also of the Board of Directors of the State Normal College at Florence. At an early age he joined the Presbyterian Church, and always took an active interest in the affairs of the church and Sabbath-school. For one year prior to his death he was the senior elder of the church, and Superintendent of the Sabbath-school, at Florence.

The Cotton Exposition of New Orleans aroused all the waning powers of the venerable ex-Governor. (Col. Ed. Richardson, his esteemed brother-in-law, was its projector.) The cotton interests of the South were to be crowned with a national outpouring of honor and success at the beautiful Southern city of New Orleans. It was to him a subject of exhaustless merit, and the realization of a life-long cherished hope and ambition was within his grasp. Alas! for human expectation, Governor Patton "had crossed over the river" ere the long wished for event transpired, and, not very long after, Col. Ed. Richardson was borne to his last resting place (to that dreamless sleep) amidst the proud achievements of his success.

On the 31st of January, 1882, the halls of the hospitable mansion at Sweet Water resounded with mirth and good cheer; children and grandchildren, with many friends, gathered to celebrate the "Golden Wedding" of this esteemed couple. Three years after, in the month of February, 1885, friends and relatives were again gathered at Sweet Water, but not to the sounds of mirth; the darkened chamber and saddened faces revealed the loss of a loved father and friend.

Mrs. Mattie Weeden (one of the daughters) said to the writer, "history will tell of his public acts, of which we too are proud, but we love best to remember him as the dear, good Christian father."

"We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not breaths; in feelings, not in figures on a dial. We should count time by heart throbs. He most lives who thinks most, feels the noblest, acts the best."



**WILLIAM C. SHERROD** is a native of Lawrence County, this State; son of Col. Benjamin and Talitha (Goode) Sherrod, and was born August 17, 1831.

The Sherrods came originally from England and settled in North Carolina, and the Goodes,

also English, went from the Bermuda Islands to Richmond, Va., as early as 1760.

The subject of this sketch was prepared for college at Edgefield, S. C., and received his supplementary education at the University of North Carolina. In early life he engaged in cotton planting in Lawrence County, Ala., extending his planting interests into Arkansas, where in DeShay County, on the Arkansas River, he is the owner of an immense plantation which annually yields him many bales of the fibrous fabric. He also owns and manages the old homestead in Lawrence County, one of the finest plantations in the Tennessee Valley. As was his father, in his lifetime, Colonel Sherrod before the war was one of the most extensive planters and slave-owners in Northern Alabama. He represented Lawrence County in the Legislature, sessions of 1859 and 1860, and was a delegate to the Charleston Convention of the latter year. In the Legislature he was a Union man, and distinguished as one of the three members that refused to sign the ordinance of secession. In the Charleston Convention he supported Stephen A. Douglas, as he did at Baltimore, where he was also a delegate. Notwithstanding his opposition to secession, after his State withdrew from the Federal Union, he, as did every other true man, espoused the cause of the South, and at once volunteered his services in her defense. He was appointed Captain of Commissary for Patterson's Brigade of Cavalry, and was connected with the service from the first to the last, participating in many hotly-contested battles in Alabama and other Gulf States. At the close of the war, he returned to Lawrence County and to cotton planting, and spent his time thereat until 1880. He was a member of the Forty-first United States Congress, and had charge of the Southern Pacific Railway Bill, and conducted it to its final passage. During his term in Congress, the records show that he devoted his time and his talents to the advancement of internal improvements, to the exclusion of political discussion; and the history of legislation during that period attests the fact that he was one of the most useful members of that body.

In 1879 he represented the Second Senatorial District in the upper house of the State Legislature, and as a member of the Finance Committee assisted in framing the revenue bill that piloted the State out of its indebtedness. He came to Florence in June, 1883, for the purpose of school-

ing his children, and in June, 1886, in connection with the Hon. W. B. Wood, formulated the idea of the Florence "boom." He was one of the originators of the Florence Land, Mining, etc. Co.; of the W. B. Wood Furnace Co., of which he is vice-president; also of the Florence Coal, Coke and Iron Co.; of the Florence, Tuscaloosa & Montgomery Railroad Co.; of the Florence & Alabama Railway; the Alabama, Florence & Cincinnati Railway; the Florence & St. Louis Railway, in all of which he is of the several boards of directors.

To recur to his Congressional record, we find that the Southern Pacific Railway bill was turned over to him after it had been abandoned by all others, and that it was placed in his hands at the special request of General Fremont.

Colonel Sherrod knew almost intimately every leading man in the Forty-first Congress, and was upon terms of amity with them without regard to politics. To his credit, it may be said that he had at all times labored to promote and rebuild the country and that he participated not in political dissensions.

He was married at Nashville, Tenn., October 21, 1866, to Miss Amanda Morgan, the accomplished daughter of Samuel D. Morgan, whose body lies in the Capitol by order of the Legislature. Colonel Sherrod's five sons are: Charles Morgan, a lawyer; William C., a planter; St. Clair M., in the iron business; Benjamin and Eugene, students; and his two daughters are named Lillian and Lucille.



**WILLIAM M. JACKSON** was born in Lauderdale County, this State, June 19, 1824. His parents were James and Sarah (Moore) Jackson, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter of the State of North Carolina. Mrs. Jackson was a great-granddaughter of the celebrated James Moore, who, in his lifetime, filled the offices of governor, at different times, of the colonies of both North and South Carolina.

James Jackson came to this county from Nashville, Tenn., in 1819, and here followed planting and stock breeding the rest of his life, dying in 1840, at the age of 58 years.

He was a Whig in politics, represented this county several terms in the Legislature, and the district two or three times in the State Senate, of which he was twice president. He was one of

the pioneers of Lauderdale. In fact, he was one of the company of five that composed the very first settlers of the county.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the University of North Carolina, and subsequently studied law at Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky. Since 1848 up to the present time, he has been interested in cotton planting, both in Alabama and Arkansas. He has made his home in Florence since 1875.

He was the representative to the Legislature from Franklin County, session of 1857; was in the Senate from 1859 to 1865; and was a member until the time of the military government. He has always taken an active interest in politics, is a good Democrat, and has represented his party many times as delegate to the various State and Congressional Conventions. He is at present living in virtual retirement, though discharging the duties of Notary Public.

He was married in Franklin County (now Colbert) in 1846, to Miss Thirynthies McKiernan, daughter of Maj. Bernard McKiernan, an extensive planter of Colbert.

Mr. Jackson's sons, James, Thomas H. and B. M. are all attorneys-at-law.

**LEONARD W. ARNOLD, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Florence, Ala., native of Boyd County, Ky., son of Dr. Andrew and Martha J. (Dupuy) Arnold, natives of the States of Pennsylvania and Kentucky, and of Scotch and Irish extraction, respectively, was born October 17, 1852. He was educated at Ashland Academy, Ashland, Ky., at the Kentucky University, and graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1880 as a Doctor of Medicine. Coming into Alabama immediately after leaving college, he located at Gravelly Springs, Lauderdale County, where he entered at once into a successful practice. That he might be nearer to schools for his children, he removed into Florence in January, 1887, and permanently located.

He was married in this county, March 17, 1884, to Miss Cornelia Darby, and has had born to him two children. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Doctor is a Mason.

Though comparatively a stranger in this part of the county, Dr. Arnold is in the enjoyment of a

first-class and rapidly increasing practice. He is regarded as a skillful, careful and reliable physician, and is a man with encouraging prospects.

**WILLIAM M. PRICE, A. M., M. D.**, son of James B. and Frances (Mason) Price, natives of Tennessee and Virginia, and of Scotch-Irish and English extraction, respectively, was born near Florence, June 3, 1837.

The senior Mr. Price who was a farmer during his lifetime, was one of the early settlers of Lauderdale County, married here, reared his family of four sons and two daughters, and here died in 1883, at the age of 78 years.

William M. Price took his Baccalaureate at the Florence Wesleyan University, class of 1857, and received the degree of M. A. from that institution in 1860. As Doctor of Medicine he graduated from the University of Nashville in 1865, and began the practice at Bayley Springs, Lauderdale County, immediately after leaving college, and was there until his coming to Florence in 1879. He entered the army, in 1862, as a private and served one year, most of the time on detail in the surgeon's office. It was probably while in this department that he conceived the idea of, and determined upon, the profession of medicine.

Dr. Price was married at Corinth, Miss., in 1858, to Miss Martha J. Fort. She died in 1863, leaving one son, now Dr. Percy I. Price, at Florence. The Doctor's second marriage occurred in Maury County, Tenn., September 12, 1865, when he led to the altar Miss Nannie Henderson. To this marriage are eight children born.

Dr. Price probably stands at the head of the medical profession in Lauderdale County. He is a member of the State Medical Society, president of the Lauderdale Medical Society, chairman of the County Board of Censors, a Knight of Honor, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**WILLIAM E. HARAWAY, M. D.**, was born in Giles County, Tenn., January 25, 1817; received his primary education in the common schools; read medicine under Dr. Kyle, at Rogersville, Ala., and began practice in Limestone County when about twenty-eight years of age. At the end of one year he removed to his native

county: practiced there two years, coming thence back to Rogersville, where he devoted his time and talents to the practice of his profession for thirty years. In 1880, he retired from the practice of medicine, moved into Florence, and was elected Judge of the Probate Court, and held the office one term.

At the outbreak of the war, Doctor Haraway volunteered as a soldier, but being the only physician in the neighborhood where he lived, the people entered such an universal protest against his leaving, that he was compelled to remain at home.

The Doctor is a public-spirited man, fully abreast of the tide of modern progress. He is at present largely interested with other gentlemen in the organization and construction of an important line of railway. He was married at Fort Hampton, Limestone County, December 4, 1844, to Eliza C. Bonner.

The Doctor is a son of Samuel and Nancy (Williamson) Haraway, natives of Virginia, and descendants from Scotch ancestry. He is a self-made man and his present ample fortune is the result of his individual effort and industry.



**WILLIAM BASIL WOOD**, President of the Florence Land, Mining & Manufacturing Company, of the W. B. Wood Furnace Company, of the Charcoal & Chemical Company, of the Florence, Tuscaloosa & Montgomery Railroad Company, of the Florence & Chicago Railroad Company, and Secretary of the Alabama Improvement Company, was born at Nashville, Tenn., October 31, 1820. His parents were Alexander H. and Mary E. (Evans) Wood—his father a native of Virginia, his mother of England.

Wm. B. Wood's paternal grandfather was secretary to Alexander Hamilton, and had commanded troops in the Colonial army; his father was an officer in the War of 1812. Upon his mother's side, his grandfather Evans was a colonel in the British army, but after the declaration of peace he chose to return to this side of the water and cast his lot with the "Rebels."

The subject of this sketch was educated at La Grange College, Franklin County; read law under Judge Coleman (afterward of the Supreme bench); was admitted to the bar at Florence in 1843; began the practice of law at once, and in 1844, was elected Judge of Lauderdale County Court. While

in the army in 1862, he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court, and in 1866 was re-elected, and occupied the bench until 1880, except during the reconstruction period. In August, 1861, he was elected colonel of the Sixteenth Alabama Infantry; in fact, he raised that regiment and organized it at Courtland, became its colonel and commanded it for nearly two years.

In 1863 he was transferred to the army of Northern Virginia, appointed by Mr. Davis, president judge of the Military Court of the First Army Corps, and was there to the close of the war. As colonel, he participated in the battle of Fishing Creek, Ky., where Zollicoffer was killed. He was also at Trinne, Tenn., Murfreesboro, and his regiment was at Shiloh and all the battles of the Army of Tennessee. At the close of the war he returned to Florence, and, as we have before seen, presided over the Circuit Court of his district. Prior to the war Mr. Wood, in addition to his professional duties, was largely interested in various other enterprises. He was engaged in the manufacture of woollens; was interested in the steamboat business; was principal owner and controlled a line of steamers which plied the Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. He was also in the steamboat business after the war. His company built the "Rapidan" in 1868, and the "Florence Lee" in 1870. He also owned the "James R.," built the "Sallie Wood" and the "William Dickson," and retired fully from steamboat business not until 1876. In 1882 he began turning his attention to railroads. He was one of the organizers of the Indiana, Alabama & Texas Railway, now completed between Clarks-ville, Tenn., and Princeton, Ky., and was its vice-president. He was also one of the organizers of the Birmingham & Tennessee Railroad, now known as the Sheffield & Birmingham. He organized the Alabama and Tennessee Railroad, and sold it to the Nashville, Florence & Sheffield Company. This line is now being constructed by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, November 29, 1886, as one of the organizers of of the Florence Land, Mining and Manufacturing Company, he was made president, and re-elected in November, 1888.

Judge Wood is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Master Mason, R. A. and Knight Templar, and in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was Grand Master of the State two years (1869-70).

He originated the idea, and raised the subscription for, the Florence Wesleyan University (now the State Normal College); gave liberally to it himself, and was for some years president of its Board of Trustees. Its endowment being exhausted at the end of the war, he succeeded in having it sold to the State, and it was converted into the State Normal School, with which Judge Wood has been since officially identified.

Away back in 1844, he organized the Methodist Episcopal Sunday-school, to which he has since given particular attention and devoted much time and money. That he has since its organization been its superintendent, teacher and regular attendant, he says he "regards as the proudest achievement of his life." He has been steward and trustee in his church since 1846. He organized the Sunday-school two years before he became a member of the church.

He was married April 21, 1843, to Sarah B. Leftwich, a daughter of Major Leftwich, of Virginia.



**WILLIAM P. CAMPBELL**, Banker, was born in the County Donegal, Ireland, December 2, 1842, and came with his parents, four brothers and two sisters to America in 1851. The family located upon a farm near Franklin, Tenn., and there the two old people spent the rest of their lives. The oldest son, Joseph L., color-bearer of the First Tennessee Infantry, was killed at Chickamanga, and a portrait of him forms the frontispiece in a recently published history of Tennessee.

Wm. P. Campbell was educated at Franklin, Tenn., became a clerk in a dry goods house at Nashville when sixteen years of age, and came to Florence at the age of eighteen. September 1, 1862, he entered the Confederate service as a private in Company F, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, and served to the close of the war, participating in all the engagements for which the Fourth Regiment is somewhat famous in history. He was captured at Selma in April, 1865, by Wilson's Cavalry; escaped, rejoined his command, and surrendered finally at Wheeler's Station. Upon his return to Florence he arrived at the south side of the Tennessee River, the possessor of but one dollar in the world, and this he gave to the ferryman to carry him over. To his best friend, Mr. I. W. McAlester, he was indebted for clothes and money

furnished while in the army. So if the road to ultimate prosperity appeared to young Campbell as one of great length, it is not to be wondered at. He went at once into the store of McAlester & Irvine and clerked for them six years, applying his net earnings to the liquidation of his wartime indebtedness. In 1872, he engaged in the dry goods business for himself, and, in 1880, organized the banking house of W. P. Campbell & Co., in the management of which he has made money and reputation as a financier. He is largely interested in agriculture and manufacturing; is treasurer of the Florence Land Company, president of the Florence Compress Company, a member of the Legion of Honor, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Notwithstanding the fact that the Campbells started in life minus the advantages of wealth, it appears that they have all succeeded reasonably well. One of the brothers, John, is connected with the Nashville Cotton-Seed Oil Company, at Nashville; Andrew is cashier of the First National Bank of Natchez, Miss., and Patrick is a prosperous merchant in the capital city of Tennessee.

William P. Campbell was first married in Florence to Miss Sarah Andrews, in 1871. She died in January, 1877, leaving one child, Sarah.

January 20, 1886, Mr. Campbell led to the altar the beautiful and accomplished daughter of Capt. Alexander D. Coffee and the granddaughter of the famous Gen. John Coffee.



**CHARLES HAYS PATTON**, Banker, Florence, Ala., son of ex-Governor Robert M. Patton was born at Sweet Water, near Florence, Ala., April 8, 1850, and was educated, primarily, at Florence, and subsequently at the University of Virginia, graduating also from Eastman's Business College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Mr. Patton read law in the Cumberland University, Tennessee; graduated therefrom June 5, 1873; and practiced law until 1887. In June of this year, he organized the banking house of Patton & Co., and is at this writing (1888) giving this financial institution his special attention.

He represented Lauderdale County in the Legislature (session of 1880-1), and proved himself a highly useful member.

He was married at Florence, December 27, 1882, to a daughter of Judge R. O. Pickett.



Mr. Patton is a member of the Knights of Honor, the Knights and Ladies of Honor, director and secretary of the Synodical Female College, and a deacon in the Presbyterian Church.



**HENRY C. WOOD**, Secretary of the Florence Land, Mining and Manufacturing Company, Florence, Ala., was born at this place February 5, 1831, and is a son of Alexander H. and Mary E. (Evans) Wood. [See W. B. Wood, this volume.]

He was educated at LaGrange, Ky., and St. Joseph College, Bardstown, Ky. In 1856, he engaged in the drug business at Florence and followed it until April, 1861, when he enlisted in the Florence Guards; was made orderly sergeant; went at once to Fort Morgan, and joined General Hardee. He served over four years, leaving the army with the rank of major. He was promoted to lieutenant in August, 1861, and was acting adjutant of the Sixteenth Alabama when assigned as aide-de-camp to General Wood in February, 1862. He was on the staff of General Wood in 1863, when in January of that year, he was promoted to major and made brigade-commissary. He surrendered at Greensboro, N. C., under Gen. Joe Johnson, returned to Florence at the end of the war, and engaged in mercantile business. At the end of four years he sold out and, from that time up to the organization of the company with which he is now connected, was in the cotton and insurance business. He was married at Richmond, Va., October 9, 1857, to Miss Sallie Shepard, and has had born to him two sons and three daughters. The eldest son is a civil engineer. The family are of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Major Wood is a member of the Legion of Honor.



**SAMUEL KIRKMAN** was born at Florence, Ala., in 1832, and was educated at the common schools, primarily, graduating from Harvard University when eighteen years of age, the youngest man to enter the senior class from common schools. Leaving Harvard, he returned to Florence and clerked in the store of his father two years; going thence to St. Louis, where he established a commission house, under the style and firm name of Kirkman & Luke. At the end of eight years he returned to Florence, and at Tuscaloosa, in 1861,

invested \$20,000 in a cotton factory. It was destroyed in 1865 by Wilson's Cavalry, and with it 700 bales of cotton. For the succeeding six or seven years he purchased cotton at Florence for Eastern dealers, and discovered therein such a facility that he was employed regularly thereafter by one of the largest cotton houses in the United States as an expert cotton crop statistician, the only man employed in such speciality in the United States.

Mr. Kirkman's parents were Thomas and Elizabeth (McCulloch) Kirkman, the former a native of Ireland and the latter of Tennessee.

The senior Mr. Kirkman came to Florence in 1821; here carried on the dry goods business for upward of forty years, and died in 1864 at the age of sixty-four years. He reared five sons to manhood, four of whom served in the Confederate Army during the late war. Mr. Kirkman was a polished gentleman of the old school, a careful, systematic, business man, and enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community. He gave particular attention to the education of his children, and placed them in the front rank of social respectability.

Samuel Kirkman was probably one of the youngest men that ever graduated from Harvard, and is to-day regarded as one of the shrewdest business men in Northern Alabama.

He was married at Nashville, Tenn., in 1858, to a daughter of Mr. James Woods. She died in 1865, leaving two daughters, the eldest now the accomplished wife of Mr. Emmet O'Neal, a brilliant young attorney at Florence.

Mr. Kirkman has been for fifteen years a director in the Female Synodical College of Florence.



**JOHN H. YOUNG**, Cotton Broker, native of Lauderdale County, was born March 22, 1848. His father, Wm. B. Young, came from Tennessee, and is now a farmer in this county.

John H. Young spent the first twenty-one years of his life upon his father's farm, receiving in the meantime, a good common-school education. In the latter part of 1868, as a member of the firm of Rice & Young, he embarked in mercantile business at Florence. Mr. Rice retired from the firm in a short time, and was succeeded by a brother of Mr. Young. At the end of about three years, they gave up mercantile busi-

ness, and Mr. Young engaged at once as a cotton merchant. He is at present a member of the firm of Embry, Son & Young, manufacturers of cotton yarns. Their mills are located seven miles north of Florence, upon the waters of Cypress Creek, and have a capacity of about 2,500 spindles.

Mr. Young was a member of the Board of Directors of the State Normal College from 1884 up to June, 1887, at which time the school, having been by an act of the Legislature delocalized, he retired.

He was married at Florence, in 1870, to Miss Ella Holt, who died in 1881, leaving five children, one of whom has since died. His second marriage occurred in June, 1885, at Florence, Ala., with Miss De La Tre Bradley, daughter of the late Dr. Jerry Bradley. To this union two children have been born.

Mr. Young is purely a self-made man; without the advantages of pecuniary inheritance, he has succeeded in the accumulation of wealth, and in establishing a most enviable name and reputation as a citizen.



**SAMUEL D. WEAKLEY**, one of the pioneers of Florence, is a native of Davidson County, Tenn., and was born October 2, 1812.

His parents, Samuel and Sarah (Vaughan) Weakley, were natives of Halifax County, Va., and descended from Irish and Welsh parentage. The senior Mr. Weakley was a planter and surveyor during his life, and died in 1832, at the age of sixty-five years. Of his four sons the subject of this sketch is the youngest. He was educated at Nashville, Tenn., and came to Florence in 1831, where an elder brother, James H. Weakley, Surveyor-General of Alabama, then resided.

Samuel D. Weakley was then about twenty years of age. He had learned surveying under his father, and at once, upon coming into Alabama, took a position in the office of his brother. He spent about ten years re-tracing old survey field-notes which had been largely obliterated by fire. In 1849, in company with James Martin and others, he engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods and yarns near Florence. In the spring of 1861 he was elected major-general of militia, a position he held about one year and a half, when,

the act of conscription having placed every able-bodied man from seventeen to fifty years of age in the army and leaving him nobody to command, he resigned. Early in his life he was a lieutenant-colonel in a State regiment, so, at the time of his appointment as major-general, he possessed more than ordinary knowledge of military affairs.

Up to 1863 General Weakley was an active business man, interested largely in railroads and steamboats, but since that date he has been living in virtual retirement. He was married in Lauderdale County, in 1836, to Miss Eliza B. Bedford, a daughter of the late John R. Bedford, and they have reared one son and five daughters.



**JAMES HARVEY WEAKLEY** was born in Halifax County, Va., in 1798, and was brought by his parents to Davidson County, Tenn., in 1799. He was educated at the Cumberland University, and, in 1817, appointed by Gen. John Coffee surveyor of public lands of Alabama. General Coffee was a warm personal friend of Samuel Weakley, the father of the subject of this sketch.

James H. Weakley's first position in the surveyor-general's office, then located at Huntsville, was that of chief clerk, and he remained in that capacity until the death of General Coffee, in 1833, when he was immediately appointed by Andrew Jackson as the successor of his late chief.

Mr. Weakley remained surveyor-general of public lands until that office was abolished in 1851 by an Act of Congress. He then at once embarked in cotton commission business at New Orleans, and remained there the rest of his life. He died in 1856.

To his many friends and associates, James H. Weakley was known as "Judge," a title peculiarly appropriate to his quiet dignity of manner and to his exemplary character. He married at Huntsville, Ala., in 1830, Ellen M. Donegan, a native of the city of Cork, Ireland. She came to America with her brother, and spent some time with a relative in Baltimore, and afterward visited Huntsville, where she first met Mr. Weakley. After Mr. Weakley's death she removed to Nashville, and spent the rest of her life at the Convent Academy of St. Cecilia.

**REV. MARTIN LUTHER FRIERSON,** Pastor of the Florence Presbyterian Church, and Professor of English in the State Normal School at this place, was born in Williamsburg County, S. C., May 6, 1838. His parents were Daniel and Jane (McIntosh) Frierson, natives of South Carolina, and of Irish and Scotch extraction, respectively.

Mr. Frierson, of this sketch, received his academic education at the famous Mt. Zion School, taught by the Rev. C. P. Beman, D. D., at Mt. Zion, Ga., and subsequently graduated from Oglethorpe University, near Milledgeville. From Oglethorpe, he entered the Ninth South Carolina Regiment of Infantry, C. S. A. The Ninth Regiment being disbanded in 1862, he entered the Fourth South Carolina Cavalry, with which he surrendered at Greensboro, N. C. While with the Ninth, he participated in all the battles fought by Longstreet; in the Fourth, he was under General Butler. At the close of the war he returned to his native county, studied law, came into Alabama in 1869, and was admitted to the bar in Lawrence County in 1870. For the four succeeding years he devoted his time to the practice of law, and, in 1874, entered the Presbyterian ministry, taking charge of a group of churches comprising Decatur, Somerville and Fairview, all in Morgan County. He preached at those places about one year, when he was elected to the professorship of English language and literature in the State Normal School at Florence.

In 1877 Mr. Frierson succeeded his brother, the Rev. E. O. Frierson as pastor of the Florence Presbyterian Church, and has since devoted his time to the Church and the interests of education.

While a resident of Lawrence County, Mr. Frierson established the Courtland *News* (1872), which paper, at the end of one year, he removed to Decatur, and there published it as *The News* for two succeeding years,—and it is written of him, that "he made it a red-hot political paper."

Since going into the ministry, he has had nothing to do with politics. In April, 1888, he was elected to the presidency of the Florence Synodical Female College.

He was married in Williamsburg County, S. C., August 21, 1862, to Miss Margaret Gordon, and of the nine children born to this union, we quote the following: The eldest, John G., is a practicing physician of much promise at Florence; the second, Daniel Irving, died in February, 1872, at the age of five years; the third, William Rogers,

died February, 1870, at the age of eighteen months, and the rest are named, respectively, Sarah Camilla, Danella Isidora, Jane McIntosh, Louise Margaret, Lucy H. and Martin Luther, Jr.



**JAMES K. POWERS, A.M.,** Professor of Mathematics, State Normal College, Florence, Ala., was born in Lauderdale County, August 15, 1851. He was educated at Florence Wesleyan University, in which institution he was a tutor in 1870-71, and was graduated from the State University in 1873, receiving therefrom the degree of A.M. He was appointed to his present position in the Normal College immediately upon his graduation from the University; accepted the place, and has since discharged the duties incumbent upon him with much credit to himself and to the highest satisfaction of the many patrons of this most popular school.

He was appointed County Superintendent of Education in 1885, to fill out the unexpired term of a late defaulting incumbent of that office.

Professor Powers is devoted to education. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Knight of Pythias, and present Grand Dictator for the State in the order of the Knights of Honor.

He was married January 30, 1879, at Nashville, Tenn., to Miss Lulu Reynolds, of Giles County, that State, and the daughter of the late Calvin A. Reynolds.



**JOSEPH C. CONNER, D.D.S.,** General Administrator of the County of Lauderdale, was born in Owen County, Ky., March 9, 1838, and was educated at Elkton, in his native State.

He began the drug business in Nashville in 1852, and there read medicine, attended lectures, and studied dentistry. He began the practice of dental surgery in 1859, and in 1861, came to Florence.

He entered the Confederate service as a non-commissioned officer in Co. F, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, and served to the close of the war. During the last year, he was acting assistant-surgeon. He was under General Forrest about a year and a half, and the rest of the time in the general cavalry service. He surrendered at Selma in 1865, returned to Florence, and again took up the practice of dentistry. He was one of the organizers of

the Florence Land, Mining and Manufacturing Co., and has been one of its board of directors from the first. He is also a director in the Home Protection Fire Insurance Co., of Huntsville; of the Synodical Female College, of Florence; of the Southern Charcoal and Chemical Co., of Florence; of the W. B. Wood Furnace Co.; and secretary of the Cypress Mills Co. He is also interested in agriculture, deals extensively in real estate, and, altogether, is successful in the accumulation of valuable property.

He was married in Lauderdale County in 1870, to Miss Mary H. Key, daughter of W. H. Key, Esq., a planter of this county.

**JAMES E. PRIDE** was born at Tusculumbia, this State, July 2, 1832, and is the eldest son of John F. and Susan Smith (Barrett) Pride, natives of North Carolina.

The senior Mr. Pride was married in Limestone County, and, in 1822, settled at Tusculumbia, where he lived a great many years. From there the old gentleman removed to his present home at Pride Station, and at this writing (1887) is upward of ninety-six years of age. His wife died in August, 1885, at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

The Prides came originally from Wales, and the Barretts from France. John F. Pride was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his father was a minister of the gospel away back in the colonial days. It is related of the Rev. Mr. Pride that, for selling a negro woman that she might go with her husband, who was being carried to another part of the country, the authorities of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of whose ministry he was, revoked his license as preacher. The old grandfather Barrett was also a colonial minister, but of what church, the data is not at hand. The Prides settled first in Virginia, thence into the Carolinas, from whence, they came, later, into Alabama. Of the seven children born to John F. Pride, in addition to the subject of this sketch, we have the following data: two of the sons, William M. and Dr. J. P., and a daughter, Jacqueline, who married Col. Sam Thompson, reside at Pride Station; George was killed at the battle of Fishing Creek, Ky., where he participated as a member of the Sixteenth Alabama Infantry; when found his body lay beside that of Zollicoffer. John F., Jr., died in Mississippi; he was also a member of the Sixteenth Alabama

Infantry, and was a paroled prisoner at the time of his death; one daughter died in infancy.

William M. Pride was a gallant soldier of the late war, and served under Forrest.

James E. removed from Tusculumbia to Florence in 1885. He was married, at Charlottesville, Va., September 10, 1856, to Miss S. A. Price, a native of that place, and has had born to him five children, one of whom died in infancy. Mr. Pride is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**JAMES M. CROW**, son of Thomas J. and Elizabeth Crow, was born at Florence, March 16, 1836. His father emigrated to this place from Kentucky, in 1821, and resided here until he died in 1869. He was an honest man and left scores of friends to mourn his loss. His mother, Elizabeth Hooks, emigrated from North Carolina to Tennessee in 1824, where she lived until she married his father in 1833. She died in 1886. She was loved and respected by the entire community.

James M. Crow received his education at the Florence High School. At the outbreak of the war, he was keeping books for Rice Brothers. In April, 1861, he entered Company D, Ninth Alabama Infantry, as second-lieutenant, and surrendered at Appomattox with the rank of major. His first promotion was to first-lieutenant, at Broad Run, Va., in 1861, and at Williamsburg, in 1862, he was commissioned captain of his old company. At Orange Court House, in the fall of 1863, he was commissioned major. He participated in all the battles of the Wilderness; at Petersburg, second Manassas, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, etc., and was wounded in the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond, but so slightly as to leave no permanent effect.

Major Crow was one of the most gallant soldiers that went into the army from North Alabama. At the close of the war he returned at once to Florence, and engaged in the dry goods business for about a year. He then turned his attention to steamboating on the Tennessee River, and followed it for ten or twelve years. At Saultillo, Tenn., he was in the dry goods business for a short time, but gave it up to return to steamboating. He retired from the steamboat business in 1884, and in 1885 or '86, was made deputy United States marshal under Captain Kellar, with

headquarters at Birmingham. From this position, at the end of eighteen months, he returned to Florence, to engage in real estate business.

Upon the completion of the new Florence Hotel, Major Crow associated with T. J. Patty, became its first landlord, where it is unnecessary to say that the traveling public will find him in his element.

He was married March 31, 1867, to Miss Mary J. Brandon, daughter of the late Washington M. Brandon. She died in 1878, leaving two children, a son and a daughter, Thomas Wood and Mary E. The former, Thomas Wood Crow, graduated from the State Normal College at Florence, and immediately entered as a member of a civil engineer corps.

The Major is a Mason, a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**JAMES HANCOCK**, Wholesale and Retail Grocer, of the firm of J. McPeters & Co., Florence, was born in Franklin County, this State, February 22, 1832. His parents, Benjamin and Mary (Ramsey) Hancock, natives of Virginia and Tennessee, respectively, were married in the latter State; came to Alabama, and lived in Franklin County from 1827 to the death of Mrs. Hancock, which occurred in 1864. Mr. Hancock died in Lauderdale County in 1876, at the age of 73 years. They reared a family of two sons and seven daughters; one of the former, Benjamin E., died in the Southern Army.

The subject of this sketch was educated in Franklin County, where he grew to manhood on his father's farm. At the age of about twenty-one years, he accepted a clerkship in a mercantile establishment at Russellville, where he remained eight years. At the end of this time he became a partner in the concern, the style of the firm being Hillman & Hancock. The firm subsequently carried on business in Florence for some time, winding up soon after the outbreak of the war.

February 4, 1862, Mr. Hancock enlisted in the Fourth Alabama Cavalry, and served to the close of the war. He went into the army an orderly sergeant and came out with the rank of captain. Returning to Florence in October, 1855, he again engaged in mercantile business, the firm being Hancock, Jones & Co. In 1871 Mr. Hillman withdrew from the firm, and the business was continued up to 1876, under the style and firm

name of Hancock & Jones. In 1882 he engaged in his present business, having entire charge of the concern.

Mr. Hancock was married at Russellville in 1858 to Miss Pauline Ladd. She died in 1876, leaving four children, the oldest of whom, James W., is a merchant in Memphis; Annie H., is the wife of Mr. F. F. Woods; the others are named Kate Rivers and Pauline Wickliffe.

In 1881, at Holly Springs, Miss., Mr. Hancock was married to Miss Mattie Jackson, of that place. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Freemason, a Knight of Honor, in which organization he is Past Dictator, and a member of the Legion of Honor.



**JOHN M. NORTON**, Superintendent of W. B. Wood Furnace Company, Florence, was born in 1844, at Brownsville, Pa. He was reared at Wheeling, W. Va., whither his parents removed when he was a child, and there learned the trade of nail maker. His father, George W. Norton, was the pioneer nail manufacturer of the Ohio Valley, and was the first man to manufacture nails at Wheeling. In 1863-4, the senior Mr. Norton erected a nail mill at Ironton, Ohio, and, in 1867, was the president and principal owner of the Bellfonte Iron Works at that place. He was killed on the 4th day of January, 1886, near Gallipolis, in the explosion of a steamboat.

It was with the Bellfonte Iron Works that John M. Norton first took lessons as a furnace builder, and, in 1871, as superintendent, he constructed the Norton Iron Works, at Ashland, Ky., and subsequently managed that establishment six years. From Ashland Mr. Norton went to Wheeling as the superintendent of the Belmont Furnace; thence, at the end of one year, to Grand Tower, Ill., as manager of the Lewis Iron Works; and from there to Alabama, where, at Oxmoor, he superintended the Eureka Company's Blast Furnace three years. Returning to Ohio, he superintended the Jefferson Iron Works at Steubenville for three years; coming thence again into Alabama, in March, 1867, he took charge as superintendent of construction of the Alabama, Tenn., Coal and Iron Works at Sheffield. In August following, he was employed by the W. B. Wood Furnace Company to superintend the completion

of their works, of which, it is understood, he is to become general manager.

Mr. Norton was only nine years of age when he began the trade of nail maker, as "feeder," at the Bellfonte Works, and, with the exception of the time devoted to obtaining an education, he has since given his entire time to machinery, and the construction of iron furnaces. He was unfortunately caught under a locomotive at Wheeling and lost one of his legs.

Mr. Norton is regarded by iron manufacturers as one of the most thorough furnace men in the United States. He was married at Ironton, in 1880, to a Miss Crawford.



**JOHN T. FARMER** was born in Giles County, Tenn., July 7, 1815, and came with his parents to Lauderdale County in 1819. His father, Thomas Farmer, died here in 1864, at the age of seventy-two years.

The subject of this sketch was partly educated at the Florence common schools; moved to Pulaski, Tenn., in January, 1837, engaged in the boot and shoe business, and remained there four years. From there he returned to Lauderdale County, and in 1852 to Florence, where he had charge of the bridge spanning the Tennessee River. The bridge blew down in March, 1854, and Mr. Farmer kept a ferry for a very few months. In January, 1885, he purchased the livery business of McKee & Co., and has since conducted it in a successful manner.

Away back in 1836, Mr. Farmer joined Colonel Ackland's Mounted Volunteers, who were employed against the Creek Indians in Alabama until the treaty of peace was signed. In 1864 he entered the Confederate service as a member of Captain Bonner's Company, Hardy's Battalion, served to the close of the war, and was paroled at Talladega, Ala., after which he returned to Florence and resumed livery business.



**JAMES BURTWELL**, the leading Druggist of Florence, was born at Florence July 17, 1842. His father, John T. Burtwell, came from England with

his parents, who settled in Tennessee. He there grew to manhood; came into Alabama, where he married Miss Cornelia Bedford, and returned to Tennessee, from whence after a few years he removed to Florence, where he was engaged many years in steamboat business. He died in 1862, at the age of sixty-two years.

James Burtwell was educated at Florence Wesleyan University; entered the Confederate Army in 1862 as a private soldier in a regiment which had the misfortune of being captured by the enemy before it fairly got started to the field. However, it was but a short time before Mr. Burtwell was again in the service; this time as a private in the Sixteenth Alabama Infantry where he remained three years.

His only brother, John R. Burtwell, was a graduate from West Point, and one of the most brilliant young men that went from Northern Alabama into the army. After the war, he was several years United States chief engineer of the Mussel Shoals improvement, and it was while in the performance of his duty in this capacity, that he contracted malarial disease, from which he died in 1875. He was a colonel in the Ninth Alabama Cavalry during the late war, and at West Point was the class-mate of General Wilson, the famous United States Cavalry commander. Immediately after leaving West Point with the rank of second lieutenant, he was assigned to Fort Wachita, Indian Territory, and was there at the outbreak of the war between the States, when he immediately resigned and went into the Confederate service. He went out as adjutant of the Ninth Alabama Infantry, which command he joined in Virginia. At the end of about one year he was made aide-de-camp on General Hardee's staff. From there he was within a short time assigned to a position on the staff of General Bragg, and later was made chief of artillery in Cheatham's division. He was next promoted to inspector-general on Bragg's staff, in which capacity he was sent to Florence to inspect General Roddy's command, and while here was captured by General Phillips. Phillips at once paroled him, and left him at his home at Florence. Being exchanged in about three months, he was placed in command of the Ninth Alabama Cavalry, under General Roddy. In 1871 he entered the service of the United States Government as an engineer. He died a widower, leaving five daughters. He was born in Lauderdale County in 1834.

**WILLIAM W. BAYLESS**, of the firm of Bayless & Reeder, Real Estate Agents, Florence, is a native of Louisville, Ky., where he was born December 5, 1841, and is the eldest son of William B. and Ann (Tannynhill) Bayless, natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, respectively.

The Bayless family removed from Kentucky to Nashville, Tenn. in 1842 or '43, and from there several years later, to Giles County, that State.

W. W. Bayless was educated at Nashville, and began business as a clerk in his father's book establishment. At the outbreak of the war, he enlisted as a private in Co. B, First Tennessee Infantry, U. S. A., and was in the army until May, 1865. He was promoted first to a lieutenancy from the ranks and placed in charge of a cavalry company in Nixon's regiment (1863), and was acting adjutant with the rank of first lieutenant when the war ended. He participated in the battles of Perryville, Johnsonville, and Franklin, Tenn. He was wounded at Perryville so seriously as to retire him from active service for one year, and again at Franklin, or Brentwood, laying him up for three months. At Perryville, he fell into the hands of the enemy and was a prisoner from October, 1862, to April, 1863. After the close of the war Captain Bayless returned to Tennessee and in the following year removed to Colbert County, Ala., where he subsequently married Miss Rebecca Thompson, daughter of Lawrence Thompson, Esq., one of the pioneers of that county. For fifteen years he devoted his time to farming in Colbert, and in 1881 removed to Florence.

Captain and Mrs. Bayless are members of the Presbyterian Church, and the Captain belongs to the Masonic fraternity and to the Knights of Honor.



**H. McVAY MOORE**, the subject of this sketch, was born in Lauderdale County, Ala., May 15, 1835. He was the eldest of five children (all boys). His parents were Lewis C. and Attie P. (McVay) Moore, both now deceased. All of the five sons served in the Southern Army until the close of the war. John M. was killed near Pulaski, Tenn., under General Forrest. Samuel H. was killed at second Manassas. J. Polk died January 10, 1887. Lewis C., the only surviving brother, is now engaged in farming near his old homestead.

H. McVay Moore was educated at the schools

of Florence, and followed farming until the outbreak of the war. April 28, 1861, he enlisted in Company H, Fourth Alabama Infantry, as a private, and served under General Lee in the Virginia army to the close of the war. He participated in all of the battles of that army. He was also with General Longstreet in Tennessee. He was wounded at Gaines' Farm, Chickamauga, Gettysburg and Cold Harbor. At the latter place he was so severely wounded that he has never fully recovered. At the close of the war he returned to his old home and engaged in farming, ginning and milling. His father was killed by a Tory in 1863.

Mr. Moore was appointed Sheriff of Lauderdale County in July, 1887, to fill out the unexpired term of J. W. White, deceased. He was married near where he now lives, four and a half miles north of Florence, April 4, 1866, to Miss Fannie E. Rice.

Mr. Moore's grandfather, the late Hon. Hugh McVay, represented Lauderdale County in the legislature from 1821 to 1824, inclusive, as Senator, and again in 1828 and 1829; also from 1832 to 1836, inclusive; and 1838 to 1848, inclusive; and was in the lower house in 1820, 1826, 1830, 1831. He was a member of the Convention at Huntsville, in 1819, which framed the first Constitution of Alabama, and, as president of the Senate in 1836, became *ex-officio* Governor on the resignation of Governor Clay, who was elected to the United States Senate. Another writer has said of him in this connection, "His messages were unpretending, plain, frank and honest, in keeping with his whole character from the time he entered public life, in the zenith of his manhood, to an advanced age when he voluntarily retired." He died in 1850, at about 85 years of age.



**WILLIAM P. LUDIKE** was born in Savannah, Ga., July 30, 1841. His parents were Conrad and Sarah H. (Leonard) Ludike, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Tennessee. Both died so many years ago as not to be remembered by the subject of this sketch.

William P. Ludike was reared by an uncle, and educated at the schools of Macon, Ga. In the Oehlmlgee Foundry, at Macon, he learned the trade of machinist, and followed it at various places up to 1862. He became a locomotive engi-

neer in that year, and followed the business up to 1882. During the last twelve years of that time he ran the train between Florence and Tusculumbia, discharging the duties of both conductor and engineer, and was the express company's messenger, in charge of their business over the Florence branch, during that same period. He was appointed agent of the Southern Express Company, and took charge of their office at Florence in 1882. To this he has since given his attention. He is an active business man, and is identified more or less with the modern progress of Florence.



**A. J. W. HANNAH** was born at Aberdeen, Miss., 1847; was educated in Scotland, and served four years in the British naval service. He returned to America in 1866; took a tour to the far west; joined the "Patriots" and made a filibustering trip with them into Mexico, where he joined Maximilian's army at Acapulco. It appears that he only remained in Mexico about two months, and, as we find that he exchanged a diamond pin presented to him by his sister for a pound of tobacco, we opine that he did not "fare sumptuously" while sojourning in the sister republic. He is now settled down in Lauderdale County, married, and is devoting his time to farming as a science.



**JAMES MARTIN**, one of the pioneers of this county, was born in Jefferson County, Ky., in 1798. He was a son of Nicholas Martin, a native of Ireland, who was educated for the priesthood; emigrated to England, where he married; thence to America about 1794; settled in Pennsylvania; removed to Kentucky, where he resided until his death. His occupation was farming.

James Martin, the eldest son, was educated at the common schools. At eighteen years of age he left home, went to Terre Haute, Ind., and appren-

ticed himself to the carpenter's trade, remaining there six months. At Louisville, Ky., he commenced business as a contractor. He removed to Shelbyville, Tenn., and finally, in 1821 or 1822, came to Florence. In 1839 or 1840, associated with others, he purchased the mills known as the "Skipworth Cotton-Mills," on Cypress Creek.

In 1843 the mills were burned, but were immediately rebuilt on a larger scale, and resumed operations with eighty looms. About this time A. D. Hunt, of Louisville, was admitted as a partner, and the firm became Martin, Cassity & Co. This firm existed about five years when Hunt resigned, and S. D. Weakley and A. D. Coffee became partners, and it was changed to Martin Weakley & Co. Under this partnership the mill property was greatly improved, and operated successfully until 1863, when the mills were destroyed by the Federal troops. After the war Mr. James Martin purchased all the interests in its ruins. In 1866 one of the mills was rebuilt, which James Martin successfully operated until his death.

James Martin was one of the charter members of Cypress Lodge, F. & A. M., of Florence, Ala., and received the highest considerations of that honorable body. In politics he was an old-line Whig. He died at his home near Florence, in the seventy-first year of his age.



**SARAH HANNA**, one of the pioneers of this county, removed from here with her family to Louisiana in 1836. Her daughter there married and removed to the City of Mexico, where, during our late war, the famous Dr. Gwinn was present at the marriage of Mrs. Hanna's granddaughter, and performed the ceremony of "giving away" that young lady in matrimony to a dashing officer on Maximilian's staff. They were married in the Palace, City of Mexico.

Mrs. Hanna's grandson was killed at the age of eighteen years by robbers near Vera Cruz.

Mrs. Hanna's sons probably reside now in Louisiana.







*Yours Truly*  
*E. C. Gordon*

### III.

## DECATUR.

The State of Alabama was admitted into the Union in December, 1819. Morgan County, then called Cotocha County, was a part of the reservation of the Cherokee Indians, and continued to be until the removal of the Indians, in 1837. An old map published in 1836 marks the Indian Reservation of the Cherokees, and notes no town in Northern Alabama except Huntsville.

The first mention of the town of Decatur is in a letter from President Monroe to the Register and Surveyor-General, dated January 13, 1820, in which the President reserves a site for a town to be called Decatur. It was named in honor of Commodore Decatur, the distinguished officer of the United States Navy. The location seems at that early day to have impressed the authorities as a very favorable one. The new town was situated on a plateau on the south bank of the Tennessee River, on the highest land between the Ohio River and the Gulf of Mexico. It also marked the western limit of the navigation of the Tennessee River, for between this point and Florence intervened the obstructions called the Mussel Shoals.

The town when first laid out embraced an area extending about half a mile east of what is now the Somerville road, thence south about one fourth of a mile, thence west to where the Decatur cemetery is now located, and thence north to the river. Even at that early day it will be seen towns were laid out with ample room for growth and expansion. The embryo town had a river front of some three miles, and shows that the great advantages of the river were recognized by the officials having the matter in charge.

In the year 1820, there was formed the first Decatur Land Company. The trustees of the company were Dr. Henry W. Rhodes, George Peck, Isaac Lane, Jesse W. Garth and McKinney Holderness. This company entered the land from the Government, on which Decatur was laid out. The Company made its first deed on the 9th of July, 1821. The lot so deeded was lot thirty-six, and was sold to Amos Hardin for \$51. This

lot is on the corner of Water and Canal Streets and fronts on the river. The town thus organized remained a part of the Cherokee Reservation under jurisdiction of the State until 1826. It was then officially incorporated by an act of the Alabama Legislature. The town had been known heretofore rather as "Rhodes' Ferry" than as Decatur, but from this time forward the latter name came into general use as the name of the place. In the year 1830, the first addition was made to the town. This was an area of ground extending from Line street east to Alabama street, and from Lafayette street to the river. From this time on Decatur seems to have had a slow growth and an uneventful history. The population did not increase rapidly, although the place became one where considerable building was done. A branch of the State Bank was located here and the building occupied by it yet remains.

During the war Decatur was a strategic point and was alternately occupied by the forces of both armies, but most of the time was in possession of the Union Army. General Hood, on his march to Nashville, in 1864, menaced the place, but found it so well fortified that he did not attack it, but marched his forces to Tusculum and there crossed the river. Nearly all the buildings of the town were destroyed during the war, the bank building, the McCartney hotel, the Hinds' building being the principal ones left standing. The latter named building was used as headquarters at different times by the officers of each army. Marks of shot and shell can yet be seen upon the columns of the bank building.

After the war had closed the old citizens returned, and business gradually revived. The construction of the Louisville & Nashville to the south made this point the crossing of two important railroads and gave business an upward movement. About 1870 the corporate limits of the town were increased and definitely defined. Since that time the town increased but little in wealth or population, and in 1880 had only 300

people. From that time the town slumbered in obscurity until the summer of 1886.

Its very eligible location had attracted the attention of Maj. E. C. Gordon and others, and it was determined to make its advantages known and utilized. It was believed that a prosperous city was to grow up somewhere in Northern Alabama, and Decatur was thought to possess the superior location, as it was on the river and at the crossing of two great systems of railroad. Major Gordon and his associates, after carefully investigating the matter and viewing the ground, determined upon the rejuvenation and regeneration of what was then a dead old village. In the autumn and early winter of 1886 they bought up some 5,600 acres of land in and adjacent to Decatur, and 50,000 acres of mineral land in Northern Alabama. A land company was then formed, with a capital of \$7,500,000, and the lands so purchased were sold to the company. A directory, composed of prominent business men of this and adjoining States, was elected in January, 1887, and the directors elected Major E. C. Gordon president, H. G. Bond vice-president and general manager, and W. E. Forest secretary. The company formed their plans to make Decatur an industrial city of varied manufactures. The merits of the place were made known through pamphlets, circulars and newspapers, and within a few months several very important manufactories were secured for the new city. These embraced such establishments as the Charcoal Chemical Works, the American Oak Extract Works, the Ivins & Son's Machine shops, and several others of less importance. A beginning was thus made, and, continuing the work, other establishments were induced to locate here until, in December, 1887, the number amounted to forty-one. These embrace a varied line of wood and iron manufactories, chief among which may be mentioned the immense car and construction shops of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. These works, the building of which is now under contract, comprise some fourteen buildings of large size, covering with the necessary tracks about fifty-seven acres of ground. The works will employ at the start 500 skilled mechanics, and will be the largest shop of the kind south of the Ohio River.

In addition to the manufactories located at Decatur, some five hundred houses for residence and business have been erected during the year 1887. Some of these are large and elegant buildings,

among which are the "Tavern," the Bond Block and the Scott Block.

Under the management of the Land Company the city has been laid out by a competent landscape engineer, with a view to making it a pleasant place of residence. A thorough system of sewerage and drainage has been put in, and waterworks are under contract. The city is already provided with two electric light plants, telephone service and street cars.

The population of the city increased from 1,200 in January to 5,000 in December, 1887.

Business in all directions has kept up with the increase of population, and all branches of trade are well represented.

Decatur is supplied with churches of different denominations as follows: Baptist, Catholic, Christian, Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal, South, and Presbyterian.

#### PROSPECTIVE RAILROADS.

The Rome & Decatur Railroad is being built; also the Chesapeake, Decatur & New Orleans Railroad has been located, and will be built this year. The Tombigbee Railroad, from Columbus, Miss., to Decatur, is permanently established. The Warrior Coal Field Railroad, from Meridan, Miss., to Decatur, is now under construction. The Decatur, St. Louis & South Atlantic Railroad, from Carbondale, Ill., by way of Paducah, Ky., to Decatur, connecting with the Rome & Decatur Railroad, is now being built.

The Mussel Shoals, the only serious obstruction between Decatur and the mouth of the river, will be open to large boats this year, the Government having already spent \$2,700,000 to open it, and only \$200,000 more is required to complete the work.

The following enterprises have been located in Decatur since February 1, 1887, and many of them are in operation:

The Decatur Land Improvement and Furnace Company was organized on the 11th day of January, 1887. Since that time there have been commenced the following enterprises:

1st. The Charcoal Company's plant, costing \$120,000. Fifty ovens are erected and ready for operation. Employs 200 men.

2d. A 70-ton charcoal iron furnace, costing \$120,000; Gordon, Laurea & Straubel, of Philadelphia, builders; employs 100 men.

3d. One 100-ton blast iron furnace, costing

\$225,000, by the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Company; employs 200 men.

4th. The Decatur Iron Bridge and Construction Company; George A. Moar, of Keokuk, Iowa, president, Mr. Robert Curtis, of Chicago, vice-president; cost \$100,000; employs 150 men.

5th. The American Oak Extract Company, J. E. McCarty, of Barkville, W. Va., president; the largest enterprise of the kind in the world; cost \$60,000; employs 150 men.

6th. Ivens & Son, of New Orleans; steam engines and iron working plant; building 280x100 feet; cost \$100,000; employs 100 men.

7th. Morse Cotton Compress; plant cost \$45,000; employs 52 men.

8th. Decatur Lumber Company, of Ohio; W. H. Mead, president, H. S. Doggett, secretary, and treasurer, N. K. Mead, manager. Mammoth saw and planing mills and sash, door and blind factory, costing \$50,000; employs 50 men.

9th. Berthard & Co., of Springfield, Ohio; sash, door and blind factory; cost \$15,000; employs 20 men.

10th. Brush Electric Light Company; thirty-light plant; cost \$8,000; employs 5 men.

11th. The Iron (Ohio) Wheelbarrow Company; cost, \$25,000; employs 50 men.

12th. Inman & Co., of New York City; Water Works system; cost of plant, \$200,000.

13th. Blymeyer Artificial Ice Company; now in operation; cost of plant, \$10,000.

14th. Three brick yards are in operation at this place. One Eureka Dry Press steam machine; two Anderson Chief machines; cost, \$40,000; men employed, 90.

15th. Jones, Poley & Co., lumber dealers; B. E. Poley, of Auburn, Ill., manager; carries 500,000 feet of lumber in stock.

16th. Hoosier Mills Building Material Co., Graber & Son, proprietors; employs 30 men.

17th. The Gate City Sash and Door Company; Siddons & Co., proprietors; employs 25 men.

18th. The Alabama Farmers' Fence Company; employs 20 men.

19th. The Decatur Artificial Stone Company; employs 5 men.

20th. About 250 carpenters are engaged in erecting cottages.

21st. Natural Gas Company, A. F. Murray, pres-

ident, H. G. Bond, of New York, treasurer; capital stock, \$200,000.

22d. First National Bank; capital \$100,000; C. C. Harris, president, W. W. Littlejohn, treasurer.

23d. Merchants' Insurance Company of Decatur; capital, \$100,000; J. W. Nelson, of Chicago, president, C. Peacher, of Montgomery, secretary.

24th. Decatur Building Association; Capital, \$300,000.

25th. The Decatur Mineral Water and Bottling Establishment; B. F. Bucheit, proprietor; employs 10 men.

26th. The Decatur Printing Company; H. G. Rising and B. W. Brigg, proprietors; publishers Decatur *Daily Journal*.

27th. The Gate City Telephone Company; operating 50 stations.

28th. The Louisville & Nashville Railroad have contracted to locate at Decatur their consolidated Car Construction and Repair Shops. Ground has already been broken for these works, and they will be built as rapidly as possible. They will employ over 500 men, and will add 2,000 population to the city.

29th. The Street Car line from the corner of Lafayette and Bank streets to Grant street, a distance of two miles, is in successful operation.

30th. An Incandescent Electric Light plant of 500 lights, lighting the new hotel and adjacent cottages, is in operation.

31st. Gas and Water Works are in process of construction, and will be completed in the shortest possible time.

32d. The United States Rolling Stock Company is now building an immense plant at Decatur for manufacturing railway cars, and will remove its entire plant from Urbana, Ohio, to Decatur. The works here will occupy fifty acres of land, and it is estimated will employ 1,000 skilled mechanics, besides a large number of ordinary laborers. This is one of the largest rolling stock companies in the world, manufacturing cars, both freight and passenger, including car wheels, and everything incident to the rolling stock of a railroad. The capital stock of the company has been recently increased from \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000.

33d. The Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company handle daily in their yard here 640 cars—360 going south and 280 north. They employ

eighty-five men, and pay out to their employes the sum of \$6,000 per month.

In March, 1887, the number of inhabitants was 1,200; in March, 1888, it is estimated at 7,000.

The municipal government in 1888 is in charge of R. P. Baker, Mayor, and Councilmen H. S. Freeman, H. A. Skeggs, P. J. Edwards, L. W. Falk, C. P. Sykes.

The location of Decatur is also a natural one for a great city, and although this fact has been known for years by well-informed persons, it was only in the past year that the advantages of its situation were seized upon. The promoters of this, the "Chicago of the South," point with pride to what has been accomplished here since the first of January, 1887. No other city of the South has made so rapid progress in the same time. The work done has insured the future of the city; it has been done on a firm foundation and without any mere empty pretense; everything has been sought after with a view of endurance and permanence, not speculation.

Let it be understood, that the development of Decatur and the adjacent country is no longer an experiment; its future growth and prosperity is fully assured; and its prospects have become better with every day that has passed since the work of increase has begun; every step has been carefully taken, and every enterprise so well guarded, that no standing still or backward movement could be observed. Real estate has continued to grow in value; stock of the various corporations has steadily advanced in price for several months past, and is now held as a permanent investment.

The prosperity and rapid growth of Decatur has proven the wisdom of its enterprising citizens. It will be observed, that from an obscure village, it now numbers its population by thousands; so rapidly has the city increased by new arrivals, that every mind south of Mason and Dixon's line has been attracted by its prosperity. In the olden days of slave labor, many people in the South looked with disfavor on the immigration of free labor, fearing it might prove a disturbing element and interfere with their existing system. But now all is changed; the old system is gone, and the people generally want immigration, and heartily welcome all who come to invest capital or to labor and live among them.

Decatur is now virtually but in the second year of her existence, with no cloudobscuring her future. The events of the year just past have

crowded her beyond obscurity. The wondrous changes that have been wrought were scarcely conceivable, and to the greatest extent they were realized by her home people.

Inured by this time to the strokes of adversity, with characteristic energy the people proceeded to grapple the material interest which remained to them. What has been accomplished is only an earnest of what is to be done. The future of Decatur is bright with the halo of promise.

The wondrous treasure locked within her bosom; her very superior location, combined with the energies and virtues of her people, will surely give her proud pre-eminence in the South.

The past is secure; it is only the future that can give concern, and if left to the energies of her people, and they entrusted with the privileges of solving the problem of their own destiny, the happiest results may be pre-pictured. Emulons of the achievements of a noble ancestry, endowed with the rich legacy of modern knowledge, and imbued with the spirit of contemporary progress, her people may well hope to compass the loftiest aims of mortal aspiration.



**ROBERT PERRY BAKER**, Mayor of Decatur, was born in Jersey Shore, Lyeoning County, Pa., December 24, 1837, of Scotch-Irish parentage; received an academic education in the West Branch High School; learned the printing trade under his father, and assisted in the publication of the organ of that county.

In January, 1859, he came South, and aided in the publication of the Decatur *Times*, assisted by Joe W. Furey. In 1861 he published *The Constitution* at Tusculumbia, Ala. In 1862 he enlisted in the Thirty-fifth Alabama Regiment, C. S. A., and served gallantly at the battles of Corinth, Baton Rouge and Vicksburg. In 1864 he returned to Pennsylvania and remained there until the fall of 1865, when he returned to Decatur. In 1872 he was appointed Southern Claims Commissioner by the Treasury Department, at Washington. In 1875 he was appointed by President U. S. Grant United States Marshal for the Northern District of Alabama, where he served four years, making many friends and few enemies by his rigid enforcement of the revenue laws. In 1880 he purchased the McCartney Hotel property, and added greatly to its beauty by remodeling the

buildings and yards. In 1886 he was elected Mayor of Decatur, announcing, as his platform, "free public schools, internal improvements and sanitary regulations," thus taking an almost foremost step in Decatur's present boom.

He is a member of Decatur Chapter, No. 38, R. A. M.; Rising Sun Lodge, No. 29, A. F. & A. M.; K. of P., and A. O. U. W., in all of which orders he has received the highest honors and held the highest offices. He is also a member of the Stock Exchange, etc.

Mr. Baker is a man of conservative views, social characteristics and pleasant manners. He has filled his position as chief officer of the city in an admirable manner and gives general satisfaction. All that he committed himself to in the canvass has been faithfully observed in his administration of the city's government, and his administration has been a success.

Robert P. Baker was married June 5, 1867, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Michael and Nancy (Davis) Sensabaugh, who came to Decatur in 1818. They have two sons and three daughters: Robert S., Mary E., Thomas E., Margaret D., and Mattie E.



**J. R. STUART.** Attorney and Counselor-at-law, Decatur, was born in Morgan County, this State, and educated at Union University, Murfreesboro, Tenn. A short time before he was due to graduate in special course in languages, he was called home to engage in business. He subsequently read law, and was admitted to the bar in 1874. He was elected Clerk of the City of Decatur in 1878, and has continued since in that office. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1880, and re-elected in 1884. In law he has been remarkably successful, while in official positions he has discharged his duties with distinguished ability. He is at this time active in the advancement of the City of Decatur, and is identified with many of her most prominent enterprises.

John B. Stuart, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Morgan County, June 15, 1825; learned the carpenter's trade while a young man, and at the age of eighteen years embarked in mercantile business. He came to Decatur in 1842, and from there two years later, moved to Somerville. In 1851 he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court; in 1858 he was a traveling man,

and, in 1861, resumed the mercantile business at Somerville. After the war he returned to Decatur, where he has since been one of the most successful merchants of this place. He entered the army in 1861 as captain of a company; the regiment to which he was attached failing to be received into service, it was disbanded. He therefore, in the spring of 1862, joined Company H, Twenty-seventh Alabama, and was soon afterward made its captain. At Fort Donelson he fell into the hands of the enemy and was held many months as a prisoner of war at Camp Chase, and Johnson's Island. After his exchange, which took place in September following his capture, he was tendered the colonelcy of a Mississippi Regiment, but declined it, preferring to remain with his old command. He afterward took part in the battles of Corinth, Baker's Creek, Resaca, Cassville, Lost Mountain and Atlanta. During Hood's raid into Tennessee, he had charge of a scouting party, and at the head of about one hundred rangers met General Wilson at Elyton. This engagement proved decidedly unfortunate, as he lost all his command.

In 1846, Captain Stuart was married to Miss Sarah J. Gresham, of Somerville, and has reared two children: John W. and Mary, now Mrs. Banks.

Captain Stuart's father was named Robert A., a native of White County, Tenn., and the family are of Scotch-Irish extraction.



**JOHN D. ROQUEMORE.** Attorney-at-law, and President of the Exchange Bank of Decatur, was born in Barbour County, this State, August 27, 1849, and is a son of Zachariah and Julia A. (McGilbony) Roquemore, natives of Georgia.

The senior Mr. Roquemore was born in 1809, and his wife in 1818. They came to Alabama in 1836, locating first in Russell County, and later on in Barbour. Mr. Roquemore was a self-made man. He was a planter by occupation, and carried that business on quite extensively for some years prior to his death; he died in 1868.

John D. Roquemore was reared on his father's plantation, and received his primary education at the common schools. In 1864 he left the State University, where he had but recently matriculated, and joined "Nelson's Rangers." His company was assigned to Gen. Stephen D. Lee's

escort, and with it young Roquemore participated in many conflicts of arms.

Returning from the army after the final cessation of hostilities, Mr. Roquemore began the study of law at Eufaula, and in May, 1867, was admitted to the bar. He began the practice at once at Eufaula, and readily rose to prominent rank in the profession. The Montgomery & Florida Railway Company, of which he was a director, made him their general counselor, and he is now, and has been for some years, one of the trusted attorneys of the Central Railroad & Banking Company of Georgia.

In 1876 he was appointed one of the commissioners to codify the Alabama statutes, and from 1878 to 1882 he represented his district in the State Senate. In 1886 he was Adjutant-General of the State, and in the same year the Alabama University conferred upon him the honorary degree of A. M.

He came to Decatur in September, 1887, for the purpose of continuing the law practice, the style of his firm being Roquemore, White & Long, with offices also at Montgomery and Eufaula. Here he soon became identified with various popular enterprises, and is at this writing President of the Decatur Water-works Company, Vice-President of the Decatur Street Railway Company, President of the Exchange Bank, and one of the directors of the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Company.

In addition to the duties incumbent upon him by reason of his connection with these various industries, Mr. Roquemore continues the practice of law, and the firm of which he is the head is recognized throughout the State as being among the very best.

At Eufaula, in 1867, Mr. Roquemore was married to Miss Mary L. Hunter, of that place, and to this marriage five children were born. Mrs. Roquemore was the daughter of James L. Hunter, and a niece of Mrs. Gen. H. D. Clayton, Mrs. J. L. Pugh and Mrs. B. J. Hoole, and a cousin to A. H. Merrill, Esq. Her mother was a sister of John Gill, Eli S. and Henry R. Shorter. Mrs. Roquemore died June 13, 1882, leaving five children: Charles H., Annie D., Mary L., John D. and "Zach."

The present Mrs. Roquemore, to whom Mr. Roquemore was married October 25, 1887, is the accomplished daughter of Capt. David Brown, of Massachusetts. She is noted for her many rare

and admirable qualities and her superior educational attainments.

Mr. Roquemore is a Knight Templar Mason and a Knight of Pythias.



**WILLIAM E. SKEGGS**, son of Henry and Mary J. (Hunt) Skeggs, was born in Huntsville, Ala., April 27, 1852. He was educated in Huntsville Academy under Prof. C. G. Smith, late president of the State University; came to Decatur in 1871; taught school at Decatur and Somerville, and studied law until 1878; was admitted to the bar at Somerville and practiced there until January, 1887, when he opened an office in Decatur.

Mr. Skeggs represented his county in the Legislature in 1880-81. He served as Register in Chancery of Morgan County from 1883 until September, 1887. Since 1880, he has been a delegate to various State Conventions. He is a stockholder in both Land Companies of Decatur, the First National Bank, the Electric Light Company, and the Cotton Compress Company.

Mr. Skeggs was married November 22, 1869, to Miss Celia E. Bean, of Morgan County, daughter of Maj. Benjamin F. and Mary J. (Garner) Bean, and has four children: Henry A., John H., Ella B., and Olive H. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Honor.



**EDGAR W. GODBEY**, Attorney-at-law, Decatur, son of Croquette and Evaline (Forgey) Godbey, was born in March, 1861, at Morristown, Tenn.

The senior Godbey was a native of Halifax County, Va., where he was born in May, 1818. In early manhood, he moved with his parents to Loudon County, Tenn., and was for many years a preacher of the Methodist Church, South, and a member of Holston Conference. Upon the outbreak of the late war, he took sides with the South, and entered Gracey's command as a chaplain in the army, holding this position throughout the entire war. After its close, he came to Alabama and located near Huntsville, in which city he was for a short time pastor of a congregation of the Methodist Church, South, and afterward united with the North Alabama Conference. He was the father of



five children, four of whom are living; Edgar W. is the eldest; the others are Laura, Chas. C. and Albert S.

Wm. Godbey, great-grandfather of Edgar W., was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and among the early settlers of Virginia.

Mr. Godbey's mother was born in Hawkins County, Tenn., in 1835. She was a daughter of Wm. Forgey, of Irish descent.

Edgar W. Godbey graduated at Hiwassee College, Tenn., in 1882, taught school seven months at Somerville, Ala., and subsequently was Principal of Dyersburg District High School, an institution under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and located near Memphis, Tenn. After teaching here eighteen months, he entered the law department, University of Alabama, and graduated in February, 1885; after which he located at Decatur, and commenced the practice of law, in which he was quite successful. He was for a time County Solicitor.

Mr. Godbey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Masonic fraternity, and was during college life a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity.



**CHARLES C. SHEATS**, United States Commissioner, Decatur, was born April 10, 1839, in Walker County, Ala. He was reared on a farm; received a good English education at Somerville Academy, and at the age of eighteen, began teaching school. He was a member of the Secession Convention which met at Montgomery in 1861, and there gave his influence in opposition to secession. In 1861, he was elected to the Legislature from Winston County, and was expelled in 1862, on account of his alleged disloyalty to the Southern Confederacy. He was arraigned, indicted and imprisoned for treason, but General Thomas, of the Federal Army, retaliated by arresting General McDowell, and holding him as hostage until Mr. Sheats was released in reciprocity. However, he remained in duress until the close of the war. September, 1865, he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention for the same county, and was a candidate for Congress from the Sixth District in the same year. In 1868 he was a Grant elector, and in 1869 was appointed United States Consul to Denmark, where he remained three years.

In 1872 he was a delegate to the Philadelphia

convention which nominated Grant for his second term, and in the same year was elected to Congress from the State at large by a majority of 10,000, over Gen. Alpheus Baker. In 1874, he was re-elected to Congress, receiving 99,000 votes, but was counted out by 13,000. In 1875 he was Sixth Auditor of the United States Treasury for the post-office department and in 1877, resigned and was appointed Appraiser of Merchandise for the port of Mobile. He served in this capacity until 1878, when he was appointed Assistant Collector of Internal Revenue for the State of Alabama, and served until Cleveland was inaugurated.

Mr. Sheats was married January 27, 1886, to Mrs. Mary Anderson, *née* Dickson. Her grandfather and grandmother were English.

Mr. Sheats has been a great stump speaker, and is said to have spoken on political questions in every county in the State. He is a son of William W. and Mary (Garner) Sheats. His father was born in Wilkes County, Ga., October 22, 1809; came to Lawrence County, Ala., in 1822, with his parents, and became a farmer. He located in Walker County, January 1, 1845, and now lives in Cullman, on a farm which has been in five counties since he has lived there. He is a son of Archibald and Amanda (Gibson) Sheats, who were natives of Georgia, where the father was born in 1776.

Our subject's mother was born in Tennessee in 1811, and was a daughter of Jacob and Mary (Hunter) Garner. Mr. Garner was a soldier under General Houston in 1836, and in the Mexican War.



**REV. THOMAS ARMSTRONG** was born in Wilcox County, Ala., September 16, 1835; reared on a farm; attended an academy in his early days; received the degree of A. M. from Centenary College, Louisiana. In early life, he began to teach near Hamburg, Ala. Was not engaged in the war. In 1863, taught with his brother, Rev. James K. Armstrong, in Marion Female Seminary. In 1864, was elected principal of Eutaw Male and Female Academy, where he remained till the spring of 1867; then engaged in farming in the Black Belt of Alabama, between Greensboro and Demopolis. In 1871, he bought of Foot & Malone, of Mobile, a half interest in the plant-

ations of the late Colonel Barney, of Marengo County, and farmed till 1874, in the summer of which year he was elected president of Mansfield Female College, which position he resigned in 1880. He then taught in the Alabama Central Female College, at Tuscaloosa, and in Birmingham, Ala., until 1884, when he entered the North Alabama Conference as an itinerant Methodist minister. His first charge was at Tuscumbia, Ala., which he served two years and three months. At this time, Rev. Mr. Law, then in charge of the church at Decatur, resigned his position, and Bishop Wilson, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, appointed Rev. Mr. Armstrong to succeed him. Mr. Armstrong married Miss Mattie DuBois, of Greensboro, Ala., a daughter of Rev. John DuBois, the inventor of the DuBois Cotton Gin. He has two children: Marielon and Samuel D. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**DR. L. HENSLY GRUBBS.** Editor and Proprietor of the Decatur Weekly *News*, and son of Thomas Washington and Lucy D. (Brown) Grubbs, was born at Pulaski, Tenn., September 28, 1838. His early boyhood was spent on a farm. At the age of twelve years he procured employment in a dry goods store in his native town, and continued as a salesman several years. He spent two years in La Grange College, and went to Leighton, Ala., in 1852, where he was again employed in a dry goods store, railroad office and assistant postmaster. In April, 1856, he was licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and continued in the pastoral work of the itinerant ministry fourteen years. In 1872 he located in Decatur, Ala., and engaged in the drug business, in which he continued until 1886. In 1873 he established the Decatur Weekly *News*, which was the only paper published in the city until 1885. The *News* has a large and rapidly increasing circulation, and has been a potent factor in controlling local politics and county, judicial and congressional elections. The *News* has been foremost in promoting the development and progress which has so signally characterized the city of Decatur during the last twelve months.

Dr. Grubbs was appointed postmaster at Decatur March 27, 1885, it being the first appoint-

ment of a Southern man made by President Cleveland except his cabinet officers. The following year he was chosen president of the first national convention of postmasters held in the city of Chicago. As a citizen and business man he is prominent, and has exerted his influence for the advancement and upbuilding of every interest in the community where he resides. He owns stock in the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Company and the Morgan County Building and Loan Association. As a newspaper writer he is strong, forcible and incisive, and expresses his convictions with a clearness that is easily understood.

Mr. Grubbs was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Perry, second youngest daughter of Rev. Francis A. and Rhoda (Thompson) Perry, at Cornersville, Tenn., March 20, 1860. To this union seven children have been born, six daughters and one son. Four of them are now living, namely: Minnie Lou Hense, now Mrs. B. H. Lambert of New York City; Walter Marvin, Lelia Virginia and Nona Aline. Mr. and Mrs. Grubbs and their children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Order of Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, and Ancient Order of United Workmen, and is prominently connected as a State officer with each of these secret societies.

Our subject's father, Thomas W. Grubbs, was born in Brunswick County, Va., about 1792. His wife was a native of the same county, and just thirty days younger than her husband. In early married life they moved to Giles County, Tenn., where they lived on a farm and where their dust now repose. He filled various offices of trust, such as sheriff, collector and census taker, and in 1840, it is said, was personally acquainted with every householder in Giles County. He was a son of Ezekiel Grubbs of Revolutionary fame.



**DR. WILLIAM EDWARD FOREST.** President of the Decatur Building and Investment Company, was born March 17, 1850, in Burlington, Vt. He is a son of John R. and Caroline (Powers) Forest, the former a native of England.

William E. Forest graduated at the University of Vermont, at Burlington, in 1874, in the classical course, and again at the University of New York,



W. E. Forest



in 1876, in the medical course. He practiced ten years in the hospitals of New York City and elsewhere, was connected with the Women's Asylum and the New York Dispensary, and contributed many monographs to medical journals. He was a member of several medical societies while actively in the practice.

In 1883 Dr. Forest invested extensively in real estate in North Alabama, and in these speculations was remarkably successful. In 1887 he made Decatur his home, and became one of the organizers of the Decatur Land and Improvement Company, and has since become a stockholder in nearly all the enterprises in that booming city. He is president of the Building and Investment Company and of two brick manufacturing companies; president of the Wire Fence Company; largest stockholder and director in the Gas & Oil Company; and secretary in the Artificial Ice Company. He is a Knight of Honor, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights and Ladies of Honor, and the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Forest was married February 1, 1859, to Miss Lucia, daughter of Augustus Kimball, of Burlington, Vt. They have two children: Lucia and Edith.

Dr. Forest's grandfather came to the United States from England in 1836; settled at Montreal, Canada, and there spent the rest of his life. His son, John R., was born in 1821, and was fifteen years of age when his parents came to this country. He grew to manhood in Vermont, and there for some years edited a paper. He died in 1884.



**WILLIAM GARDNER GILL, M.D.**, son of Daniel and Catherine (Threat) Gill, was born in Franklin County, Tenn., April 21, 1819. He was reared on a farm, educated at the common schools, and at the age of nineteen attended school in Athens, where he undertook the study of medicine. He graduated with the highest honors from the Louisville Medical College March 1, 1843, and practiced in Somerville until 1844, when he removed to Decatur, and has practiced there ever since. Dr. Gill was president of the Morgan County Medical Association four years, and is now its vice-president. He has served as United States Medical Examiner for North Alabama eight years.

Before the war Dr. Gill owned a plantation of nearly five thousand acres, and had many slaves

He was a man of great influence in his community, and was administrator of a number of large and important estates.

He was married November 19, 1845, to Miss Catherine, daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Boyd) Kolb, of South Carolina, and they have had born to them seven children, namely: Margaret C., Rachel C. (now dead), Martha E., Nancy Elloise, William, Etta (now dead) and Elizabeth J. (now dead).

Mrs. Gill died April 1, 1857, and Dr. Gill was again married November 19, 1857, to Miss Elizabeth J. Evans, of Christian County, Ky., daughter of Maj. Isaac Evans. Eight children were born to the second marriage, and all died in infancy, excepting three sons: William Robert, Clarence and Eugene. William Robert was killed by a fall of a house.

Mrs. Elizabeth Gill died October 13, 1878. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of which denomination her husband has been a member fifty-four years, and a steward forty-five years.

Daniel Gill was born in Dinwiddie County, Va., March 1, 1793, and his wife in 1798. He was a blacksmith by trade; served in the war of 1812, and afterward located in Williamson County, Tenn. In the latter part of his life he became a farmer. In 1822 he went to Bainbridge, and in 1826 to West Tennessee. In 1848 he settled on a farm near Somerville, Morgan County, Ala., where he remained until his death, in 1858. His wife was a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier who lost several sons in the war of 1812. They reared seven children.

James Gill, grandfather of Dr. W. G. Gill, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, served with four brothers under General Washington, and was present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

The ancestors of this family were among the founders of Jamestown, Va., and the name Gill, which is derived from the French, was originally spelled Gillac.



**O. B. CARTRIGHT, M. D.**, was born in Limestone County, Ala., in 1857. His parents were H. B. and Martha A. (Bailey, *nee* Vaughan) Cartwright. The father was a farmer and merchant at Shoal Ford, where he died some years ago. The mother was a native of Virginia, and came to

Alabama at an early day. They had five children, of whom O. B. was the third.

H. B. Cartright was twice married, the first time to Martha Gray. By her he had born to him seven children.

Dr. Cartright was reared in Limestone County, and studied medicine with Dr. J. A. Pettus, of Elkmont, that county. He was graduated from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, in 1879, and practiced medicine five years in his native county. He came to Decatur in the spring of 1884, engaged in the drug business, and has established a fine and growing trade, to which he has devoted his entire attention.

He was married, in 1883, to Miss J. Blanche Preuit, of Lawrence. They have two children, Bradley P. and Lamar. The Doctor is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and his wife is of the Christian Church.



**DR. WILLIAM HENRY BANKS** was born February 28, 1835, in Madison County, Ala. He was educated as a physician at the University of Nashville, Tenn., and, in 1861, entered the army as a member of Captain Bowie's Cavalry. After its organization, this company became a part of the Eighth Confederate Regiment, under Colonel Wade. Dr. Banks was afterward made assistant surgeon of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, and placed in charge of Allen's Division Hospital, where he served with Wheeler in all his raids, and surrendered at Greensboro, N. C., with Gen. Joe Johnston's army.

After the war, Dr. Banks practiced medicine in Decatur, Ala., until December 16, 1868, when he was married to Miss Jane Stuart, daughter of J. B. Stuart, merchant of Decatur, and became a partner in the business of his father-in-law.

After their store was burned Dr. Banks turned his attention to farming and insurance, and he now represents some of the leading companies of the country and does an immense business in that line. His son, Noble Banks, is associated with him.

The Doctor is of Scotch-Huguenot descent. His father, Colonel L. S. Banks, was a merchant, a prominent man and Mason, and a colonel of militia. He married a lady of Irish blood, Miss Margaret Jared Noble, of a prominent Methodist family. They have seven sons and two daughters.

Dr. Banks is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Knights of Honor and Knights of the Golden Rule.



**DR. SHEP WALTER FOSTER** was born near Troy, Pike County, Ala., June 11, 1861. He was reared on a farm, received his education in the common schools, and at the age of twenty entered a store in Troy as a clerk. He remained in this position three years, and employed such leisure time as he could get at the study of dentistry. He graduated from Vanderbilt Dental College in the spring of 1887, with the degree of D.D.S., and is now located in Decatur with a successful practice.

Dr. Foster is a son of John L. and Martha E. (Roundtree) Foster. The father was born in Monroe County, Ga., in 1836. He was a teacher all his life. He served in the army in the Forty-sixth Alabama Regiment from the spring of 1862 until the close of the war. He was captured at Nashville when Hood invaded Tennessee, and sent to prison at Camp Douglas, where he remained until the close of the war. Upon returning to civil life he resumed teaching, and continued until 1880; he died March 15, 1883. His wife was born in Hawkinsville, Ga., and is still living near Troy, Ala. They reared three children.



**WILLIAM B. BLACK, M.D.**, son of James and Sarah E. (Thompson) Black, was born in Lincoln County, N. C., September 10, 1823. He lived on a farm until he was 18 years of age, when he began studying dental surgery, at which pursuit he spent two years. After this, he studied medicine and practiced several years on a certificate. He attended medical lectures in Mobile in 1859, and located at Fayette C. H., Fayette County, Ala., in 1860. He practiced there until 1866, when he removed to Decatur, and has been a successful practitioner there ever since. He is a member of the State and County Medical Associations, and, although quite busy in his professional work, found time to direct the management of a farm until the last four years.

Dr. Black was married in April, 1848, to Miss Martha A., daughter of Henry and Frances (Lowe) Shelton, of Lincoln County, N. C., and has ten children, viz.: James H., George S., Julius G., W. A., Samuel A., Sarah F., Martha J., Chas. B. and Elizabeth.

The Doctor and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a Mason.

James Black was born in Lincoln County, N. C., in 1802; came to Alabama in 1838, located first in Cherokee County, and subsequently in Pickens County, where he died in 1855. He had eight children.

William Black, the Doctor's grandfather, was born at the same place, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He was of Irish descent.



**CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HARRIS**, President of the First National Bank of Decatur, and son of William H. and Nancy L. (Stovall) Harris, was born in Lawrence County, Ala., January 28, 1842.

William H. Harris, a native of Grainger County, Tenn., was born in 1806, moved to Lawrence County, Ala., in early life, lost his wife there in 1809, came to Decatur in 1815, and died here June 28, 1884. His early life was a struggle with poverty, and his opportunities were thereby limited, but, by persistent efforts and honest industry, he accumulated a handsome fortune. His wife, a daughter of Dr. Wm. Stovall, was born in Lawrence County, Ala. They had thirteen children.

C. C. Harris obtained his early education under the parental roof by a private instructor, who was employed to teach the children of his parents, according to a custom that very frequently obtained in the South in ante-bellum days. In 1861 he joined Company F, Sixteenth Alabama Regiment of Infantry, Confederate Army, as a private. He soon became a lieutenant, and was wounded at the battles of Shiloh, Chickamauga, Jonesboro, and at Franklin, Tenn., and from the effect of the wound received at the latter place, was confined four months in a private house in Franklin, Tenn. He was afterward captured, and spent some time in prison at Camp Chase.

After the war he returned home penniless. His father's fortune too, for the most part, was gone, so that his future depended entirely upon

his own energy and industry. He renewed his literary labors, in connection with the study of the law, and in 1866 was admitted to the bar in his own native county. About that time he was Clerk of the Circuit Court; afterward County Solicitor, and in 1872 removed to Decatur, where he has since resided, and where he has been a prominent figure in society and in church, and in every move that had for its end the upbuilding of the community and general welfare of the country. In 1881, in connection with three other gentlemen, he established the Bank of Decatur, with a capital of \$20,000, which enterprise was so successfully managed as to soon obtain a prominent position among the moneyed institutions of the country.

As a lawyer, Mr. Harris, is regarded as safe, wise and reliable. In matters of business, he adheres strictly to the established rules governing the same in all transactions and with all men alike. He has no taste for politics and no thirst for office. His name has been mentioned in connection with the circuit judgeship, congress, and with the chief executive office of the State, but being averse to politics, he has invariably discouraged the expressed wishes of his friends in these particulars.

Colonel Harris is one of the three men who less than two years ago, inaugurated the move at Decatur which has now assumed such gigantic proportions. With Major E. C. Gordon and Mr. W. W. Littlejohn as his associates, the enterprise was cautiously projected and all preparations for the organization of the company carefully made before the public was aware that anything of the kind was in contemplation. When the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Company was organized, he became its attorney, and when the Bank of Decatur was converted into the First National Bank of Decatur, he was elected its president. In the practice of law he is associated with Robert C. Brickell, late Chief-Justice of Alabama.

Mr. Harris was married February 15, 1869, to Miss Juli, daughter of M. Wert, of Moulton. They have had seven children, of whom five are now living.

Colonel Harris is a man of high moral character, and a member of the Methodist Church.



**WILLIAM WHITSON LITTLEJOHN**, Cashier of the First National Bank of Decatur, son of Wiley J. and Margaret H. (Chisholm) Littlejohn,

was born in Fayette County, Tenn., September 18, 1845. The senior Littlejohn was in his day a prominent farmer in Fayette County, Tenn., and a sugar planter on Bayou La Fourche, La., until 1856, when he moved to Memphis, Tenn., where he remained until his death which occurred in 1873. He reared five children, of whom William W. was the second.

The subject of this sketch was educated in Memphis, Tenn. In the spring of 1862, he entered the Confederate service as a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-fourth Tennessee Volunteers; was soon after detailed and acted as a courier at General Lee's headquarters during the remainder of the war. After the war, he was first employed as messenger in the Tennessee National Bank at Memphis, which position he held two years. He was messenger for six months in the Merchants National Bank, book-keeper for eight months, and teller for about three years, until the bank closed in 1873. He acted as book-keeper in the State National Bank several years, in the German National Bank one year, and in 1877 removed to Decatur, where he assisted in the management of Polk Hotel. In 1880, he became one of the incorporators and cashier of the Bank of Decatur, now the First National Bank of Decatur.

Mr. Littlejohn was one of the prime movers in the early enterprises of Decatur, which have resulted in achievements exceeding the expectation of the most sanguine. It has been said of him and his work in projecting this enterprise "that he built better than he knew."

Mr. Littlejohn was married in April, 1872, to Miss Martha R., daughter of the late Dr. Thomas G. and Levinia C. (Wood) Polk, and they have two children, namely: Thomas P. and Margaret C.



**STEWART CHURCH**, Superintendent of the Decatur Charcoal and Chemical Works, was born in Monroe County, N. Y., September 19, 1845. His parents were Dennis and Mary (Stewart) Church.

Dennis Church was a native of Monroe County, N. Y., and a son of Elibu Church, who came from Berkshire, Mass., in 1806, and became the first settler in Monroe County. He served several terms in the New York Legislature. The ances-

tors of this family were English, and landed at Plymouth Rock about 1640.

Stewart Church received a common-school education. About the age of seventeen, he became a salesman in a woolen house in New York City. In 1868, he engaged in the dry goods business at Bay City, Mich. In 1870, he returned to his home, and worked one of his father's farms until 1878, when he engaged in the manufacture of charcoal and the bi-product of wood alcohol and acetate of lime, with Dr. H. M. Pierce, the patentee of that process, at Bangor, Mich. In 1880, the Elk Rapids Iron Company, Michigan, erected the same kind of works, and Mr. Church, as superintendent, remained with them until January, 1887, when he removed to Decatur, and supervised the construction of the Decatur Charcoal and Chemical Works, the second enterprise of this kind in Alabama. (The first one is at Calera.) These works have a capacity of forty thousand cords of wood per year. They were begun in 1886. Their officers are: Colonel S. A. Champion, president; M. A. Spurr, treasurer; and J. A. Bishop, secretary.

Stewart Church was married in May, 1872, to Miss Anna, daughter of Henry Gustin, merchant, at Bay City, Mich. They have four children, viz.: Dennis, Anna, William Stewart, and Frederick.

Mr. Church is a member of the Knights of Honor and the Masonic fraternity.



**J. D. JERVIS**, the General Manager of the J. D. Jervis & Co. planing mill, was born in Wales, in August, 1843. He is the son of Richard and Anne Jervis. Mr. Jervis received a common-school education, and at the age of fourteen years began to learn the carpenter trade with his father. At the age of nineteen he moved to Liverpool, England, and followed his trade there and attended night school at the Institute, and took four-month course in a commercial school in Liverpool. In 1868 he emigrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, and followed his trade there till the fall of 1870, when he moved to Ironton, Ohio; there started in the building and contracting business, and in connection with that had a large planing mill. After twelve years of successful business he sold out his interest in the building and planing mill business, and, in connection with three other gentle-



men, started the Ironton Hoe and Tool Company, in manufacturing picks, mattocks and hoes, wheelbarrows and railway trucks. In April, 1887, he moved the wheelbarrow department to Decatur, and built, in connection with the barrow department, a large planing mill, and is at the head of this enterprise, manufacturing sash, doors, blinds and hardwood finishing. Mr. Jervis is a married man. He married Miss Lizzie E. Jones, of Ironton, Ohio, in December, 1877. His family consist of himself and wife. They both are active members of the Presbyterian Church.



**OSCEOLA KYLE, JR.**, son of Ponsoby and Adaline (Tranum) Kyle, was born in Tuskegee, Macon County, Ala., January 9, 1862.

He was reared in, and received his early training at, the schools of his native village. At the age of fifteen he attended the University of Alabama for one year; but his father and elder brother dying in 1878, he was called home, and went to work. In 1880 he began the study of the law in the office of Brewer & Brewer, in Tuskegee, and in April, 1881, was admitted to the bar.

Like most young men who aspire to follow the legal profession, he was poverty stricken; and, after his admission to the bar, was without means to begin practice. He went to Birmingham, Ala., and worked at various employments for two years—sometimes clerking, and for awhile staying in a lumber yard in said city. In 1883 he went to Opelika, Ala., and for awhile studied law over again in the office of Gen. Geo. P. Harrison, who kindly assisted him in many ways.

Early in 1884 he formed a co-partnership with W. J. Sanford, and a few months later established an office of his own.

In 1886, at the age of twenty-four, after a spirited canvass, he was elected to the Legislature by a handsome majority, as one of the representatives of Lee County, and served with credit to himself and people. His record is worthy of special remark, on account of his being the youngest member of the General Assembly.

While in Opelika he was elected and served as City Attorney for one year, filling the position satisfactorily to the municipal government. In 1887 he located in Decatur, practicing his profession, and upon the organization of Company

I, Third Regiment Alabama State Troops, was elected first lieutenant; and also joined the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Kyle's father was born in New York City in 1823, located in Wetumpka, Ala., about 1848, and, with the exception of one year spent in Liberty, Mo., lived in Alabama the remainder of his life. He served through the late war as assistant surgeon in the Confederate States Army, and was captured and imprisoned one year at Ship Island. This was near the close of hostilities. He died in 1878.

O. Kyle's mother was a native of Montgomery County, Ala., and was a daughter of Tombs Tranum, a large planter, and a pioneer who served in early Indian wars, and was a resident of Alabama many years before the Indians left the country. Ponsoby Kyle reared five children, of whom our subject was the youngest.



**GEORGE JORDAN SCOVEL**, son of Lyman and Mariah L. (Sheppard) Scovel, was born in Montgomery, Ala., August 3, 1858.

Lyman Scovel was a native of Connecticut. He came to Montgomery, Ala., about 1850, and engaged in the grocery business. He was married twice, and George J.'s mother was his second wife. She died in May, 1859, and he in 1862, the latter aged about sixty years.

Having thus been left an orphan, the subject of our sketch was adopted by Mrs. T. B. Jordan, with whom he lived until grown. He attended the common schools of Montgomery, and for two years at Roanoke College, Salem, Va., after which he clerked for a few years, and began business on his own account as a grocer in Montgomery. Having conducted this business for two years, he sold it and acted as assistant register in chancery three years. In January, 1887, he came to Decatur, and as one of the firm of Joseph & Scovel, real estate agents, stock brokers and insurance men, is doing a flourishing business. Mr. Scovel was married, December 12, 1883, to Miss Willie M., daughter of Dr. W. C. and F. E. (Bible) Jackson, of Montgomery. They have but one child, Marie.

Mr. Scovel and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a Knight of Pythias.

**MARIUS CHAMPE BURCH**, son of Edward William and Eliza (Thompson) Burch, was born near Mount Meigs, in Montgomery County, Ala., June 14, 1849. He spent his early days on a farm, and received a good education in the high school at Tuskegee, Ala. Since 1869 he has been engaged in milling and agricultural pursuits. In 1872 he went to Danville, Montgomery County, Tex., and kept books two years, at the same time supervising property in that vicinity which he had inherited from an uncle. In January, 1887, he located at Decatur, purchased property, and, in partnership, with David T. Morgan, established a real estate and stock brokerage business.

E. W. Burch, Sr., was born in Georgia, came to Montgomery County, Ala., with his parents at a very early day, and became an extensive planter. He served as an officer of cavalry during the Creek War. He moved to Macon County, Ala., about 1850, and died there soon after. He was twice married, and reared six children.

The mother of the subject of our sketch was a daughter of Geo. W. Thompson, a native of Georgia, and one of the pioneer settlers of Montgomery, Ala. He surveyed that city for Colonel Dexter about 1833, and was afterward employed by the United States Government in Louisiana.

**JAMES L. ECHOLS**, son of James M. and Sarah E. (Simpson) Echols, was born in Morgan County, Ala., October, 1857. He remained on a farm until he was seventeen; received his education in the common schools, and became a salesman at Hartsell's, Ala.; and was married to Sue J. Bean, of Priceville, December 7, 1879. When about twenty-seven, he established a mercantile business at that village, and conducted it successfully for three years. In January, 1887, he came to Decatur, where he owned property which he sold for a handsome price. He has been trading in real estate, and is a director in the First National Bank of Decatur, a stockholder in the Electric Light Company, the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Company, and other institutions. He also has large landed interests in Giles County, Tenn.

Mr. Echols has been the sole author of his own fortunes.

James M. Echols came from Mississippi to Morgan County with his parents when but a child; be-

came a farmer at Danville, and was a soldier in the late war. He reared ten children, viz.: W. V., a prominent merchant of Hartsell's; Sarah E., wife of J. M. Speake; Geo. T. and John S.; Samuel Q. and Mattie E. are now dead; James L., the subject of this sketch, Rufus E., Reuben H., and Minnie D., wife of R. T. Puckett.

**MALLETT C. HOOPER**, son of George William and Charlotte J. (Waddell) Hooper, was born in Crawford, Ala., May 6, 1861. He was reared and educated in Opelika; became a civil engineer at the age of seventeen, and followed that business for five years, when he engaged in the loan and brokerage business at Opelika, and continued it there one year. He was at Haynesville, Ala., a short time, and in February, 1887, located in Decatur, where he is still conducting the same business, in addition to which he is identified with various enterprises in that city.

Mr. Hooper's father was born in LaFayette, Chambers County, Ala. He was a lawyer by profession, and as such ranked very high. He was a soldier during the late war and held the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Confederate Army. At the battle of Seven Pines he was wounded and incapacitated for further service. After the war he resumed the practice of law and continued it the rest of his life. He died in August, 1883.

**ANDREW CALHOUN FREY** was born in Brockville, Canada, September 29, 1832, and was a son of Samuel C. Frey. When six years of age, our subject was brought by his parents to Canton, Ohio, where he received his education. In 1850, he became a telegrapher in Sandusky, Ohio, and afterward train dispatcher of the Cincinnati & Sandusky Railway, in which position he remained until 1869, when he came South. In 1870, he became train dispatcher of the L. & N. Railroad at Decatur, Ala., and remained with that company until February, 1887, when he retired. Some time before this, he and his father had purchased forty-four acres of land in what is now the city of Decatur, and, during the year 1887, he sold eighteen acres of it



*Andrew C. Fay*



to the Decatur Land Company, and retained the balance for his own use. This fortunate investment resulted so favorably that he thought it unnecessary to continue longer in the service of the railroad company. He is now a stock-holder in the First National Bank, the Decatur Land, Improvement & Furnace Company, and other enterprises.

Heinrich (or Henry) Frey was a native of the City of Zurich, Switzerland, which place he left in 1688, and accompanied by his wife, sailed for America. The Burgomaster of Zurich gave him then an open letter addressed to "Whom it may concern," recommending the bearer as a worthy and honest man. [This letter is still in the possession of the family.] He traveled down the Rhine to Amsterdam, where he took passage for New York. His vessel was stranded on the shore of the Isle of Wight, and he was transferred to an English ship. The Governor of the Island gave him a letter of introduction to the Governor of New York. He landed in that city in 1689, and the Governor of New York gave him a free grant of a hundred acres of land, near that city. But he subsequently abandoned this, and located near Palatine Bridge, in the Mohawk Valley, where he purchased a large tract of land, which is known to this day as Frey's Bush. He was accidentally drowned; left one son, Henry Frey, who married a Miss Keyser. They had three sons and three daughters. Of these, Henry Frey (the third), being the eldest son, by English law of primogeniture became sole heir of the entire estate, but subsequently gave three hundred acres of land to each of his brothers, and one hundred acres to each of his sisters. He married Miss Elizabeth Herkimer. He received his education at Cherry Valley School, and became a profound scholar, and a surveyor. His wife was a daughter of John J. Herkimer, the first settler in Herkimer County, N. Y. J. J. Herkimer and wife came from the Palatinate of the Rhine, and brought with them their first born, a boy, who subsequently became a brigadier-general in the Revolutionary War.

Henry Frey (the third) had one son and one daughter. The son, Philip Rokel Frey, was a surveyor and an attorney of great reputation in his day. He enjoyed the confidence of the chiefs of the Six Nations of Indians who occupied the territory of New York (as he did of the white settlers generally) to such an extent that he was very often called upon to settle their disputes about land

claims. He also surveyed the township of land which the Continental Congress awarded to Baron Steuben as a reward for his services in the Revolutionary War. Eliza (Frey) Conkling, mother of Roscoe Conkling, of New York, was the daughter of the above-mentioned Henry Frey (the third), and sister of Philip R. Frey. Philip was first married to Marie Louise St. Martin, to whom one son and three daughters were born, namely: Henry, Elizabeth, Mary Ann and Catherine. The second wife of Philip R. Frey was Elizabeth Tyrrell, to whom two sons and six daughters were born. The sons were: Samuel Chollet Frey (the father of our subject) and John W. Frey.

Samuel C. Frey was born in St. Johnsville, Montgomery County, N. Y., February 7, 1799. In his early life he thoroughly learned the business of watch and clock-maker and goldsmith, which he followed for many years. He resided in Brockville, Canada, from 1831 until 1837, and prosecuted his business with marked success until the breaking out of the Patriot War. In this he sympathized entirely with the patriot side, and enjoyed the confidence and friendship of the most prominent men in that country, including the present chief-justice of the Dominion. He was a remarkable scholar, possessed of extraordinary intelligence; was very familiar with Latin and Greek, and could speak French and German with fluency. He was a man full of patriotic impulses, but, being without personal ambition, was content with the private walks of life. In 1838 he removed to Canton, Ohio, and afterward to Springfield, in that State. After this, becoming desirous of a warmer and more equable climate, he located in Decatur (in 1869), where he took great pleasure in establishing and beautifying his home. He was married to Miss Susan C., daughter of Andrew Calhoun, of Boston, Mass. She died March 10, 1883, at the age of eighty-three.

Samuel C. Frey died at Decatur, Ala., February 24, 1877. He was aged seventy-eight. His wife had seven brothers and one sister, and some of the former were among the most distinguished men of Massachusetts. William B. was a member of Congress from Springfield four terms, served in the Massachusetts legislature ten years, was speaker of the house four years, and president of the senate for some time. Charles, the second son, was clerk of the senate of Massachusetts for many years. Andrew, the third son, remained in New York, published a paper in Owego, and filled

many offices of public trust. Henry was a merchant in New York City. He was a Whig, and was appointed deputy collector for the Port of New York by President Fillmore. He died since the war. Howard, the sixth child, was educated at Williams College, served as a tutor for a few years, and spent forty years as missionary in Palestine, where he was held in such veneration by the natives and Arabs that they called him "Saint." During the bloody wars between the Druses and Maronites, both parties had such confidence in him that they brought him valuable presents and sought protection under his roof. He was a man of great personal magnetism. John C. Calhoun (of Massachusetts), the seventh child of this family, was formerly Surveyor-General of Kansas and Nebraska, and president of the Leecompton Convention in Kansas. Martha Calhoun, the youngest of the family, died recently at Chelmsford, Mass. The Calhouns came from County Donegal, Ireland, their parents having gone there from Ayrshire, Scotland, to enjoy in peace the blessings of religious liberty.

Samuel C. Frey and Susan (Calhoun) Frey, had three children, viz.: George H., Mary A. and Andrew C., the subject of this sketch. Mr. Frey is now president of the Decatur & South Mountain Improvement and Railroad Company.

**JAMES McLURE BUFORD**, son of John Ragsdale and Esther Eaves Buford, is a native of Chester District, S. C. His parents, while he was yet a child, emigrated to Fayette County, Tenn., where he spent most of his boyhood days on the farm. In June, 1841, having lost his father, he removed to Eufaula, Ala., and, in the early part of 1848, entered college at Columbia, S. C., where he graduated in December, 1850. Returning to Eufaula, he read law under his brother Jefferson Buford, a leading attorney of Barbour County. He subsequently attended the law-school at New Orleans, where he graduated and received his law diploma, upon which he was admitted to the bar of Alabama in 1852. He was editor of "*The Spirit of the South*," prior to and during the war, and of the same paper under the name of "*The Eufaula News*," for a great portion of the time down to November, 1874. On the first of November, 1883, he moved to Atlanta,

Ga.; but in May, 1887, returned to Alabama, and settled in Decatur, Morgan County, where he still continues the law practice.

Mr. Buford was united in marriage at Eufaula, June, 1859, with Mrs. M. C. Wallace, eldest daughter of Dr. W. L. Cowan, by whom he has had eight children—William Cowan, Carrie Eloise, Jefferson Pugh, Annie Esther, Rosa Theresa, LeRoy Eaves, Mary Melton (now dead) and Emily Alexander. His ancestors were of an ancient family, among whom was Margaret Buford, or Beaufort, the mother of Kings Henry VII. and VIII.; his grandfather emigrated from England to Virginia in the early settlement of this country, where his father was born July 5, 1779, married December 25, 1804, and settled in Chester District, South Carolina. He had eleven children, the ninth of whom is the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Buford has long been an elder in the Presbyterian Church—the church of his family and forefathers.

**C. T. ROBINSON** was born in Huntsville, Ala., in 1849, and is a son of William and Caroline P. (Moore) Robinson, of Scotch-Irish descent. The father was a native of Virginia, and one of the earliest settlers of Huntsville, where he resided until his death. He was a speculator and farmer, and had large landed interests in North and South Alabama and Mississippi, besides 450 slaves. His mother was born in Alabama. Of their five children but three are now living, viz.: Fannie, wife of Doctor Ridley; Mary, wife of A. R. Burritt, and C. T., the subject of our sketch, who was reared and educated in Huntsville. In 1868 he went to Pulaski, Tenn., where he formed a partnership with T. W. McLean and C. L. Ridley, in what was at first a private, but afterward a national bank. They conducted this business three years, when Mr. Robinson began farming near Pulaski, which he has continued since. In the winter of 1887 he was associated with P. H. Flynn, in organizing the Decatur Mineral & Land Company, and is still a stockholder and director in it. He was master of the Giles County (Tenn.) Grange, and took an active part in the proceedings of that body.

Mr. Robinson was married in May, 1878, to Miss Madona Reynolds, of Tennessee, and they have three children—Carrie, Minnie and Lola. Mrs. Robinson is a Presbyterian.





*P. H. Flynn*



William Robinson, our subject's father, was a captain in the Seminole War in Florida. He was a man of commanding presence, and measured six feet, four inches in his stocking feet.



**P. H. FLYNN**, Dealer in Real Estate, Stocks and Bonds, Decatur, was born in Worcester County, Mass., July 4, 1861, where he was reared and received his early education. He graduated from the high schools of Worcester, and learned the trade of draughtsman and cutter with Isaac Prouty & Co., of Spencer, Mass., one of the largest boot and shoe factories in the world. In 1882 he came to Ohio, and was placed in charge of the cutting department of Ide & Wilson, of Columbus, and remained with them for a year and a half. He was with Hugh McKenzie, of Cincinnati, two years as Southern salesman, and with W. F. Throne & Co., the largest shoe house in Cincinnati, Ohio, several years as Southern salesman. In 1886 he made investments in Decatur, and in January, 1887, he became one of the organizers of the Decatur Mineral Land Company, and subsequently one of its directors, and a member of the executive committee. He is also the originator and business manager of the Gateway Land Company; treasurer of the Decatur Building and Supply Company, capital \$25,000; one of the owners of Casa Grande Stable, stock capitalized at \$25,000, a magnificent building of elegant and elaborate architectural design. Mr. Flynn is also a director and was one of the originators of the Exchange Bank, capital \$100,000; a stockholder of the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Company; the Electric Light Company; a member of the Decatur Stock Exchange and Real Estate Association, and the head of the firm of P. H. Flynn & Co.; also originator and secretary of the Fairview Land Company, capital stock \$375,000.



**W. W. HEDGES**, Real Estate and Insurance, Decatur, son of John W. and Martha (Thomas) Hedges, was born in Bourbon County, Ky., in 1834. His father's ancestors came from England, and settled first in Maryland, and afterward in Kentucky. His father is a farmer and still living. His mother's family came from Virginia to Ken-

tucky at a very early day. They have eight children, of whom W. W. is the eldest. He was reared in Bourbon County, Ky., and graduated at the University of Lexington, in civil engineering, and subsequently taught school two years; was book-keeper in the Deposit Bank of North Middletown, Ky., eighteen months; spent two years in the West, returned, and was cashier of the same bank seven years. In July, 1887, he came to Decatur, and engaged in the real estate and insurance business with P. H. Flynn. He assisted in organizing the Exchange Bank, of Decatur, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and was elected its cashier. He is a stockholder in, and the treasurer of, the Gateway Land Company and of the Mutual Building Company, also stockholder in the Mineral Land Company, Decatur Building Company, and the Casa Grande Stables Co. Mr. Hedges is a member of the Christian Church and the Masonic fraternity.



**JOHN S. REED**, Manager of the Decatur Tavern, was born in Franklin County, Mass., in 1839, and is of the old Puritan stock. He was educated at Troy, N. Y. In 1855, he went to Davenport, Iowa, where he engaged in running a saw-mill, and lost his right arm. He entered the Quartermaster's Department of the Federal Army, in the Department of the Cumberland, where he became chief clerk under Major Smith, and in which department he went through the Georgia campaign, and finally to Texas. He came to Huntsville in 1865, and engaged in business with A. F. Murray.

In 1880, he was appointed postmaster at Huntsville, and held that office until the spring of 1887, when he accepted the management of the Decatur, Ala., Mineral Company. In the fall of the same year he accepted the management of the "The Tavern," at Decatur, which is one of the finest hotels in Alabama. It has a capacity for three hundred guests.

Mr. Reed was married, in 1881, to Miss Theo. Temple, of Tennessee, a lady of superior education and musical accomplishment.

They are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is an Odd Fellow.



**EDWIN D. OLMSTEAD**, secretary and treasurer of the Decatur Iron Bridge and Construction Co.,

was born in New York in 1855. His parents, L. J. and Mary W. (Campbell) Olmstead, are natives of the same State.

His father is, by occupation, an architect and builder, and has been a resident of the South since 1866. He was for a time engaged in refining sugar in New Orleans, but subsequently resumed his profession. In 1880 he came to Alabama and is now a resident of Birmingham.

E. D. Olmstead came South when a youth, and has always since been identified with Southern interests. Although but a young man, he has achieved an honorable business record in Birmingham, where he was a member of the firm of Olmstead & Kiernan, which subsequently became Olmstead & Varney. After two years of successful business in Birmingham, he disposed of his interest there to become an officer in one of the leading corporate industries of Northern Alabama, the duties of which he is now fulfilling in a most creditable manner.

Mr. Olmstead was united in marriage in 1885, to Miss Annie Read, of New Orleans. They are blessed with one child. He is a Mason, and a gentleman of the most excellent character and reputation.



**J. MONROE NELSON**, Dealer in Real Estate, Decatur, son of James and Barbara (Fifer) Nelson, natives of Greensboro, N. C., was born in Orange County, N. C., on Christmas day, 1823. He was reared in Scipio, Ind., and received a good English education at the common schools in that vicinity. He began teaching school at the age of fifteen, and continued it for some years, studying law as occasion permitted, and was admitted to the bar at Vernon, Ind., about 1845. He practiced law till about 1850, and then went upon a farm. In 1856, he was elected County Auditor, and held that position until 1864. He represented the Third Congressional District as member of the State Board of Education, when he moved to Newton County, Ind., and again farmed. While here, he served as County Superintendent of Education for three years. In January, 1873, he came to Decatur, where he has since resided. After coming here he followed farming for some years, but having sold a portion of his farm at an enormous profit, and bought other property near the city, he was enabled to effect large transactions in real

estate, and is now making that his exclusive business.

Mr. Nelson was married February 14, 1850, to Miss Abbie Adams, of Dearborn County, Ind., and daughter of Moses Adams, of Massachusetts, a soldier of the War of 1812. Mr. Nelson has seven children, namely: George A., Ruth A., James B., John C. F., Mattie Jennie, Mary Addie and Willie W. Mr. Nelson is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

James Nelson, the father of J. M. Nelson, was of Scotch-Irish descent; moved from North Carolina to Jennings County, Ind., in 1830, and settled in Scipio, where he died in 1845, at about seventy-five years of age. He reared three children. His wife was a lady of German descent, and died in 1858, at the age of seventy.



**JOHN PEACHER, Jr.**, of the firm of Elsberry, Peacher & Co., Music Dealers, Decatur, son of John and Louisa (Barnett) Peacher, was born in Oxford, Scott County, Ky., October 7, 1862; received his education at Montgomery, Ala., and when about twenty years of age began traveling for a prominent wholesale hat house of New York City. He continued in the hat business and other mercantile and traveling pursuits until June 15, 1887, when he located at Decatur, Ala., and entered the real estate business in partnership with Mr. M. C. Hooper. He is now Secretary and Treasurer of the Real Estate Association of Decatur, and a Knight of Pythias.

John Peacher was a native of Virginia and his wife of Kentucky. He now resides in Louisville. His wife died in February, 1885, in Montgomery, Ala.

William Barnett, Mr. Peacher's maternal grandfather, was a pioneer farmer of Kentucky. Mr. Peacher's parents moved to Montgomery, Ala., in 1872, where his father became a dealer in stock. The Peachers are of English origin and members of the Christian Church, except the subject of this sketch, who is a Baptist.



**J. E. McBRIDE**, Manager of the Decatur Ice Company, was born in Brockport, N. Y., in 1857. He received his education at the State Normal School at Brockport; learned his trade as a

machinist at Rochester, N. Y., and then spent two years at school at mechanical engineering; came South in 1881 and engaged in the cotton-seed oil business; was with Valley Oil Mill one season; the two following years was engaged in erecting mills all through the South; was connected with the Sunflower Oil Company at Clarksdale, Miss., three years; in May, 1887, came to Decatur and put up the Decatur Ice Company's machine, of which he is now general manager.

The Decatur Ice Company was organized in the spring of 1887, by J. F. Scott, W. W. Littlejohn, C. C. Harris, A. F. Murry and others; capital stock, \$20,000.

The factory has a capacity of six tons, and is now adding twenty tons more per day. The machines are of the absorption pattern, and made by the Cincinnati Ice Machine Company of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. McBride was married at Buffalo, N. Y., in September, 1885, to Miss Kittie A. Smith, of Lockport, N. Y. They have one child.

**GEORGE W. VANDEGRIFT**, son of John and Lydia (Hardwick) Vandegrift, was born in St. Clair County, Ala., July 9, 1848.

His education, which was somewhat limited on account of the war, was received at the common schools of his native county. When about twenty-one years of age he became a salesman in the store of his brother, where he remained five years. In 1873 he engaged in mercantile business, on his own account, at Athens, this State, and built up the largest and most extensive general merchandise trade in that place. In the spring of 1886 he sold out his business, and began dealing in real estate, and has now become a large landholder in Limestone County.

Mr. Vandegrift located at Decatur, September 1, 1887.

John Vandegrift was born in Chester, S. C., in 1802, and is now quite an active man at the age of eighty-six. His wife was born in Georgia in 1812. He came to St. Clair County, Ala., at an early day, and entered lands there, and has been an extensive farmer all his life. He has never raised cotton, but dealt in stock, and has been successful in his business. He and his wife have ten children.

Our subject's grandfather, James Hardwick, was a native of Georgia, and became one of the first settlers of St. Clair County, Ala. He was an extensive planter, and was elected to the State Legislature seven consecutive terms from that county.

**DANIEL L. DOWNS**, son of D. L. and Ann E. (Evans) Downs, was born in Huntsville, December 25, 1849. He received a common-school education, and in 1857 engaged in mercantile business with his father at Tusculumbia. In 1862 he became a member of the LaGrange Cadets, Company B, Thirty-fifth Alabama Regiment, was made orderly sergeant, and participated in the attack on Baton Rouge, August 5th. After six months' service he was sent home on detached duty under Estes, who promoted him to a captaincy. After remaining in this service about twelve months, his company was disbanded, and he was ordered back to his original regiment. With it he was in the column in front of Sherman in Georgia, and at the engagement of Peach Tree Creek. He went with Hood into Tennessee, and was in the bloody battle of Franklin, where his regiment lost half its forces in killed and wounded, and where he received a wound in the leg, which disabled him for life. After this he was taken to Nashville, and thence to Tusculumbia, where he became a merchant in 1866, and remained four years. The next four years were spent at Hartselle, and in 1874 he located in Decatur, where he has since remained, successfully conducting his business and directing the management of his farm.

He is a stockholder in the Decatur Land, Improvement and Furnace Co., and in one of the banks.

Mr. Downs was married in 1867 to Miss Jennie E., daughter of William and Minerva (Stephenson) Bursleson. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and also of the Knights of Honor.

D. L. Downs, Sr., was a native of England, and married there to a Welsh lady. They had a family of five children, whom they brought with them to the United States in 1836, and settled at Huntsville, Ala. The subject of our sketch was the only child born to them in America, and the five of English birth are now all dead. The senior

Mr. Downs was a shoemaker by trade, but in 1857 engaged in general merchandising at Tusculumbia, and accumulated considerable property. He died while on a visit to his son at Franklin, Tenn., in 1864.

Wm. Burleson, Mrs. Downes' father, was a planter and a son of Jonathan Burleson, a pioneer and Indian fighter, and one of the first settlers in Morgan County.



**SAMUEL H. GRUBER**, son of Jacob and Susan (Emerick) Gruber, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio, respectively, was born in Preble County, in July, 1849. His father was a minister of the Lutheran Church. He settled in Piqua Plains, in Ohio, about 1805, removed to LaSalle County, Ill., in 1856, and is still living there.

The ancestors of this family came from the country of the Rhine many generations back, and were among the first settlers of the State of Pennsylvania.

Samuel H. Gruber was born near Louisburg, Ohio, went with his parents to Illinois, received a good education at a seminary in LaSalle County, and in 1871 entered college at Ann Arbor, Mich., where he took the law course. In 1873, he removed to Yankton, Dak., where he opened a law office, and met with encouraging success for about twelve and a half years, acting for a part of the time as city attorney.

During this time he organized the Yankton Fire Insurance Company, and became one of its directors, and served as its treasurer for several years. In the fall of the year 1885, he went to the far South, but soon returned to Montgomery, and later on to Decatur, where he has since remained.

Mr. Gruber was married to Miss Harriet, daughter of Col. Pinkney Lugenbeel, of Fort Randall, Dak., a colonel of the United States Army, a graduate of West Point with Sherman and Hancock.

Mr. Gruber practiced law while he was in Montgomery, and in 1887 assisted in organizing "The State Abstract Company," of which he is a director and the president. At Decatur, he is president of the Gateway Land Company, an institution which was organized in September, 1887.

He and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church. He is an Odd Fellow and a Knight Templar Mason.

**ALBERT FRANK MURRAY**, President of the Decatur Oil and Gas Co., was born in Iowa City, Iowa, in 1845. He was educated and grew to manhood in the city of his nativity, and although a mere boy in 1861, when the tocsin of war was sounded, like many chivalrous and patriotic youths, both North and South, he buckled on the armor and went forth to face danger in the discharge of duty. During the memorable battle at Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1862, he served as army director, and afterward was placed in charge of the mail for General Rosecrans' army. In 1864 he was given charge of the News Agency of the military department of Mississippi under General Sherman. In 1865 he located in Huntsville, where he resided continuously until January, 1877. During his residence there he was proprietor of a large book and stationery store, and in 1870 was one of the organizers and for several years was treasurer of the Huntsville Agricultural and Mechanical Fair Association, and subsequently, in 1882, was chosen president of the same, which office he now fills, having been unanimously re-elected since his removal to this city. This association, largely through his efforts, has become one of the largest and most successful in the South. It holds a fair every year, and has never failed to pay since his connection with it.

Upon leaving Huntsville he came to Decatur, and is here an honored and prominent citizen. Coming here a stranger, his commanding *personnel*, established business character and firm integrity, at once gave him prominence in a marked degree, and he soon became a leading spirit in many of the enterprises that have done so much to build up the town. When the Decatur Mineral and Land Company was organized, he was chosen one of the Board of Directors, and, subsequently, elected its secretary. He, associated with Doctor Eckford, organized the Electric Light Company, with a capital of \$10,000, in May, 1887, and is now its president. He also assisted in the organization of the Decatur Oil and Gas Company, with a capital of \$200,000, and he is now its president. This company has negotiated some of the largest real estate transactions in the town, and is most influential in financial operations. Mr. Murray was also most influential in organizing the Ice Company and in getting its factory in operation, and is now one of its directors. He is also a director in the Cotton Compress Company.

Mr. Murray was among the first to establish



*A F Murray*



himself here after the move of progress had commenced, as a real estate agent, stock and bond broker, and as a member of the firm known by the name of Baldrige, Murray & Halsey, which is now known as Baldrige, Murray & Scruggs. He is an adept in this business, and his very general acquaintance in the North, and with the prominent men in Alabama, gives him an advantage enjoyed but by a few.

Colonel Murray is a man of splendid physique, imposing presence, graceful and dignified manner, and most pleasing and instructive conversational power. He is at the zenith of a well-developed physical and mental manhood, and is most agreeable in his business and social relations. His life has been a decided success, and this is not attributable to what the world calls luck, but through superior business qualifications, unremitting attention to what he undertakes, and an inflexible purpose of rectitude in all his pursuits.

A. F. Murray is a son of Malcolm and Minerva (Cattlett) Murray. His father is a native of Dublin, Ireland, and his mother was born in Kentucky.

Mr. Murray was married in 1861 to Miss Alice Reed, of Iowa City. She died in 1879, leaving him two children: Malcolm R., now of the firm of Murray & Smith, Huntsville, and Cora P.

Mr. Murray is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

**ROBERT M. CURTIS**, general manager of the Decatur Iron Bridge and Construction Company, son of Julius C. and Eliza P. (Skinner) Curtis, natives of Vermont and Ohio, respectively, was born in Delphos, Ohio, January 20, 1855.

Julius C. Curtis was a merchant and contractor at Dayton, Ohio, where the firm of Morrison & Curtis, manufacturers of iron bridges, were the pioneers of that business, and built the first iron bridge in Ohio, at Piqua, in 1853. In 1865 he retired from business and located at Keokuk, Iowa. He was a member of the lower house in the Ohio Legislature; was born 1810, and is still living.

Robert Skinner, Mr. Curtis' maternal grandfather, published the first newspaper in Dayton, Ohio, and donated grounds for the city buildings.

Robert M. Curtis received his early education in Ohio and Iowa, graduated at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, in 1875, and attended the Poly-

technical Institute at Troy, N. Y., one year, there completing his education as a bridge engineer. After this he engaged with his uncle, D. H. Morrison, at Dayton, Ohio, as designer and contractor, and when he severed his connection with that institution, had charge of the entire works.

In 1882 he became general manager of the business of the "Morse Bridge Company," of Youngstown, Ohio, for the Western and Southern States, with offices at Chicago, Dayton, Dallas, Tex., and Augusta, Ga. In April, 1887, Mr. Curtis organized the "Decatur Iron Bridge and Construction Company," with a paid up capital of \$100,000, and was made its vice-president and general manager.

Mr. Curtis' uncle, Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, was distinguished in the Mexican and the late wars, Henry B. Curtis, law partner of Columbus Delano (Secretary of Interior under Grant), and George William Curtis, of New York, are near relatives.

**THOMAS M. SCRUGGS**, Secretary of the Decatur Mineral and Land Company, was born in Decatur, Ala., in September, 1855. He attended school in his younger days at Grenada, Miss.; entered the University of the South in Tennessee in 1872, and remained there three years. In 1875 he was matriculated at the University of Virginia, and graduated from that institution with the degree of LL.B. in 1876. He immediately began the practice of law in Memphis, Tenn., in partnership with J. E. R. Bay, now associated with R. W. Fraser of that city.

The Decatur Mineral and Land Company was organized February 3, 1887, with Milton Humes, president; Noble Smithson, vice-president; C. F. Robinson, secretary; and W. W. Littlejohn, treasurer; capital stock, \$350,000. Mr. Scruggs was made its secretary in July, 1887, which position he occupies to the present time.

He is interested financially in the Decatur National Bank, the Electric Light Company, Decatur Land and Improvement Company, and in other matters at Memphis. Mr. Scruggs is an active member of the Episcopal Church and of the I. O. O. F.

T. M. Scruggs is the only child of Phineas Thomas Scruggs, who was born in Colbert County, Ala., in 1830. He became a druggist at Decatur;

married Elizabeth Marshall Murphy, and died in 1855.

Phineas T. Scruggs was the youngest son of Rev. Finch C. Scruggs, who was born in Buckingham County, Va., about 1799. He went to Tennessee at an early day, and became minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He married a Miss Thomas, of that State, and settled in Colbert Reserve, in Colbert County, Ala., in the thirties; came to Decatur about 1840, and remained there the balance of his life. Their children were: Louis S., a merchant at Holly Springs, and a major in the Confederate Army; Solomon K., a captain in the late war, and now in Mexia, Texas; Edward, a soldier, who was killed at the battle of Chickamauga; and Phineas T.

P. T. Scruggs was married the second time to Mrs. Susan J., widow of Captain Thomas B. Murphy, of Memphis, Tenn., in 1849, by whom he had a daughter, Catharine, who is now the wife of Charles Guthry, an artist of Paris, France.

Mrs. Susan Murphy had three children by her first husband, one of whom was the wife of Phineas T. Scruggs, and the mother of our subject.

Thomas Murphy was an Irishman; a captain in the War of 1812, and a wealthy planter in Alabama.

Rev. F. C. Scruggs died in 1881, while on a visit at Holly Springs, at the age of about eighty years.

**HARRIS & WATKINS HARDWARE COMPANY.** D. T. Harris, of the above firm, was born in Hollidaysburg, Pa., in 1860, and is a son of T. R. and Margaret J. Harris, natives of Wales, who first came to this country and settled in Pennsylvania. In 1861 they moved to Knoxville, Tenn., and in 1865 moved back to Ohio, to a place called Ironton. At an early age, D. T. Harris left school to work in a machine shop, staying there for about six months. He was employed as salesman in a hardware store, and was quite successful; he was in the hardware business for about eleven years. Coming to Decatur in 1887, he organized the now flourishing and enterprising firm of Harris & Watkins Hardware Company. He was married in 1885 to Miss Mary S. Jones, of Ironton, Ohio. Mr. Harris is a Knight of Pythias and member of

the Uniformed Rank, also a member of the National Fire Insurance Association.

L. R. Watkins, son of Thomas B. and Mary A. Watkins, was born in Portsmouth, Scioto County, Ohio, September 7, 1862.

His father was a native of Virginia, and mother of Ireland. He was educated in the public schools of Portsmouth, Ohio. At the age of sixteen he was engaged in the shoe business, after which he went to stove moulding, which he followed for six years.

He was in 1885 married to Miss Eliza Williams, of Portsmouth, Ohio. They have one child, Elsie. They are members of Presbyterian Church of Decatur, Ala.

**L. H. SCRUGGS** was born in Madison County, Ala., in 1837, and is a son of Henry F. and Sarah (Scruggs) Scruggs, both natives of Virginia. The ancestors of this family came from Wales, and were among the very early settlers in Virginia. Henry F. Scruggs came with his father to Madison County at an early date, and settled on a plantation. He was a member of the bar in Madison County, and, after moving to Sumter County, was Circuit Judge about 1844. He was a member of the Legislature from Sumter for several years; moved to Morgan County and practiced law there until his death. Five of his children are still living.

L. H. Scruggs was reared and educated in Sumter and Madison Counties, and in 1861 he entered the Confederate Army as a private in Company J, Fourth Alabama Infantry. He spent four years in the Army of Virginia, and was in all the battles except that of the Wilderness. He was also engaged at Chickamauga, in the Seven Days' Fight before Richmond, Antietam and Farmersville. He was wounded four times. When the war closed he was lieutenant-colonel of his regiment, and commanded it after the battle of Antietam. He surrendered with General Lee at Appomattox.

After the war he entered the cotton trade at Huntsville, and followed it there until the fall of 1887. Mr. Scruggs is a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight of Pythias, a Knight of Honor, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Mr. Scruggs was married in 1871, to Miss Emma Cooley, of Nashville. They have five children,



and are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Mr. Seruggs is a member of the firm of Murray, Seruggs & Co., real estate, stock and bond brokers, in Decatur.



**JOSEPH MONROE HINDS** was born in Illinois January 6, 1842. His father, Simeon Hinds, of Hopkinsville, Ky., was one of the most extensive farmers of his county, and raised and traded largely in stock. His mother was from Knoxville, Tenn.

Joseph M. Hinds' early days were spent in herding cattle upon the broad prairies of Illinois, working on the farm, and in attending country schools. At the age of eighteen he commenced the study of law with Greathouse (a partner of Stephen A. Douglas), but upon the beginning of the war abandoned his studies and volunteered as a private in the Eighth Illinois Infantry. He was in all the battles in which his regiment participated. After the capture of Vicksburg he was promoted to a second lieutenant, and in 1864 was transferred to the First Alabama (Federal) Cavalry as acting regimental quartermaster. In this regiment he accompanied Sherman in his famous "march to the sea," and was at the surrender of Gen. Joe Johnston, in North Carolina. The regiment came to Huntsville after that event, and was there mustered out in October, 1865. At the close of the war Decatur was in ruins and had but two inhabitable dwelling-houses left, but the Hinds brothers, pleased with the location and prospects, determined to unite their interests with the South, and bought property there, including the house in which had been headquarters for each army in turn. Captain Hinds now lives in the house.

Captain Hinds, associated with his brother, traded in stock and merchandise, and, after securing some mail contracts, put a line of steamboats on the Tennessee River. They also had stage lines running in different directions throughout the country.

In 1872 our subject was appointed Consul-General for the United States at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, whence, in 1878, he returned to Decatur. In 1882 he was appointed United States Marshal for the Northern District of Alabama, and removed to Huntsville. While in this position many notable events occurred, and he

had for a time the custody of the notorious Frank James and Dick Liddle.

When his term as Marshal had expired Captain Hinds again returned to Decatur, where he is engaged in trying to improve his property in the city and his farm. He was a delegate to the Republican Convention in Chicago which nominated Garfield. In 1873 he was married, while in Rio Janeiro, to Miss Lucia Annita Trillia, of Buenos Ayres, a lady of English and Italian blood. They have four children, two boys and two girls.



**H. S. FREEMAN**, manufacturer, Decatur, Ala., son of Gurdon and Lucinda (Baker) Freeman, natives of Connecticut, was born in Saratoga County, Conn., September 15, 1838. He lost his parents when about nine years of age. His education, in the common schools and academy, was obtained as the result of his own determined effort. He worked on the farm in the summer to acquire means wherewith to attend school in the winter. At the age of nineteen, he began operating a saw-mill, and has since conducted saw-mills, grist-mills, paper-mills and planing-mills in various places. When the war broke out, he was prospecting at Detroit, Mich., and there recruited a company for service in the Federal Army. During the war, his health failed him, and in 1864, he came to Nashville in search of a better climate. Subsequently he engaged in lumber business at Jackson, Tenn., and in 1870, located in Decatur, where he has since resided.

Captain Freeman is regarded as one of the substantial and influential citizens of Decatur. He is still interested in the milling business, and is an extensive stockholder in nearly all the corporations and institutions which have been projected for the development of the town. He was married in August, 1865, to Miss Rachel E. Southerland, a daughter of Frank Southerland, of Jackson County, Ala. They have one child, Olive O. Mrs. Freeman is a member of the Baptist Church. Captain Freeman has been an alderman ever since he has lived in Decatur.



**GEORGE ARANTZ**, son of Phillip and Rebecca (Zweir) Arantz, natives of Pennsylvania, was born in Lebanon, Pa., September, 1850.

He received a common education at the schools to which he had access, worked for his father until June, 1880, when he located in Decatur, and engaged extensively in the manufacture of lumber. He was probably the first man to introduce the hand-saw in Alabama for the purpose of working heavy timber. He manufactures all sorts of lumber for building purposes, giving special attention to hardwood and finishing stuff.

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**WILLIAM W. SCOTT**, son of William and Roxet L. (Wandley) Scott, was born in Luzerne County, Penn., December 25, 1852. He was reared in Philadelphia, and received his education at the public schools. He began life as a bell-boy at the Jefferson Hotel, that city. After a varied experience in all the different positions connected with hotels and their management, he came to Huntsville, Ala., in 1872, and was there connected with the Huntsville House; thence he went to Blount Springs, and later on to New Orleans. He spent some time in different hotels in Montgomery; was proprietor of the Clifton House, Verbenia; was connected with hotels in New York, Long Branch and Birmingham, where he speculated in real estate. In March, 1887, he became a real estate dealer and speculator in Decatur. He is a stockholder in the Decatur Land Company, and was one of the incorporators of the Mineral Land Company.

William Scott, Sr., was a native of Scotland, and his wife was born in Pennsylvania. He came to the United States in 1840, and was here for a time a fur dealer, and afterward a contractor on public works. In the latter business, he assisted in the construction of the Lehigh Valley Canal, in Pennsylvania. He died in 1854. His wife still survives him.

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**JOHN FLETCHER SCOTT**, son of Charles and Anna (Cully) Scott, natives of Brooke County, Va., was born October 10, 1839; went with his parents in his infancy to North Illinois, and later to Lancaster, Wis., where he received his early instructions in the common schools, and worked in lead mines. When but nineteen he engaged in commercial business, and in 1865 went

to Mexico and became a contractor on a railroad running from the City of Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. After remaining there fifteen months, he returned to Wisconsin, and soon after went to Memphis, Tenn., and thence to Decatur, Ala., where he located, in 1866, as a merchant. In 1887 he erected the well-known brick building on the corner of Bank and Lafayette streets. He is a stockholder in the Exchange Bank of Decatur, the Decatur Land and Improvement Company, the Decatur Building and Loan Association, and has a fine orange grove in Florida. He has been very active in building up the town of Decatur.

Mr. Scott was married January 1, 1877, to Mrs. Mary J. McCallum, *nee* Smith.

Charles Scott was born about 1790, and his wife in 1799. He was a merchant, and afterward conducted a hotel in Lancaster, Wis., where he died in 1842. His wife died in Decatur in January, 1876. They reared seven children, of whom John Fletcher is the youngest.

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**MATHEW T. CARTWRIGHT**, son of Hezekiah Bradley and Martha (Gray) Cartwright, natives of Wilson County, Tenn., and Alabama, respectively, was born in Limestone County, Ala., February 6, 1846. He was reared on a farm and in a country store, and received an ordinary education in the common schools. He became a member of the Confederate Army, Company F, Ninth Alabama Infantry, June 6, 1861; was in engagements at Frazer Farm, Seven Days' Fight before Richmond, Sharpsburg, second battle of Manassas, the Wilderness, Seven Pines, Chancellorsville, Antietam, Gettysburg, and nearly all the battles in which Lee's army participated. He served with a battalion of sharpshooters during the last twelve months, and was in Lee's army at the close of the war. After the surrender, he farmed for a time, came to Decatur in 1871, and engaged in general mercantile business, which he has prosecuted with considerable success, and now owns desirable property.

Mr. Cartwright was married, November 19, 1867, to Miss Carrie, daughter of Samuel F. and Eugenia (Bayley) Mitchell. They have one child, Herbert. Mrs. Cartwright died in the fall of 1869, and in 1872 he was married to Miss Ella, daughter of Hugh and Elizabeth (Parks) Thomi-

son, of Lincoln County, Tenn. The second wife died in 1881, and in May, 1885, she was married, to Miss Anna T., a sister of his second wife.

Mr. Cartwright is a Knight of Honor, and a Knight of the Golden Rule.

H. B. Cartwright, our subject's father, was born in 1812, and came to Limestone County, Ala., with his parents about 1825; conducted a farm and two stores; served in the Creek War; married twice, reared seven children, and died in Limestone County in 1866. M. T. Cartwright is a son of the first wife, who was born in 1816, and died in 1860. She was the daughter of Matthew and Matilda (Vining) Gray, pioneers of Limestone County.



**C. W. JOSEPH**, son of Thomas and Sarah A. (Riley) Joseph was born in Montgomery, Ala., February 8, 1859; reared in Montgomery, and educated there and at Auburn College. He spent some years in the Montgomery Mills with his father, and about six years on a farm. He came to Decatur in January, 1887, and engaged in the real estate and commission business, and is now a stockholder in both the land companies and banks of the town.

Mr. Joseph was married in January, 1881, to Miss Mattie E. Jackson, daughter of Dr. W. E. and Fannie (Bibb) Jackson, of Montgomery.

They have three children: Mattie, Thomas and Charles W. Mr. Joseph is a Knight of Pythias.

Thomas Joseph was born on the Island of Florio, in the Azores, and came to Montgomery, Ala., about 1842, where he became a merchant, and proprietor of the Montgomery Mills. He operated the mills during and since the war, and sold them to his son. In 1871 he organized the Capital City Insurance Company, and was elected its president, a position which he held until his death in 1883. This insurance company ranks among the strongest in the South. Mr. Joseph was also a director of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. He was the father of seven children; was a successful business man, and accumulated a large property by his personal exertions.



**LOUIS M. FALK**, Merchant, Decatur, was born in Schneidemuhl, Prussia, December 7, 1839, and is a son of Myer W. Falk, a native of the same

city. He received a good German education, became a merchant, and in 1856 landed in Philadelphia. He spent a short time in New York, and came to Florence, Ala., where he clerked in a store.

In 1857, he established a store of his own, twenty-two miles south of Decatur, and named the place Falkville, a station on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. When the war broke out, he enlisted in the Confederate Army for one year, but this company was not received, and in the summer of 1862 he enlisted in Company A, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, and served mostly in this State and Tennessee. In 1864, he was captured near Pond Spring, Ala., and sent to Camp Douglas, where he was imprisoned until the close of the war. Subsequently, he clerked for a while in Nashville, and in Danville, Ala., where he afterward went into business in partnership with an uncle.

In 1869, Mr. Falk located in Decatur, where he has since been successfully engaged in merchandising, and where he is now the oldest merchant in the city. He is a stockholder in the Decatur Land Company, the Electric Light Company, the Artificial Ice Company, and Vice-president of the Decatur Wire Fence Manufacturing Company. He is a director in the First National Bank, an alderman and member of the School Board.

Mr. Falk was married in 1873, to Miss Hattie Goodheart, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and three children have been born to this union, viz.: Morrey L., Harvey L., and Estella May. Mrs. Falk died July 5, 1886. Mr. Falk is a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and a member of the I. O. B. B.



**JOHN T. BANKS**, Druggist, Decatur, son of John F. and Frances E. (Roberts) Banks, was born in Somerville, Morgan County, Ala., March 28, 1837; was reared in Somerville, lived with and was educated by his uncle, John T. Rather, (who was a captain in the War of 1812); received his education in Decatur, and at the age of sixteen entered the drug business with J. W. Cain, and afterward with T. F. Scruggs. In 1858 he purchased the business and conducted it until 1864, when he was broken up by the war. The first Federal force which entered Decatur burned the bridge,

and destroyed his stock. He enlisted in the Sixth Alabama Regiment soon after the battle of Shiloh, and was immediately detailed on duty in the hospital department as a pharmacist. He spent his first eighteen months at Okolona, Miss., thence was sent to Meridian, and just before the close of the war, was returned to Okolona, where he surrendered in 1865. He walked home and opened another drug store in Decatur, and has followed the business there ever since, excepting two years.

Mr. Banks was appointed Notary Public and ex-officio Justice of the Peace. In May, 1887, he sold his drug store to Dr. T. H. Hughes, and is now erecting a handsome three-story building for a drug store, on the corner of Oak and Cain streets. He is a stockholder in the Decatur Land, Furnace & Improvement Company.

Mr. Banks was married in December, 1868, to Miss Maria L. Long, at Tusculumbia. They have four children, viz.—Fannie Lee, John Ellis, Margaret L. and Mary Fields.

Mr. Banks and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is a Free Mason and a member of the City Council.

In November, 1889, Mr. Banks was a prime mover in locating and obtaining stock for the Decatur Charcoal and Chemical Works, and neglected his business for a time in the interests of that institution.

John F. Banks, the father of our subject, was born in Culpeper County, Va., in 1791, and his wife in 1815. They came to Alabama about 1828, and settled in Morgan County. He was a tanner by trade, and probably the first man in that business in the county. He afterward became a druggist in Somerville and died at the residence of his son in Newburg, Franklin County, in 1884. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. He reared a family of six children.



**BERT E. POLEY**, son of Elisha and Mary C. (Thrasher) Poley, was born in Austin City, Nev., February 8, 1866; received his early education in the common schools, and graduated from the college at Valparaiso, Ind., 1884.

He was engaged in the mail service on the Chicago & Alton Railroad one year, spent a short time at Maryville, Mo., and located at Clarinda,

Iowa, where he became assistant teller in the bank of an uncle, I. J. Poley. Having remained there a short time he went to Quitman, Mo., and engaged in the grain business. In 1875 he became assistant book-keeper and secretary in Smith, Poley & Co.'s mills at Brewton, Ala., and in February, 1887, came to Decatur, and established a lumber business in partnership with M. D. Jones, whose interest he bought out later. He has a successful trade.

Elisha Poley was born in Fayette County, Ky., in 1826, and Mary C. Thrasher was born in Waverly, Ill., in 1844. He was a self-educated man, and taught school from 1848 until 1856, near Auburn, Ill. He went to California in 1865, and spent six years in speculating and mining in that State and Nevada. After various adventures in Illinois, he located in Maryville, Mo., in 1874, and dealt in grain there until his death in the same year. He had seven children born to him, of whom Bert E. was the second.



**JOSEPH S. SUGARS** was born in Decatur, May 12, 1845, and was reared and received his education at the common schools of this place. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted in the Confederate Army, in Company E, First Alabama Cavalry, and was detailed on special duty in General Roddy's Escort. He was in the engagements at Pond Springs and continuous skirmishes in front of Wilson. He was present at the battles of Harrisburg and Tupelo, Miss., East Point, Ga., and the siege of Atlanta, which was his last battle in the war. He was at Montgomery at the time it surrendered, and at once returned to his father's farm, where he remained about two years. He then came to Decatur, and as a member of the firm of Levy, Sugars & Son, jewellers, met with good success. He is a director in the North Alabama Oil and Asphalt Company, of Birmingham, Ala., and owns considerable property in Decatur.

Mr. Sugars was married in November, 1872, to Miss Ann Callahan, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bird) Callahan, of Decatur, and they have three children, viz.: Ethel, Chas. C. and Josephine.

Mr. Sugars and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Pythias,

Knights of Honor, and of the Knights and Ladies of Honor.

J. S. Sugars is a son of Levy and Mary Jane (Lock) Sugars. The father was born in Lancaster, Pa., in 1809. He learned clockmaking in Connecticut, and remained there seven years, after which he travelled selling clocks in Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, eight years. About 1840 he located at Huntsville, Ala., and manufactured surveyors' compasses, and did a general watchmaking and silversmith business in connection with David Knox. About 1842 he located in Decatur, and engaged in the jewelry business, which he continued until 1872, excepting three years during the war, which he spent on a farm in Lawrence County. He died in 1875. He was married three times, and reared two children.

Mary Jane Sugars, our subject's mother, died in 1847.



**WILLIAM R. JONES.** was born in Tusculum, June 1, 1850, and is a son of John Wesley and Mary Martha (Rather) Jones. His father was also a native of Alabama, and was born in Marshall County about 1827, reared as a farmer, and received a common-school education. W. B. Jones, grandfather of our subject, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and one of the first settlers of Marshall County. He was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

W. R. Jones entered one of the first printing offices in the State, at Somerville, and worked as a printer five years. He subsequently became one of the first merchants of Decatur, where he remained eight years. He spent four years at Tusculum as Superintendent of the Huntsville & Decatur Railroad, and upon the completion of that line was appointed its agent at Decatur, where he remained in charge of the company's affairs until his death, in December, 1884.

Mr. Jones entered the Confederate service in the spring of 1862, as Second Lieutenant of Company D, Seventh Alabama, and served with his regiment until the close of the war. He was for a while a staff officer to General Hood, and was promoted to a captaincy. Captain Jones returned to Decatur, was an esteemed citizen, and served as a representative to the Constitutional Convention in 1875. He was thrice elected Mayor of Decatur, and was a leading member of the Masonic and K.

of H. fraternities. He was twice married. His first wife died in 1865, leaving him seven children, of whom four are living: William R. Paul, in the railroad business at Houston, Texas; Samuel E., in the same business at St. Louis; Edwin T. and Mrs. Bessie East.

His second wife was Mrs. Zelia Hartfield, of Morgan County. She is still living at Decatur, and has three children: Mattie M., Nettie O., and Frank D.

W. R. Jones has made Decatur his home since his youth; he received an academic education and began to learn railroad business with his father at the age of sixteen. In 1876 he was appointed agent at Grand Junction, thence went to Memphis, and subsequently to New Orleans. In April, 1887, he was appointed agent of the M. & C. R. R., at Decatur, and is in every way worthy of, and well fitted for, this important trust. While Gen. Albert Sydney Johnston was at Decatur, William R. Jones served as his private messenger for four months.

Mr. Jones was united in marriage December 12, 1871, to Miss Matilda W. Banks, daughter of Col. L. S. Banks. One child has been born to them, Maury Wesley.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and he is a Knight of Honor.



**WILLIAM FRANKLIN BALDRIDGE.** was born in Lauderdale County, Alabama, in 1846. He is a son of William F. and Caroline E. (Mitchell) Baldrige. His father is a native of North Carolina, and came to Tennessee, in 1809, with his parents, being then quite young. His mother was of Irish descent, and born in Tennessee. They were married in Murray County, came to Alabama about 1840, and settled in Lauderdale County. From here he removed to Madison County, where he became a farmer, and remained until 1881. He then moved to Texas where he now lives. His wife died in Madison County in 1865. They had born to them ten children, of whom seven are now living.

W. F. Baldrige, was reared in Madison County, received his early education there, and has been interested in farming all his life. He now owns a farm of a thousand acres near Huntsville, and takes a special interest in raising and breeding

stock, especially Holstein and Jersey cattle, and he has found this pursuit quite profitable. He entered the real estate business in Huntsville, in connection with Ben. P. Hunt, under the firm name of Baldrige & Hunt. The firm of Baldrige, Murray & Scruggs, was organized in 1881.

Mr. Baldrige was married in 1870, to Miss Julia A., daughter of James Landman, of Madison County. They have six children living, viz.: Lula B., James H., Ella May, Oscar, Lee, and an infant. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Honor and Knights of Pythias.

In 1864, Mr. Baldrige entered the Confederate Army in Company K, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, which was commanded by Colonel Russell, and under General Forrest. He served in this command eighteen months, mostly on detached duty as a scout. He had two brothers killed in the army, James at the siege of Port Hudson, and John at the Battle of Shiloh.



**HENRY A. SKEGGS, Sr.**, son of Leonard Thomas and Mahalan (Rice) Skeggs, was born in Frederick County, Md., in November, 1815; became a merchant tailor; came to Huntsville in 1846, and subsequently carried on his business at Huntsville, New Orleans and other places. He served through the war principally in General Wheeler's Cavalry, and was captured twice, once with Wheeler and once with Forrest. Returning from the army, he went first to Huntsville, then to Chattanooga, and in 1872 came to Decatur, where he still resides.

His father, L. T. Skeggs, was a soldier in the War of 1812, and his grandfather, John Skeggs, of Greenbrier County, Va., served in the Revolutionary War.

H. A. Skeggs, Sr., reared three sons: William E., Rufus H., now dead; and Henry A. Skeggs, Jr., who was born May 12, 1854, at Huntsville, Ala. His mother, Mary J. (Hunt) Skeggs, was a daughter of Major Hunt of Huntsville, and a great-granddaughter of the man who located that city, and from whom it takes its name.

Mr. Skeggs, Jr., was reared in Huntsville; received his early education in the common schools of that place; lost his mother in 1852, and during

the war lived with Col. Russell Kelley, near Maysville. After the war he attended school in Huntsville until 1872, when he became a salesman in the grocery of J. B. Trotman & Son. In October, 1875, he was employed as book-keeper and salesman with L. M. Falk, of Decatur. In May, 1874, he traveled for J. H. Goodhart & Co., of Cincinnati, buying cotton, and subsequently for other houses until June, 1877; then he went to Colorado, and engaged in mining at Georgetown. In November, 1878, he returned to Decatur, and was again salesman for L. M. Falk. In 1880 he established a store of his own, which he conducted successfully until 1887, and then sold it, having embarked in the real estate business in January of that year. He is a stockholder in nearly all of the stock companies of Decatur; is prominent in the Mineral Land Company, and is a member of the City Council.

Mr. Skeggs was married June 7, 1883, to Miss Sue A. Burkett, of Trinity, Ala., a daughter of Thaddens and Mary (Tie) Burkett, natives of Kentucky.

H. A. Skeggs, Jr., has three children: William T., Annie C. and Thomas H. Mrs. Skeggs is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and he is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias.



**EUSTACE C. BENSON**, Merchant, Decatur, made his advent into life February 20, 1853, at Montgomery, Ala., and there received his education and business training. He went into business on his own account as the junior member of the firm of Benson Bros., long well known in Montgomery and elsewhere. John M. Benson, the senior member, died in 1881, and E. C. Benson conducted the business under the old name until June, 1887, when John L. Brown, who married Mr. Benson's sister, became an equal partner in the business, and the firm name became Benson & Brown. They still continue their business on Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, and in 1887 established a house on LaFayette street, Decatur, under the supervision of Mr. E. C. Benson, who has resided here since that time. The business conducted by him has been eminently satisfactory.

James R. Benson, our subject's father, was a native of Virginia, and came to Alabama in 1845;

he was a farmer and merchant. His wife, also of Virginia, was Susan, daughter of Wm. Bell. They had seven sons and four daughters, our subject being among the younger members of the family.

He is a member of the Baptist Church, a prominent Knight of Pythias, and an active, energetic man, devoted to the progress of Decatur.



**R. L. TODD** was born in Montgomery in 1864, and is a son of James J. and Louisa B. (Stringfellow) Todd, both natives of Virginia. Jas. J. Todd was secretary and treasurer of the Atlanta & Western Railroad and the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad until his death, in 1885. The mother also died in 1883. They had two children, William E., of Montgomery, and R. L. Todd, who was reared and educated in Montgomery, and conducted the grocery business there for four years. He came to Decatur in August, in 1887, and formed a partnership with James A. Ellsberry, under the firm name of Todd & Ellsberry.

James A. Ellsberry was born in Montgomery in 1839. He is a son of James H. and Fannie E. (Gleason) Ellsberry, natives of Georgia and North Carolina. The father died in Montgomery.

J. A. Ellsberry was reared and educated in Montgomery, and commenced his active life as a baggage-master on the M. & C. Railroad, where he subsequently became a conductor, and finally was employed in the running and forwarding departments of the Central & Western Railroad. He then became a member of the present firm.



**A. G. BETHARD** was born in Union County, Ohio, 1840; was a soldier in the late war, of Company F, Sixty-sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served through the war, and was a musician for one year and a half of the time of his service. He learned the trade of a carpenter in his younger days, and after the war became a foreman, con-

tractor and builder, in Springfield, Ohio, until March, 1872, in connection with other parties. After that time his business was entirely on his own account and in the same city. He continued it successfully until he came to Decatur, in 1887, where he organized the Bethard Manufacturing Company. This company consists of A. G. and D. P. Bethard. They are now doing a very extensive and profitable business in builders' supplies.

Mr. Bethard was married in 1861, to Miss Mary Roberts, who died in 1876, leaving him one child. He was married again in 1877, to Miss Adenia Gates, and they have two children.

Mr. Bethard and wife are members of the Congregational Church. He is a member of I. O. O. F., K. of P., G. A. R., K. of G. R., and E. O. R. M.



**C. H. ALBES**, Proprietor Hotel Bismarck, Decatur, son of Henry and Mary E. (Deppe) Albes, was born in Hanover, Germany, October 13, 1835; came to the United States in 1854, and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he established a wholesale grocery and provision business, and remained until 1864. He then moved to Nashville, Tenn., and was connected with a newspaper for a few years. In 1870, he came to Decatur, and was agent of the Southern Express Company three years. He began keeping hotel on a small scale, and being fortunate in location, has been successful in securing a patronage, heretofore unknown to Decatur, and largely in excess of his now greatly increased capacity. Mr. Albes was married February 27, 1867, to Miss Fredrica Lacroix, of Nashville, Tenn., and three children have been born to their union, of whom Charles Edward is now a member of the Senior Class in Vanderbilt University (December, 1885).

Mr. Albes' grandfather, Conrad D. Albes, served eighteen years in the German Army, and fought under Wellington at the battle of Waterloo.

C. H. Albes is a member of the A. O. U. W., and has served in the Council of Decatur several years.

## IV.

# GADSDEN.

BY PROF. J. W. DE BOSE.

The county of Etowah is situated in the north-eastern part of the State, just above the thirty-fourth parallel of north latitude, and is nearly divided by the eighty-sixth meridian of west longitude.

It is located in that section of the State, which is so rich in mineral wealth. The county also contains very productive lands, and large forests of the most valuable timber.

The name "Etowah" is an Indian word, and signifies large trees. The county was first organized under the name of Baine County, in March, 1867. It was composed of parts of Cherokee, St. Clair, Marshall, Blount, Calhoun and DeKalb Counties, and contained 520 square miles. The Constitutional Convention of the same year, 1867, abolished the county of Baine, and in December, of the following year, 1868, the Legislature re-established the county with the name of Etowah.

The territory, out of which Etowah County was formed, was originally known as the Mississippi Territory, and was formerly occupied by the Creek and Cherokee Indians.

The first white settlers, of whom we have any knowledge, were John Radcliffe and James Leslie, who settled in this county about the year 1800, the former settling at what is now called Atalla, and the latter at Turkeytown.

In 1812 General Jackson, with his army, passed through this county in a southerly direction, cutting a road through it to Fort Strother, at Ten Islands, on the Coosa River. From that point he marched to the battle-fields of Tallassahatchee, Horseshoe and Talladega. On his return from these battle-fields he marched through the county again, halting at Turkeytown, a few miles north-west of Gadsden, where he concluded a treaty of peace with the Cherokee Indians. This treaty

put an end to the hostility of the Indians, and in a few years the county began to fill up with white settlers. In 1816 there was quite a large number of white settlers here, most of whom lived in the western portion of the county.

The eastern and northern portions of the county were not settled up until 1833-4, when a large influx of immigration flowed into the whole State. In 1836 the Creek Indians opened hostilities on the whites, but were soon overpowered, and they surrendered in June of the same year. The leaders were captured and sent West in chains. All of the hostile Creeks were sent by the United States Government that year to the Indian Territory. The friendly Creeks were removed the following year, which was 1837: the Cherokees were removed in 1838. They were all collected at Ross' Landing, on the Tennessee River, which is now Chattanooga, Tenn., and were removed to their present location in the Indian Territory. It may be of interest to the general reader, to state here that Stau Wattie, a Cherokee Chief, who was a Confederate General, in the Trans-Mississippi Department, was born in Etowah County, in the little village now known as Turkeytown.

Montgomery and Selma were the only markets for this county up to 1836; after that Wetumka, the head of navigation on the lower Coosa, became the principal market until 1846.

The first steamboat that plied the waters of the upper Coosa, was built in Cincinnati, Ohio, and brought down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans, and through the Gulf of Mexico to Mobile, Ala. From Mobile it was carried up the Alabama and Coosa Rivers, to Wetumka. There it was taken to pieces, and hauled on wagons around the shoals to Greensport, where it was



rebuilt by Capt. James Lafferty, and launched on the 4th of July, 1845, and named the "Coosa." Plying between Greensport, thirty miles below Gadsden, and Rome Ga., it diverted the trade from Montgomery, and Augusta, Ga., became the principal market for all this country.

Gadsden, the present county seat, was located and laid out in 1846, by Gabriel Hughes, Joseph Hughes and John S. Moragne, and was platted by W. S. Brown, engineer of the Coosa & Tennessee Rivers Railroad who was here locating that road running from Gadsden on the Coosa, to Guntersville on the Tennessee River.

The first postoffice established at Gadsden was in 1836, and was called Double Springs, and the name of the first postmaster was Mr. William Walker, who was succeeded by Gabriel Hughes, who held the office until 1846, when the name was changed to Gadsden. The next postmaster was J. D. McMichael, who held the position until 1865. Gadsden, nearly 42 years old, has had three postmasters. Dr. W. T. Ewing succeeded Mr. McMichael in 1865, and held it for twenty years, and was succeeded by the present incumbent, Mr. Daniel Liddel.

The town of Gadsden grew very slowly until after the formation of the county in 1867, when it was incorporated and received a fresh impetus. The present court-house was built in 1870, and the jail in 1874. The present population of the city is about 5,000 inhabitants. The Alabama Great Southern, which is now a division of the Queen & Crescent Route, was built through this county during the years of 1867 and 1870, and was known as the Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad.

The iron on the Tennessee & Coosa Railroad was laid in 1871, between Gadsden and Atlanta, on the Alabama Great Southern Railroad. During the past year, the Tennessee & Coosa Railroad has been extended a few miles beyond Atlanta to the foot of Sand Mountains.

Among some of the old inhabitants of Gadsden, who are now living, we mention Dr. Joseph Bevans, A. L. Woodliff and R. B. Kyle. Doctor Bevans has practiced medicine over thirty years in Gadsden, and is to-day a valuable citizen. At the close of the war in 1865, Captain Woodliff was elected Senator from Cherokee County, as it was then known, and introduced the bill creating the county of Baine, which was

passed in 1867. Col. R. B. Kyle, for thirty years has been so intimately associated with Gadsden and Etawah County, and has been such an important factor in their development that any history of Gadsden without him would be incomplete. We refer you to his biography, which you will find in this volume.

The city of Gadsden was named for General Gadsden, of South Carolina. Hon. I. P. Moragne and his brother, J. S. Moragne, were from South Carolina, and, being great admirers of General Gadsden, named the infant city for him. It is situated at the southern terminus of Lookout Mountain, on the west bank of the Coosa River. It is about ninety miles south of Chattanooga, Tenn., fifty-two miles west of Rome, Ga., and fifty-five miles northeast of Birmingham, Ala.

It is beautifully located at the foot of Lookout Mountain, which rises like a wall on the north to shelter it from the cold winds. The beautiful Coosa, a bold, navigable stream, flows at its feet, and furnishes water transportation for a large part of its traffic. Until the great awakening in the mineral region, Gadsden was content to be the center of trade for about seven or eight counties that surrounded her. Gadsden for many years has controlled a large trade from the surrounding counties, and not knowing the great mineral wealth placed by nature at her very door, has directed her energies in the commercial line. When Birmingham attracted the attention of the whole country, and sprang into such wonderful activity, Gadsden found itself right in the heart of the great mineral region of North Alabama, and has begun the development of her great mineral wealth. We believe no city in the South has more assuring prospects or a brighter future than Gadsden. Certainly no city in the mineral region of North Alabama has any natural advantages over it. Coal, iron and limestone abound in the mountains around it, while manganese, marble, slates and building stones of the best quality are to be found at its very door.

Gadsden is situated on a large plateau, 500 feet above the level of the sea, about fifty feet above the highest water, with sufficient inclination toward the river to give it the finest natural drainage possible.

North and west of it are Lookout Mountains, which furnish the most delightful sites for residences, and all within easy reach of the present business part of the city.

On the east side of the city flows the beautiful Coosa. There is not a more important stream in the State than this river. It passes right through the center of the great mineral region of the State, and empties its waters into the Gulf of Mexico through Mobile Bay. This river supplies the city of Gadsden with the finest water, while it affords the opportunity for the cheapest, as well as the finest sewerage system in the world.

Northeast of the city about three miles, there is a rapid mountain stream, which overleaps a large rock bluff, descending one hundred feet below into a mountain gorge, forming one of the most picturesque scenes to be found on the American Continent. These falls are known as "Nochalula," or Black Creek Falls. They will be described hereafter.

While Gadsden's future will, in a great measure, be directed to development of the mineral wealth all round her door, she is not dependent upon it for her prosperity. At a convenient distance up and down the Coosa River are vast forests of long-leaf yellow pine, which exceeds all other wood in the production of fine lumber. This is now a very lucrative industry in Gadsden. For fifteen years it has been the principal industry of the city, and Gadsden is now manufacturing lumber at the rate of twenty millions of feet annually.

The lumber interest is at present represented by the Kyle Lumber Company, the Gadsden Lumber Company, and the "Red Jack Company." These establishments, as before said, have an annual capacity of twenty million feet. These mills have attached to each of them large dry kilns and planing mills. So superior is the lumber manufactured in Gadsden that nine-tenths of the products of these mills have been marketed north of the Ohio River, and some of it going even to Canada.

The Elliott Car Works have started under as favorable auspices as any similar enterprise in the South. They have four immense buildings, 50x200 feet each, and when in operation can turn out twelve cars per day. The works now employ about four hundred hands, and will doubtless be enlarged. The advantages enjoyed by this company are superior. The Kyle Lumber Company has contracted to furnish all the lumber required, both of yellow pine and oak, necessary for the construction of cars, while the Round Mountain Charcoal Blast Furnace has contracted to furnish the iron for car-wheels. Capt. J. M. Elliott, who

is president of the car works, has also the management of the furnace, which is just above Gadsden, on the Coosa River. This furnace turns out a cold-blast charcoal iron equal to any on the continent, and the Elliott Car Company has made fair terms with this furnace for the iron to be used in the construction of its cars.

All the wood and iron necessary for the construction of cars are manufactured and produced right here, and with no expense for freight.

Gadsden has two iron furnaces, which perhaps it would be better to describe separately.

The first, known as the Gadsden Iron Company's, is a large charcoal furnace, with a capacity of sixty tons per day. The iron made by this furnace is of the finest quality, and is made of the red fossiliferous ores, which are mined within one mile of the furnace. This ore is worked direct from the mines without roasting, and contains sufficient limestone to render it self-fluxing. The charcoal for this furnace is obtained from extensive forests up and down the Coosa, and the wood is brought to the ovens in barges. These forests will supply charcoal enough for several furnaces for an indefinite time.

The second furnace owned by the Gadsden Furnace Company is one of the largest coke furnaces in the South, and will have a capacity of 120 tons per day. The furnace will go into blast about April 1, 1888. This furnace company owns thirteen miles of the finest soft red ores in Alabama. The furnace plant is located on the Coosa River, and immediately on the line of the Rome & Decatur Railroad, one mile northeast of the city of Gadsden.

#### GADSDEN LAND AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY.

This company was organized a year ago, and owns some of the finest property in and around the city of Gadsden. It has 700 acres of land, much of which is beautifully situated for the extension of the city. It also owns a large tract of land on the Highlands, immediately north of the city, and near to Nochalula Falls, which furnishes some of the most picturesque scenery to be found anywhere. These Highlands are very valuable for residences, as they command a magnificent view, stretching southward for a number of miles, and taking in the whole city of Gadsden.

Just north of the city, on the Rome & Decatur Railroad, is located a \$12,000 plant, in the shape of a paint-mill. This mill is newly built, with

the finest and most approved machinery for making metallic paint. The capacity of the mill is twelve tons per day.

One of the oldest as well as one of the best paying institutions of Gadsden is the iron foundry. In it all iron and brass castings are made, and everything made of iron, from an engine to the smallest castings.

Besides the industries already named, we mention a machine shop, two sash, door and blind factories, and a large cotton warehouse.

In addition to these, we have one National Bank, good schools, churches of all denominations, and a fine system of water works.

Gadsden has lodges in fine working order of the following secret organizations:

The Masons, including Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, and Commandery.

Also an Odd Fellows lodge, a lodge of Knights of Pythias, one of the Knights of Honor. Also a Knights of Labor lodge.

There is a Masonic lodge for colored persons, in addition to the above mentioned lodges.

The streets of Gadsden are beautifully lighted with electricity, and nearly all the business houses are using the incandescent lights. The churches are lighted also with them.

One of the finest opera houses of the State is to be found in the city. Its recent furniture is all of the most approved style. It has a seating capacity of 800.

A year ago a stock company was organized with a cash capital of \$15,000, for the purpose of building an ice factory. About the 1st of July everything was completed, and the city of Gadsden was using ice made in her own limits. The factory is complete in every particular, and works most admirably. Its capacity is twelve tons per day.

Gadsden has three hotels, the Exchange, the Johnson House and the Printup. The Printup, which is just now nearing completion, is a gem of beauty and architectural skill. It is made of stone and brick, four stories besides a basement, and is conceded to be one of the finest hotels in the South.

There is a flourishing Young Men's Christian Association in the city. It has a hall open day and night to receive visitors and strangers.

Without mentioning any of the projected railroads which will be built to Gadsden in the near future, we name the following railroads which are now running trains in and through Gadsden.

The Tennessee & Coosa Railroad, which is in-

tended to connect the two rivers from which it gets its name. It is completed from Gadsden to a point beyond Atalla, a distance of about ten miles.

The Anniston & Cincinnati Railroad is nearing completion, and will soon run through trains between the points which give the name.

The Rome & Decatur Railroad is running its trains through the city, but in a short time will have the road completed from Rome, Ga., to Decatur, on the Tennessee River.

At the foot of Locust street is the bridge of the Anniston & Cincinnati Railroad. This bridge is a magnificent iron structure, so arranged as to allow wagons and passengers to cross on it. It is a free bridge, and furnishes a thoroughfare to and from Gadsden for the eastern portions of the county.

The society of Gadsden is refined and cultivated.

The healthfulness of the place, and the beauty of its surroundings, have conspired to draw to it the best class of population, and in a few years no doubt its society will rival in culture some of the older cities of the New England States.

Fine private schools, a graded public institute, with excellent churches of all denominations, leave nothing to be desired to those seeking a beautiful home with nice surroundings.

The First National Bank of Gadsden was established April 1, 1887. Its cash capital is \$50,000. It has an extensive line of deposits, aggregating over \$100,000.

The president, Mr. A. L. Glenn, is known in financial circles; while its popular cashier, Mr. W. G. Brookway, was in a manner born to the business, having from his earliest boyhood been trained to banking.

The vice-president is Major R. O. Randall, a man of large experience and fine success in business matters. The directors are among the best men of Gadsden and men who own large interests in the city.

The Bank has done a fine business, and its future is very bright. The probability is that the capital will be increased to \$100,000 this fall (1888).

Gadsden up to a year ago had two weekly papers, the *Times* and the *News*. On February 1, 1887, these two weeklies consolidated for the purpose of running a daily at a very early period. The consolidated paper is known as the *Gadsden Times and News*, and is regarded as one of the best weeklies published in the State.

Meeks and Johnson, the editors and proprietors,

are lifelong newspaper men, and have succeeded always in furnishing a good paper to the people.

The *Times and News* will merge into a daily as soon as the railroads now in process of construction to Gadsden are completed. At present it is a weekly devoted to agriculture, politics, general literature and the news of the day. Its politics are Democratic. The *Times* before its consolidation with the *News* was one of the oldest papers in the State, having been established in 1867. They were consolidated in 1887. The *News* was established in 1880.

Three miles northwest of Gadsden are situated the beautiful and picturesque Nochalula Falls.

Black Creek flows along the summit of the southern spur of Lookout Mountain, for some distance, until it abruptly widens over a vast ledge of rock, falling one hundred feet into a whirlpool below.

Like nearly all fine scenes in nature, it is impossible to give such a description as would convey to the mind of the reader an accurate idea of the beauty to be seen here.

While not so grand as Niagara Falls, they exceed them in beauty and picturesque appearance. It is all nature's work, as art has done nothing to change or modify their appearance, but they possess all the wild beauty that they had in days of yore, when the Indian legend tells us, that the beautiful Star, Alivilda, of the Cherokee tribe, leaped over them to avoid going with the Creek chief to his distant wigwam.

Five miles west of the City of Gadsden is the thriving little City of Atalla.

It is situated right in the middle of the mineral wealth of the county.

Its present railroad facilities are superior to those of Gadsden. It is immediately on the line of the great Queen & Crescent Route, which is one of the finest and longest railroad lines in the South.

Besides the Queen & Crescent Route, Atalla has all the other railroads of the county centering and crossing there. The Anniston & Cincinnati Railroad, the Rome & Decatur, and the Tennessee & Coosa Railroads, all center in Atalla.

This little city, like many other towns in the mineral belt, for a number of years has relied on agriculture for its support. Atalla has awakened from its slumber, and its enterprising citizens are now bending their energies toward the development of her great mineral wealth. Her popula-

tion is increasing very rapidly, and it numbers now over 1,200. The city is improving quite rapidly, and in a short while several furnaces, which are now in process of erection, will be converting the fine iron ores around her doors into merchantable pig-iron. The society of this little city is very good, having excellent churches and fine schools. The location of the city is indeed fine and attractive, being surrounded on two sides by high hills, with two beautiful valleys coming together right above it. Atalla has a bright future before her, and her enterprising citizens are exerting themselves for her growth and prosperity.

Atalla is largely engaged in the mercantile business, besides mining large quantities of iron ore, which is shipped to farmers in Tennessee and Georgia.

The city has two newspapers, the *New Age*, published and edited by A. G. Lee, and the *Atalla Herald*, published and edited by T. J. Watkins. Both of these papers are Democratic in politics, and are working for the development and prosperity of Atalla and Etowah County. In addition to the cities of Gadsden and Atalla the county of Etowah has several other prosperous villages, among which we mention Walnut Grove, as remarkable for its good society, excellent churches and fine schools. [See Etowah County, this volume.]



**ROBERT B. KYLE**, distinguished citizen and business man, of Gadsden, was born in Rockingham County, N. C., May 24, 1826, and is a son of James and Elizabeth (Jones) Kyle, the former a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, and the latter of Henry County, Va. The senior Mr. Kyle came to America and settled in Rockingham County in 1820, and there in 1824 married Miss Jones. They had born to them two sons and five daughters. Mr. Kyle was a tobacco manufacturer at Leaksville, N. C., where he died in 1836.

The subject of this sketch, from his early youth, was reared by his stepfather, Col. Joseph Kyle, a prominent business man at Columbus, Ga. Early in 1861 he joined the Thirty-first Alabama Infantry as first lieutenant, and at the organization of the regiment was made quartermaster. His health failing him, he was some time thereafter appointed to the local quartermaster's service, and assigned



Wm. D. Kyle  
R. P. Kyle



to Columbus, Ga., where he remained to the close of the war.

Col. Robert B. Kyle was one of the contractors who built the railroad from Opelika, Ala., to Columbus, Ga., in 1852. In the latter part of that year he moved to Cherokee County, Ala., and commenced farming; but, being of an active temperament and restless, unless engaged in trade and handling money, he left his farm, moved to Gadsden in September, 1857, and commenced merchandising. Gadsden at that time had a population of but one hundred and fifty people and but three small stores. Through his energy and management, Colonel Kyle at once built up a fine trade with all the surrounding counties of Northeast Alabama, and with others in Central Alabama.

The shipping facilities of Gadsden at that time were very inadequate, but Colonel Kyle, perceiving the necessity of more enlarged means of transportation, organized a company and built a steamboat for the Coosa River and its tributaries. This accomplished, Gadsden became a considerable cotton market, and trade generally more than trebled itself in a remarkably short time. At the outbreak of the war, Colonel Kyle had built up a very large business, and the population of the town had greatly increased.

After the war, Colonel Kyle returned to Gadsden and set about the rebuilding of his fortune. With the eye of a far-seeing intellect, he understood the natural advantages of this location, and proceeded without delay to develop them. He engaged at the mercantile business and soon afterward undertook the construction of the Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad, and subsequently, in connection with the late W. P. Hollingsworth, built the Gadsden branch from Atalla. This was the first important step toward the development of the natural resources of this town, and gave him additional facilities for handling lumber, cotton and other products of the county. His enterprise and business tact brought this business to the notice of the world, and, through him, Gadsden has become one of the largest interior manufacturing points of the long-leaf yellow pine lumber. His trade rapidly spread out to all parts of the country, and he shipped lumber as far north as Chicago, as far west as Kansas City, and eastward to the Atlantic seaboard.

Under Colonel Kyle's management, the lumber interest at Gadsden has become a gigantic in-

dustry, and gives employment to over one thousand men.

Colonel Kyle has been equally active in the upbuilding and development of almost every other meritorious enterprise so far established at Gadsden. He was the leading spirit in the organization of the Gadsden Furnace Company, and of the Elliott Car Works; is president of the Gadsden Land and Improvement Company, and holds a directorship in almost every other incorporated institution at this place.

Colonel Kyle is a modest, unassuming gentleman, takes a deep interest in the moral and intellectual advancement of his city and country, and is altogether one of the most progressive citizens of Northern Alabama. Energetic, far-seeing, brave and daring, he allows no obstacle to stand between him and the objects at all times in view.

In speaking of him, a recent publication says: "He has hewn down all obstacles, and brought his section of the country from a wild wilderness to be one of the most enterprising and inviting of the South. He is now a 'sentinel upon the watch-tower' that looks out to warn off all danger, as well as to see the necessities and advantages of his country, and at once forms all combinations necessary to meet and utilize them to the interests of the community. No truer man lives; no politician, yet an anxious wisher for good and honest government. Such is Col. Robert B. Kyle, one of nature's noblemen."

Colonel Kyle was married December 1, 1848, to Miss Mary Thornton, a daughter of Dozier Thornton, of Cherokee County, and had born to him two children, one of whom is dead. The other, Mary A., is the wife of Marcus L. Foster, of Gadsden. Mrs. Kyle died in Cherokee County, Ala., 1855; in October, 1856, the Colonel was married to Miss Mary Nuckolls, daughter of Nathaniel Nuckolls, of Columbus, Ga. To this union twelve children were born, six of whom are dead. The living are Mrs. Nona Kyle Elliott, wife of James M. Elliott, Jr., Miss Bessie Lee Kyle, Miss Edith Marion Kyle, Miss Robbie E. Kyle, Miss Florie Maie Kyle, and Mr. Thomas Stonewall Kyle, who is secretary and treasurer of the Kyle Lumber Company.

In consideration of Colonel Kyle's prominence and popularity as a citizen of Gadsden, the publishers take pleasure in presenting with this chapter a steel plate portrait of that gentleman.

**DANIEL C. TURRENTINE** was born October 18, 1807, at a place now covered by the town of Milledgeville, in Georgia. He was a merchant in his early days; came to Alabama about 1839, and entered a large tract of land near Lebanon, in De Kalb County, upon which he settled and farmed. About 1845 he moved to the present site of Gadsden, and upon the banks of the river erected the first house of that city. Here Mr. Turrentine kept a tavern and store. There were six lines of stages running by this place and making it their headquarters; it was also the landing for James Lafferty's steamboat, the first ever run on the Coosa River, and these things made the place an excellent location for business.

After a time his wife's declining health compelled Mr. Turrentine to relinquish his activity, and about 1851 he purchased a farm about a mile from the landing, and built a residence upon it, in which his family now reside. As a general of militia he got the title by which was ever afterward known. He was a captain in the Florida War and a quartermaster in the Confederate States Army.

The ample fortune of which he became possessed was the result of his own energy, and was accumulated in spite of his numerous charitable bequests, and kindhearted disposition to become security for his friends by which means he lost largely. He was also an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, organized the first Sunday-school in Gadsden, and made his house a home for all the preachers. In his capacity as Justice of the Peace, which office he held for nine years, he performed nearly all the marriage ceremonies in the community. His death occurred in September, 1883.

Mr. Turrentine was married to Miss Caroline E. Lucy, daughter of Joshua and Louisa A. (Hunnicut) Lucy, natives of Virginia, and of English descent. Mrs. Turrentine died in July, 1881. They had seven sons and seven daughters born to them, twelve of whom grew to maturity: William A., Louisa J., Virginia A., James L., Caroline L., Joshua L., Samuel M. (now dead), Lillie A., Daniel C., George Edward, Mary Ellen, and Albert T. William A. died of a wound received in the fight before Richmond.

Daniel C. Turrentine was a son of James and Catharine (Clower) Turrentine, both natives of North Carolina. James Turrentine was a farmer. They were married September 19, 1793,

and had nine sons and three daughters born to them; the names of these were: William, Samuel, George, Morgan C., Allen, Dan, Thomas C., Joseph T., James, Frances, Elizabeth and Nancy. They nearly all lived to be quite old, and most of them raised children, among whom were afterward many of the leading families of the State.

James Turrentine, Sr., moved to Georgia, probably about 1795. He and his family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and very pious people. He died in September, 1831, aged sixty years. His wife died in 1860, aged eighty-four years. The Turrentine family were originally from France.



#### **WILLIAM PERRY HOLLINGSWORTH**

was born in St. Clair County, Ala., August 22, 1828, and was a son of Jacob and Delphia (Henderson) Hollingsworth, natives of Virginia. At the age of eleven years he began clerking for his brother in a mercantile establishment at Gadsden, and at the age of sixteen was given a partnership in the business. From that time to within a short time of his death, he was an active business man. He started in the world as a poor boy, and rounded up at a ripe old age, possessed of an elegant fortune, and with the happy consciousness of having never wronged a man out of a penny. No man in Gadsden ever stood higher in the esteem of the people, than did Mr. Hollingsworth. In August, 1861, he was elected captain of a company in the Nineteenth Alabama Regiment, and he remained in the service until the close of the war. After his first year in the army he was transferred to the Commissary Department, and remained there during the rest of the time. The war depleted his fortune almost entirely, but he subsequently, in mercantile business, recouped it to a large extent, and when he died he was one of the wealthiest men in his county. He was by far the most extensive dry goods merchant ever at Gadsden, if not in all Northeastern Alabama. Throughout his entire life his efforts appear to have been crowned with success. It is said of him, that he never took hold of anything, in a business way, that he did not turn into money. He was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; was always actively interested in education, and was noted for his charity, his liberality, and his punctuality in all things.







Very Respectfully  
W. H. Dawson

Mr. Hollingsworth was married November 27, 1851, to Miss Mary J. Lewis, daughter of Joel and Ann C. (Kridler) Lewis, and reared six children: Annie D. (now the wife of Mr. Paden), Laura J. (now Mrs. Lay), Katie M. (Mrs. Standifer), Willie A. (wife of W. P. Johnson), Edmond T., and Alice M.

William Hollingsworth, the great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came from England with William Penn. Mrs. Hollingsworth's father, Joel Lewis, was a native of South Carolina, and her mother, Ann C. Kridler, was born and reared in Philadelphia.



**WILLIAM HENRY DENSON**, United States District Attorney, was born in Russell County, Ala., March 4, 1846. His parents, Augustus R. and Elizabeth (Ivey) Denson, were born, respectively, in Franklin County, N. C., in 1812, and Baldwin County, Ga., in 1819.

The senior Mr. Denson, a planter by occupation, took part in the War of 1836, going into the army from Alabama, whither he had moved in 1833. He lived in Russell County, this State, and there reared five sons and three daughters. The eldest son, John B., of Waddell's Artillery, was killed at Resaca, Ga.; Robert H. lives at Trenton, Mo.; N. D. is an attorney-at-law in Chambers County, this State; Augustus M., late sheriff of Etowah County, died in April, 1885; and the subject of this sketch, one of the leading attorneys of Alabama, will be treated of hereafter. The old gentleman was a son of John E. Denson, a Virginian, who moved into North Carolina at the beginning of the present century, and there married Frances Hill-Swan. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and reared a large family of children.

The Densons came originally from England, and were Quakers. The first one that came to this country was William Denson. He settled in Westmoreland County, Va., and reared three sons; one of the sons settled in Maryland, another in Pennsylvania, and the third in North Carolina. They were farmers, and from them have descended many noble men and women, distinguished, some of them, in the history of the Church and of State. The Ivey family, from whom the subject of this sketch descends in the maternal line, came originally from Wales in the person of Barney Ivey. Barney married Abey Davis, a native of Georgia,

and lived to be ninety-one years of age. He died in November, 1886. He reared a large family of sons and daughters, all of whom it appears heeded well the injunction of the Bible in multiplying and replenishing the earth.

William Henry Denson spent the first seventeen years of his life on his father's farm, at the neighboring schools and at the University of Alabama. He entered the army in February, 1863, as a member of Waddell's Battalion of Artillery, and was in every battle from Dalton to Atlanta. In 1864 he was furloughed on account of his protracted sickness; rejoined his command at Macon, Ga., and remained to the close of the war. For the first year after the restoration of peace he turned his hand to farming, raised a crop, sold it, and with the proceeds, went to Columbus, Ga., where, in the office with R. J. Moses, he began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in February, 1867, but it appears did not enter the practice until 1870. In that year he hung out his shingle at LaFayette, Ala., and was at once recognized as a brilliant and successful attorney. In 1876 he was a member of the Legislature, where he served with marked ability on the Judiciary Committee, and as a member of the joint committee on the revision of the Code. After a trip West, he, in the fall of 1877, settled in Gadsden, where he has since remained, and where he unquestionably stands at the very head of his profession.

Colonel Denson is an active politician, an uncompromising Democrat, and serves his party with much zeal and distinguished effect. He was a Cleveland elector in 1884, and in June, 1885, was appointed United States District Attorney for the Northern and Middle Districts of Alabama. He is a Royal Arch Mason and a Knight of Pythias; is an active business man, live, energetic, wide-awake, broad-gauged, and belongs to the noble army of modern Southern men, now growing rapidly famous for their energy and enterprise. As a public man, his record is without a blemish. Opposed to rings and monopolies of all kinds, he believes in a Government of the people, by the people, and for the people. With him jobbery, chicanery, scheming and pusillanimity finds no abiding place, nor has he any patience with any man, be he ever so great, who panders to such things and demagoguery in his efforts for political advancement. He has implicit faith in the intelligence and integrity of the people at large, and believes that the whole people should and must

have a voice in the Government. In speaking of the people, it should be understood that Colonel Denson means the white people.

Physically, Colonel Denson is a broad-shouldered, heavy-set, rotund sort of a man; florid complexion, hair and beard slightly tinged with gray. Before a jury he is a powerful advocate; on the stump he is a forcible, logical and eloquent speaker; in conversation he is pleasing, cordial and entertaining. The publishers take pleasure in prefacing this article with the portrait of the gentleman as a mark of distinction and of their appreciation of his high merit as a citizen.

Colonel Denson was married December 21, 1868, to Rosa E. Cowan, a native of Eufaula, and daughter of Dr. William Cowan, one of the pioneers of that town, known first as Irwinton. Mrs. Denson's mother is a sister of the Hon. J. L. Pugh, United States Senator. Colonel and Mrs. Denson have five children: Annie L., Hugh C., William A., John and Lola E. The family are Presbyterians.



**REV. JOHN A. THOMPSON.** Pastor in charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, located at Gadsden, is a native of Franklin County, this State, and was born December 15, 1842. His early years were spent in the country on his father's farm and in attendance at the common schools. At fourteen years of age he entered the academy at Liberty Hill, and was there at school when the war came on. In August, 1861, he enlisted as a private soldier, and served up to and partially through the battle of Murfreesboro. Here he was so seriously disabled as to necessitate his discharge, and he remained at Murfreesboro to the close of the war. From his earliest youth, Mr. Thompson was religiously disposed, and he began preaching when seventeen years of age, joining the Tennessee Conference, October 10, 1860. His studies were always pursued with a view to the ministry. In 1870 he became a member of the North Alabama Conference. He was ordained elder in October, 1865, since when he has given his time and study to his profession. He has been fifteen years secretary of the North Alabama Conference; was at one time the corresponding editor of the *Alabama Advocate*; has been editor of the *Times and News* of Gadsden; served

as presiding elder of the Huntsville District, and has been for several years gathering data preparatory to a publication of the history of Methodism in North Alabama, particularly of the North Alabama Conference.

The subject of this sketch is a son of T. W. and Mary D. (Wilder) Thompson, natives of Georgia and Virginia, respectively. The senior Mr. Thompson was born in 1813, and his parents settled in Lauderdale County about 1820. He was educated in that county, became an extensive planter, and a popular public man. He held the office of county commissioner and magistrate for over thirty years. At this writing (1888) he resides in Colbert County. His wife died in March, 1875. They reared a family of eight sons and five daughters; three of the sons were in the army under General Forrest, and Wm. J., the eldest, was killed in Georgia in 1864; Emmet B., the second son, is now a Methodist Episcopal minister in Texas. The Thompsons came from North Carolina into Georgia in the latter part of the last century, and Henry Thompson, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was an officer in the War of 1812. The Thompsons came originally from England, and were Baptists, but it appears that all of the younger generations were, and are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Thompson is a Knight Templar Mason, and has also been connected with the I. O. O. F., K. of P., K. of H. and I. O. R. M. He is happy in his domestic relations, enjoying the companionship of his excellent wife, who is a daughter of General Patterson, of Huntsville, Ala., and his interesting child, John Rison.



**JAMES A. TALLMAN.** Probate Judge of Etowah County, was born at Abbeville Court House, S. C., November 27, 1818. His father was Thomas W. Tallman, and his mother, before marriage, was Margaret Taggart.

The senior Mr. Tallman was orphaned when very young, and was by his guardian bound to a tailor in New York City. At an early age he ran away from his employer and shipped on a steamer for Charleston, S. C., at which place he afterward made his home. He lived to be eighty four years of age. His wife was a daughter of Moses Taggart, a native of Ireland, who came to the United

States about the close of the Revolutionary War, and settled in South Carolina, in the Calhoun Settlement. He was a school teacher by profession. He served as Ordinary, or Probate Judge, of his county a number of years. He died in 1840, upward of eighty years of age.

The subject of this sketch spent the first twelve years of his life in the village of his nativity, going thence to the country upon a farm, and later, returning to Abbeville, turned his hand for a while to the printing business. At the age of sixteen years, he accepted a clerkship in a country store, and in 1838, came to Alabama, located in Greene County, where he was employed as a salesman and book-keeper in a mercantile establishment until 1853. In that year he engaged in mercantile business on his own account at Greensboro, and was there until 1861. During the war he was post-master at Greensboro, Ala., to which he was appointed by President Davis. From 1866 to 1868, he was interested in the hotel business at Greensboro and Selma, and in the latter year came to Gadsden as book-keeper for W. P. Hollingsworth. In 1877 he was elected tax assessor, held that office ten successive years, and in November, 1887, resigned to accept the probate judgeship.

Judge Tallman is one of the active, wide-awake, progressive citizens of the modern city of Gadsden. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Presbyterian Church. October, 1842, in Greene County, he was married to Julia A. Dorroh, daughter of James and Malinda (Wright) Dorroh. She died in 1856, leaving three children, to-wit: Elizabeth, Timothy T. and Harriet W. (Mrs. Samuel R. Smith, of Monticello, Ga.). In 1858, the Judge was married to Miss Annie H. Webb, daughter of Dr. Henry Webb, and they have had born to them two children: Julia D., wife of James F. Woodliff, and Margaret, now deceased.

**JAMES L. TANNER**, prominent young Attorney-at-law, Gadsden, Ala., a native of Macon County, this State, son of Lemuel H. and Ophelia (Masters) Tanner, was born September 18, 1858. The senior Mr. Tanner, a Georgian by birth, was an extensive planter; came to Alabama in 1844, settled in Macon, now Bullock, County, and from there entered the Confederate Army, wherein he served gallantly as a member of the Third Ala-

bama, in General Lee's army, for three years or more in the late war. He was a prominent Freemason, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He died at Union Springs July 13, 1885. His widow yet survives him, and resides at Tallahassee, this State. The Tanners are of French and English extraction, and the Masters are descendants from the English and Irish.

The subject of this sketch was reared at Union Springs and educated at the State University of Alabama, graduating from the law department, class of 1880. For a short time before entering college he was on the road as a traveling man, selling dry goods, and, after graduating, was connected for a while with the *Enfada Times and News*. In February, 1884, he opened a law office at Union Springs, and from there, in June, 1883, came to Gadsden. Here he formed a partnership, in May, 1887, with Hon. Wm. H. Denson. At this writing (1888) Denson & Tanner are recognized as the leading law firm at the Gadsden bar. He is a member of Governor Seay's staff.

Mr. Tanner was married, December, 1886, to Miss Sallie Ward, daughter of Mrs. Sarah Ward, widow of O. W. Ward, deceased, of this city.

**JAMES AIKEN**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Gadsden, Ala., native of Fairfield District, S. C., son of William and Elizabeth (Stitt) Aiken, was born August 8, 1830. The senior Mr. Aiken was born in County Antrim, Ireland, toward the latter part of the last century, and with his parents migrated to America in 1820. The family settled in Fairfield District, and there the two old people spent the rest of their lives. They, William and Elizabeth, reared four children, two of whom, Robert S. and William M., died from wounds received in battle during the late war. The Stitt family came also from Ireland, away back in the present century, and settled in South Carolina, where they became highly respectable and substantial farmers.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm until he was seventeen years of age, and received during that period, at the common schools, a good English education. In 1847 he was appointed cadet to the South Carolina Military Academy at Charleston, graduated from that institution in

1851, and taught school for several years, probably until 1856. In 1854 he came to Alabama, settled in Randolph County, taught school two years, read law in the meantime, and was admitted to the bar in November, 1856. From the time of his admission to the bar he has been continuously to the present identified with the profession. In July, 1861, he raised a company of volunteers for the Southern Army, and upon its organization, was made captain. It was known as Company D, Thirteenth Alabama, and Captain Aiken led it gallantly in many a hotly-contested battle. He was seriously wounded at the battle of Seven Pines, and did not rejoin his command until the fall thereafter. He was also wounded at Chancellorsville, and again at Bristow's Station. After the battle of Seven Pines he was promoted to major, after Chancellorsville to lieutenant-colonel, and within a very short time was promoted to colonel. With this rank, he remained in the service until Lee's surrender, at which time he returned home and resumed the practice of law. He located in Gadsden in 1869, and here he has since made his home. In 1875 Colonel Aiken was elected delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and in February, 1885, was appointed Circuit Judge by Governor O'Neal.

During the war, from captain to major, lieutenant-colonel and colonel, in regular order and rapid succession, the subject of this sketch rose upon his merits, and without any solicitation upon his own part; so in civil life, by merit, by real worth, he has risen in his profession until he is recognized as one of its leaders. His appointment to the judgeship was without solicitation upon his part, and was in keeping with the wisdom exercised by Governor O'Neal in all of his appointments. While in the army, and at the front, the people of his county elected him to the Legislature, and he left the service long enough to serve one session.

Judge Aiken was married January 26, 1877, to Mrs. L. N. McClelland, daughter of Linsey and Lucinda (Pace) Weaver, of Calhoun County, and has had born to him four children: Lucy A., James, Robert S. and Annie.

**ROBERT A. D. DUNLAP**, Attorney-at-law and Register in Chancery, Gadsden, son of Samuel C. and Angeline C. (Tatum) Dunlap, was born

in Henry County, Tenn., October 18, 1843. The senior Mr. Dunlap was born in Lancaster District, S. C., 1808, in and his wife, six years before, was born in North Carolina. They were married in North Carolina, and from there migrated to Kentucky about the year 1834. From Kentucky they moved to Tennessee, and settled at Caledonia, where the old gentleman died in 1856.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Caledonia, there received his education, and, in 1862, entered the Confederate Army. Though not an enlisted soldier, he participated in the battle of Shiloh. At Corinth he was taken sick and returned home. In September, 1863, he enlisted in the Seventh Tennessee Cavalry (Forrest's command), and his company took part in many cavalry engagements in Mississippi and Tennessee. He was wounded at Guntown, Miss., and finally surrendered at Gainesville, Ala. For a short time after the war, he taught school, and in November, 1866, he located in DeKalb County, Ala., began the study of law, was admitted to the bar in 1867, and has practiced law ever since. He moved to Chattanooga in the fall of 1874, and from there, a year later, came to Gadsden. Here, in partnership with Colonels Denson and Disque, he practiced law two years; in partnership with Mr. Dortch he practiced some years; and since January, 1885, he has been unassociated. November, 1886, he was appointed Register in Chancery, which, aside from that of alderman in the City of Gadsden, appears to constitute the sum of his office holding.

Mr. Dunlap was married in July, 1868, to Susan G. Jacoway, daughter of John G. and Nancy Middleton Jacoway, of DeKalb County, and to them have been born nine children, viz.: John D., Samuel D., Horace E., Jessie M. (since deceased), Maggie E., Robert H., William W., Susan, and Frank C. The family are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Dunlap is a member of the Order of Knights of Pythias.

**JOHN HAROLD DISQUE**, Attorney-at-law, Gadsden, was born in New Orleans March 23, 1848, and is a son of Charles H. Disque, a native of Frankfort-on-the-Main. Charles H. Disque accompanied his parents to America. They settled at New Orleans, and there Charles H. was educated. His father was a native of Paris, France.





Yours Truly  
John S. Paden



John H. Disque was educated in New Orleans. After coming to Gadsden he studied law, and in 1872 was admitted to the bar. Immediately after coming to the bar he was elected Prosecuting Attorney, and held the office four years. In the meantime he was elected Mayor of Gadsden, and held the office three years. In 1880, he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, and in 1887, without solicitation upon his part, the people of Gadsden again called him to the mayoralty.

Mr. Disque is an able and popular attorney; in fact, as a criminal lawyer he is ranked among the foremost of the State. He was married March 30, 1869, to the accomplished daughter of Judge L. J. Standifer, of this city.



**JOHN SANFORD PADEN** was born in Cobb County, Ga., February 14, 1842, and is a son of John T. and Margaret (Foster) Paden, natives of South Carolina.

John T. Paden was a farmer, and a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. When a young man, he moved to Forsyth County, Ga., and later to Cobb, where he lived until his death. He reared five sons and four daughters by his first marriage, to-wit: Robert S. died in Georgia; James Washington was killed at the battle of Bull Run; John Sanford (our subject); Elijah P., is now a Methodist Episcopal minister. He served through the war in the Fifty-sixth Georgia Regiment; Samuel Renau died in Texas; Elizabeth, wife of J. A. Gunter, of Georgia; Susan C., wife of Nathaniel Sherman, a manufacturer of Georgia, and Emma, wife of John Fowler, of Georgia. The mother of our subject died about 1852, and later on, Mr. Paden was married to Mrs. Sampler, who bore him one child, Aaron. The senior Mr. Paden died in 1881.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Roswell, Cobb County, Ga., where he received a limited education. At the outbreak of the war he entered the Confederate service with Company H, Seventh Georgia Infantry, and was in the first battle of Bull Run. He participated in all the battles in and around Richmond; was with General Longstreet at Chickamauga, and surrendered with General Lee's army at Appomattox. Shortly after coming home he went to Indiana and Kentucky,

in which States he spent about two years. Returning to Georgia again, he entered into mercantile business with T. D. Evans, of Cherokee County, that State, and in the fall of 1869, located at Gadsden. Here he entered mercantile business on a small scale, building up gradually as his business increased, and at the present time has the largest country trade of any merchant in Northern Alabama. In 1878 he began the business known as "advancing and crediting," taking cotton in return. This latter business proved very lucrative to him, and he now handles on an average of four thousand bales of cotton a year.

Mr. Paden is largely interested in the two Mineral Land Companies of Gadsden; is vice-president of the Gadsden Land and Improvement Company; is a director and stockholder in the Gadsden Metallic Paint Company, and is largely interested in the Gadsden Air Furnace Company. He is also interested in the Electric Light Company, the Printrup Hotel, and the First National Bank of Gadsden, and is connected with every industry and enterprise that tends to develop this city. Aside from all the business enterprises above mentioned he owns several large farms, and considerable property in the city.

He was married February 5, 1864, to Miss Annie Hollingsworth, daughter of William P. and Mary J. (Lewis) Hollingsworth, and has had born to him five children, viz.: William C., John S., Joseph P., Anna J. and Alice M. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**JOHN WESLEY DuBOSE, A.M.**, was born in Marengo County, Ala., October 31, 1849, and is a son of Joel C. and Esther G. (Cleveland) DuBose, natives of Darlington District, South Carolina.

The senior Mr. DuBose was a merchant in early life at Charleston, S. C. He came to Alabama in 1838, settled in Marengo County, and as he owned a large number of slaves, turned his attention to farming. He served his county in various offices, and was a very popular Whig in politics. He was the only member of that party ever elected to office in that county. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They reared four sons and three daughters, to-wit: Joseph L., served in Stewart's Cavalry during the war and died in the West; Maybank D., teacher

in Alabama, served in General Rhodes' Brigade in Virginia, and was wounded at Spotsylvania and Snicker's Gap; Abner G., a farmer and merchant near Corsicana, Texas; and the subject of this sketch. Mr. DuBose died in 1858, at the age of fifty-six years, and his wife in 1864. Mrs. DuBose was of Scotch-Irish descent.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county, attended schools near Linden, and when a youth was sent to Goodman Institute, where he remained several years. The Southern University of Greensboro, Ala., in 1874, conferred upon him the Master of Arts degree. Since 1880 to the present time he has been continuously in charge of the Gadsden Public Institute.

Professor DuBose before coming to Gadsden was Superintendent of Sumter County, and since coming here, he has been Superintendent of Etowah County. He was married in October, 1877, to Miss Lizzie Lake Cobbs, the accomplished daughter of Judge James Cobbs, of Mobile, Ala., and has had born to him four children: Edgar L. (deceased), Maggie C., John W., Jr., and James Guerin.

Professor DuBose and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Professor is of the Masonic fraternity. He is the author of the history of Gadsden and Etowah County, as published in this volume, and it will be found to be one of the most accurate, as well as one of the most readable chapters in the book.

**ROBERT NORMAN KITTRELL, M. D.**, son of Dr. William Jones and Elizabeth Martha (Came) Kittrell, natives, respectively, of the States of North and South Carolina, was born in Camden, Wilcox County, Ala.

The senior Dr. Kittrell was a graduate of the University of North Carolina, and from the Alabama Medical College, Mobile. He died at Camden in 1863, leaving eight children. His eldest son, Benjamin F., now a physician at Black Hawk, Miss., served as a surgeon in a Mississippi regiment during the late war; one of his daughters, Sarah B., is now the wife of Dr. Anson West; William P. died at Talladega; Mary N. (Mrs. E. E. Craig, of Dallas, Texas); Bryant J., merchant in Gadsden and a leading citizen, died in 1881; Laura W., wife of Dr. W. G. Stone, of West Sta-

tion, Miss., and Alice H., married Dr. M. C. Marshall, of Little Rock, Ark. Mrs. Marshall is not living.

The Kittrell family came from England, and the Comes originally from Ireland. The subject of this sketch was reared at Camden, Ala., there acquired the elements of an education, and in 1882 graduated from the University of Mississippi. From 1873 to 1878 he had clerked in a mercantile establishment at Black Hawk, that State, and, after graduating, taught one year in the Female Synodical Institute at Talladega. From Talladega he returned to Mississippi and taught a term at Meridian. In the summer of 1884, at Black Hawk, he took up the study of medicine, and in 1886 graduated from Vanderbilt University as an M. D., taking the first honors of his class.

After graduating he remained one year on duty at the city hospital in Nashville, and in March, 1887, returned to Black Hawk, and married Miss Cora Meek, the accomplished daughter of Dr. R. D. Meek, of that place. Immediately after marriage he came to Gadsden and settled down. He is at this writing in the enjoyment of a first-class and lucrative practice.

**WHITLEY THOMAS EWING, M.D.**, was born in Washington County, Va., December 28, 1823, and is a son of Samuel and Mary (Davis) Ewing, of that State.

The senior Mr. Ewing was a teacher by profession; reared a family of seven children, and died in 1825 at the age of about forty-five years.

Dr. Ewing was reared in the country; went West at the age of fifteen years, stopping first at Rogersville, Tenn.; from there traveled through Alabama to Memphis, and down the river to Arkansas. He was accompanied by his brother when he left home; they, it appears, having run away from a disagreeable step-father. From Arkansas he drifted into Louisiana, where he worked a while as a common laborer for seven dollars a month. From home his brother William Ewing went almost directly to Illinois, and at Quincy, that State, Whitley Thomas joined him.

He worked four years in Quincy at the Manual Labor School, and from there entered the Marietta, Ohio, College, from which institution he

received his education. To pay his expenses, while at college, he kept books and taught school in the neighborhood of Marietta. Leaving college he returned to Quincy, and, with Dr. Stahl, began the study of medicine. He received his first course of lectures at Jacksonville, Ill., and graduated from the St. Louis Medical College in 1848. In 1849 he began practice in the city last named, remained there one year, and in 1850, accompanied again by his brother, went, over-land, to California. There he entered into a good practice, made money, ran a hospital for a time between Hangtown (now Placerville) and Cold Springs.

Doctor Ewing returned to St. Louis in 1855, and there, on the 21th day of August, that year, married Hannah I. Pettengill, a native of Massachusetts. From St. Louis, at the end of eight months, he went to Cass County, Georgia, and practiced medicine eight years. He was a strong Union man, which accounted for his leaving the latter State in 1862, at which time he came to Gadsden. Here he has since given much of his attention to the practice of medicine. He was a member of the Reconstruction Conventions of 1867 and 1868, and has been more or less in politics ever since. He has been several times a candidate for office, and he is the most popular Republican in this part of the State.

Doctor Ewing was appointed postmaster in 1866, and held the office until 1885. He was the chairman of the executive committee of the Republican party for the Seventh Congressional District during almost that entire period. Notwithstanding his radicalism, he was a popular official, and, by his courtesy and gentlemanly treatment of everybody, gained and held the respect of the people. His chief deputy, during his entire incumbency as postmaster, was an old line Whig, now acting with the Democrats. His wife died in June, 1886, leaving five children: Arthur E., graduate of Dartmouth College, finishing his education in Germany, now of the firm of Green, Post & Ewing, oculists and aurists, St. Louis; Muncetta J., wife of Wm. P. Shahan, merchant of Atalla, Ala.; Charles W., in company with J. S. Paden, merchant of Gadsden; Stella M.; and Thomas G., broker, Gadsden.

The family is identified with the Baptist Church, but the Doctor, himself, is an Old School Presbyterian Church member, and is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

**MILTON R. WRIGHT, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Gadsden, son of Rufus W. and Annie (Gilechrist) Wright, was born in Chester County, S. C., November 8, 1831. The senior Mr. Wright came to Alabama in 1835, located in Calhoun County in 1837, and lived on his plantation five miles below Gadsden, on the Coosa River, the rest of his days. He died in 1874, at the age of sixty-five years.

The subject of this sketch was reared on his father's plantation, acquired a good English education at the common schools, and gave a few years of his time to teaching. In 1859, he took his first course of lectures in the study of medicine at Atlanta, and in October, 1862, joined the First Alabama Cavalry as assistant-surgeon. A few months later, he was transferred to the Thirty-first Alabama Infantry, and remained with the army until the fall of 1864, when on account of ill health he was compelled to resign. Returning to Etowah County, he resumed the practice of medicine a short time, accumulating thereat means sufficient to enable him to prosecute his collegiate studies. In the spring of 1870, he graduated from the Alabama Medical College, at Mobile, and since that time has been regularly and successfully in the practice. He is a member of the State and County Medical Associations, and is one of the counselors in the former.

Dr. Wright was married in May, 1860, to Mary E. Bevens, daughter of Dr. Bevens and has had born to him five children, to-wit: Fannie B. (deceased), Mary J. (Mrs. Dr. J. D. Liddell), James M. (deceased), Rufus B. and Milton R.

The family are members of the Baptist Church, and the Doctor is a Mason.



**JOSEPH BEVENS, M.D.**, Physician and Surgeon, came to Gadsden in the practice of his profession January, 1852, and from here, in January, 1863, entered the Confederate service as surgeon of the Thirty-first Alabama Regiment. This regiment was with General Pemberton at Vicksburg, and at the surrender of that place, the Doctor was paroled. In September following, he rejoined his command, and was with it until March, 1865, when he resigned and returned to Gadsden. Here he has since been actively engaged in the practice of medicine, and is at this writing (1888)

in the enjoyment of a handsome competency, the result of his success as a doctor of medicine. He joined the State Medical Association in 1878; is now the president of the County Association, and is recognized by the profession generally as a physician of fine attainments. In addition to his practice he carries on an extensive drug store.

Doctor Bevens was married in July, 1842, to Miss Temperance Gandy, daughter of Edward Gandy, of Gandy's Cove, Morgan County, Ala., and has had born to him six children, to-wit: Mary E. (Mrs. Wright), John W., James M. (physician), Jannie (Mrs. Hughes), Edward G., M. D., of Gadsden; Idella (Mrs. Young). The mother of these children died in 1870, and in 1873 the Doctor married Mrs. Nancy Petty, *nee* Sibly. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and the Doctor has been a Mason since 1853. He is at this writing a member of the Board of Health and chairman of the Board of Censors of the county.



**MARCUS LAFAYETTE HICKS**, son of Talbert H., and Comfort (Britton) Hicks, natives, respectively, of Tennessee and North Carolina, was born in Monroe County, Tenn., December 25, 1846. He was educated at the village schools; began clerking in a store at Merry Valley, East Tennessee, when thirteen years of age, and in February, 1862, entered the army as a member of Monaret's Light Artillery, which in 1863 consolidated with the Second Alabama Battery, and 1864 with Barrett's Tenth Missouri Battery. From first to last he was in the battles of Farmington, Corinth, Iuka, Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, New Hope Church, around Atlanta, and, finally, at Columbus, Ga., surrendered to General Wilson. He returned to Tennessee and worked a while in a tanyard; came South with horses and mules, and in the spring of 1866, at Morrisville, Ala., apprenticed himself to a millwright. He remained at that trade about three years, located at Oxford as a clerk two years, and at the town of Bowden, Ga., in May, 1870, married Miss Lizzie Morris. In the following year, at Oxford, he began work in a sash, door and blind factory, and from there, in 1879, came to Gadsden. At this place, as a member of the firm of Fowell, Bachus & Hicks, he manufactured sash, doors and blinds a short time, when he was made superin-

endent of the planing department of the Red Jacket Mills. After the death of Mr. Kittrell, in partnership with Mr. Standifer, Mr. Hicks purchased the Red Jacket Mills, which in six months thereafter (1882) burned down. In 1883 the large works of Kinnebrew & Hicks were started. In April, 1884, Kinnebrew withdrew from the firm, and was succeeded by Mr. Gwinn, and in March, 1887, Mr. Lane came into the firm, which is now Gwinn, Hicks & Lane. It is one of the most enterprising concerns and one of the most successful at Gadsden.

Mr. Hicks is a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows, and K. of P. fraternities.

The senior Mr. Hicks, a carpenter by trade, participated in the Indian War of 1836, and died soon after the late war between the States, at the age of seventy years. He was the son of Charles Hicks, one of the pioneers of East Tennessee. His wife died about 1852. They reared seven children, viz.: George (deceased), Jane (Mrs. John Edwards), Asberry H., Amanda (Mrs. John C. Mason), Sarah (Mrs. James Belt), Nancy Ann (Mrs. Elisha Webb), and the subject of this sketch. Asberry H., a farmer of Monroe County, Tenn., was a soldier in the Mexican War, and served in the last war as a member of an artillery company.



**DANIEL LIDDELL**, Postmaster, Gadsden, is a native of Gwinnett County, Ga., where he was born May 30, 1850. He was reared on his father's farm, and at the neighborhood schools received a good English education. Soon after arriving at twenty-one years of age he migrated to Texas, and was there for two years in the mercantile business. Coming thence into Alabama he turned his attention to farming, and on November 10, 1874, at Gadsden, was married to Miss Mary V. Nuckolls. In 1876 he again entered mercantile business, and followed it up to the time he was appointed to his present position, April, 1885. He took charge of the office on May 1st, and was confirmed by the Senate in January, 1886.

Mr. Liddell is an active Democratic worker, and was the Chairman of the County Democratic Executive Committee from 1884 until after he was appointed postmaster. He has living three children, and has buried two.

Mr. and Mrs. Liddell are members of the Bap-





*Yours truly,  
W. H. Meek*

tist Church, and Mr. Liddell is a member of the I. O. O. F., Knights of Pythias and the Masonic fraternities.

The Liddell family were among the very earliest settlers of Georgia, and several of them, among whom was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Liddell's parents were William C. P. and Evaline B. (Wynne) Liddell, natives, respectively, of Georgia and South Carolina. They came into Alabama in 1856, and settled near Hokes Bluff, in Etowah County. The senior Mr. Liddell was a soldier in the Southern Army in the late war, and held the rank of third lieutenant. He was discharged from the service on account of ill-health. He entered the army from Gadsden, where he had been living since 1859.



**GEORGE E. TURRENTINE.** Insurance Agent and Real Estate Broker, Gadsden, was born in this town April 17, 1857, and is a son of Daniel C. and Caroline E. (Lucy) Turrentine, natives, respectively, of Milledgeville, Ga., and Petersburg, Va.

The senior Mr. Turrentine was born in 1807; received a good education; was a merchant early in life; came to Alabama in 1842, and was the first settler and erected the first house ever built upon the site where now stands the flourishing city of Gadsden. A part of the house is still standing, and is located on the corner of Broad and First streets. It was built for a hotel and stage stand, and was the popular rendezvous and relay station for the early travelers between New Orleans and the capital of the United States. In addition to his hotel, Mr. Turrentine carried on a small mercantile business. He was also the first merchant in Gadsden, and was an active temperance organizer and influential politician. Mr. Turrentine was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and organized the first Sunday-school ever known in Etowah County. He was also a prominent Mason, a general of militia in *ante-bellum* days, and participated in behalf of the South during the war between the States. He died in September, 1883, and his wife in July, 1881. He reared a large family of children, several of whom survived him. One of his sons, William T., was killed in the Seven Days'

Fight around Richmond; another son, James L., served through the war; Samuel M. is dead; Joshua L., D. C. Jr., George E. and Albert E. constitute the surviving male members of his family. Of his daughters, Catherine and Leila L. are dead; Josephine is the wife of R. O. Randall; Adelaide V. is the wife of A. Harris; Lillie A. is the wife of J. J. Anshutz; Minnie E. is the wife of N. N. Polk; Carrie L. is single.

George E. Turrentine was reared in Gadsden, where he received such education as was practicable before attaining the age of fourteen years. He began life after leaving school as a farmer, and to that and the teaching of school applied himself for several years. In 1883 he entered into his present business. He and his partner represent twenty-three large companies and carry about all the insurance of Gadsden.

Mr. Turrentine was appointed justice of the peace in 1883, resigned it in 1884, and was appointed notary public. He is a Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**WILLIAM MARION MEEKS.** President of the Alabama Press Association, was born in Floyd County, Ga., the 16th of February, 1845. His parents moved to Cherokee, Ala., when the subject of this sketch was but four years of age, so he may be considered the product of Alabama. When a lad of twelve years he entered the office of the *Coosa River Argus*, published at Centre, Ala., by L. M. Stiff. He served out the full term of the contract, which ran three years.

Soon after this, in 1860, he went into the office of the *National Democrat*, which had but a brief existence, being but a campaign paper, and suspended upon the election of Lincoln. Young Meeks then returned to his native State, and early in the spring of 1861, entered the office of the *True Flag*, published in Rome, Ga. He continued as foreman of this paper until its suspension, in the fall of the same year. He then entered the office of the *Rome Courier*, where he remained until the early part of 1862, when he entered the volunteer service with a company from Cherokee County, Ala., and continued in the service until the war closed. Although but seventeen years of age, he made a faithful and gallant soldier. At

the close of the war, in 1866, he connected himself with the *Advertiser*, at Centre, Ala., from which he retired in the fall of the same year.

November 16, 1866, he married Mary J. Cothran, of Centre, and returned to Atlanta, Ga. Here he worked as a journeyman printer until 1869, when he returned to Centre to take charge of the *Advertiser*.

He began at this time to show that ability which has since made him conspicuous in Alabama journalism.

The 1st of July, 1871, he purchased the Gadsden *Times* and continued its editor and proprietor until last February, when that paper and the *News* consolidated and have been published as the *Times and News*, Meeks & Johnson being the proprietors.

Mr. Meeks began life without means, or influential friends, and with but a limited education, which he gathered at the case.

He purchased the Gadsden *Times*, by giving a mortgage on the plant, and making a small cash payment. The sale included the books and goodwill of the paper. As an evidence of his business capacity, he collected from the old accounts enough to pay the concern out of debt. The *Times* since that day until its consolidation was an influential journal and a decided financial success. Through that means Mr. Meeks has laid the foundation of a handsome fortune.

He is a man of superior natural endowment, and of great energy and industry. He seldom indulges in an idle hour, generally keeping himself full of business. He is one of Gadsden's most progressive men, and has contributed his time, talent, and money to her success and development.

Mr. Meeks is a man of strong convictions and has the courage of them. When he settles down on a question, neither fear nor force can shake him. The same energy and tact he has brought to journalism would have rendered him successful in any department of business.



**WM. P. JOHNSON**, the joint publisher and editor of the *Times and News*, Gadsden, Ala., was born in Cherokee County, this State, March 14, 1855, and is therefore at this writing less than thirty years of age. Mr. Johnson entered upon the profession of the art preservative at the age of fourteen, and has since followed it without inter-

mission. His first work was on the *Advertiser* at Centre, Ala. In 1871 he came with Mr. W. M. Weeks, to Gadsden, Ala., and was on the *Times* until 1876.

This year he concluded to try his fortune in the Lone Star State, and made that his home for two years. During this time his life was without incident, only as usually happens to the craft. The love of the home of his youth was an attraction so strong, that he no longer resisted it, and returned in 1878 and resumed his place on the *Times*, which relation he continued to sustain until 1881. He was for some time the foreman of that excellent paper and its local editor, both of which places he filled to the eminent satisfaction of all concerned. In the year 1880 he married one of the accomplished daughters of Maj. W. P. Hollingsworth. He was fortunate in his marriage, finding in his wife not only a congenial companion, but one who had a just appreciation of his profession and work, to which he proposes to devote his life.

In January, 1881, Mr. Johnson, in connection with Mr. Wellington Vandiver, established the *News*. Soon Mr. Vandiver retired, leaving Mr. Johnson sole editor and proprietor. He was now in position to show the world his tact and ability in the conduct of a newspaper. Nobly did he meet expectations, and even went beyond them. The *News* was an ably conducted, clean and pure paper. Mr. Johnson gave it his entire time and attention, and put it on a paying basis. Last February the *Times* and the *News* were consolidated, since which time Mr. Johnson has been joint publisher and editor.

Mr. Johnson is a painstaking business man. Seldom does an item of any kind go into his paper which has not passed under his eye. He is a genial and pleasant companion, a true and tried friend. He is prosperous so far as the world is concerned, and a bright future awaits him.



**JOHN W. DUNCAN** was born at Kingston, Tenn., August 22, 1843. His great-grandfather on his father's side, came from Virginia, and was killed by the Indians in 1780, in Washington County, Tenn.

His grandfather, Robert Duncan, moved from Washington County, Tenn., to Roane County, that



State, and died there in 1814. His father, Robert D. Duncan, was born in Roane County, Tenn., February 15, 1808; and married Nancy K. Liggett at Kingston, Tenn., January 10, 1839. Eight children were born unto them, five of whom still survive. Robert D. Duncan was a merchant at Kingston, Tenn., for many years until the breaking out of the civil war; came South at its close and located near Fort Payne, Ala., engaging in agricultural pursuit until 1878, when he removed to Atalla, Ala., and again entered and continued in the mercantile business until his death, which occurred in March, 1885. He was a consistent Christian fifty-three years, being a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. His mother, who was also a member of the same church, survived until October 8, 1887. His grandfather on his mother's side was Henry Liggett. He served in the War of 1812. He came from Wythe County, Va., in 1816, to Kingston, Tenn.; married Elizabeth Center, of that place, and engaged in the hotel and mercantile business. He amassed a considerable fortune; was a prominent Mason, and held various offices of trust, among which that of County Judge. Died in 1861.

The subject of this sketch entered the cavalry branch of the Confederate Army as private, at an early age, serving in Tennessee and Virginia; with General Early in Maryland in 1881, and with Armstrong's Scouts, operating inside the Federal lines till the war closed; was paroled at Kingston, Ga. At the close of the war, came to Alabama, and had his first experience as a plow boy, making a crop. Growing weary with farming, sought and obtained a position as clerk in a railroad store, and soon after, in connection with a fellow clerk, bought a small stock of merchandise and opened up in a tent, following the line of construction of the Alabama Great Southern Railroad. June 1, 1870, was married to Mary F., daughter of J. S. Morgan and Sarah J. Revel. Four children have been born to them as the result of this union. Eula M., Oscar D., and Charles O'Connor, still survive, while little Myrtle has gone to join the angels. In 1872, with a small stock of merchandise, he again commenced business in Atalla—a place that was then justly celebrated for the failures of her merchants, not one of whom up to that time had proved a success. But with untiring energy, coupled with a determination to win, he conquered all obstacles and scored the first success that had been achieved at that place. In

1873, in connection with John S. Morgan, he took a contract to mine and ship the first lot of ore ever sent from this section of North Alabama, hauling the same in ox wagons. The ore was mined on lands owned by J. S. Morgan, the pioneer in the mineral business of this country. He was born in Abbeville District, S. C., in 1811; came to Alabama when a young man, and settled in what was then Cherokee County; represented that county in the Legislature in 1851-52; was one of the founders of Gadsden, giving her the name she bears; gave the name of Etowah to our county, and also that of Atalla to our neighboring town. He devoted thirty years of his life to the investigation of minerals, predicting, years ago, a great future for our country; but he did not live to see the fulfillment of his prediction, as he died March 22, 1881.

Subject of this sketch, after successfully prosecuting the mercantile business in Atalla till 1882, moved to Gadsden and continued to carry it on until January 1, 1887, when he closed out, and has since devoted his time to other duties, being one of the incorporators and secretary and treasurer of the Gadsden Ice Company. As a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, as is also his wife.



**WILLIAM B. WYNNE**, Real Estate Broker, Gadsden, son of Thomas and Mary (Benson) Wynne, natives, respectively, of Virginia and South Carolina, was born in Greenville District, S. C., October 2, 1820.

The senior Mr. Wynne was an officer in the War of 1812. In 1826 he migrated to Georgia, where he died in 1839. His widow survived him until 1866. He was a planter by occupation, began life as a poor boy, but at his death was possessed with an ample fortune. The Wynne family came originally from Wales, and settled in Virginia away back in the early colonial days, and removed thence, as has been seen, into the South Atlantic Colony of Carolina. The Benson family are of Saxon origin, and many of them are found in this country and throughout England at this day. William B. Wynne's maternal grandfather was Maj. Thomas Benson, of Revolutionary fame. He married into the Prince family for whom old Fort Prince was named. A history of the collateral branches of these various families would introduce many characters prominent both in Church

and State, and would make a volume of interesting reading.

The subject of this sketch spent the first fourteen years of his life on his father's farm, and during that period acquired such learning as was possible at the schools of his neighborhood. While yet a boy he was employed by a relative as a sales-man in a mercantile establishment at Anderson, S. C., and he remained there four years. At the death of his father he returned to Georgia, and for two years peddled merchandise about the country. At the end of that time, in partnership with his brother, he embarked in mercantile business at Pine Mountain, Ga. From here he removed to Franklin, Ga., where he married Mary A. Cowden. In 1845 he came into Alabama, and at Jacksonville was engaged in mercantile business until 1850. In that year he moved to Etowah County, and there, at two or three different places, carried on mercantile business. In 1857 he located at Gadsden, where, in partnership with Col. R. B. Kyle, he was engaged at merchandising at the outbreak of the late war. The mercantile business was suspended during the war, and he established a tannery, which carried on an extensive traffic until 1867. From 1868 to 1876 he was in mercantile business in New York City, and made thereat a considerable sum of money. In the latter named year he removed to Atlanta, Ga., and from that time he has been variously engaged at merchandising, as traveling salesman, etc., and, in December, 1885, was at Birmingham, manufacturing wire fence. He located finally, and in his present business, at Gadsden, in December, 1886, and became one of the prime movers in the Gadsden "boom." It is recorded of him that he has sold more real estate than any other man in Gadsden.

Mr. Wynne was married August 29, 1844, and has reared a large family of children. Of the latter we make the following memoranda: Thomas F., assistant chief engineer of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, Kansas City; William C., clerk for same concern; John F., of Atlanta, Ga.; Joseph A., pastor of the Baptist Church at Gadsden; Mary W. (Mrs. E. N. Meade), of Kirkwood, Ga.; Emma W. (Mrs. A. P. Evans), deceased; Katie P. (Mrs. Charles Weatherly), of Kansas City; Charles C., of Chattanooga; Annie (Mrs. B. B. Hay, of Edgewood, Ga.); and Minnie W., deceased. The entire family are members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. Wynne is a Mason.

**OBADIAH WARD** was born near Spartanburg, S. C., December 14, 1817, and died at Gadsden, April 21, 1880. He was reared on a farm, and at the old field schools of his neighborhood acquired a limited education. To this, however, he subsequently, by diligent application, added until he was possessed of more than ordinary information.

While quite a young man, he engaged in mercantile business in De Kalb County; first as a clerk and soon afterward as proprietor. He inherited no fortune, but through industry and the exercise of a sound business judgment, he built up an ample income. He was married, in August, 1850, in Cherokee County, to Sarah Sedberry, daughter of S. H. and Annie J. (Fletcher) Sedberry, of that county, but natives of North Carolina. Mr. Ward remained in De Kalb County until 1868, at which time he came into Gadsden. Here he engaged at the mercantile business, and continued thereat until driven by ill health to a discontinuance of all labors, some five or six years before his death.

Mr. Ward was a strong uncompromising temperance man, a member of the Masonic fraternity, and a consistent Christian. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was noted for his charity. He reared a family of five children, to-wit: John, now of Nashville, Tenn.; Charlie, wife of J. B. Martin; Mary, deceased; Sallie, wife of James L. Tanner; and Charles.

Mr. Ward's parents were Samuel and Susanna (Cannon) Ward. The senior Mr. Ward was a planter in South Carolina, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He reared a family of four sons and four daughters, and, in about 1834, removed to Alabama, and settled in Cherokee County; later on he removed to De Kalb County, this State, and here spent the rest of his life. His wife died prior to his leaving South Carolina.



**JOHN L. POGUE**, Manufacturer, Gadsden, was born in Chambers County, this State, June 23, 1850, and is a son of John L. and Elizabeth (Pratt) Pogue, natives of Georgia. His earlier life was spent at Wetumpka, receiving there a common-school education, and from the age of seventeen to twenty-one was engaged in farming. In 1871 he came to Gadsden and accepted employment on salary until 1883, at which time he engaged in the

lumber business. In 1887, he formed a partnership with H. Herzberg, in the manufacture of lumber. The mills were established in 1875, by B. J. Kittrell, burned down in 1882, re-built in 1884.

Mr. Pogue is also interested in other business enterprises, and is one of Gadsden's live, wide-awake business men. He was married in December, 1883, to Mrs. B. J. Kittrell, daughter of John and Sarah (Pressley) Miller, natives of South Carolina. Mr. Miller was a Presbyterian minister; moved to South Alabama in 1843, and spent the rest of his life in Wilcox County. In addition to the ministry, he was a popular educator and taught many years in the Wilcox Institute. He reared a family of five sons and three daughters. Of the former, Joseph is an attorney, at Camden; John is a professor in Erskine College, South Carolina; James is a citizen of Gadsden; Meek is a student at law; and David is a sophomore in Erskine College. His daughters are all married to gentlemen of high standing in the various communities where they live. The Millers came originally from Ireland.

John L. Pogue and wife are members of the Old School Presbyterian Church. To her first husband, Mr. Kittrell, Mrs. Pogue bore five children.

**JAMES M. ELLIOTT, Jr.**, Manufacturer, Gadsden, Ala., was born in Rome, Ga., November 12, 1854, there attended the common schools, and graduated in 1874, from Emory and Henry College, Virginia. Leaving school, he engaged in steamboat business, and, in connection with lumber manufacture, continued therat until 1885. Since the latter year, having closed out his steamboat interest, he has given his entire attention to the production of and traffic in lumber. From 1883 to 1886 he operated in lumber in Alabama, Kansas and Texas, and in 1887 organized the Elliott Car Company, of which he is president and general manager. He is also connected with the Kyle Lumber Company and the Elliott Pig Iron Company. In January, 1878, he married Miss Nena Kyle, the accomplished daughter of Col. Robert Kyle, of Gadsden.

Mr. Elliott is a son of James M. and Emily J. (Hoss) Elliott, natives, respectively, of Virginia and Alabama. J. M. Elliott, Sr., settled at Rome,

Ga., in 1847, and from that time until 1881 was in the steamboat business on the Coosa River. He was the second man that ever ran a boat on this river. He began life a poor boy, but at this writing he is possessed of a handsome competency. In 1874, he organized the Round Mountain Pig Iron Works, and was the general superintendent of that concern a number of years. He is now the president of the Elliott Pig Iron Company, located at Round Mountain. His forefathers were among the early settlers of Virginia. He has reared a family of three sons and three daughters. The sons are all active business men, and the daughters, with one exception, are married.



**WILLIAM J. SIBERT**, was born October 17, 1833, in St. Clair County, Ala., and is a son of David and Elizabeth (Cook) Sibert, natives of Abbeville District, S. C. The senior Mr. Sibert was a planter. He moved to St. Clair County in 1819, and thence to DeKalb County in 1833, where he purchased land from the Indians, eighty acres of which, according to their tradition, had been in cultivation over one hundred years. The old gentleman spent the rest of his life in DeKalb County. He was the father of eleven children, eight of whom grew to adult estate, to-wit: John W., farmer died in Arkansas; Henry, farmer, DeKalb County; Martha, widow of William Waddell, of Arkansas; Geo. W., deceased; Jasper, a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, now of Arkansas; Julia (Mrs. Arthur A. Parr), both she and her husband are dead; Hulda, deceased; Mary (Mrs. W. B. Beeson, of DeKalb County), John W. and Henry were both soldiers in the Southern Army during the late war. David Sibert's father came to America as a soldier in the British Army, served his term of enlistment, and at once joined the Colonial Army under General Marion, and adopted this country as his home. He married a Miss Wilmore, of Virginia, reared three sons and three daughters, and died in South Carolina, where he had been a farmer, and a preacher in the Lutheran Church. The Cook family, from which the subject of this sketch is descended through the maternal line, were probably of mixed German and English extraction.

William J. Sibert was reared on a farm, received a common-school education, and was thirty-five

years of age when he enlisted in Company I, Tenth Alabama, as a second lieutenant. He served a few months, when ill-health forced him to resign. In the spring of 1862, he joined Company G, Forty-eighth Alabama, and with that regiment participated in the battles of second Manassas, the Wilderness, Petersburg, etc. He was wounded at Manassas, and at Petersburg was forced from its effects to retire from field duty. He then accepted a position in the quartermaster's department and remained to the close of the war.

After farming two years, he, in 1867, came to Gadsden, engaged in hotel business, until 1879, then in mercantile business, to which he has since given his attention. His first partner was named Barrett, firm of Barrett & Sibert. Mr. Barrett retired in 1882, and the firm has since been Sibert & Ward. He is also the senior member of the firm of Sibert & Blair, wholesale and retail dealers in hardware. In addition to mercantile business, he has been and is now interested in agriculture. He was married September 20, 1856, to Miss Mary E. Ward. Of the ten children born to them, six are living: Charlie (Mrs. A. J. Blair); William L., graduate of the West Point Class 1884, also in corps of engineers at Willett's Point, N. Y., class of 1887, and a lieutenant in the United States Engineers Corps; Samuel H., Martin D., Fannie B., Olin W. The family is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Sibert is a Freemason.



**RODOLPHUS OGILVIE RANDALL.** Jeweler and Queensware Merchant, was born at Brockport, Monroe County, N. Y., April 15, 1840, and is a son of Myrick O. and Lucy N. (Kingsbury) Randall, natives, respectively, of Vermont and New York. He was reared and educated at Brockport, and while quite a youth learned the trade of watchmaker. At the age of eighteen years he went to New York City, and there, under James M. Bottom, at the time the leading watchmaker of this country, perfected his trade. He came to Gadsden in September, 1858, took charge of Kyle, Wynne & Co.'s jewelry department, and remained with them until January, 1860. At that date his employers dissolved partnership, and he purchased their jewelry stock and started in business for himself. March, 1862, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company A, Thirty-first Alabama Infantry, and

with that command served one year. Leaving the service at Vicksburg, he returned to Gadsden, resumed the jewelry business and followed it until 1872. His was the first jewelry store, exclusively, established at Gadsden.

From 1872 to 1885 he devoted his time to life insurance business, and spent part of that period at Mobile, Atlanta and Louisville. In the fall of the last-named year he returned to Gadsden, and in the latter part of 1886 established his present business. He has the finest establishment of the kind in North Alabama.

February 22, 1860, Mr. Randall married Miss Josephine Turrentine, daughter of the late Gen. D. C. Turrentine, and has had born to him ten children, eight of whom are now living, namely: Carrie L. (Mrs. John L. Caldwell), James W., Robert E., Ruth, Bianca, Joseph P., Edith and Daniel M.

The family are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Randall is a Knight of Honor and a Knight Templar Mason.

In addition to his mercantile business, Mr. Randall is vice-president of the First National Bank, president of the Gadsden Metallic Paint Company, and is more or less interested in several other of Gadsden's leading enterprises.

The senior Mr. Randall was a watchmaker and jeweler for many years. Of his three children the subject of this sketch was the eldest. His second son, Eugene A., was a jeweler also, and died at the age of thirty years. His only daughter, Bianca, is the wife of C. F. Miller, of Chattanooga, Tenn. The old gentleman is yet living, and is seventy-one years of age. His father was Nathaniel Randall, a farmer by occupation, born at Pembroke, Mass.; married Betsy Brown, who, like himself, was of old Puritan stock. He reared a family of eight sons and two daughters, all but two of whom married and brought up families. The Kingsbury family is also of Massachusetts Puritan stock, and lived near Boston. There are living in various States of the Union a large number of Kingsburys, all descendants of the same stock.



**JOSEPH R. HUGHES** was born at Gadsden March 14, 1842, and is a son of Gabriel and Asenath D. (Young) Hughes, natives of Raywood, Lincoln County, N. C.

The senior Mr. Hughes migrated to Georgia in early life. There, in 1832, was married, and in 1838 came to Alabama. He located near Jacksonville, in Calhoun County, and in 1840 moved to Double Springs, near Gadsden, and in 1845, with his associates, James Hughes and John S. Morgan, founded the now thriving city of Gadsden. He died in March, 1886; his wife died in 1885. He was one of the first postmasters at Gadsden, then known as Double Springs. It seems that he made his home where now stands the town of Atalla from 1857 up to the time of his death. He was a prominent Mason, and his wife a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Hughes family, after coming to America, settled first in Pennsylvania, removing thence to the Carolinas. This branch of the Young family are of German descent.

The subject of this sketch lived on his father's farm until the year 1857. He was attending school in April, 1862, when he entered the Confederate Army as a member of Company G, Forty-eighth Alabama, and with that regiment participated in the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond, at Manassas, where he was slightly wounded, and at Sharpsburg. In October, 1862, he was, on account of failing health, honorably discharged; came home, and in November following joined Tracy's Brigade as chief clerk of the Commissary Department, under Major Hollingsworth. He was in the memorable siege of Vicksburg; was present at the surrender of General Pemberton, on Fourth of July, 1863, and, being paroled, joined his command at Missionary Ridge, in September, 1863. He was afterward in the campaigns of Dalton and Atlanta; at the battle of Jones-boro; was with Hood in his raid into Tennessee, and all the battles from Nashville to North Carolina, where he surrendered with Johnston.

Returning home, he entered a dry goods establishment as clerk, and in a short time moved to Cherokee County, where he was deputy in the Circuit Clerk's office. He came to Gadsden, and on December 14, 1867, was married to Mary E. Davis, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Adam-) Davis of this place.

Mr. Hughes built the Exchange Hotel, and was its first proprietor; erected the first steam flour mill at Gadsden, and was in the milling business until 1874, when he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court of Etowah County. He was re-elected Clerk in 1880, and since 1886 has been engaged in

the real estate business. He owns a large number of acres of land; gives some attention to agriculture; is interested in the new Gadsden Hotel, and is also secretary of the Gadsden Real Estate Company.

Aside from the office of Clerk of the Court he has been several times a member of the City Council. He is an extensive owner of mineral lands, and is more or less identified with the leading industries of the booming town of Gadsden.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Hughes is a Knight of Honor and a staunch Democrat.

Their three sons are named William F., Robert G., and Preston M.



**JAMES RUSH NOWLIN**, Manufacturer, Gadsden, was born in Bedford County, Va., January 18, 1846, and is a son of Dr. James H. and Ma-linda B. (Staples) Nowlin.

Dr. Nowlin, in addition to practicing medicine, was a druggist in Virginia, and in 1862 removed from there to Georgia, where he continued the same profession and line of business. He died in May, 1886. He reared three children; the eldest, Samuel H., served through the war under Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, was three times a prisoner, and made two escapes—he is now of Little Rock, Ark.; the third son, Casper W., was in the army toward the latter part of the war, and is now also at Little Rock. Dr. Nowlin's first wife died while her children were quite young, and his second wife, to whom he was married some years afterward, bore him one daughter, Olivia, now Mrs. Noble. The Doctor was a graduate from the medical department of the University of Virginia. He was a brilliant scholar and skillful physician, and during his life contributed much valuable literature to the profession.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Roanoke College, Virginia, from which institution he was graduated as A. B. in 1869, and in 1872 received the degree of M. A. He was clerking in his father's drug store at the outbreak of the late war, and in February, 1863, joined Company D, Fifth Virginia Cavalry; with that command participated in the battles of Yellow Tavern, Spotsylvania Court House, Winchester, New Town, Harrisburg, Five Forks, all the battles of the

Shenandoah Valley, and was with General Lee at Appomattox. At the close of the war he returned home, and to the drug business, and later on had some experience as a dry goods clerk. In 1867 he located at Gadsden, and entered into the drug business. In 1868 he entered Roanoke College, from which institution he graduated with honors, and in metaphysics took the gold medal. After graduation he resumed the drug business, and since 1870 has been interested in farming. He was one of the incorporators of the Gadsden Ice Company, and is its president; he is secretary, treasurer and business manager of the Gadsden Metallic Paint Company, and is interested in various enterprises, manufacturing and otherwise.

Mr. Nowlin is regarded by the people of Gadsden as one of their most enterprising, wide-awake, public-spirited citizens. He started in life without a dollar, and, without the intervention of "windfalls" or legacies, has accumulated a competency.

Mr. Nowlin was married November 3, 1869, to Adella L. Nuckolls, daughter of Col. Nathaniel M. Nuckolls, a prominent capitalist of Columbus, Ga., and the children born to him are, Jennie L., Linda S., Adella L., James R., Emma O., Henry Clay, Corrie May and Robert Lee. The family are members of the Baptist Church.

**SAMUEL HENRY**, Merchant, Gadsden, was born in Sevier County, East Tenn., July 17, 1825, and is a son of Samuel and Margaret (Bryan) Henry.

The senior Mr. Henry was born in the same county in 1788, and his wife in 1798. They reared three children: Mary A., wife of A. G. Henry; John B., merchant and farmer; and the subject of this sketch. John B. was a soldier in the Confederate Army during the war, and the senior Mr. Henry, a farmer all his life by occupation, was with General Jackson in the War of 1812, and by him appointed collector of commissary, associated with Judge Porter. He died at Henry's Cross Roads, East Tenn., 1835. His widow died in 1845. They were both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The family came from Virginia into Tennessee away back in the early settlement of the latter State.

Colonel Herbert [see Ramsay's History of Tennessee], the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a distinguished Indian fighter during his days. He was a prominent farmer, and served many times in the Legislature of Tennessee.

Samuel Henry was reared on a farm, and received a West Point education. At the age of twenty-three years he entered mercantile business with his cousin, A. G. Henry, at Gunter's Landing, and was there until 1861. In April, 1861, he raised a company and went into the war, and was a member of the Ninth Alabama Infantry; and later became a member of the Eighth Alabama Cavalry, Clanton's Brigade. He left the service with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

In the spring of 1866, he located at Gadsden, where he has since been in the mercantile business. He was married in 1856 to Miss Charity E. Fennell, daughter of Dr. James W. Fennell.

Mr. Henry is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Honor.

**WILLIAM HAGAN**, born in Denmark, April 9, 1845, is a son of Carl Frederick and Elizabeth Hagan. He came to this country in 1863, landed at Quebec, going thence to Chicago, where he followed his trade (that of moulder) for several years. Soon after the late war he came South on a prospecting tour, and in 1872 located at Rome, Ga., and remained until 1879. In that year he came to Gadsden, where, in partnership with John Flynn, he established a small foundry and machine shop. In 1883, Mr. G. E. Line came into the firm, and they organized and established the Gadsden Foundry and Machine Works, with a capital stock of \$10,000. This was the first iron working concern started at Gadsden, and the success of the enterprise has been even greater than its founders ever expected.

Messrs. Hagan & Flynn purchased Line's interest in the foundry and machine works in March, 1887, and are now its exclusive owners.

Mr. Hagan was married in September, 1872, at Rome, Ga., to Miss Jennie Martin, and their two children are named, respectively, Daisy and Frederick. Mr. and Mrs. Hagan are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Hagan is a member of the Knights of Honor and Knights of Pythias.

**JOHN FLYNN** was born in Jefferson County, Ind., in 1837, where he learned the trade of machinist. He came South in 1857; since then has been a continuous resident of the South, principally Alabama.

In 1879, in connection with Mr. Hagan, he established the first foundry in Gadsden, in which business they have been very successful. He is at present writing a member of the Board of Aldermen of Gadsden.

Mr. Flynn is a married man with five children, namely: Mildred, James, John, Henry and Mamie.

Mr. Flynn is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities, and is regarded as one of the sterling business men of Gadsden.



**AUGUSTIN L. WOODLIFF** was born in Hall County, Ga., October 7, 1827, and is a son of George and Isabella (Henderson) Woodliff, natives, respectively, of Virginia and South Carolina. The former was born in 1786, and the latter in 1792.

The senior Mr. Woodliff migrated to Georgia, locating in Clarke County in 1820, and it was there he was married to Miss Henderson. He was a farmer by occupation, and a man of considerable local influence. They reared a family of six children, of whom we make the following mention: Josiah H. is a farmer in Forsyth County, Ga.; Nancy J. is the wife of Col. James A. Greene, of Milledgeville, Ga. Colonel Greene was once surveyor-general of Georgia, and has been a member of the Legislature of that State. George F. is a farmer near Gainesville. Thomas J. was killed at the battle of Fredericksburg. He was a lieutenant, and entered the army from Arkansas, and participated in the Missouri campaign. Oliver P., now of Belton, Ga., served in the Fourteenth Georgia Regiment during the war. The senior Mr. Woodliff was in the War of 1812. He died in 1849. His father was also a native of Virginia, and was a soldier in the War of the Revolution and afterward in the War of 1812. The family came from Scotland to America.

The subject of this sketch spent the first seventeen years of his life on his father's farm, and received a fair education at the common schools of the neighborhood. In 1846 he accepted a clerkship in a mercantile establishment at Nuckelsville, Ga.,

and from there, at the end of one year, went to Gainesville, where he remained until 1850. In the latter year he migrated to California in search of gold, and there he was both miner and speculator. He returned to the States in 1853, possessed of a considerable sum of money.

Mr. Woodliff was married in January, 1851, to Miss Lavinia C. Law, daughter of James and Mary (Ingram) Law.

Mr. Law was for twenty-one years Clerk of the Court of Hall County, Ga., and was a popular and wealthy man. He died in 1859, and his wife in 1876. The subject of this sketch has had born to him the following named children: Ida A. (Mrs. M. D. Lowe), James F.; George H., at Fort Worth, Texas; Thomas J., Augustin Wyly, Henry L., at Galveston, Texas; Mollie B. (Mrs. Dr. Ralph M. Russell), Sallie Law, deceased; Olive G.; Nannie L., deceased; William Joe; Paulina Chester, deceased; Eddie Guy, Bessie Clark.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Woodliff engaged in the mercantile business, and followed it at Cumming, Ga., until 1857, in which year he came to Gadsden and engaged at farming. In 1861 he enlisted in Company G, Nineteenth Alabama Regiment, as first orderly, and was soon afterward promoted to third lieutenant. He resigned in 1862 on account of ill health, and in May following re-entered the army as first lieutenant of Company D, Forty-eighth Alabama. He was promoted to captain in less than a month afterward, and participated in the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond, Cedar Run, near Culpeper Court House, second battle of Manassas, siege and capture of Harper's Ferry, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and in March, 1863, resigned to accept the appointment of Tax-Assessor, which position he filled until the close of the war.

In the fall of 1865 Mr. Woodliff was elected to the State Senate, and introduced the bill forming Baine County. This county, abolished by the Reconstructionists in 1868, was afterward re-established and called Etowah County. In the last named year he turned his attention to merchandising and followed it four years, going thence into the lumber and machine business. Since that time he has been engaged variously at mercantile and livery business, and is now devoting his time to the sale of wagons, buggies, real estate, etc. He is one of the largest real estate owners in the county.

Mr. Woodliff is a very active man. Having lost every dollar of his property during the war, what of his worldly possessions he has since acquired is the result of his individual effort and industry. He is variously interested in the principal enterprises of Gadsden, and owns the largest livery stable in that place, and probably the largest in the State, outside of Birmingham. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor.



**WILLIAM PATRICK LAY** is a native of Cherokee County, Ala., son of Cumins M. and Elizabeth (McGhee) Lay, was born in June, 1853. The senior Mr. Lay, a native of Tennessee, came to Alabama in 1835, and engaged at flat-boating, and subsequently at steamboating on the Coosa River; and to that business devoted his entire time. He reared seven children, to-wit: John H., carpenter and builder; William Patrick (subject of this sketch); James M., merchant at Rome, Ga.; Washington C., steamboat captain; Sallie B., wife of H. B. Myers; Mary L. and Minnie L. His father, John Lay, was an Englishman; came to America, settled first in Virginia, thence migrated to Tennessee; came into Alabama in 1835, and, in 1859, removed to Dallas, Texas, and there died in 1866.

The subject of this sketch received an academic education, and, at the age of eighteen years, began the machinist trade in the engine department of extensive railroad shops, and worked at that trade six years. From the shop he went on the road as a locomotive engineer; and in 1874 came to Gadsden as a book-keeper for W. P. Hollingsworth. At the death of Mr. Hollingsworth, Mr. Lay was appointed managing executor of his estate, the settlement and management of which has since that date (1880) required much of his time. He is also largely interested in the manufacture of lumber, is general manager of the Gadsden Electric Light Company, president of the Gadsden Hotel Company, director in the Woodlawn Land Company, an extensive cotton buyer, and more or less interested in various other Gadsden enterprises.

Mr. Lay was married in April, 1876, to Miss Laura J. Hollingsworth, daughter of the late W. P. Hollingsworth, and the four children born to him are William E., Carl S., Tracy H., and

Ralph. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Lay is a member of the Order of the Knights of Pythias. He has served the city several terms as councilman, and is now chief of her fire department.



**WILLIAM HENDERSON STANDIFER** is a native of Cherokee, Ala., son of Lemuel J. and Sarah F. (Underwood) Standifer, and was born in December, 1850.

The senior Mr. Standifer is a native of Tennessee, came to Alabama when a young man, read law, was admitted to the bar at Rome, Ga., practiced a while in Floyd County, that State, married at Cold Springs, returned to Alabama, and was a farmer in Cherokee County until 1860. In that year he was elected probate judge; soon afterward entered the army, served a short time, was discharged for disability, came back to his judgeship, and filled that office until 1868. From 1868 to 1874 he gave his time to the practice of law, and, at the age of sixty-nine years, located at Gadsden, where he served as United States Commissioner several years. He is at this writing (1888) retired from all business. Of his eight children we make the following memoranda: Leoni (Mrs. John L. Daughdrill), L. V. (widow of H. C. Harrison), Augusta G. (Mrs. John H. Disque), Walter S., Florence (Mrs. William W. Stevenson), John H., Ada, and the subject of this sketch, who was the second in order of birth.

The Standifers migrated from Georgia into Tennessee probably in the person of William H. Standifer, and settled in Bledsoe County. He was a merchant and farmer; married a Miss Hogue, and reared seven sons and three daughters. From Bledsoe, at a very early date, he moved into Cherokee County, Ala., and there died in 1860, at the age of seventy years. His wife died in 1882, at the age of eighty-eight years. They were the grandparents of the subject of this sketch. They were nice old people, strict Presbyterians, and wielded a marked influence for good in the neighborhood.

The Underwood family were Georgians.

The subject of this sketch was reared in the country, educated at the common schools, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in DeKalb County, this State. He began the practice at Gadsden, where he has since resided. He has



been three times Mayor of this city, and in 1882 he was appointed Justice of the Peace, to which office he was elected in 1884. He declined the office of United States Commissioner in 1885, and is, at this writing, discharging the duties of Justice. It is recorded of him that he made one of the best Mayors that Gadsden ever had. The water-works were established under his administration; a system of street improvement was inaugurated, and really the foundation of what has since become known as the Gadsden boom was laid while he was Mayor.



**JOSEPH R. HUGHES** was born at Gadsden, March 14, 1842, and is a son of Gabriel Hughes, native of Haywood County, N. C.

The senior Mr. Hughes migrated to Georgia in early life, there married and came to Alabama. He located at Jackson, Calhoun County, subsequently moving to Double Springs, near Gadsden, and became one of the founders of this place. He died in March, 1886.

He was the first postmaster at Gadsden, then known as Double Springs. It seems that he made his home where now stands the town of Atalla from 1857 up to the time of his death. He was a prominent Mason and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Hughes family, after coming to America, settled first in Pennsylvania, removing thence to the Carolinas.

The subject of this sketch lived on his father's farm until the year 1857. He was attending school in April, 1862, when he entered the Confederate Army as a member of Company B, Forty-eighth Alabama, and with that regiment participated in the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond, at Manassas, where he was slightly wounded, and at Sharpsburg, in October, 1862, he was discharged, came home, and in November following joined Tracy's Brigade as chief clerk of the Commissary Department. He surrendered, with General Pemberton, at Vicksburg, and after being paroled joined his command at Missionary Ridge in September, 1863. He was afterward in the campaigns of Dalton and Atlanta, at the battle of Jonesboro; was with Hood in his raid into Tennessee, and all the battles from Nashville to North Carolina, where he participated in the last battle of the war, and surrendered with Johnson,

Returning home he entered a dry goods establishment as clerk, and in a short time moved to Cherokee County, where he was deputy in the circuit clerk's office. He came to Gadsden, and on December 14, was married to Mary Davis, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth (Adams) Davis.

Mr. Hughes built the Exchange Hotel, and managed it two years; erected the first steam flour mill at Gadsden, and was in the milling business until 1874, when he was elected Clerk of the Court. He was re-elected Clerk in 1880, and since 1886 has been engaged in the real estate business. He owns a large number of acres of land, gives some attention to agriculture; is interested in the new Gadsden hotel, and also in the Gadsden Land and Iron Company.

Aside from the office of Clerk of the Court, he has been several times a member of the City Council. He is an extensive owner of mineral lands; is more or less identified with the leading industries of the booming town of Gadsden.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Hughes is a Knight of Honor. Their three sons are named William F., Robert S., and Preston M.



**WILLIAM CLINTON BELLENGER**, Merchant, Gadsden, was born in Fulton County, Ga., April 15, 1850; spent the first fourteen years of his life upon his father's farm, and received his education at the schools of Decatur, that State. After leaving school he followed railroading for a period of about six years, and in March, 1874, came to Gadsden, where, with Messrs. Hodges & Wright, he established a supply store, the style of the firm being Hodges, Belenger & Wright. In 1875 Mr. Hodges withdrew, and the firm became Belenger & Wright. At this writing, and after two or three changes in the firm, the style of the firm is Belenger Bros. Aside from his mercantile business, Mr. Belenger is largely interested in agriculture, and is more or less identified with various leading industries in Gadsden. He started in life relying wholly upon his individual effort and industry, and though yet a young man, he has succeeded in placing himself at the head of one of the largest establishments of the city, and of accumulating

some of the most valuable property in the county. He belongs to that modern class of Southern men who appear to have come to the surface as if by magic, and whose feats in enterprise and progress are attracting the attention of the civilized world.

Mr. Bellenger was married October 12, 1882, to Miss Sallie S. Ralls, the accomplished daughter of Dr. John P. Ralls, of Gadsden, and has had born to him two children: Mary and Harry.

John Nelson Bellenger, father of the subject of this sketch, a native South Carolinian and a pioneer of Georgia, was a prominent attorney, and served several terms as Judge of the Superior Court. He was also a member of the house of Representatives in the Legislature of his State several times; was prominently identified with church work, and equally prominent as a Mason and an Odd Fellow. In addition to the law and other matters, he gave much attention to agriculture. At the Forks of Peach Tree Creek, near Atlanta, at a place known as Bellenger Springs, taking its name from Sir Edward Bellenger, of England, Judge Bellenger owned an extensive plantation, which is probably in the family at this writing. Judge Bellenger died in July, 1853. Two of his sons served gallantly in the Confederate Army. His wife was Miss Sarah Ann Collier before her first marriage. She was a native of Atlanta, and was the widow of John Patey.



**HERMAN HERZBERG.** Merchant, Gadsden, was born in Westphalia, Prussia, September, 1837, and is a son of Isaac and Helene (Aronstein) Herzberg.

Mr. Herzberg was educated in the old country, graduated at Minden, Prussia, and served one year as volunteer in the Prussian Army. He received his commercial training at Dortmund, Westphalia, and at Cologne, Rhenish Prussia. In 1859 he came to America on a visit to relatives in Georgia, and while here had his attention called to Gadsden through Civil Engineer Hardee, then surveying a line of railroad from Dalton to Gadsden. The latter place being pointed out as the terminus of the Coosa & Tennessee, the Alabama & Tennessee, the Wills' Valley, and other railroad lines, he was induced to settle at this place, and did so in the summer of 1860. In the spring of 1861 he entered the Confederate service

as a private soldier in Company I, Tenth Alabama Infantry, and remained in the service until after the battle of Fredericksburg. While in the army he participated in hard-fought battles, and at Dranesville, Va., received a severe gun-shot wound, which ultimately necessitated his discharge from the service. After leaving the army he returned to Gadsden, and has here since made his home.

Mr. Herzberg brought with him to America a considerable sum of money, but the close of the war found him comparatively penniless. So soon as he was able to arrange matters he engaged in the mercantile business, which, begun in a small way, has long since grown into one of the most extensive enterprises of its kind in North Alabama; in fact, it is probable that his store at Gadsden is the largest individual concern of its character north of Montgomery. In addition to his mercantile business, Mr. Herzberg is extensively interested in the manufacture of raw lumber; is a large stockholder in the Gadsden Furnace Company; is president of the Gadsden Mineral Land Company; president of the Queen City Electric Light Company; director in the Gadsden Land and Improvement Company; director in the First National Bank of Gadsden; director in the Gadsden Ice Company, and is more or less identified with various enterprises and industries. He was the first buyer of cotton at Gadsden since the war; is active in every way in developing the town and its best interests; owns several large farms in the county, and acres upon acres of the finest mineral land in the world. He was one of the commissioners to call an election to incorporate the town of Gadsden, and afterward held the office of Alderman. He is a prominent Mason; member of the Chapter, and has been presiding officer of the Council.

Mr. Herzberg was married in March, 1863, to Miss Mary I. Liddell, daughter of W. C. Liddell, and has had born to him five children: William L., Albert, Louis L., Herman and Eva B. Mrs. Herzberg died in October, 1884.



**SAMUEL W. BERGER.** Merchant, Capitalist and Manufacturer, Gadsden, was born in Hungary, Austria, May 12, 1857; came to America in June, 1870, and landed in New York City, the possessor of Austrian coin, equivalent in value to forty cents.

His father, Joseph Berger, was a farmer and flour dealer in Austria, and there died in 1864.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the schools of Hungary, and since coming to America, by dint of close application and perseverance in study, he has possessed himself of a fair English education.

From New York Mr. Berger came direct to Nashville, Tenn., where for the first two years he did little else than attend school. In 1872 he came into Alabama, located at Tuscaloosa, and was there in the capacity of a salesman in a mercantile establishment eight years. He came to Gadsden in 1880 from Chattanooga, whither he had gone from Tuscaloosa, and here engaged in

the dry goods business, carrying a line of clothing, boots, shoes, etc., under the style and firm name of S. W. Berger & Co. His partner, Mr. Loveman, died in the spring of 1887, since which time Mr. Berger has been sole proprietor of the immense business.

In addition to his mercantile interests, in which he has regularly invested about \$40,000, Mr. Berger is identified with various other important industries. He was one of the incorporators and prime movers in the establishment of the Gadsden Metallic Paint Mill, and is its vice-president. He is a large stockholder and a director in the First National Bank. Altogether, he is one of the active, progressive business men of Gadsden.



## V.

### CULLMAN.

The founder of the above-named colony, Mr. John G. Cullmann, brought the first immigrants into the State of Alabama, to Tusculum and Florence, during the years 1871 and 1872. As the land at these cities and their surroundings was chiefly private property, it had to be either purchased or secured by contract for the settlement of immigrants, which was a difficult task, as under the then existing circumstances and the condition of the country, many large real estate property holders were not in favor of immigration on the one side, and, on the other, the Northern and Eastern press did all in their power to discourage immigration to the South. On the 29th of September, 1872, the railroad from Decatur to Montgomery, Ala., was completed; the South & North Alabama Railroad Company did own, on both sides of said road, large tracts of lands in the mountain regions, of which Mr. Cullmann about 349,000 acres for the establishment of a colony secured said lands were situated; in Townships 9, 10 and 11, and extending fifteen miles on each side of the said railroad, east and west.

On January 5, 1873, Mr. John G. Cullmann called the first meeting of citizens at Cincinnati, Ohio, for the purpose of inviting and encouraging immigration to the South, and especially to establish his colony on the table-lands of North Alabama, on the South & North Alabama Railroad; fifteen families declared their intention to immigrate to the Sunny South at that meeting.

The spot selected for the location of the colony was then a perfect wilderness; no roads, no bridges across the streams, no houses, nor any signs of life in the surrounding country was visible, with the exception of the huts formerly occupied by laborers engaged in constructing the railroad. It was a difficult task to turn the tide of immigration South, as the natural course of the the same was from the East to the West, where great and attractive inducements were offered to the immigrants, to accomplish the object of inducing immigrants to go South, he found large and many

obstacles in his way as well in the North and the East, as in the South itself.

What energy and perseverance can accomplish has been proved by the success of the colony. At the end of the month of April, 1873, the first five families, consisting of ten persons, arrived here from Cincinnati, Ohio, and on the 1st day of May, 1873, the first tree was felled for the founding of the first house of the colony; and that the colony has been a success its present prosperous condition is a living proof. As a general rule, the first settlers in such colonies are chiefly poor and need assistance. So was it here. All necessary provisions, building materials—in fact, everything—had to be brought here, in the beginning, from abroad, and thereby were the expenses and prices for the same considerably increased.

In the month of January, 1874, already 123 families had settled here, and steps were taken to incorporate the town of Cullman. A Catholic and a Protestant church were in progress of erection, schools opened, and the streets of the town, 100 feet wide, were cleared of trees and undergrowth. Everywhere could be seen the industry and energy of the sturdy settler.

Lumber was a scarce article, with no saw-mills in the colony. Mr. T. C. Wilhite offered to locate one near the present town, which mill was in operation shortly afterward, and he received one block of building lots, where his present residence is standing, as a gift from the railroad company. The building of houses then commenced, and in a few weeks a nice and thrifty town had risen from the ground where a few months previous had been a wilderness, the resort of the deer, fox and catamount. The first hotel, the "Pioneer Hotel," was from hewn logs, constructed two stories high, but unhappily destroyed by fire in 1878. On the site of it the present "Pioneer Hotel" was erected of brick made in the colony. Until the same was completed, immigrants had to content themselves with most anything in the shape of quarters, and dur-

ing rainy days or nights had to use the umbrella to prevent getting drenched with the rain even inside their quarters. Very often immigrants were from one to two miles either above or below the colony disembarked from the passenger trains, which generally arrived here about one or two o'clock at night, and had to hunted for with the lantern, so that they could be made as comfortable as possible for the remainder of the night.

In the surrounding country of the town of Cullman farms were located, lands cleared, fences built, grape vines and orchards planted out, roads opened; in the town the streets were cleared of all the stumps, and houses built to accommodate the new-comers and the many mechanics needed in the erection of the many houses. At the same time, Mr. John G. Cullmann, the father of the colony and the soul of the whole enterprise, went to the East and to the West, held meetings, made speeches and lectured, stating to the people the many advantages the South did offer to industrious immigrants in preference to the West, with its cold climate, long winters and blizzards.

In the fall of 1873 Mr. G. A. Prinz commenced the building of his storehouse, and supplied the same with well-selected stocks of general merchandise, which establishment was of great benefit and advantage to the colony. Mr. John G. Cullmann employed agents everywhere to distribute his pamphlets; he advertised the colony extensively in the leading papers in the East and the West, in consequence of which the immigration during the years 1874-75 considerably increased. In the same years the cultivation of grapes was extensively commenced, and the furniture factory established.

The press also was not neglected; a German paper was established in 1875, and in 1876 an English print—*The Southern Immigrant*—by Mr. Charles A. Beckert. From the latter we copy the following article, dated May 27, 1876:

"The town of Cullman is situated within four or five miles of the summit of Sand Mountain, in North Alabama, and is on the line of the South & North Alabama Railroad, which is in direct connection with the L. N. and Great S. R. R. It is thirty-three miles from Decatur, and one hundred and forty-eight miles from Montgomery, the capital city of Alabama.

"In 1872, upon the completion of the South & North Alabama Railroad, the Company laid off a section of land for the purpose of building a

town, and Col. John G. Cullmann, who had been very successful in building up towns and bringing immigration to the South, conceived the idea of building up a German colony. The future town was then laid off into avenues and streets, and received the name of Cullman, after the honorable gentleman of that name. Colonel Cullmann, accompanied by Mr. W. O. Meisner, his able assistant, soon after came to the new colony, and for some time lived in a small log cabin, the only house then in the place. Immigration of Germans from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois then commenced.

"The first families arrived in March, 1873. In June, 1873, the sale of Government and Railroad lands commenced in earnest, and over *one hundred thousand acres* have been sold since then, and upward of fifteen hundred souls have been added to Blount and Winston Counties—and the land which was considered as valueless, is now producing fine crops of grain, cereals and fruit. In 1874, new arrivals of immigrants were daily occurrences, and the majority of them either entered Government or bought Railroad lands and proceeded at once to build homes and to cultivate the soil. While, however, the county was increasing in farmers, the town was fast building up. Colonel Cullmann had built his palatial residence, numerous mechanics, store-keepers, hotels and business houses sprung into existence, and the town commenced to assume business proportions. A spacious and handsome depot was built by the Railroad Company, and in a few months after, the Legislature of Alabama passed an act incorporating Cullman as a town. A mayor was elected, also the other municipal officers, and it ranked among the towns of Alabama. Immigration from the West still continued to flow in; many came from Ohio to see the new colony, and returned astonished at its progress.

"The first fire occurred on the 17th day of March, 1876, and, singularly, the first house built was destroyed.

"In 1874 an agricultural fair was held here, and the productions displayed astonished even the natives themselves.

"Cullman at the present writing is in a high state of improvement. The colony presents a glorious scene to the eye of the practical farmer. The substantial and improved buildings erected by the German immigrants attract attention, and the well-kept fences show an amount of industry and thrift

only to be found with this incomparable people. The hillsides are covered with grapevines, the summits with promising young orchards, while orchards, while the valleys and coves are full of waving grain. Thrift and industry everywhere prevail, and lands are now selling readily at from \$5 to \$20 per acre, while a few years since a whole farm of from forty to eighty acres was 'swapped for a wagon and yoke of steers.' The taxable amount of property was very little, and this portion of the county was regarded as the poorest. Now the taxes amount to thousands of dollars.

'The town presents fully as much improvement as the colony—from nothing the population has sprung to fully eight hundred, or about fifteen hundred in the whole colony. Manufacturing has a firm foothold here, as also the mechanical arts. The four hotels and private boarding houses are constantly full, and the merchants are doing a good business. Trade that formerly went to Decatur now comes here, and our merchants keep on hand large and varied stocks. New buildings are constantly being built, and there is now in course of erection a fine hotel, to be built entirely with brick, and to contain twenty rooms, besides office, waiting room and bar. The post-office is in a separate building and is also a money order office, the only one between Decatur and Birmingham.

'Communications by mail and telegraph are here found, uniting Cullman with the outside world, and the products of the vine or orchard can be put upon the Louisville or Cincinnati markets in less than twenty-four hours. The lots, in size, are 165 feet front by 132 feet deep, and are sold at \$50, payable in four yearly installments, and the deeds are given warranty; no danger whatever exists as to legality of titles, as Congress and the State Legislature have turned over these lands in full.

'There are now in the town three first-class hotels, and another in course of erection—two churches, Catholic and Lutheran, also two daily schools, which are ably conducted; a new school-house, intended as a high school, will soon be erected, and it is expected students from a distance will attend. Five grocery and dry goods establishments supply the wants of the people, and a first class tannery is doing a good business in home-made leather. A merchants' flour and grist mill is kept constantly running, and put up flour in barrels and sacks.

'The large amount of tobacco here raised is man-

ufactured into cigars by our home manufactory, which cigars command a ready sale and have acquired a first-class reputation. The lager beer brewery, situated about a mile from town, makes a large quantity of beer, which finds a ready market in the adjoining towns, as well as in the four saloons and beer garden erected for the recreation of the people. One drug store, one butcher shop, watchmaker, hardware store, and several millinery establishments are doing well, and a large building, intended as a cabinet-maker's shop, also a large house, intended for a merchant tailor's business, are in course of erection. The furniture factory is in full operation and turns out furniture of any description, as well as window sash, blinds and doors: the business is conducted on the co-operation plan.

'We have two able physicians, and the legal fraternity is represented here by four of the followers of Blackstone. Several saw-mills are kept constantly running to supply the demand for lumber for building purposes, and good mechanics find ready employment. The soil is well adapted to the culture of grapes, and vegetables grow luxuriantly. The town is well supplied with farm produce, and large quantities of butter and eggs are shipped to southern ports, while early fruit and vegetables find ready sale in the northern markets. About two miles from the town a splendid 'show' of coal may be seen, and ere long this commodity will be excavated and utilized.

'That the colony and town will be a grand success is nowhere for one moment doubted. The immense stream of immigration which daily pours in, made up, as it is, of the bone and sinew of the Northwest and Europe, must, ere long, with their indomitable perseverance, drag out success and fortune from the heretofore barren hills. The tobacco crop is yearly increasing and will prove a paying investment. The immense amount of early fruit which can be thrown from here into the Northern market, insures alone a good return—then there are hundreds of investments which will follow in the train of these successes. Iron foundries are sure to be erected at no late day—indeed, the land is now being prepared for the erection of an iron foundry by a gentleman from Cincinnati. On every hand Cullman presents the grand motto of 'Excelsior.'

'After this attempt to give an idea of the resources of Cullman and vicinity, we will close by earnestly inviting the men of the bleak North-

west to come and east their lots with us, and also those who are dissatisfied with their homes further South to come to North Alabama. Our summers are pleasant and never too hot; our winters are moderate, with frost and snow almost unknown. The best free-stone water is in abundance, and can be obtained by digging only fifteen or twenty feet. Wheat, rye, oats, peas, beans, corn, potatoes, sugar-cane, clover, hay, all descriptions of vegetables and fruits, are yearly raised abundantly, and the soil appears chemically suited to the production of grapes—indeed, the grapes of Alabama rival those of Italy and Germany.

“The health of the colony is such that but one death has taken place since 1874, and no graveyard has yet been started. Those who intend to go into stock raising will find this an admirable country. Great quantities of grass can be obtained all the year round, while the woods abound with all descriptions of timber.

“Great quantities of Government land can be obtained near here, and a number of Union soldiers have entered lands here, are doing well, and invite their old comrades to join them in this modern Eldorado. The railroad company has also tracts of land which can be bought at low figures and on liberal terms, while improved farms, ready to walk into, can be found any time, and at very reasonable figures. Immigrants coming South to Cullman are passed over the several railroads at half fare, and their freight at greatly reduced rates. When you arrive, comfortable hotels will take care of you at reduced prices, and real estate agents will take pleasure in showing you land until you are satisfied. We invite you to come—come with all your own ideas, creeds and opinions—come in your independence of manhood, as you have a right to do, and settle here in the garden spot of the South. Here you will find men from nearly all portions of the world, all uniting to earn a competency, and to unite with their Southern brethren in healing up the old sore of sectional dislike and hatred.”

In the year 1879, Mr. John G. Cullmann commenced the publication of the *North Alabama Colonist*, in the English and German languages. This paper was entirely devoted to the interests of immigration to the South, and the development of the mineral and agricultural resources of Alabama, and especially of North Alabama, and has been to some great extent the means of turning the tide of immigration to the South.

Until February, 1877, the present county of Cullman was still part of Blount, Winston and Morgan Counties; to organize a separate county a population of 9,500 inhabitants was required, and, in 1876, after the census had been taken, it showed the required population, and a bill was introduced in the upper house of the Legislature of Alabama, by the Hon. J. W. Inzor, to organize the county of Cullman, which bill was also defeated by the same Senator Inzor in the House of the Legislature, after it passed in the Senate, as will be seen from the following letters:

BLOUNTSVILLE, ALA., March 5, 1876.

Hon. L. M. Wilson:

On reaching this place, I find the people here much opposed to the creation of the new county of Cullman. They say they have had no opportunity to be heard. Please oppose the bill.

Yours truly, J. W. INZOR.

BLOUNTSVILLE, ALA., March 6, 1876.

Hon. John M. C. Wharton:

DEAR SIR: On arriving here, I find the people much opposed to the creation of the new county of Cullman. I trust you will vigilantly oppose the measure. They say they have had no chance to be heard on this subject.

Yours truly, J. W. INZOR.

This defeat did not discourage the sturdy settlers. In the following election, Hon. Bret Randolph, of Blount County, was elected State Senator, who promised to use all his influence to secure us the organization of a new county; and Hon. W. M. Crump, of Viola, Blount County, was elected Representative. He was a true friend to the colonists, and did prove so by the interest he took in securing the bill; he introduced the same in the House, which was passed with eighty-two against two votes. In the Senate a Senator, who was elected on the pledge of supporting the bill, opposed the same. He went so far as to say: “It would be better to build a poor-house at Cullman, instead of a court-house.” Notwithstanding his opposition, the bill for the creation of the county of Cullman passed in the Senate on the 24th day of February, 1877, with twenty-two against seven votes, and was signed by the Governor at once.

As the State at that time had not the means to practically further immigration, the creation of the new county was an advertisement that the State wanted immigration, and every one of the

the gentlemen who voted for the bill will probably by this time have noticed the grand fruits harvested from the seed sown by the passage of the bill.

An election was ordered by the Governor of Alabama, to be held on March 6, 1877, for all the necessary county officers, and the organization of the county was completed.

In March, 1878, steps were taken for the building of a court-house in the town of Cullman, which place had been selected as the county seat, and in April of the same year the contract for the building of the same was awarded to Mr. Nelson, a resident of the town, for \$5,100. The same was completed and received by the county commissioners on February 10, 1879, costing in all, with extra labor, about \$5,600, and Cullman has one of the finest court-houses on the line of railroad or in North Alabama, built of brick made at home.

Immigration increased rapidly since the county had been organized, industries of all kinds were inaugurated, among them a furniture factory operated by Mr. Adam Dreher, an energetic and enterprising business man; a steam flouring mill; wagon factory carried on by the Hammer Bros.; cigar factories which principally manufacture cigars from tobacco raised in the colony; a tannery and many other enterprises which have been carried on with success.

On the 14th day of June, 1883, the Wine Company of Cullman organized itself with a capital of \$20,000; Col. John G. Cullmann, president; his son, Astor Cullmann, as secretary and treasurer; and G. P. H. Fruliauff, superintendent, and built large and magnificent cellars and buildings for the manufacture and storage of domestic wines, the grapes of which were raised by the colonists, and are of a superior quality.

This establishment did give the grape culture a new impetus, and many acres were planted out with the finest and best varieties. Many farmers commenced to pay special attention to the culture of strawberries, and has proved to be a success, so that to-day hundreds of bushels of that delicious fruit are shipped daily to the Northern and even Southern markets. This all has been accomplished through the indomitable energy and perseverance of the founder of the colony, Mr. John G. Cullmann, without any aid from the State of Alabama or any other person or organization.

There are about twenty-seven saw-mills in the

county, and in the town four hotels fitted up with all the comforts for travelers; eighteen stores filled with the necessary articles used for the settlers; one bank; two livery stables; two steam cotton gins; two tailor shops; two millinery establishments; five saloons; one saddler shop; one real estate agency, carried on by Capt. Charles A. Beckert; one tonsorial saloon; two drug stores; one permanent photograph gallery, one cooper shop, which manufacture large quantities of barrels for the oil factories in the different parts of the South from our own splendid timber; we have also six churches, one high school, and public and private schools, in fact, what concerns education, there is no other place of the same age and size which has the same facilities for educating the growing up generation as we have, and especially on account of our healthy and invigorating climate, students from abroad are coming in daily, and are well pleased; the high school is under the efficient management of Professor Wood, formerly of Hartsell's, Ala., a town about twenty miles north of Cullman.

All kinds of products and cereals are raised here, and find an excellent home market and in the adjacent mining and manufacturing cities. As a summer as well as a winter resort this town can not be excelled, as the average temperature in the spring is 59.8 Fahrenheit, in summer 77.7, and in the winter 45, with a light breeze all the summer through, being about eight hundred feet above sea level. The town of Cullman has at present over 2,500 inhabitants, and the number is steadily increasing. The population of the county is estimated at about 17,000, including several prosperous towns and villages.

From 1873 to 1886, Col. John G. Cullmann was agent of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, and had the control and sale of 500,000 acres of land belonging to said Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, lying within fifteen miles on each side of said railroad, from Decatur to Montgomery, including about 200,000 acres of valuable mineral lands; through his energy and perseverance he sold many thousands of acres of said lands to actual settlers and immigrants, who have built themselves pleasant and comfortable homes, and made out of a wilderness the garden spot of North Alabama.

To have a better field of operation and to be more independent Colonel Cullmann organized in the month of February, 1886, the North Alabama







John F. Johnson

Land Company, with paid up capital of \$150,000. Col. John G. Cullmann was elected general manager of said company, on account of his knowledge as to induce immigration to the colony, and his excellent business qualifications; this company purchased from the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company about 156,000 acres of land, besides all the vacant lots in the town of Cullman.

During the summer of the same year, Colonel Cullmann went to Europe, visited Germany and Switzerland, appointed immigration agents, and made all the necessary arrangements for a future large immigration to this colony and the South generally. He met in all parts of the old country, where he is well-known, with great encouragement.

On June 16, 1887, the North Alabama Land and Immigration Company was organized and chartered, with a capital stock of \$2,500,000, and purchased all the above-mentioned lands from the North Alabama Land Company, including town lots; the following gentlemen were elected officers of said company: M. L. Moses, of Montgomery, Ala., president; H. Hulman, Terre Haute, Ind., vice-president; Louis Duenweeg, Terre Haute, Ind., secretary; W. L. Chambers, Sheffield, Ala., treasurer; John G. Cullmann, Cullman, Ala., manager.

These gentlemen are all wide-awake and energetic business men, and prominently known in business circles, and are giving the enterprise the positive assurance of success.

The Company has purchased a Diamond Drill and steam power to operate the same, and are at present engaged under the superintendency of Mr. A. G. Hannam, in boring and prospecting for coal and other minerals along the line of the railroad, and are meeting with fair prospect of success.

Another company, the Cullman Land and Improvement Company, was organized in January, 1887, with a capital of \$10,000, under the management of Mr. George H. Parker, president, and Wm. Bauer as secretary and treasurer. This company commenced the boring of an artesian well in the town of Cullman, to supply the town with sufficient water for all manufacturing purposes. A well to the depth of 1,450 feet was sunk, when the auger stuck fast and could not be removed. The well affords, as it is now, abundant water for all demands, but the same has to be pumped, and a steam pump has for this purpose

been purchased by the company, and is now in progress of erection.

We advise all who desire to select a new home for themselves in the South, to pay the thriving town of Cullman and the colony of Cullman a visit before they make their selection, and we are confident that they will be pleased and satisfied with their choice. There are thousands of acres of lands vacant and awaiting the sturdy arm of the settler to open the same for cultivation.



**JOHN GOTTFRIED CULLMANN.** General Manager of the North Alabama Land and Immigration Company, Cullman, Ala., was born on the Rhine, in Bavaria, July 2, 1823; came to America in 1865, and to Alabama in 1871. In January of the latter year he arrived first at Florence, where he met the Hon. Robert M. Patton, ex-Governor of Alabama, who, taking an interest in Mr. Cullmann and his enterprise, furnished horses and wagons for the explorations of the surrounding country, which led to the establishment of the German colony in that part of the State.

Colonel Cullmann remained at Florence for something like two years, when he removed to Tusculumbia, and there made his home probably twelve months. Having met in December, 1872, Mr. Fink, of the North and South Railroad, and with him traveled over the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, he succeeded through that gentleman in closing a contract with said railroad company, for about 349,000 acres of land. The terms of the conveyance in brief were to the effect that Colonel Cullmann should pay all the expenses of advertising, and those incident to the bringing to America the desired immigration for this particular territory. In 1873 Colonel Cullmann located where now stands the town of Cullman, a small colony consisting of fourteen German families, and proceeded to lay out the town which thenceforth had an existence, and has since grown to be one of the most important places of its kind in the South.

Before proceeding further with this sketch, the writer wishes to lay down in general terms this proposition, to-wit: That Col. John G. Cullmann has done more during the brief period of his citizenship towards building up and advancing the interests of Alabama and the South than any

other twenty men in the State. True, he has not developed any immense Red Mountain ore banks, nor has he manipulated any city building schemes, such as converting old fields into corner lots; he has not built many "dummy lines," nor any iron furnaces on paper, and many other things he has not done, but he has brought into the State and located over 100,000 people, and all under his immediate personal supervision. His son, Otto Cullmann, came to America in 1878, and was associated with him for some time in the management of the Cullmann Land Company. Otto died in 1884, at the age of twenty-six years.

Col. Cullmann's eldest son was associated with him as one of the original founders of Cullman. He was a young man of extraordinary attainments, and was the pride of an indulgent father. He died in 1873, at the age of twenty-six years. It was some time after his death that Otto came to America.

Colonel Cullmann, at the schools of his native country, received a thorough education, and he was there a man of marked influence. He was a wholesale merchant in his native city, and exported many goods to America, but entertaining some ideas not altogether compatible with those of the German Government, and being a man possessed to the fullest extent of the courage of his convictions, he was soon in the midst of a revolution, at least in an attempt at a revolution, and he acquired his title of Colonel at that time, by being, as he says, for the period of one day, in the command of a regiment of revolutionists.

In 1878, Colonel Cullmann entered into additional contracts with the L. & N. R. R. Co., whereby he came into possession of 600,000 acres of land, lying along that railroad, between Decatur and Montgomery; and it is to the sale and settlement of these lands that he is now giving his special attention. In January, 1886, he organized the North Alabama Land Company, with a paid up capital of \$150,000. In May of that year he made a trip to Europe in the interest of immigration, and returned the following fall to find the North Alabama "boom" at its highest tide. Seeing his opportunity, he at once, in February, 1888, organized the present company of which he is General Manager, with a capital of \$2,500,000. The company owns about 160,000 acres of land and a thousand lots in Cullman.

It is proper to state in this connection that there

exists in some quarters an erroneous impression to the effect that Cullman is a German town. While there are a great many Germans in and around the little city, there are a great many others, and all are alike invited and welcome. It is not a town of race, of church, or politics, but is open and free to all good people. Though a German by birth and education, Colonel Cullmann proudly says: "I live in America, and I am an American!" In 1876 he founded Garden City, now a little place of three hundred people. He also located immigrants in all settlements along the railroad and at other places in the State. He was invited by Governor Houston, during that gentleman's administration, to formulate a plan of immigration. This he proceeded to do, and the plan, though adopted by the Senate, was defeated in the House. At the succeeding session of the Legislature, the bill was again before the General Assembly, and was at that time adopted by the House, but defeated by the Senate.

It is now known that those results were purposely planned by the enemies of immigration. That any one should oppose the influx of immigration is astonishing, but that there have been men (now quite scarce) that were willing to do anything to retard it, is a fact well known. It is not necessary in this sketch to discuss the matter *pro* or *con*.

The publishers take pleasure in presenting to their readers in this volume a handsome steel plate portrait of Colonel Cullmann, engraved especially for this work. The small dent, almost invisible, in his forehead is the result of a dastardly assault made upon him in the early history of the town of Cullman. It was in 1874, some rough characters, thinking that the building up of a town in their midst might operate in time to interfere with their vile practices, decided to put a stop to the growth of the town by removing its founder. The immediate agent selected for the perpetration of this foul deed was a villain by the name of ———, who attacked Colonel Cullmann with a huge knife, plunging it twice in his forehead, destroying a large section of the skull and exposing the brain. That he ever survived may be attributed to Providence. It is somewhat gratifying to know that his assailant was subsequently caught in the act of horse-stealing near Macon, Ga., and paid the penalty of his misdeeds at the end of a rope.

Colonel Cullmann was married in his native country, in 1846, to Miss Loew, and there was born to him two sons and two daughters. Mrs. Cullmann and her daughters are in Europe. The

Colonel is and always has been, even before coming to America, a staunch Democrat. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Evangelical Protestant Church. He is an active, energetic, wide-awake and progressive man, in full sympathy with the progress of Alabama and its people; a liberal giver to charity, and a substantial supporter and champion of legitimate enterprise. Churches, schools, and all charitable institutions are at all times the recipients of his liberal bounty.



**ASA BRINDLEY HAYS**, Judge of the Probate Court of Cullman County, was born in Blount County, Ala., May 17, 1812. His father, Reuben Hays, a man of Scotch extraction and a native of North Carolina, was one of the first settlers of Blount County. He was a farmer and a blacksmith.

Asa B. Hays was one of a family of nine, the most of whom died in infancy. He attended the common schools in Murphree's Valley. After the war he taught penmanship in different places in Tennessee and Alabama. He was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court of Winston County, Ala., in 1866. He resigned that position, and clerked for the Probate Court of that county for a short time. Upon the resignation of the Probate Judge, in 1871, Mr. Hays was appointed his successor, and, after serving out the unexpired term, was elected to the same office, and held it nearly eight years in all. He resigned that position in November, 1878, and came to Cullman, where he was Register in Chancery for a short time, and was elected Probate Judge in August, 1880. He has filled that position with great credit until the present time.

Judge Hays is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias. He was married in Winston County, in 1867, to Miss Minerva C. Williams, who has borne him five children, four of whom are now living.



**GOTTFRIED A. PRINZ**, County Treasurer, Cullman, was born in Nieder Ingelheim, Hesse (on the River Rhine), in December, 1851. His grand-parents were Huguenots, and were driven from France on account of their religion. Gottfried was left an orphan when twelve years of age.

He came to the United States in 1868, located first at Cincinnati, where he remained until 1872, and then returned to Germany to settle up his father's estate. In 1873 he returned to Cincinnati, and, finding business dull there on account of the panic of that year, he accompanied Mr. Cullmann to the town bearing his (Mr. C.'s) name, embarked in mercantile business, and has remained here ever since.

Mr. Prinz was postmaster at Cullman from 1874 until 1877. He was elected County Treasurer in 1882, and is still satisfactorily performing the duties of that office. He was Mayor of the town in 1876 and 1878, and is now councilman, city clerk, trustee of the public schools, and is one of the largest merchants in the place.

Mr. Prinz was married at Tusculum, Ala., November, 1875, to Miss Ingeborg Luettmann, of Milwaukee, a lady of American birth, but of Norwegian and German descent. Her father possessed large land estates in Germany. Her mother's father was Secretary of War and of the Navy in Norway.

Mr. Prinz is a member of the Evangelical Protestant Church and of the I. O. O. F.



**JOHN A. JOHNSON**, Editor of the *Cullman Tribune*, was born in Limestone County, Ala., March 5, 1825. He commenced the printing business in Nashville, Tenn., in 1837, and remained in that city four years. He then returned to Alabama and published the *Weekly Chronicle* in Athens, in 1844, at which time he became of age, and deposited his first vote for James K. Polk. He was Mayor of Athens, two years, and Justice of the Peace there, twelve years. He was elected Sheriff of Limestone County in 1858, and served in that capacity until the breaking out of the war, at which time he entered the service of the Confederacy, in Major Hamilton's Battalion. After the war, Mr. Johnson lived on a farm until 1868, when he started the *Limestone News* in Athens, and continued its publication until 1875. He then came to Cullman and was engaged on the "*Southern Immigrant*" with Beckert & Watlington. He was appointed Circuit Clerk of Cullman County in 1879 by Governor Cobb, and elected to that position in 1880, but in consequence of imperfect returns, a contest

of the election arose, which was compromised by consolidating the *Alabama Tribune* and the *Southern Immigrant*, under Mr. Johnson's management. The contestants for the office were the editors of the two papers. He was appointed Judge of the County Court of Cullman in 1889, and retained that position until 1884.

From the time Mr. Johnson took charge of the *Tribune* (November 1, 1880), until the present writing, the paper has never missed an issue, and although opposition papers have frequently arisen, the *Tribune* is now the only paper published at Cullman, and it has a larger circulation than any other paper ever had in this county. Mr. Johnson claims to be the oldest editor in the State now actively engaged in business. When he began his career as printer, in 1837, with the publication of the Nashville *Christian Advocate*, he was associated with the Rev. Thomas Stringfield, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Johnson's father, Christian A. Johnson, was a resident of Danville, Va. He was a farmer, and died in 1883. Mr. Johnson's mother, whose maiden name was Nancy W. Franklin, was born in Richmond County, Ga., and died in Athens, Ala., in 1857.

**SAMUEL H. HERRIN**, Mayor of the City of Cullman, was born near Guntersville, Ala., January 22, 1831, and is a son of Curtis Herrin, a native of Tennessee, and who was for some years prior to and at the time of his death, Sheriff of Marshall County, this State. The senior Mr. Herrin was a prominent Mason, a man of wealth; participated in the Indian wars, and took part in the removal of the Red Men to the Indian Territory. His wife was Martha A. Cooper, a native of Virginia. Her father was a soldier in the War of 1812.

S. H. Herrin spent his early life in the neighborhood of Guntersville, and at the common schools acquired the rudiments of an education. In 1859, he moved to Morgan County, this State, and there married Miss Mellissa C. Henson, October, 1860. (Miss Henson was a niece of the late General Lee, who was a colonel in the Mexican War.) Mr. Herrin taught school in Morgan County until 1863, at which time he entered the service of the Confederacy, as a lieutenant in the Fourth Alabama Cavalry. Returning home at the close of the war he followed farming until 1871,

at which time he embarked in mercantile business, which he followed about three years. He was six years Commissioner of Morgan County, and about the same length of time agent of the L. & N. R. R. He is now Mayor of the city of Cullman, and Judge of the County Court. He served nineteen years as Justice of the Peace in Morgan County, and in 1886 was admitted to the bar at Cullman. He was appointed a postmaster in 1857. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Pythias.

**GEORGE H. PARKER**, Banker and Attorney-at-law, Cullman, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 17, 1852, and was educated at Roxbury High School, Boston, Mass., from which institution he graduated in 1870. Upon leaving school he embarked in the commission business in Boston, followed it two years, came to Ohio, studied law at Hillsboro, and was admitted to the bar in 1873. He practiced law a short time at Hillsboro, and in August, 1874, came to Cullman. Here, in addition to the practice of law, he engaged for a time in the drug business, and in 1884 established the banking house of Parker & Co. Though the banking concern bears the name of Parker & Co., Mr. Parker is its sole owner, and at this writing it is the only banking house between Decatur and Birmingham.

Mr. Parker is a member of the Knights of Pythias, takes an active interest in the cause of education, and is a wide-awake, thorough-going present-day man. He was married June 17, 1874, to Miss Cora A., daughter of Dr. George Heidelberg, of Hillsboro, Ohio, and has had born to him five children: George H., Mary A., Robert B., Hattie and Sarah Seaver.

Thomas H. Parker, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Dorchester, Mass., in 1821, and his family own land to this day at that point, that came into their possession in 1631. On the maternal side of his family he was descended from the Seavers, some of whom have been conspicuous in the history of the country. His grandfather, Ebenezer Seaver, was a noted man during Jackson's administration as President of the United States. He was many years a member of Congress, but was particularly distinguished for having been forty years mayor of his native city. Mr. T. H. Parker was many years a merchant in

Cincinnati, but since 1854 has been engaged at farming near Hillsboro. He is a man of considerable wealth, a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and has held the office of school trustee for twenty consecutive years. He, on October 4, 1849, married Mary Joanna Cheever, of one of the oldest families of Providence, R. I., and has reared eight children, viz.: Howard J., George H., Edward M., William H., Abbott A., Seaver, Omar, Stella.

**JAMES A. McMINN** was born near the place where now stands the city of Cullman, in 1857, and is the son of Thaddeus W. McMinn, a native of Marion County, this State, and of Scotch-Irish descent. The senior Mr. McMinn was the first Probate Judge of Cullman County; he afterward served two or three terms as Sheriff, and died while holding that office. His wife, before marriage, was Sarah Reyer, of South Carolina. Her family came from Germany. She was the second wife of Mr. McMinn; the McMinn children, three sons and two daughters, were by a second wife, and their names are: John R. McMinn, farmer, Cullman County; Elizabeth, now widow of N. Quarthome; James A., subject of this sketch; Charles, a farmer, and Sonora, deceased.

James A. McMinn was reared on a farm in this county, and he, in December, 1875, married Miss Nancy Speegle, and has four children: T. D., Lora, Oscar and Ab.

**ROBERT THOMAS SEARCY, M. D.**, was born in Bedford County, Tenn., January 11, 1824. His father, Orville H. Searcy, was born in Nashville, Tenn., in 1800, and was of French and German origin.

Our subject was taken to Missouri when but seven years of age, but was educated in Bedford County, Tenn. He took his degree of M. D. at Nashville. He subsequently located in Lincoln County, that State, and practiced there, and in Fayetteville, until the breaking out of the war, when he entered the Confederate Army, as surgeon of the post, at Camp Trousdale. After the war, Dr. Searcy practiced medicine in Huntsville, Ala., from 1866 to 1873, when he moved to Decatur,

In 1876 he located at Cullman, and has practiced here ever since. He was a member of the Madison County Medical Society, while in Huntsville; secretary of Morgan County Medical Society, while in Decatur; and is now chairman of Cullman County Medical Society, and chairman of the Board of Censors. He is a member of the Methodist Church, South, and of the Masonic fraternity, in which he has been master of the lodge.

Dr. Searcy was first married in 1849, to Miss Rebecca M. Eddins, of Bedford County, Tenn., who died in 1850, leaving him one son, Louis J. Searcy, now living in Huntsville. His second marriage, in 1854, was to Miss Martha T. Gregory, who died in 1856. He was married, the third time, in 1861, to Mrs. Cornelia J. Hereford, of Madison County, Ala. She has borne him two sons and three daughters, all of whom, except the youngest son, are now grown and gone from the parental roof. One daughter died in infancy.

Dr. Searcy is a public-spirited man, and has taken a very active part in the upbuilding of the town of Cullman.

**DR. PHILIP M. MUSGROVE** was born in Edgefield District, S. C., March 12, 1817. His father, John T. Musgrove, was a native of South Carolina, and a minister of the Baptist Church. The Musgroves are an old family, and resided in South Carolina before the Revolutionary War, in which William Musgrove, our subject's grandfather, served as a private soldier. William H. Musgrove, a brother of John T., served in the Alabama Legislature in 1829, and was a number of times a member of both House and Senate when the capital of the State was at Tuscaloosa. He served in the Creek War in 1836, and was a captain in the Confederate Army. He died while in the Confederate service at Pensacola.

The subject of this sketch was brought by his parents to a farm near Blount Springs, Ala., in 1822, and has resided in Blount and Cullman Counties since that time. He farmed until 1841, taught school in the years 1841-2, and commenced preaching as a minister of the Baptist Church in 1842. He was a missionary for the "Mussel Shoals Association" from 1846 to 1848, and for the Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, four years.

Dr. Musgrove commenced the practice of medicine in 1853, and has continued it, more or less, since that time. He was licensed to practice law in 1857.

In 1862, our subject organized a cavalry company, and joined the Twelfth Battalion of Partisan Rangers, which was subsequently included in the First Alabama Cavalry, under General Wheeler. In 1864 he resigned his commission and came home. He had three sons in the army, one of whom, John W., was killed in battle. William H. Musgrove, his second son, became captain of the company, in the place his father had resigned.

Since the war, Philip M. Musgrove has practiced medicine, law, and preached, as occasion required. In 1871 he went to Bangor, and with his son, Edward G., published a paper called the *Broad-Ave*. In January, 1887, he moved to Cullman, and has recently published the *Trumpet*. He was, by appointment of the Governor of Alabama, Judge of the County Court of Cullman County, from July 1, 1884, to July, 1886.

Mr. Musgrove was married in 1836 to Miss Louisa White, a native of Kentucky, but who was reared in Tennessee. They have four children, all sons. Three of these have been mentioned; the fourth, Joseph, is a resident of Bangor.

Mr. Musgrove has always been a temperate man, has eschewed tobacco and all kinds of excesses. Never was intoxicated by spirituous liquor. He thinks that his present remarkably fine health is due to this course in life. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity. Can now, in his seventy-second year, ride horse-back (his usual manner of traveling) thirty miles a day with but little fatigue; never was thrown from a horse while riding. Politically he has always been a Democrat. In all his varied secular pursuits his religious duties have been strictly attended to; so arranging his temporal business as not to conflict with his religious duties. This is the result of habits performed in early life of doing everything by system, and now in hope of a glorious immortality he waits the coming of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

in Germany about 1810. He came to the United States in 1826, traveled over-land from Baltimore to Pittsburgh, and floated down the river from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati on a flat-boat. He was a mechanical engineer. He married Mary A. Grefenkamp, who was also of German birth. They had seven children.

John H. Karter was educated at St. Xavier's College, in Cincinnati, where he graduated in 1855, and immediately began merchandising, which pursuit he has continued until the present time. He came to Morgan County, Ala., in 1878, and settled in Cullman in 1880, where he formed a partnership with Mr. Gerdes in mercantile business. Karter & Gerdes, after being associated five years, dissolved partnership, and Mr. Karter has conducted the business since. His store is the largest one in Cullman. He was married in 1868 to Miss Mary Kurwinkel, who has borne him nine children, five of whom are now dead.

Mr. Karter has been an Alderman in Cullman for several years. He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church and of the Catholic Knights of America.



**WILLIAM RICHARD** was born at Mannheim, Provinz Baden, Germany, March 10, 1856; his father, Charles Richard, held the responsible office of Inspector of Revenues, and was highly esteemed.

Mr. Wm. Richard was educated at the college at Bensheim, Germany; after being graduated he entered a prominent manufacturing and mercantile business at Mannheim as apprentice, and, after serving the required time, was employed by some of the leading mercantile houses at Mannheim, and at Frankfort-on-the-Main. In July, 1878, he emigrated, in company with Mr. Otto Cullmann, the son of John G. Cullmann, founder of the colony of Cullman, to America, and to Cullman, where he assisted Mr. Cullmann in his arduous work of founding the said colony. He was appointed, by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, to the responsible position of collector in the land department of said company, which position he holds at present to the satisfaction of his employers.

Mr. Richard was married on January 17, 1881, to Miss Bettie Graffenstatt, born in the State of Minnesota of German parents, a highly-respected family. He has four children, one son and three



**JOHN H. KARTER**, Merchant, Cullman, is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and was born January 6, 1845. His father, George H. Karter, was born



daughters. He is a member of the Roman Catholic Church; has been for several years a notary public, and, at present, is also the general land agent of the North Alabama Land and Immigration Company. He is an energetic and persevering business man, and has contributed largely toward building up of the colony and the development of the country.



**PAUL MOHR**, Professional Geologist, Cullman, was born in Württemberg, Germany, in 1820; his ancestors were all of that country.

Mr. Mohr was educated in the best schools of his native land, not only in the classics, but he made a specialty of the sciences of geology and mineralogy at the University of Tübingen, Württemberg, Germany. Afterward he acted as collector for the museum at Vienna, the British Museum at London, and others. In 1848 he went to London, and was employed in the mineralogical department of the British Museum for a considerable time.

Mr. Mohr left London and came to the United States; he went first to Cincinnati, then to Indiana, and returned to Cincinnati in 1853, where he organized the firm of Mohr, Solomon & Mohr, in the distilling and rectifying business. This firm was very widely known. In 1864 Mr. Mohr went to Clermont County, Ohio, and farmed there for about ten years near Bantam. In 1874 his brother, who had been connected with him in the distillery, died, and he was compelled to return and take charge of that business in Cincinnati. The firm was thereafter known as "Mohr Company." In 1881 our subject came to Cullman, on account of the health of his wife. He bought a farm here, and has since been engaged in farming and cultivating fruit. Since May, 1887, Mr. Mohr has been employed by the North Alabama Land and Immigration Company as land examiner and geologist.

The subject of this sketch was married in Germany, in 1846, to Miss Fredericka Dieterlen, daughter of a professor in one of the schools there. They have seven children, two sons and five daughters; Paul F. Mohr, the eldest of these, is chief engineer in construction of the Spokane & Palouse Railway, in Washington Territory; Augustus Mohr is with his father in the fruit and distilling business. Of Mr. Mohr's five daughters three are

teachers; Mary is in Cullman, Theekla in Cincinnati and Emma in Indianapolis; Emily and Matilda are at home.

Mr. Mohr is a member of the Society of Natural History, in Cincinnati, and he and his daughters are members of the American Association of Science.

Mr. Mohr's ancestors were prominent people in the Fatherland, and a number of them lost their lives in the Thirty Years' War, under Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden.



**ANDREW J. YORK**, Sheriff of Cullman County, was born in Macon County, this State, in November, 1861. His father, William York, moved to Alabama in early times. He was a farmer and a member of an old Georgia family. He married Delilah World, also a native of Georgia. They had a family of ten children, three sons and seven daughters.

Mr. York's grandfather, Singleton York, was a prominent man in Colbert County, Ga., and held a number of public offices there. He owned a large number of slaves before their emancipation.

Andrew J. York was reared and educated at Cedar Plains, Morgan County, Ala. He taught school two years, farmed for awhile and went into the livery business in Cullman in 1881. Under his management this business has increased, notwithstanding a lively competition, until it is now more than five times as great as it was at first. Mr. York has been Marshal of the town for two years, and was appointed Sheriff in 1884. He is Master of the Masonic Lodge here, and Past Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias.

Our subject was married, January 15, 1876, to Miss Sallie A. Wallace, whose father was killed by the bushwhackers during the war. Mr. York has one son.



**S. L. FULLER**, Land Agent, Cullman, was born near this town in 1855, and spent the early part of his life on the plantation and in attendance at the old-field schools. Later in life spent part of 1872-3 at school in Morgan, adjacent county, and on January 9, 1876, married Miss Evelyn E.

Hubert, daughter of J. G. Hubert, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Hubert was born in Germany in 1817, and came to this country in early life, and served as an officer in the Florida War. After the war Mr. Hubert located in Iowa, and there laid out the town of Lansing, and subsequently moved to Cincinnati. He was in the Federal Army commissary department during the late war, and was afterward connected for several years with the *Volkshlatt* paper at Cincinnati. In 1875 he came to Cullman, where he is at this writing Deputy Postmaster, his daughter, wife of the subject of this sketch, being the Postmistress. Mr. Fuller, having a fondness for law, although a limited education and a family to support, was forced to abandon his studies, and engaged in various pursuits to make his living and gather up enough of this world's goods to renew his studies. He divided his attention between farming and lumber business until 1883, at which time he began a land speculation in the new West in buying, selling and locating soldiers' additional land claims. He has been for some time and is now particularly engaged in the location of town sites on the line of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, for the railroad company, through Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota, Colorado and Wyoming; and has now, at this late date, at the age of thirty-three years, entered the college to complete his studies preparatory to his old favorite business (law and politics).

Mr. Fuller has five children living: Asa, Nellie, Dwightie, Harry and Forney. The family are of the Baptist faith. Mr. Fuller is a land agent and notary public.



**McENTIRE BROTHERS**, Dealers in General Merchandise, Cullman. This firm is composed of Harrison P., Bennett P., Leroy and Millard McEntire. Mr. McEntire, the father of these gentlemen, was a native of North Carolina, and

descended from Scotch-Irish parentage. He was a farmer by occupation, was many years a justice of the peace, and at one time a captain of State militia. His wife, whose maiden name was Plummer, a native North Carolinian, was descended from the French. They reared a family of nine children, seven sons and two daughters. Two of the former, Albana and Robert, were soldiers during the late war, and gave up their lives during that conflict. One of them died in prison, and the other in hospital from exposure while on the field.

HARRISON P., of McEntire Brothers, since the war, has been engaged in mercantile business and in the United States mail and internal revenue service. He was married, in 1875, to Miss Emma R. McCullough.

BENNETT P., the second son, went to Texas in 1871, and was there engaged at stock raising until 1883. In that year he returned to Alabama, and was in stock business at Cullman until 1885, at which time he engaged as at present.

LEROY McENTIRE, the third brother, as did the rest of the family, spent his earlier life in North Carolina. The family settled in De Kalb County, this State, in 1859, and from there, in 1875, Leroy removed to Indian Territory. In 1877, he migrated to Texas, whence he returned to De Kalb County. His father died in 1878, and he took charge of and managed the farm until 1885. In that year he came to Cullman, as a member of the firm of McEntire Brothers.

MILLARD McENTIRE also spent some time in Texas, where he went in 1878, and was there a farmer.

Rufus, another brother, has made his home in Texas continuously since 1876.

The business now conducted by McEntire Brothers at Cullman was established in 1885 by Bennett P. Beginning in a small way, it has steadily grown, until it has become one of the most substantial and extensive concerns of this flourishing town.



## VI.

# GUNTERSVILLE.

By EDWIN O. SMITH.

In the general chapter on the county will be found the early history of its seat of government. This sketch will treat the town as it is to-day. At this writing (March, 1888), the town, which has for forty years been content to do the shipping and furnishing for the country around (a radius of from fifteen to thirty miles), has been thoroughly aroused, and is taking such active steps as will cause a speedy increase of population, and a change from the all-cotton policy to becoming a mart of trade and a hive of industry—paying close attention to manufacturing and the handling of those diversified products which are so well adapted to this section.

This town has been heretofore dependent upon the Tennessee River for transportation, and has done a business of about \$750,000 per year for the past five years—a business consisting principally of furnishing supplies to cotton planters. The present population is about 500 souls.

Here are two commodious houses of worship, both of which are situated in the southern portion of town. These churches are the Methodist Episcopal, South, and the Cumberland Presbyterian. A large and commodious public school building is also on the same square, in which is conducted a high school and a normal course of instruction.

There are sixteen business houses in Gunterstown, and the commercial standing of these merchants is unsurpassed by any town of twice its population in the United States.

The large brick court-house is situated in the center of a spacious yard, and is surrounded by the court square, so often seen in the South.

The postoffice at Gunterstown does a business of forty thousand dollars per annum.

Immediately under the western portion of Gunterstown runs a ridge of low hills, which extend to-

ward Birmingham on the southwest, and continue toward Chattanooga in the opposite direction. These hills carry red fossiliferous hematite, an ore of iron very rich in pure metal, in such quantities as to appear inexhaustible. The ridge extends through the county, a length of about twenty-five miles.

Gunterstown is the most important point in this county, and is one of the oldest places in North Alabama. It derives its name from an Indian family for whom the Government made a reservation of nearly one thousand acres of land just on the north bank of the Tennessee River, opposite the site of Gunterstown. There was a ferry across the river at this point and a common and popular place for barge boats coming from up the river to land and dispose of their loads of grain, provisions, etc. Hence the name of Gunter's Landing or Gunterstown.

In the very early history of the country a considerable trade grew up at this place, and business at Gunter's Landing compared well with any trading-post in the State; consequently when the people cast about to locate their county seat, Gunter's Landing was best situated and was voted the place. The population, however, was small and it was not until some years after the late civil war that it became of such importance as to demand municipal government. At last, however, this became necessary, and in 1853, an act was passed by the Legislature of Alabama, granting her corporate limits, powers and authority. The act required a Mayor and five Councilmen, and limited the taxing power of the municipal government to one-half of one *per centum*. The mayoralty passed around from one man to another, until 1884, when James L. Burke was elected to the Legislature, and a new charter was granted to the

town, giving power to the Mayor as if he were a justice of the peace, and making executions from his court have the same lien as executions from the Circuit Court, and also granting larger fees for services. In 1887 this law was repealed, and the powers are now substantially the same as in the original charter.

To enumerate the different Mayors and particularize improvements would be no easy task; let it suffice to say that during the year 1886 and 1887, the entire debt which had been hanging over it for years was liquidated and some money left in the treasury. Now the city government is free from debt, and a great deal of work can and will be done upon the streets.

There is no need for a Marshal, and nearly all the money poured into the coffers of this treasury can be expended upon improvements.

The present officers are: Mayor, James L. Burke; Councilmen, James L. Jordan, J. P. Whitman, A. J. Baker, Andrew Miller, Wendolyn Seibold.

Their term of office is one year from January, 1, 1888.

#### BENCH AND BAR.

The judicial character of this county has always been of the best. Upon its organization and from that day down to the present, our County Courts and Judges have been of the highest order of men, beginning, as we may, with the late lamented Montgomery Gilbreath, and ending with our present learned Probate Judge, Thomas A. Street. Because of this, Marshall County has her records all intact, and there are but few, if any, of the deed-books that can not be had. In fact, all the records belonging to the offices of this county are in better condition than will generally be found.

This county is now located in the Ninth Judicial Circuit, which is a new division of the State, and has the youngest Judge in Alabama upon its bench. The Prosecuting Attorney is also the youngest in his position, and yet it is a fact that we have fewer violations of our criminal code than any other circuit in Alabama. Whether this is attributable to the stringent punishment administered, or to the few negroes and scarcity of whisky is a matter that may be equally debated; to say the least of it, Judge Tally and Solicitor Lusk are both strict members of the Church, and the evildoer can assuredly expect the heavy hand of the law.

While we are yet speaking of the bench we must

not fail to say that Marshall was one of the original counties, and her courts were held as far back as 1836 by the Supreme Judges of the State, in fact nearly every prominent jurist in the history of Alabama has at some time held court or attended the bar in this county. And it will be conceded, without argument, that Marshall has supplied this country with one of the most able and astute jurists that the South has yet produced; we speak of the Hon. Louis Wyeth, whose learning in the law was so precise and whose decisions were so clear that it may have been well said of him,—his advice was always right. Few, if any, men in North Alabama have been his peers in the full and perfect knowledge of the common law of the land. His memory will ever be cherished in this county as the founder of the bar and the father of the profession. It was always said of him that he felt kindly toward his brothers and lent aid to his fellows, being an especial friend to him who aspired to legal lore; and among his disciples may be found the names of Porter, Barclay and Boyd, and perhaps a dozen of less fame. The bar of this county may be well said to be the child of his own begetting, for it was him who first rocked it in its infancy, and it was him that left it as a legacy to his own professional child, the late Rufus K. Boyd, whose mind was as bright as a meteor, and whose training brought forth the craftiness and genius of his nature. Few men in the history of Alabama had such perfect control of the people as the above mentioned R. K. Boyd. As a friend he was true and abiding, and as an advocate he was warm and zealous.

Boyd was a man of great personal magnetism, and therefore a successful politician. In 1873 he was elected to the Legislature of this State by an overwhelming vote, and from that time his popularity began to grow until 1876, when he was unanimously nominated for Secretary of State, and in August of that year he was triumphantly elected, in which office he served the people most satisfactorily, and retired to his practice.

The late Mr. Porter, in whose name appears the early State reports of the Alabama Supreme Court, was in his younger days a practicing lawyer at this bar, and it was here that he conceived the idea of publishing the reports.

It was at this place that the Hon. Sol. Palmer first entered the active practice of the law, in co-partnership with Hon. C. F. Hamill, of Blountsville, afterward forming a partnership with R. K. Boyd, whose popularity and friendship lent him

considerable aid in attaining his present position of State Superintendent of Education.

John D. Weeden, now dean of the law faculty of the University of Alabama, first entered the practice at the Marshall County bar.

But this chapter would be incomplete should we fail to say that its present status is greatly due to the influence of visiting attorneys such as R. C. Chapman, David P. Lewis, R. C. Brickell, L. P. Walker, Sep. Cabiness and others, of Huntsville, Ala. The present bar is composed of young men, scarcely one of whom has reached the meridian of life, but of whose ability the reader may judge by the illustrious examples made by their renowned and honored predecessors.

The litigation in this county has always been necessarily light, on account of so few wealthy citizens. There have been a few cases concerning the titles to the rich bottom lands that were of considerable importance, but generally the titles to property in this county are clear, being but a few removes from the common source, the Government. The general grounds of litigation thus far have been suits for the collection of debts and trials concerning personal property.

Crime in Marshall is a small matter, there being but few cases of higher grade than misdemeanors; in fact, nearly all the felonies on the docket now or for years past have been against transient and floating defendants. The term of court here is two weeks in the spring and two in the fall, and the criminal side of the docket is easily disposed of in a few days. If, however, this county is penetrated by railroads, and the floating tide of humanity turned in upon it, like Birmingham and other places, its courts will soon be full. At present, however, good order, good government and good debt-paying citizens make Marshall County, in a sense, free from litigation.

#### MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The facts herewith presented, constitute brief biographical sketches of leading members of the medical profession who have in years past practiced in Marshall County. Doctors Andrew Moore and O. N. Phcenster were the first regular practitioners of medicine here.

DR. ANDREW MOORE was a native of North Carolina; he came to this county about the year 1823. He was a citizen here, and was practicing medicine at Claysville, the former county-seat, before the County of Marshall was constituted. He

practiced here first as an undergraduate for some years before receiving a diploma; he graduated from the Louisville Medical College, while under the tuition of the celebrated S. D. Gross, of that institution.

Dr. Moore was a man of fine physique and wonderful powers of endurance. He was eminently fitted for the duties of a pioneer physician, being a man of great courage, and withal a man of more than the average attainments. He was a man of close study and quick observation; came to conclusions logically, and fully merited the title of father of Marshall County physicians. Being intelligent and well-informed, he was considered a model for all ambitious young men in the profession. A number of students were taught under his eye before going to a medical college, and it is said each one felt the impress of his individuality in a variety of ways. Dr. Moore died in Larkinsville, Ala., in 1865, at the age of seventy years.

DR. O. M. PHEENSTER was another of the pioneer physicians who did a large amount of good, and who had a large practice; but he removed to the West about the year 1840.

DR. J. W. FENNELLS was also among the early physicians. He was a native of Virginia, and a graduate of a leading medical college in that State. He removed here some years after the organization of the county. Dr. Fennell was far above the average of his profession at his day in general literature and those qualities which go to make a man polished and urbane. He gained a large circle of warm friends by his gentlemanly bearing, and was the leading physician in the county during his whole career as practitioner. He died near Deposit Ferry, five miles below Guntersville, in the year 1863, loved and honored by all who knew him.

DR. WM. HARRISON, who died in Talladega County, Ala., about the year 1861, was for a number of years a successful practitioner in this county. He was noted for painstaking methods in sickness, and for unusual prudence and caution.

Of the many good physicians now in practice in Guntersville and Marshall County, there are now (1888) only three who were practicing here before the late war between the States. These are Doctors William Smith, of Warrenton, James M. Jackson, and William M. Ricketts, of Guntersville.

## THE PRESS.

The first newspaper published in Marshall County was about the year 1852, as well as we have been able to learn. It was called the *Marshall County News*, and was published by James Peebles, who afterward sold out to Judge B. F. Porter. Judge Porter changed its name to the *Marshall County Eagle*.

William M. Ricketts and Samuel Manning succeeded to the ownership shortly after, and again, after twelve months, the latter ran the paper alone for a time. Manning sold out to James Eubanks, who kept the paper in operation up to the breaking out of the late war, when he entered the army and was killed at the battle of Chickamauga. For some years after hostilities ceased no paper was published in Marshall County.

Some time during 1869 the *Guntersville Post* was started here by Joe A. Walden, which suspended after six months.

The *Etowah Shield* was removed to Guntersville from Gadsden in 1871, by James L. Burke, who in 1872 changed the name of the paper to the *Marshall Tribune*, and admitted George Harper to a partnership. In 1873 they sold the paper and plant to Cullman parties, who removed it to that place.

The *Guntersville Democrat* was established in 1880 by W. M. Meeks, who disposed of his interests to E. D. Byars in 1882. The latter was in feeble health on coming here, and sold out to Hon. Solomon Palmer the following year. The latter conducted the *Democrat* until the first of November, 1885, when he leased it to Robert M. Bell, who sub-let it to Broussais Coman and W. R. Walker. They ran the *Democrat* during 1886.

On January 1, 1887, Solomon Palmer again took hold of the paper, assisted by his daughter, Miss Lillie (now Mrs. R. N. Bell).

On May 1st of the same year, Major Palmer leased the *Democrat* for twelve months to E. O. Neely, who, in January, 1888, purchased the paper, together with the building and lot on the Public Square in Guntersville where it is printed.

The *Democrat* is a live paper, Democratic in politics, and devoted to the best interests of the people of Marshall County.

## RAILROADS.

The Tennessee & Coosa Railroad is surveyed and graded from Gadsden to Guntersville, and

the surveyors have completed the locating of the line to Huntsville. The newly elected officers, representing New York capital, have given a guarantee to finish the line from Gadsden to Guntersville by October 1, 1888, and to cross the river at Guntersville and over to Huntsville by the next eight months.

This road will make part of a trunk line from St. Louis, Mo., via Milan, Tenn., to Brunswick, Ga., on the Atlantic coast.

It is being rapidly built, and bids fair to be a formidable rival of the Louisville & Nashville system.

The Birmingham mineral division of the Louisville & Nashville, surveyed from Bessemer to Huntsville, has a large force of hands engaged on the lower end, and will be completed to the Tennessee River at Beard's Bluff or Manchester within twelve months.

The Scottsboro & Guntersville Railroad Company was organized in March, 1888, and incorporated with R. C. Hunt, Scottsboro, president; J. L. Jordan, Guntersville, secretary; and T. B. Lusk, Guntersville, treasurer.

This road will be built to intersect the Memphis & Charleston Railroad at Scottsboro.



**ALBERT G. HENRY**, the most distinguished Merchant, Capitalist and citizen of North-eastern Alabama, was born in Sevier County, Tenn., December 5, 1816. His educational training was limited to juvenile and youthful years, and to the common schools. He was twelve years of age when he came to Alabama with his father, Hugh Henry, who established a small mercantile house in Jackson County, on the north side of the Tennessee, opposite Guntersville. At eighteen years of age he quitted school and entered his father's establishment as a clerk. At the age of twenty he was given an interest in the concern, and five years later, on the south side of the river, at Gunter's Landing, he established himself in business, and was the first merchant on this side of the river at this point. With the exception of two years during the war, he has been continuously since that date a merchant at Guntersville. For many years prior to the war, he held almost entire control of the traffic at that place. He was probably the first man in North-



From Resm. J. J. H. H. H.





eastern Alabama to introduce the continued credit system. From year to year he carried his patrons upon his books, and many of them, among whom were some of the wealthiest in that part of the country, depended as entirely upon him and his resources for money, clothing and provisions as if he had been by them appointed special guardian. The return of peace finding his patrons, almost without exception, financially broken up, it was necessary that he should devise some method of securing himself against loss while he advanced to them the means necessary to their existence. He had about \$50,000 in money, and being without legal remedy, under the statutes at that time, he conceived the idea of the mortgage law as at present in vogue. With this protection he could again advance to the people the necessaries of life, and enable them to recruit their lost fortunes. That his kindness has been appreciated is evidenced, not only by his success as a business man, but by the high esteem in which he is held by the community at large.

A. G. Henry has been for more than a decade recognized as one of the most skillful, reliable and substantial business men in the South. Never a politician; never a speculator; never an adventurer. He has built no iron furnaces, laid out no cities, invented no schemes whereby the money of other people might be transferred to his own pockets; but as an every-day, steady, thorough-going business man, he has prospered, he has grown wealthy while thousands have failed. The result of his life comes as nearly being the reward of merit as does that of any man in modern history. While he has been careful in his financial dealings, and economical in his living, it has never been charged that he has been dishonest, that he has sought another man's money without giving in return an ample equivalent. Nor has he been charged with any petty meanness, with any smallness, with any cruelty to those who, through accepting his bounty, had come to exist almost at his mercy.

In personal appearance Mr. Henry is somewhat imposing. He is over six feet tall, straight as an arrow, always cleanly shaven and neatly dressed. His face is somewhat mobile, his eyes set deep in his head, his nose is rather aquiline, and his mouth and chin denote both longevity and exceeding firmness.

As a mark of distinction and as a memorial to the worth and merit of Mr. Henry as a citizen, the publishers are pleased to embellish this volume

with a portrait of what they consider a genuine type of a self-made man.

Mr. Henry was first married August 18, 1838, to Mary Ann Henry, of Tennessee. She became the mother of eight children, and on December 31, 1884, died at Guntersville at the age of 64 years. The present Mrs. Henry was Mrs. Julia Waitt, *nee* Julia Brown. Of Mr. Henry's children we make the following memoranda: Wallace H. (deceased), Hugh, Margaret (Mrs. Dr. Clifton, Waco, Texas), Mary (Mrs. D. J. Miller, Texas), Sallie B. (Mrs. J. D. Bell, Waco, Texas), Albert G., Jr., and Samuel. Mr. Henry is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and his wife is of the Christian Church.



**LOUIS WEISS WYETH** was born in Harrisburg, Pa., June 20, 1812, and is a son of John and Louisa (Weiss) Wyeth, natives, respectively, of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. He was reared and educated at Harrisburg; began the study of law at the age of eighteen years, and three years thereafter was admitted to the bar at Carlisle, Pa. In 1833, he located in the practice of law at Harrisburg, and in March, 1836, came South, landing at Guntersville, April 29, 1836. Here he immediately began the practice of law, and soon became one of the most successful attorneys in this part of the country. In 1837 he was appointed County Judge, and was afterward elected by the Legislature to that office for a term of six years. He held the office, however, only about six months and resigned, and from that time until 1874, when he was elected Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, he never asked for any official preferment. He was married, April 9, 1839, to Miss Euphemia Allan, a daughter of the Rev. John Allan, a Presbyterian minister who came from England, settled in Georgia, and finally at Huntsville. To this marriage three children were born and have been reared, namely: Mary, wife of Hugh Carlisle, a prominent contractor; Louisa Weiss, wife of Wm. Todd, of Guntersville; and John A., a surgeon of distinction in New York City. The family are all members of the Presbyterian Church.

In thus hastily scanning over the life of one of the most prominent men of Northeastern Alabama, we have taken no occasion to comment,

eulogize or state conclusions. Those that know Judge Wyeth, and their number is legion, are of but one mind as to his worth as a citizen, his ability as a lawyer, his sound discrimination and justice as a judge. He has lived long in this community, here reared his family, amassed a fortune, and in his ripe old age has the satisfaction of knowing that he is loved, honored, trusted and respected by the entire community, probably in a degree enjoyed by no other man.

The Judge takes an active interest in the upbuilding and development of all Northeastern Alabama, and particularly of the vicinity of Guntersville. The new and promising town but recently laid out and designed as the manufacturing center of this immediate portion of the State, has been named in his honor, Wyeth City. He is president of the Tennessee & Coosa Railroad; director in the Wyeth City Land Company, and more or less identified with other important industries.

John Wyeth, the father of Judge Wyeth, was born at Fresh Pond, three miles from Boston, and when twenty-one years of age, from there went to Philadelphia. Here he accepted employment in a printing office, where he was at work, when, in response to an invitation of a French gentleman, he sailed to San Domingo. Here he edited a Republican paper until the outbreak of an insurrection, which forced him to flee from the island for safety. He returned to Philadelphia, and later on to Harrisburg. At the latter place he established and published the *Oracle of Dauphin*, the first newspaper ever printed in Harrisburg. In addition to his newspaper he ran a book store, and was the first postmaster appointed at Harrisburg. His commission was signed by George Washington. He retired from all business in 1826, returned to Philadelphia, and there spent the remainder of his life. His wife, Louisa Weiss, was a daughter of Louis Weiss, chaplain to the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. He was one of the most profound scholars of his day, but for his espousal of the Moravian doctrine was removed from his office by the Grand Duke, and at once came to America. He settled in Philadelphia, where he held the office of notary public, and was many years employed as translator of foreign papers and languages.

Of Judge Wyeth's brothers and sisters we have the following data: John Wyeth is an attorney at Harrisburg, Pa.; Francis Wyeth, a book-dealer;

Charles A., a printer; Samuel D., a stereotyper in Philadelphia; Louisa, wife of Samuel Douglass, an eminent attorney at Harrisburg; and Mary, wife of the Rev. Daniel McKinley. The Wyeths came originally from England and settled at Boston, or near there, when that place was a small village.



**WASHINGTON T. MAY** was born near Winchester, Tenn., October 1, 1810, and his parents were named LeRoy and Elizabeth (Davis) May.

LeRoy May was born in Virginia about the year 1782, and was taken by his parents to North Carolina in 1795. From there the family migrated to Tennessee in the year 1800, settling first in McMinn County and afterward in Franklin. LeRoy was a surveyor by profession and devoted his life thereto. In 1845 he moved to Arkansas where he died in 1850. He was under General Jackson during the Creek War as a topographical engineer.

The children reared by Mr. May are as follows: Washington T. (the subject of this sketch), Musidora (Mrs. William Duncan), Attilia (Mrs. Edmund Wagner), Mary (Mrs. George Wagner), Virginia (Mrs. Greathouse), Ann (Mrs. Norcross), Elizabeth (Mrs. James Smith), Tennessee May, Gibson May and Bolivar May.

John May, LeRoy May's father, was also a Virginian by birth. He died in Polk County, Tenn., in 1845.

Washington T. May was reared at Winchester, Tenn., and at the age of seventeen years began life for himself as an employé in the county clerk's office. He soon afterward studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1831. In the spring of that year he came to Alabama, and located at Bellefonte, Jackson County, in the practice of law. In January, 1836, he was elected County Judge of Marshall, and held that office twelve or fifteen years. In 1862 he was appointed Probate Judge of this county, and in 1866 was elected to that office, but two years later was turned out by the Reconstructionists. Since that time he has given his attention to farming.

Mr. May is one of the most progressive men in Marshall County, and as a citizen is held in very high esteem by the people.

He was married April 12, 1840, to Margaret W. Johnson, and of the children he has had born to

him we make the following notice: Washington W. died at Clarksonville, Tenn., in 1861, while in the Confederate Army and on the staff of Colonel Jackson; William, a physician, was a captain in the late war; John was killed in battle in 1862; LeRoy was a soldier in the war, and died soon afterward; Guss, a farmer and general merchant; Thomas S.; Elizabeth, wife of C. P. Beard; Rhoda H., wife of John S. Bennett; and Mary W.



**MONTGOMERY GILBREATH** was born in East Tennessee January 23, 1814. He was a son of Col. John Gilbreath, who was a native of East Tennessee, and participated as a lieutenant in the battle of Quebec, under General Montgomery. He was taken prisoner there, and after his release returned to Tennessee and married Miss Fields, who bore him three sons and two daughters, of whom Montgomery was the eldest.

Col. John Gilbreath came to Blountsville, Ala., between 1815 and 1820, and ran a hotel there for a time. About 1830 he moved to Jackson County, and settled near Gunter's Landing, where he spent the rest of his days.

Montgomery Gilbreath received a greater part of his education at Blountsville. When nineteen years of age he became a salesman in a store at Claysville, on the north bank of the Tennessee River. In 1835 he did business for General Rayburn, and in 1836 went to Tuscaloosa, where he clerked for John C. Johnson; while here he volunteered in a company in the command of Captain Chisholm, and served with it through the Florida War. After the war he again clerked with Mr. Johnson for a short time, and later returned to Guntersville, where he was employed by Hugh Henry, who sent him to Arkansas to look after interests in the Indian Territory. He traveled through the Indian Territory and Texas, and after returning, continued with Mr. Henry until he was appointed clerk of the County Court in 1839. In August, 1840, he was elected to the same office, and held it until the office was abolished by the Legislature. About 1852 he was elected Probate Judge, and continued in that position until 1861, when he resigned, raised a company for the Confederate Army, and was elected its captain. When the Forty-eighth Alabama Regiment was organized at Nashville, Captain Gil-

breath was elected its lieutenant-colonel, and participated with it in the battle of Shiloh. This regiment was re-organized, and on account of age and failing health, Colonel Gilbreath resigned and returned to Guntersville, and engaged in farming until 1866. In that year he re-entered the mercantile business and conducted it successfully until his death, October 8, 1885.

Colonel Gilbreath was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1875, and was one of the most active and popular men in that body. He was highly esteemed and greatly beloved by all who knew him. His wife, a daughter of Peter Kilfoile, was born in Blount County, this State, and her father was a native of County Queen, Ireland. Of their ten children, Mary, John, Emmett, E. W., Montgomery, Katie and Gordon, are living, and Sallie F. died in 1875; Alex. and Albert Sidney both died young.

Mr. Kilfoile landed in New York City when he was seventeen years of age, migrated thence to Blount County, Ala., and later on to Marshall County, where he served as Clerk of the Circuit Court for eleven years. He afterward ran a hotel a while at Warrenton. His wife before marriage was Mary Berry, of South Carolina. He reared a family of three sons and two daughters. The family belong to the Baptist Church.



**EMMETT GILBREATH**, Merchant, Guntersville, son of M. Gilbreath, was born near this place March 24, 1853, and was reared and educated at the common schools of Guntersville and Mulberry, Tenn., and at a Business College in Nashville. Leaving school he clerked awhile for his father, and in 1889 accepted a position in a mercantile house at Cincinnati. From there, in 1882, he went on the road as a traveling salesman for a Charleston, W. Va., shoe house, and remained on the road until 1885. In that year he returned to Guntersville, where, associated with a Mr. Whitman, he has since been engaged in the general mercantile business.



**JOHN GILBREATH**, Merchant, Guntersville, son of M. Gilbreath, was born at Warrenton, Marshall County, Ala., December 27, 1849. He

was educated at the common schools of his native village, and at the age of twenty-one, accepted a position as salesman with Gilbreath & Whitman, and remained with them several years. He was afterward for two years in the stove business. He next purchased an interest in the grocery house of W. L. Boggus, and in 1846 became the sole owner of the concern. In 1848 he purchased an interest in the firm of Noble & Whitman, which he disposed of in 1886. Mr. Gilbreath is one of the successful business men of Guntersville. What of this world's goods he possesses he has the satisfaction of knowing is the result of his individual industry. He was married in May, 1881, to Miss Bettie G. Jordan, daughter of David C. Jordan, Esq., and has had born to him two children: Burton and Clebron.



**JAMES P. WHITMAN**, Merchant, Guntersville, was born in Madison County, Ala., June 4, 1840, and is a son of William F. and Ann B. (Powell) Whitman, natives of Halifax County, Va. He spent the first seventeen years of his life on his father's farm and in attendance at the neighborhood schools. He also, after that time, attended school at Winchester, Tenn., and in March, 1861, enlisted as a private soldier in the Seventh Alabama Infantry. His time expired in twelve months, and he re-enlisted as a member of Company D, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, with which command he remained until the close of the war. He was in the battles of Chickamauga, the Dalton and Atlanta campaign; was wounded at Parker's Cross Roads; was in Hood's raid into Tennessee; after which he was in Tennessee and Alabama in various places, and surrendered in Madison County, the latter State, in May, 1865. He at once, after leaving the army, resumed farming, and in 1866 located at Guntersville and engaged in mercantile business. In addition to mercantile business, he has given some time to insurance; has served the city several terms as Councilman from his ward, and is at this writing engaged in the real-estate business. February 22, 1866, Mr. Whitman was married to Miss Mary Gilbreath, daughter of M. Gilbreath, and has had borne to him nine children: Edward F., Montgomery G., Albert P., Robert E., John A., Horrace, Holliee, Sallie, Tex and Katie B. The

family belong to the Baptist Church, and Mr. Whitman is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Knights and Ladies of Honor.

William F. Whitman, the father of the subject of this sketch, came to Alabama in 1832, and some seventeen miles northeast of Huntsville, in Madison County, located upon a large tract of land, and here has since made his home. He is at this writing eighty years of age. His wife died in 1852. They reared a family of seven children, of whom we make the following notice: Thomas W., farmer in Blount County, served in the Southern Army through the late war; Rebecca, widow of Richard Petty, deceased; W. Robert, a traveling salesman, was a captain in the Fourth Alabama Cavalry during the war; James P.; Mary L., deceased wife of Thomas Nichols; Albert F., attorney at Nashville, Tenn.; and Margaret T., deceased wife of John Lawler.

After the death of his first wife, Mr. Whitman married Unity Miller, who bore him two children: Rufus P. and Emmet G. The Whitman family in America came from England some time in the latter part of the last century.



**JOHN A. LUSK**, District Attorney, Guntersville, was born in Pickens District, S. C., November 29, 1859. He came with his parents, Erastus C. and Elenor (Alexander) Lusk, to Marshall County, and here for some years made his home. After receiving an academic education he began the study of law, and in October, 1877, was admitted to the bar at Gadsden. After coming to the bar he immediately removed to Blount County, and there pursued his profession with considerable success until 1883, when he returned to Guntersville. Here, for a while, he was in partnership with C. F. Hamill, now of Birmingham, and is, at present, associated with Robert M. Bell. He was appointed solicitor by Governor O'Neal in 1885, and in 1866 was retained in that office by the voice of the people. He was married October 27, 1887, to Miss Lelia Fern, the accomplished daughter of Robert and Eliza (Coles) Fern, of Marshall County.

Mr. Lusk is one of the most brilliant and promising attorneys of North Alabama, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and a Freemason.

Erastus C. Lusk was a member of the First South Carolina Regiment, Hampton's Brigade, and participated in all the battles fought by that distinguished command. He came to Marshall County in 1866, and at Guntersville engaged in the mercantile business, which he followed until 1875; since that date he has been farming. His grandfather came from Ireland, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. John A. Lusk has in his possession an eight dollar Continental note, paid his grandfather for services as a soldier in the Colonial Army.



**JULIUS L. BURKE**, Attorney-at-law, Guntersville, was born at Rome, Ga., March 24, 1850, and is a son of Yancey and Sarah (Lindsay) Burke, the former a native of County Connanght, Ireland, and the latter of Scotland. In April, 1863, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company D, Nineteenth Alabama Infantry, and participated in the battles of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. He was wounded at the former place, and taken out of the army by his father, who procured his discharge while the army was encamped at Dalton. His first employment after leaving the service was with a railroad company, and he applied his earnings thereat toward the procurement of an education. He had been to school some years before entering the army, and afterward diligently pursued his studies at Adairsville and Athens, Ga. At Rome he turned his attention to the printing business, became local editor of the *Rome Daily*, and subsequently worked on various papers in Georgia. In 1870, at Gadsden, Ala., he established the *Etowah Shield*, removed the paper in 1872 to Guntersville, and in 1874 sold it to the Southern Immigrant Company. For a short time thereafter he was connected with the *Nashville Banner*, and, after its consolidation with the *American*, traveled a while in the interest of that paper. He came to Guntersville in 1877, and married Miss Mary C. Adams, daughter of James Adams, a prominent attorney-at-law, who was drowned in the Gulf of Mexico in 1856. After his marriage Mr. Burke took up the study of law, and was admitted to the bar at Guntersville in 1872. Between that period and 1884 he employed his time variously, steamboating, principally, being for a while Secretary of the Decatur & Chattanooga Packet Com-

pany. He represented Marshall County one term in the Legislature. He began the practice of law in 1884, and is now associated with G. W. Jones. He is a member of the Legion of Honor. His five children are: James, Lillian, Mamie, Yancey and Robert.

The senior Mr. Burke came to America in 1827, settled near Lincolnton Court House, N. C., and removed to Rome, Ga., in 1835. In the former place he was connected with charcoal and iron works, and at the latter he was speculating and merchandising. In 1853 he settled at Fairview, Cherokee County, Ala., where he was a farmer and speculator in lands. He reared a family of seven sons and two daughters. Of them we have the following memorandum: William, deceased; M. L. served on General Wheeler's staff during the war, and died while in the service; Caroline, wife of Asa Davis; F. M., of Atalla, Ala.; Reeves, a physician during his life, died near Gadsden; Mary, wife of John W. Walker, deceased; John, deceased; Yancey, who was educated for the ministry, died near Gadsden.



**JOHN GADDIS WINSTON, Jr.**, Attorney-at-law, Guntersville, son of John Gaddis and Lucinda (Wilson) Winston, who were born in Tennessee, in 1813 and 1815, respectively, was born in Lebanon, DeKalb County, Ala., November 14, 1846. He was reared on a farm and attended one year at the University of Virginia. He spent some time in teaching school, and in 1871 became a merchant in Collinsville, where he remained three years. His next two years were spent in Texas as a teacher. He then returned to Marshall County, where he farmed and studied law, and in 1876 was admitted to the bar. In January, 1883, he located at Guntersville, where he has since practiced law with success. He first formed a partnership with George W. Jones, which continued two years. He is now alone, with a lucrative practice.

Mr. Winston was married September 14, 1874, to Elizabeth Kirby, daughter of Francis M. and Mary (Cowan) Kirby, natives of Alabama and Tennessee, respectively. Mr. Kirby located in Marshall County about 1840.

Mr. Winston has a family of five children, viz.: Cora L., Tempy O., John Gaddis (died December 24, 1887), Frank Kirby and Emma Lucy. Mr. and

Mrs. Winston are members of the Church of Christ, and he belongs to the Masonic fraternity and is interested in several improvements in Guntersville, Ala.

Mr. Winston's parents came to DeKalb County, Ala., in 1837, and his father lived there until 1863, when he moved to Marshall County, where he still resides on a farm twelve miles northeast of Guntersville. He reared two sons and five daughters, viz.: Edward and Lucy, living; Margaret, Mary, Martha, John G. and Fannie, deceased. The elder Mr. Winston was Receiver of the Land Office under Polk's administration. He had been elected to the Legislature, and resigned that position to accept the receivership.

He was a son of John Gaddis Winston, who married a Miss Julia Kenner, and was one of the early pioneers of Hawkins County, Tenn. He was a farmer, and died in DeKalb County, Ala., in 1848. His wife died in Tennessee. The Winstons are of English origin. Patrick Henry's mother was a Winston.

The subject of our sketch is of Irish origin on the maternal side.



**THOMAS A. STREET**, Judge of the Probate Court of Marshall County, son of Oliver D. and Mary A. (Atkins) Street, natives of Winchester, Tenn., and Madison County, Ala., respectively, was born near Warrenton, this county, July 30, 1838. He was reared on his father's farm, attended the neighborhood schools, and in July, 1860, graduated from the Cumberland University, Tennessee. December, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Forty-ninth Alabama, and in the spring of 1862 was commissioned captain. He took part in the battles of Baton Rouge, Corinth, siege of Port Hudson, at which latter place he fell into the hands of the enemy. After the battle of Corinth he was promoted to major, and after becoming a prisoner he was confined on Johnson's Island until March, 1865. After leaving Johnson's Island he went to Point Lookout, Maryland, where he was at the time of Lincoln's assassination. He was held prisoner until June following. After the war he returned to Warrenton, and was engaged at farming until November, 1874, when he was elected Judge of Probate, the office he has since continuously held. The Judge

is an extensive land holder, and is largely interested in the modern development of Marshall County. The proposed town of Manchester, designed as a manufacturing place, on the Tennessee River, its site, as laid out covering over three thousand acres of ground, is upon land recently owned by the Judge and others, and by them sold to the Manchester Company.

Judge Street was married December 6, 1865, to Julia A. Beard, daughter of A. C. and Jane (Moore) Beard, of Marshall County, and has had born to him seven children: Oliver D., Jane M., Thomas A., Julia, Mary T., Edwin C. and Ernestine. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Judge is a prominent Mason. He lives on his farm some three miles west of Guntersville, and near the proposed town of Manchester.

Oliver D. Street was a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He came to Marshall County in 1837, and died soon afterward. His widow, in 1844, married the Hon. James L. Sheffield.

Judge Street's grandfather, Thomas Atkins, native of Lawrence District, S. C., came to Madison County, Ala., in 1813; there met and married Rebecca Tate, a native of Fayette County, Ky. Mr. Atkins was a substantial farmer, and was a soldier in the War of 1812.



**GEORGE W. JONES**, Attorney-at-law, Guntersville, son of William B. and Martha J. (Erwin) Jones, was born in Madison County, this State, April 16, 1850. He received his primary education at the common schools of Madison County, and was graduated from the law department of Cumberland University, Tennessee, in 1874. In January, 1875, he located at Guntersville, formed a partnership with R. K. Boyd, then Secretary of State, and has since given his attention to the practice of law. The partnership referred to lasted six years, and after practicing alone for two years he was associated with J. G. Winston, and in March, 1885, with J. L. Burke.

Mr. Jones is recognized as one of the leading lawyers in Northeastern Alabama, and as a criminal lawyer he has but few, if any, superiors in the north part of the State. He married, December 24, 1829, Miss Lavina C. Jones, daughter of

George W. Jones, Esq., of Madison County, and has had born to him one child, Bessie Gay. He and his wife are divided in their denominational allegiance, the one being a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and the other a communicant of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Jones is a Mason, having joined that fraternity in 1871, at New Market.

The senior Mr. Jones was born in Madison County, this State, in 1812, and his wife was born in Tennessee, in July, 1817. He was one of the most substantial farmers of the day. Prior to the war he cultivated over a thousand acres of land, and owned quite a number of slaves. He was an elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He was assistant quartermaster during the late war, and held the rank of colonel. His brother, George W. Jones, is known in history as chief quartermaster. Colonel Jones, after the war, returned to his farm. He was a man of limited education, but of great influence in the community where he resided. He reared a family of seven children, viz.: Rebecca, deceased; Eliza B., wife of James M. Walker; Nannie, wife of W. J. Walker; George W.; John R., a physician; James, deceased; and Henry L. The old gentleman and his wife both live in Madison County. His father was George T. Jones, a native of Scotland, who was brought by his grandmother to the United States when an infant. His name was really Tannahill, but being reared by his grandmother Jones, he took her name. He married Rebecca Brown, and immediately afterward located in Madison County, where he was one of the first settlers. He represented that county several terms in the Legislature, and was known in his day as an active public spirited citizen.

**ROBERT N. BELL** was born at Gaylesville, Ala., on November 17, 1862. He was educated at the State University at Tuscaloosa, graduating from the law school at that institution June 11, 1884.

Mr. Bell located at Guntersville, October 20, 1884, having already been admitted to practice law the July previous. He at once began to build up a good practice, having entered into a partnership with Hon. Solomon Palmer.

On January 4, 1886, Mr. Bell was elected Mayor of Guntersville and again re-elected the year fol-

lowing. He was editor of the Guntersville *Democrat* from November 1, 1885, to March 1, 1886. On January 14, 1886, he formed a partnership with C. F. Hamill and John A. Lusk, under the firm name of Hamill, Lusk & Bell. C. F. Hamill withdrew in May, 1887, leaving the others to continue as Lusk & Bell. As a firm they have been the leading lawyers in the town of Guntersville, each possessing strong traits of character that go to insure success.

Mr. Bell was married on May 1, 1887, to Miss Lillie, daughter of State Superintendent of Education Solomon Palmer. In politics Mr. Bell is a straight-out Democrat.

**EDWIN O. NEELY** was born June 25, 1859, near Columbia, Tenn.

His father, J. N. Neely, was a carriage maker by trade, who had amassed a comfortable income from his business, and who had, about the year of our subject's birth, purchased a flouring mill at Columbia. It thus came about that young Neely had to learn the trade of flour milling, in which business he continued at various points until twenty-three years of age.

He then stopped work as a miller and went to school in order to fit himself for a business life. After a course at Goodman's Knoxville Business College he engaged with a Nashville business house (Oman & Stewart, contractors and builders), in whose employ he remained four years, a greater portion of the time being spent in traveling.

He came to Alabama in the spring of 1887 and leased the Guntersville *Democrat* for the term of one year from May 1st. On January 1, 1888, he bought the good-will, type, presses, building, etc., of the above paper from Hon. Solomon Palmer, the State Superintendent of Education.

Mr. Neely was married on October 1, 1881, to Miss Lois Peck, daughter of Hon. Joseph A. Peck, of Monroe County, Tenn. They removed to Guntersville during the spring of 1887. One little daughter, Ethel, brightens their home.

**WILLIS W. CURREY**, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Guntersville, native of Oglethorpe County, Ga., son of Willis and Esther (Waller) Currey, was born April 20, 1833. He grew to manhood in

the country and on his father's farm, and at the common schools acquired a liberal education. At the age of twenty-one he began teaching, which he followed for two years. At the outbreak of the late war he was farming; in 1862 he enlisted as a private in Company B, Forty-first Georgia Infantry, and with that command participated in the battles of Corinth, Mumfordsville and Perryville. At the latter place he was wounded, and soon afterward, at Harrisburg (Ky.) Hospital, fell into the hands of the enemy. In December following he was exchanged, and in March of 1863 rejoined his command at Vicksburg, and took part in the battles of Champion Hill, Black River, etc., and surrendered with Pemberton's army July 4. Being again exchanged, December 19 of that year he entered the army at Dalton, Ga., and participated in all the battles from Dalton to Atlanta, except New Hope Church. He was also at Franklin and Nashville, Tenn., and, finally, at Bentonville, N. C., the last battle fought by General Johnson. After the surrender he returned to Georgia, and for some years gave his attention to teaching and farming alternately. In 1877, having lost the use of a leg as a result of the wound received at Perryville, he was compelled to abandon farming entirely, and thereafter devoted his time to teaching. In 1883 he came into Alabama, located in Marshall County, taught school until 1886, and in October of that year was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court. Since that date he has been a resident of Guntersville.

Mr. Currey was married in November, 1854, to Miss Jane Maddox, of Butts County, Ga., and has had born to him three children: William, Mary and Lottie. Mary is the wife of B. A. Fortson, and Lottie is the wife of Wm. E. Groover. Mrs. Currey died in July, 1864, and in November, 1865, Mr. Currey was married to Miss Henrietta Crowel, daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Caston) Crowel, of Georgia. To this union seven children have been born: Lizzie, Mattie, Heary, Charlie, Nina, Nim and Nellie. The family are identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**LORENZI D. LUSK, M. D.**, Physician, Surgeon and Druggist, Guntersville, son of Nathan and Rosanna (Capehart) Lusk, natives of South Carolina, was born in Pickens District, that State, October 7, 1829.

Reared to manhood upon his father's farm, attending the duties incident to rural life, with attendance at the common schools of his neighborhood, young Lusk, in early life, acquired the elements of an education. He came to Alabama in 1852, located in Marshall County, and for two years taught school. He began reading medicine while presiding over his school; came to Guntersville in 1856, and in the winter of 1857-8, attended lectures in Nashville. He began practice at Guntersville in connection with the drug business, which he established in 1858, and here he has remained until he has become so thoroughly identified with the place and its people, that he has long since been recognized as a fixture. In 1866 he was elected Probate Judge of Marshall County, and held that office one term.

As a business man, as well as professional, Dr. Lusk has scored a decided success. He left South Carolina three hundred dollars in debt, and with barely money enough to bring him to Guntersville. At this writing (1888) he is the possessor of an ample fortune. He is vice-president of the Wyeth City Land and Improvement Company, is interested in the Coosa & Tennessee Railroad Company, is a large land holder, and is altogether one of the most substantial, enterprising and popular citizens of Northeastern Alabama. He was one of the organizers of the Wyeth City Land and Improvement Company, and probably owns a greater area of its territory than any other man.

Dr. Lusk was married September, 1859, to Mary E. Loveless, daughter of Allen Loveless, of Marshall County, and has had born to him five children: Emerson (deceased), Margaret E., Phocian B., Thurston G. and Mary E. The Doctor is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and has been many years Master of the lodge at that place.

Nathan Lusk was born in Anderson District, S. C., in 1793, and with his parents, who died when he was thirteen years of age, moved into Pickens District, in 1800. He worked at the hatter's trade, and afterward at farming. He reared a family of ten children, to-wit: Angeline (Mrs. Robert Wiggington), Emily (Mrs. Thomas Littleton), Lorenzi D. (subject of this sketch), Leroy W., Erastus C., Nathan B. (deceased), Thomas B., Vilena (Mrs. Leonard Rogers) and Rufus (deceased). Erastus C., Nathan B., Leroy W. and Thomas B. were all soldiers in the Confederate





Respectfully  
L. D. Leisk



Army during the late war. Mr. Lusk died in South Carolina in 1852. His widow is still living in Oconee County, S. C. The Lusks came originally from Ireland, and the descendants of the pioneers of that family to America are found now in every State in the Union.

As a compliment to Dr. Lusk, the publishers present herewith a handsome portrait of him.



**JAMES MONROE JACKSON, M. D.**, son of Harbard and Martha (Gill) Jackson, was born at Culleoka, Maury County, Tenn., April 12, 1826. He was reared on a farm, and graduated from Jackson College in Maury County, in 1844, with the degree of A. M. He came at once to Morgan County, Ala., and settled in Somerville in 1845, where he began the study of medicine with his cousin, Dr. Wm. B. Gill. He attended his first course of lectures at Louisville Medical College, and graduated from the Medical College of South Carolina, at Charleston, in 1849. He then returned to Somerville and there practiced medicine successfully until 1866, when he moved to Guntersville, and has been in the practice there ever since. It is probable that his has been the most successful practice of any doctor in the county. For a year past he has also been conducting a farm.

In April, 1864, Dr. Jackson entered the Confederate Army as surgeon of the Forty-second Tennessee Regiment, and remained with it until the fall of Fort Donelson, after which he was held as a prisoner at Camp Chase until July of that year, when he was sent to Johnson's Island. After his release he joined the Forty-ninth Tennessee Regiment, and remained with it until 1865, when he surrendered at Franklin, Tenn., then holding the rank of major. After this he was ordered to remain with the wounded soldiers. He was subsequently taken to Nashville, Tenn., and imprisoned in the penitentiary. In April, he with three other surgeons was sent to Indianapolis and held as hostages for four surgeons of the Federal Army, who were missing at the battle of Franklin. Those four were subsequently discovered and were returned to their homes, and Dr. Jackson was released in June, 1865, when he returned to Guntersville.

Dr. Jackson was married in November, 1850, to Eliza D., daughter of Dr. James and Martha

(Berry) Wilkinson, of Somerville, both natives of Georgia. The Doctor had three children born to him, and has buried one. The living are Alice Lee (now wife of Robert McKinney, of Memphis), and James L., a farmer of Guntersville. The Doctor lost his wife in 1886. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. Jackson's father was born at Madison, Ga., and his mother in Goochcourt County, Va. The father, Harbard Jackson, moved with his parents to Tennessee at a very early day and became a substantial farmer. They reared six children, viz.: Elizabeth, Susan, Priscilla, Floyd, Joseph, and James Monroe, who was the third in order. Harbard Jackson died in Tennessee in 1842. His father, Mark Jackson, a native of Georgia, came to Maury County, Tenn., in the early settlement of that State. He was a captain in the War of 1812.



**WILLIAM L. THOMASON, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Guntersville, son of William B. and Sarah A. (Willeoxson) Thomason, both natives of Georgia, was born November 22, 1849, in Coweta County, Ga. He was reared on a farm, received an academic education, and, when eighteen years of age, began studying medicine with his father. He attended the Augusta Medical School in 1869 and 1870, graduated in the medical course from Nashville University, Nashville, Tenn., in 1871, and immediately thereafter located at Union Springs, Ala. In 1874 he went to Lafayette, and, in 1875, again moved into Blount County, where he was engaged in merchandising, and conducted a farm. In December, 1882, he located at Guntersville, where he opened a drug store under the firm name of Thomason & Roden, in connection with his practice. In August, 1887, Mr. Roden retired.

During his residence in Blount County, Dr. Thomason was president of the County Medical Society, and was the organizer, and is the present secretary of the Marshall County Medical Society. The Doctor's present success in life is entirely the result of his individual effort and energy. He was married in May, 1875, to Miss Ida, daughter of Tilman I. and Nancy (Thomason) Pearce, of Columbus, Ga. Mr. Pearce was a mechanic and contractor, and owns a large amount of property.

Dr. Thomason and wife have five children, viz.: William Pearce, Paul, Mary Irene, James and Lillian. Mrs. Thomason is a member of the Baptist Church, and the doctor is a prominent Methodist, and represented his church in the General Conference held at Richmond, May, 1886. He is also a prominent Mason. He is a public-spirited and enterprising citizen, and, as a physician and surgeon, ranks high in the profession.

William B. Thomason, the doctor's father, was also a physician. He was educated at the Medical College of Georgia, from which institution he graduated in 1851. In 1855 he located in Henry County, Ala., thence to Calhoun County in 1860, and in 1863 removed to Bullock County, where he now resides. He has been constantly engaged in the practice of his profession since his graduation. As a consequence of the late war, he lost his entire possessions, but afterward accumulated a goodly estate, and gave each of his children a good education.



**PATRICK HENRY** was born in Blount County, Ala., March 28, 1835, and is a son of Hugh and Anna Henry. He was reared on a farm and educated primarily at the common schools of his neighborhood. He spent two years at the Cumberland University, Tennessee, and, after leaving that institution, entered his father's store as a clerk, at Henryville, about five miles north of Guntersville. At his father's death, which occurred in 1856, he was given an interest in the business, in connection with a younger brother, T. B. Henry, who was killed near his home during the late war.

Mr. Henry, at the beginning of the war, closed out his business, and enlisted in Company E, Forty-ninth Alabama, as a private, and participated in the battle of Shiloh. In the fall of 1862 he was commissioned commissary, with the rank of captain, which position he held until the regiment was surrendered at Port Hudson, July, 1865. He was sent to Johnson's Island, and in March, 1865, was taken to Fort Delaware, where he remained until the final surrender. He took the oath of allegiance and returned to his home, where, in partnership with his brother and nephew, he entered mercantile business. This partnership lasted until 1873, when Wallace Henry was succeeded by D. J. Miller. The sub-

ject of this sketch retired from the firm in 1876, and accepted employment with his brother, Albert G.

In 1884 he formed a partnership with his brother, which lasted until January, 1887. At that time he began business with his sons, the style of the firm being P. Henry & Sons. At this writing (March, 1888), he has discontinued business, with a view to emigrating to Indian Territory, where he has large landed interests.

Mr. Henry is the owner of some of the most fertile farm lands in Marshall County, and has the finest residence at Guntersville in this part of the country. He was married in October, 1856, to Miss Sarah Stearnes, daughter of Isham R. Stearnes, of this county, and has four children: Hugh B., Patrick, Thomas B., and Myra, wife of George A. Samuels.

Mr. Henry's wife died in April, 1866, and he afterward married Allie Alford, who lived but three months. In May, 1871, he married Mrs. Laura A. Todd, *nee* Gibbs, who bore him three children: Gibbs, Albert G., and Marie. The third Mrs. Henry died November 19, 1887.

Mr. Henry is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**ANDREW J. BAKER.** Hardware Merchant, Guntersville, son of William and Mary (Manning) Baker, was born on the north bank of the Tennessee River, near Guntersville, November 17, 1831. He was reared on a farm; received a good education, considering the times, and when of lawful age began the study of medicine, and was graduated from Shelby Medical College, Nashville, Tenn., in 1861. In November, of the same year, he enlisted in the Confederate Army as a member of Company G, Fourth Alabama Cavalry, under the command of Colonel Russell, and was at the battle of Eagleville, Tenn. He was subsequently transferred to the secret service, with which he remained until the close of the war. He participated in the battle at Bull's Gap and in the fights about Nashville. He was captured by a squad in the fight at Nashville, and the *squad* was captured in its turn.

At the close of the war he returned to Nashville, in which place he had removed with his family in 1860, and farmed and speculated there

until 1857, when he returned to his native county and engaged in farming and merchandising. He conducted his store three years, and after that devoted his entire attention to his farm. In 1883 he removed to Guntersville and opened the first hardware store at this place. In addition to his mercantile business and farming he has given considerable time to surveying.

Mr. Baker was married February 21, 1860, to Miss Mary E., daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Prince) Foriam, of Nashville, and has had born to him one child, Elizabeth Boyd. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Baker is a Freemason.



**SAMUEL K. RAYBURN** was born at Beach Grove, in Bedford County, Tenn., October 15, 1812, and his parents were John and Elizabeth (Shanklin) Rayburn, both natives of Botetourt County, Va. He was reared on his father's farm, educated at the common schools; came to Alabama with his parents in 1819, and to Guntersville in 1834, where he engaged at mercantile business. With the exception of two years, he was a merchant until 1847, at which time he volunteered as a member of Capt. James M. Gee's Independent Company, and served in the Mexican War. In 1848 he returned to Guntersville; was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court in 1849, and held the office eight years. In 1857 he was elected to the State Senate. In November, 1858, he was elected President of the Tennessee & Coosa Railway Company, and held the office until 1868. In 1861, by the people of Marshall, Jackson, DeKalb and Cherokee Counties, he was elected Major-General of the militia. In 1862 he resigned, and was appointed on the staff of Governor Moore, and in the fall of the same year raised a company of volunteers, was commissioned Captain (Company B, Forty-eighth Alabama), served until compelled by sickness to resign, returned home, and in the early part of 1863 received the appointment of Deputy Collector of Revenue. He held this position until the close of the war. In 1866 he was appointed Register in Chancery, and has been continued in that office ever since. From 1870 to 1876 he was also County Solicitor, and for the past five or six years has acted as Justice of the Peace, and has been

several times Mayor of Guntersville. He was one of the organizers of the Tennessee & Coosa Railroad, has been one of its Directors ever since, and its Secretary for the past ten years. He is one of the foremost men in the upbuilding and improvement of the country, and is particularly interested in the welfare of Guntersville.

March, 1840, Mr. Rayburn was married to Sarah Davenport. His only son, by this marriage, Capt. John Rayburn, was a graduate of Cumberland University; was a captain in the Ninth Alabama Infantry, commanded by Colonel Wilcox, and lost his life at Sharpsburg, Md. Sarah (Davenport) Rayburn, having died January, 1860, Mr. Rayburn, in May, 1861, was married to Mrs. Evergreen Findley, *nee* Rainey. She was killed in 1862 by the explosion of a shell thrown into the town of Guntersville, by the enemy.

December, 1863, at Guntersville, Ala., Mr. Rayburn was married to Miss Nannie Nix, and to this union five children have been born; Bessie, John, Samuel K., William C., and Jennie. Mrs. Rayburn died November, 1874, and on May 1, 1880, Miss Jane Warren, of DeKalb County, this State, became the fourth Mrs. Samuel K. Rayburn.



**BENJAMIN W. TIPTON**, son of Vance S. and Nellie (Smith) Tipton, was born in Jackson County, Ala., March 24, 1828. He spent the early years of his life on his father's plantation, and at the neighboring schools acquired an ordinary English education. In the fall of 1862 he enlisted as a private in the Confederate Army, and remained in the service until after his capture at the fall of Vicksburg, after which he returned to Jackson County.

Mr. Tipton was married to a daughter of Asa M. Green. She became the mother of twelve children, several of whom survive her. She died in 1882, and in 1881 Mr. Tipton married Mrs. Mary Kitchens, *nee* Capehart.

Mr. and Mrs. Tipton are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Tipton is of the Masonic fraternity.

The senior Mr. Tipton was born in 1800. He settled near Scottsboro, Jackson County, in 1818, and there spent the rest of his life. Of the seven children born to him, five grew to maturity. His son John was drowned accidentally in Short Creek,

near Guntersville: he, Benjamin and LaFayette—three brothers—were in the Confederate Army. Mrs. Nellie (Smith) Tipton died in 1837, and Vance B. subsequently married Mrs. Thomas, *née* Green, widow of Charles Thomas. She was the mother of four children by her first husband, and became the mother of two by Mr. Tipton. The two latter, Jonathan and Thomas J., died in the army during the late war.

Mrs. Theresa Tipton died in 1858, and her relict afterward intermarried with Lucinda Hollis, of Jackson County, and she bore him two children. The old gentleman, Vance B. Tipton, died in 1881, and his widow survived him until 1885.

**WILLIAM M. BAKER** was born on the farm where he now resides, on the north bank of the Tennessee River, three miles northwest of Gunter's Landing, April 16, 1841, and is a son of William and Mary (Manning) Baker. He was reared at this place and educated at the common schools of the neighborhood, where he received a fair education.

December 16, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company E, Forty-ninth Alabama, and with that command participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Baton Rouge, Port Hudson (where he was captured), and the first fighting at Vicksburg. After being paroled he returned to his home, where he was again taken prisoner and sent to Camp Chase, and there remained until 1865. From Camp Chase he was sent to Richmond, Va., paroled, and, in March of that year, reached home in time for the final surrender. He came to Guntersville where he took the oath of allegiance, and since that time has given his attention to farming. He owns a magnificent farm extending along the river, and in connection with it runs a cotton-gin, saw, grist and lumber-mill combined. In partnership with his brother, he erected the first portable engine ever brought to that part of the country.

Mr. Baker is recognized as one of the most successful farmers of Marshall County. He is well fixed in this world's goods, the result of his own enterprise; the close of the war found his exchequer entirely depleted.

He was married in December, 1867, to Alabama McKee, daughter of William McKee, one of the

pioneers of Marshall County. Mr. McKee came to the Tennessee Valley from East Tennessee in 1819, and was one of the most successful farmers of his day. At the time of his death he owned a large estate in lands and other property. Mrs. Baker died in 1880, and in September, 1881, Mr. Baker was married to Julia V. Burneit, daughter of John Burnett, of DeKalb County. Mr. Burnett was also a soldier in the late war, and died in prison on Rock Island. By his present wife Mr. Baker has four children, to-wit: James B., Julia E., Mary J. and Robbie May. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Baker is a Mason.

**JOHN D. TAYLOR**, son of Theophilus and Anna (Dykes) Taylor, natives of South Carolina and Georgia, respectively, was born in Habersham County, Ga., May 9, 1830. He spent his younger days on a farm; received his education at home, and when twenty years of age began clerking in Jackson County, this State. In 1855, he came to Guntersville and for some time, sold goods. While in Jackson County, he began the study of law, and at Guntersville, in 1857, was admitted to the bar, and practiced law here two years. In 1860 he was employed by a wholesale house in Nashville, and in March, 1862, enlisted in the Confederate Army, in Company E, Forty-eighth Alabama Regiment of Infantry, as a private, and was soon afterward promoted to ordnance sergeant. In December, 1864, he returned to his home and to a clerkship in a store. In 1871 he entered the warehouse and commission business at the landing, and in the fall of 1885, erected a large warehouse in the town, and dealt in all sorts of produce. He has served as justice of the peace or notary since 1869.

Mr. Taylor was first married June 4, 1861, to Mrs. Virginia Moore, daughter of William Patton, who came from Virginia, settled near Huntsville, and married a Miss Miller. Mr. Taylor was the father of three children by his first marriage, viz.: Warren P., Clarence M. and Herbert Lee. His wife died August 9, 1869, and he was married the second time, October 10, 1870, to Catherine Black, daughter of George and Margaret (Phinizee) Bell, of Jackson County, Va. Mr. Bell is a farmer and blacksmith.

Mr. Taylor is a public-spirited citizen. He is a

member of the I. O. O. F., and he and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Theophilus Taylor was a hatter by trade, and was also a farmer. He was born in 1796, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. He came to Georgia when but a boy, and died there in 1853. His father, Jerry Taylor, was born and reared in Virginia and took part in the Revolutionary War, although but a boy. He married Lea White, and raised a large family. He moved to South Carolina when a young man, and afterward to Georgia, where he remained until his death. The Taylors and Whites are both of English origin.

Mr. Taylor's maternal grandmother was twice married. Her first husband's name was John Dykes; her second husband was a Von Moltke—he was Mr. Taylor's grandfather, and a relative of the famous General Von Moltke, of Germany.



**DAVID CARNES JORDAN** was born in Blount County, Ala., February 21, 1829, and is a son of William Grant and Elizabeth G. (Carnes) Jordan. He was reared at Bristol Cove, where he received a common-school education.

He was married in December, 1848, to Miss Sarah E. Ligon, daughter of James and Matilda (Burns) Ligon, of this city.

Mr. Jordan has been a farmer nearly all his lifetime, and at present owns about fifteen hundred acres of land in this county. Before the war, he held the office of treasurer of the county, and he was again elected to that office during the war. In 1866 he engaged in mercantile business at Guntersville, which he still continues, under the firm-name of Jordan, Manning & Co., and in addition thereto he is operating a cotton-gin and grist-mill.

Mr. Jordan's first wife died in 1853, leaving two children, James L. and Elizabeth E. On June 20, 1853, he was wedded to Martha E. Rivers, daughter of Eldridge Rivers, one of the pioneers of Madison County, and the children born to this union are Sarah E., Mary A. (Mrs. John Greenwood), William G., John, and David C.

William G. Jordan was born in Buncombe County, N. C., about 1809, and was taken by his parents to Franklin County, Tenn., when he was an infant, and there was reared and educated. At the age of about twenty-three years he came to Blount County, Ala., married, entered land-

from the Government, and, at Bristol Cove, that county, at the time of his death, which occurred in Marshall County, he owned 1800 acres of land. He was for many years Commissioner of Marshall County and at the time of his death was Postmaster at Anzora. He reared six children, of whom we have the following data: Mary E., (Mrs. Levi Murphee), Alexander, Emily (Mrs. Elisha R. Chandler), David C. and John. Alexander, now deceased, was a soldier in the Confederate Army, as was John. The old gentleman died in 1872. The Jordan family came, originally, from Scotland; and John Jordan, a native of Buncombe County, N. C., was among the early settlers of Franklin County, Tenn. He removed from there to Rush County, Texas, where he and his wife died. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, a substantial farmer, and distinguished as a turfman. The Carnes family came from Ireland, in the person of David Carnes, and lived at Paint Lick, Ky., where Elizabeth C. Carnes was born.



**WENDOLYN SEIBOLD**, Merchant, Guntersville, son of Lorenzo and Celia Seibold, of Baden, Germany, was born in Sakingen, Baden, Germany, October 8, 1823, and was the youngest of five sons. He received his education in his native village, and learned the trade of shoemaker. He, with three of his brothers, left Amsterdam on a sailing vessel, and on May 4, 1847, landed in New York after a voyage of forty days. He worked in New York City for six months, went to Cincinnati and remained there one year, then went to St. Louis and remained six months. Coming thence to Huntsville, he worked at his trade for a year, and in August, 1849, located at Gunter's Landing, where he opened the first shoe-shop at that place. From 1850 to 1878 he was in the grocery business. He then purchased a tract of land, five miles up the river, and ran a farm until 1882. Leaving three of his sons in charge of the farm, he and his wife returned to Guntersville, and opened a grocery and furniture store. In 1887, he turned his entire attention to the furniture business, and now owns the only exclusive furniture establishment in the county. He began life without any capital, but has succeeded in accumulating a competency.

Mr. Seibold was married in 1852, to Elizabeth,

daughter of Allen Loveless, and they had five children, viz.: Charles M., Allen, Green B., John and Wendelin. Mrs. Seibold died in 1869, and in 1872 Mr. Seibold was married to Eliza Johnson,

who has borne him one child, Logan. Mr. Seibold is a director in the Tennessee & Coosa Railroad, and uses his influence for the benefit of the country.





## VII. SHEFFIELD.

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BY WILLIAM GARRETT BROWN.

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When a newly-founded city bases its hopes on the advantages of its location, as is the case with most of the growing towns of Northern Alabama, one is apt to inquire, why these advantages were not sooner discovered: why the enterprises now under way were not sooner undertaken: why the riches now amassing were not sooner won? The failure to furnish a satisfactory explanation might even be held sufficient to generate a doubt as to the genuineness of the present growth.

In the case of Sheffield, it is peculiarly difficult to answer this pertinent question. Tusculum and Florence, both of which are among the oldest towns of the State, are situated within three and five miles, respectively, and yet their citizens have never discovered (or else have failed to act on their discovery to any practical result) the supreme attractions that belong to the site of their younger rival. Few regions in Alabama have been more thoroughly known for years than the Tennessee Valley; and yet it has only lately been declared, and a proof attempted, that in the very midst of it the future greatest iron city of the continent must be built.

And yet there has been no lack of prophecy and prediction in connection with Sheffield. The opinion of Commodore Maury, as to the part which this region is destined to play in the industrial life of the nation, has been frequently quoted. The impression made upon Andrew Jackson, when he visited the neighborhood three-quarters of a century ago (the place where he crossed the Tennessee, is still marked by the rough roadway made for the passage of his army), is also frequently alluded to; and it would be impossible to enumerate the private predictions that have only come into notice (if not into existence), since the last few years have given such striking indications of their truth.

It was not until the year 1883, however, that there was made an impression that bore fruit. It was in this year, that Capt. Alfred H. Moses, senior member of the firm of Moses Bros., of Montgomery, became interested in a railroad project which promised to result in substantial benefit to the town of Florence, and, on his return from the Louisville Exposition, visited that place with a view of investing in real estate. While there, he was persuaded to undertake an excursion to the mineral lands of Franklin County, on which journey he passed over the rolling plateau which lay across the river, almost directly opposite Florence. He was struck by the beauty and adaptability of the site, and, on his return, entered into negotiations with Col. Walter S. Gordon, one of his companions on the trip, by which they became joint owners of a property, then estimated at a few thousands of dollars, but which it would now require millions to purchase.

This was the beginning. The attention of various business men throughout the South, especially in the States of Georgia and Alabama, had already been thoroughly aroused by the wonderful history of Birmingham, and had been for some time directed to the Tennessee Valley. It was not a difficult task to make Sheffield the special object of their inquiries. This once accomplished, the natural attractions and advantages of the location did the rest. A body of these men, guided by Moses and Gordon, came together, organized, and made purchases. They secured 2,500 acres of land, to be used as a site for the projected city, at a cost of 850,000. At the same time, they acquired mineral rights on 30,000 acres of coal and iron lands in Franklin, Winston and Walker Counties, paying out, in all, about 8,100,000. A corporation was then formed, under the name of "The Sheffield Land, Iron and Coal Company," with a capital

stock of \$500,000, afterward increased to \$1,000,000. Of this company, the directors were Alfred H. Moses, David Clopton, O. O. Nelson, and W. S. Chambers, of Montgomery, Ala.; W. S. Gordon, F. M. Coker, J. F. Burk, H. B. Tompkins, D. M. Bain, C. A. Collier, and W. A. Hemphill, of Atlanta, Ga.; and E. C. Gordon, of Clarksville, Tenn. W. S. Gordon was made president, A. H. Moses vice-president and general manager, and F. M. Coker secretary and treasurer.

The first act of the new corporation was the extensive advertisement of what it had done, and the announcement of a sale of lots to take place in May, 1884. The crowd which gathered on the 9th of that month, in the desolate field of which such great things were hoped and prophesied, testified to the public interest in all that pertained to the material development, then so general throughout the South, to the Sheffield movement in particular.

There was remarkable enthusiasm from the beginning. The bidding never lagged, but increased in eagerness from first to last. The first lot offered brought \$1,000. The highest price paid was \$8,900, which was bid by an Atlanta man for a lot at the intersection of Montgomery and Alabama avenues. In all, there were five hundred sales, making a transfer of about seventy-five acres, and aggregated about \$350,000.

The enterprise was now fairly afoot, but, scarcely had the remarkable sale been finished, when the tide set the other way. Within a week the financial world was shocked and shaken by the failure of the Metropolitan and Grant & Ward banks. The depression that followed will be remembered. For nearly two years there existed a condition that was little short of a continued panic in every money center in the Union.

That Sheffield should escape the disaster that was so widespread was not to be expected, and her rapid rise was, in itself, a partial cause of a reactionary feeling that was equally as rapid. Even those who had been most eager to make investments became thoroughly frightened, and were not prudent enough to conceal their anxiety to escape the consequences of the mistake which they thought they had made. Immediately the entire property began to depreciate. The first transfer at a reduction was the alarm note that brought on a number of others; till the same lots, which a few weeks before had been knocked down at prices that appeared extravagantly high, were now dis-

posed of at prices that were yet more extravagantly low. Some who had bought on time payments, preferred to forfeit their lots rather than pay another installment. Companies which had entered into agreements to build smelters and furnaces, refused to fulfill them until affairs brightened. The stock of the Sheffield Company could find no purchasers. On all sides the enterprise was held to be a failure: by many it was looked upon as a swindle. The fortunes of the infant city were at their lowest ebb. It was still, in reality, only a "city on paper," and bade fair to be nothing more.

It now appears, however, that this early unsuccess, as is so often the case, was in reality good for the scheme, for the reason that it served to reveal the character, faith and resolution of the men who had originated and were to execute it. Not once do they seem to have despaired, or even doubted, of ultimate success. Not once did they halt in the prosecution of the measures by which, if at all, success must be won. In these, Captain Moses, as General Manager, was called on to take the lead. He met the responsibility fully and well. He built houses, graded streets, laid off sites for manufacturing enterprises, used his influence and business knowledge and experience in every possible way for the advancement of the work. He also successfully negotiated with various railroads to the end that they should run their lines into the Sheffield that was to be. He and his associates simply ignored the prevailing distrust, suffering it in no degree to lessen their energy or shake their faith. The grounds of their confidence it is now time to consider.

Sheffield is in Colbert County, in the north-western corner of the State, on the southern bank of the Tennessee River, in latitude 34° 45' north and longitude 87° 45' west from Greenwich. It is in the central portion of the Tennessee River Valley, and is at the head of navigation on that stream, as the impassable Mussel Shoals lie only a few miles above. The importance of this fact we will again have occasion to refer to. At present, it is enough to say that Sheffield is thus 700 miles nearer by water to St. Louis than is Pittsburgh, that the Tennessee below Sheffield is considered a more navigable river than the Ohio, and that Sheffield is nearer by rail to all important places and regions in Alabama, Georgia, Eastern Mississippi, South Carolina, Florida, and a part of East Tennessee than is any other point con-

nected with this river system. It lies on the edge of the mineral belt of the South, recently brought into prominence as the probable center of the iron industry in America, and next to the great West, which is to be the best market for this product.

The agricultural advantages of this section of the country, the adaptation to the successful growth of all sorts of fruits, and the breeding of all kinds of farm stock, and the wonderful advancement and development of those resources, are fully set forth in Parts I. and II. of this volume.

The southern counties of Alabama are usually spoken of as constituting the "timber belt," as contrasted with the "agricultural belt" and the "mineral belt." But in fact, there is hardly to be found a single district of any considerable area throughout the State that is not well supplied with forests. This is especially true of the region adjacent to Sheffield—north, east and south.

It is only relatively to its agricultural advantages, which have been somewhat neglected, even by those whose interest it has been to magnify them that the estimate of Sheffield's facilities for manufacture is here lowered. Its chief hope and ambition, from the first, has been to become a great iron city, after the order of the English city from which it takes its name. Its present endeavors are all in that direction, and such a singleness of aim may be desirable. The future of the town may safely be staked upon its ability to make and manufacture iron cheaply—as cheaply as any other place in America. Its claims in this respect are based upon its possession of (A) the materials and (B) the transportation facilities. In both these essentials it is peculiarly and richly blessed by nature.

The timber supply immediately accessible to Sheffield is only secondary in importance to the supply of minerals. Of these last coal and iron are the chief. Concerning these, however, it will not be necessary to here treat at any length. The account of them in Professor McCally's articles in this volume will be found accurate, full and scientific. It is enough to say that the wealth of the northwestern part of Alabama in both these important minerals is something that, until very recent years, was not even suspected by the majority of her citizens, although to the scientific mind sufficient evidence had long been apparent to create the brightest expectations.

It should also be remembered that in Southern Tennessee there are ore-deposits that rival those of Alabama in abundance and in excellence of quality. To these Sheffield, of all the manufacturing towns of Alabama, has easiest access.

The other essential to the manufacture of iron—limestone—is to be found in inexhaustible quantities in the corporate limits of the town itself, the face of the bluff on which it is situated being composed entirely of this formation in the condition best suited to the purpose for which it will be employed. Thus the three materials, iron, limestone and coal, whose combination at Birmingham constitutes the great advantage of that place, are equally convenient here.

The opinion of James C. Anderson, an expert who is nothing unless empirical, whose practical knowledge of the matter in hand has been gained by a life spent in various quarters of the globe and in the pursuit of wealth by numerous paths, and whose honesty and reliability as a prospector is beyond question, is here quoted:

"It beats anything along Lake Superior. You walk along and stumble against whole hills of coal and iron. It is the best ore I ever saw to work. The very lowest of it assays fifty per cent. metallic ore, much of it is sixty-five per cent., and tons upon tons of it go up as high as seventy-four per cent. It is freer from phosphorus than any I ever saw elsewhere in the South, and is very free from silicate. Silicate injures the iron and makes articles in which much of it is retained, brittle. Of this objectionable quality, Sheffield iron is free. There are large bodies of fossiliferous ores with forty-two per cent. metallic gravity. You see the singular combination here is that you can stand on a limestone rock and touch, so to speak, the iron mine with one hand and the colliery with the other. Sheffield is the only place in the world where the iron manufacturer can find *all* he wants right in a heap. The coal measures are four feet thick, whole acres over. Another thing here is the large quantity of hard woods to be found in proximity in all places. Along the north side of Bear River, are immense fields of iron, underlaid by thick cakes of limestone. On the south side the solid masses of coal stretch away out of sight."

From quarries near the city, building stone of the highest grade, some of which has been in use for sixty years without any apparent deterioration, is obtained. Within a few miles, also, there

are deposits of yellow ochre, from which the best grades of paint are made. Other mineral resources are constantly being discovered and will be developed and utilized.

Iron and coal in untold abundance are to be found both north and south of Sheffield. To reach these she must have railroads. Rivers alone can be spoken of as natural aids in transportation, and the fact that Sheffield is situated upon the largest and best of all the streams that make Alabama the best river State in the Union, taken in connection with her other natural endowments, is the strongest reason for confidence in her future. The importance of this fact justifies the following quotation from a current publication upon the Tennessee River in Alabama:

“The primitive tribes called this majestic stream, which scoops in the northern tier of counties, the Great Bend, which is said to be the meaning of Tennessee. Having its source in the southwestern part of Virginia, it flows toward the southwest 280 miles, to Knoxville, Tenn.; sixty miles, still, to the southwest, it reaches London, Tenn. At this point it turns at right angles, and flows toward the northwest, making its way through several subordinate ridges, twenty-four miles, to Kingston, Tenn., where it forms a junction with the Clinch River, one of its largest tributaries. At the last named point the river resumes a southwest course for 110 miles, where it reaches the bustling city of Chattanooga, Tenn. Here it alternates again, swooping abruptly to the northwest, nineteen miles, and pushing its way through the eastern branch of the Cumberland range to what is known as the Boiling Pot, once a natural obstruction, which is now removed. Again alternating, the river turns sharply to the southwest, and flows in a tortuous course for forty-one miles to Bridgeport, Ala.; and on in the same direction it pursues its way seventy-four miles farther to the promising town of Guntersville, Ala. Turning to the northwest again at this last named point, it gradually bends its way toward the north, for the distance of fifty-one miles, to Decatur, Ala. Just two miles below this point, at Brown’s Ferry, is met the head of the famous natural obstruction, Mussel Shoals. This obstruction embraces about thirty-eight miles of this splendid stream. It does not terminate until the stream comes within sight of Florence [and Sheffield], Ala. Just thirty-four miles from Florence is Waterloo, Ala., where the Ten-

nessee bends northward, and, after traversing 296 miles, it empties into the Ohio at Paducah, Ky. Thus the total distance, from its fountain head to Paducah, is 1,037 miles. Nearly one-third of the river is embraced in Alabama. It flows through five great States, to each of which it is of immense benefit. It is almost equal to the Ohio in length, breadth, and volume, and ranks sixth in magnitude among the rivers of the North American continent. It is only necessary to complete the removal of the natural impediment at the Mussel Shoals to make it a channel of commerce, the value of which, to our own State as well as to others, can not be computed.” *Riley’s Guide Book*].

The character and extent of the waterway on which Sheffield is situated, is sufficiently exhibited in this extract, and the advantages of such a situation are at once apparent. Outside the central fact that the cheapest of all means of transporting her products to the Western markets is thus afforded, it would be a great natural blessing to have such a line of communication with the various points of note, above and below, that are to be found on the banks of the stream.

The completion of the Mussel Shoals Canal, which must soon take place, will make the Tennessee a thoroughly available means of transportation between these and Sheffield. St. Louis, as has been said, is the best pig-iron market in the world, and from Sheffield to St. Louis, and to all points on the Mississippi below St. Louis, there is an uninterrupted waterway that has no superior in the Union. Steamboats will carry iron from Sheffield to St. Louis for one dollar per ton, and when tugs or barges are used the cost will not be much above half that amount. The cost of transportation to the same point from any other city in Alabama where iron is made is not less than \$3.50 per ton. Iron can be made at Sheffield at least as cheaply as anywhere else in the State. Admit these two facts—and there is no reason for contravening them—and the basis on which her hopes are built is obvious and plain.

When Senator John Sherman was in Nashville, on his return from a tour through the recently developed region of Alabama, he was asked whether he was prepared to concede to the South all that she is claiming in the way of present and prospective material prosperity. He replied:

“Yes, and more. But I am not prepared to concede to Birmingham, or the Birmingham dis-

trict proper, all or any considerable proportion of what she and it are claiming; because it is manifest that the Tennessee River is to be the base of operations in the upbuilding of the great New South."

James Bowron and Lowthian Bell, Englishmen, who have applied the knowledge gained in their own country to a criticism of the iron industry in America, speaking before the founding of Sheffield, both declared their faith in North Alabama, as the best adapted to this industry of all the regions of the Union that have attempted it, giving, as reasons, the abundance and proximity of the several materials and the means of transportation afforded by the Tennessee River, in both of which respects their argument applies most fully to Sheffield.

Of a like general nature, but equally capable of special application to Sheffield, are the remarks of Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, of New York, who said in 1871, speaking of this section:

"It is, in fact, the only place upon the American continent where it is profitable to make iron in competition with the cheap iron of England, measured, not by the wages paid, but the number of days' labor which enter into its production. In Alabama the coal and the ore are in many places within a half a mile of each other, and the cost of the iron is only about ten days' labor to the ton, or not far from the labor cost in Cleveland. Throwing aside, then, all questions of tariffs for protection, here is a possibility upon the American Continent of producing iron at as low a cost in labor as in the most favored region of the world, and allowing for the expense of transportation to compete with them, paying a higher average rate of wages than is paid in Great Britain."

Mr. James P. Withrow, of Pittsburgh, Pa., who controls the Clapp-Griffiths process of making steel, pronounces Sheffield the best point in the United States for the manufacture of iron and steel; allowing liberally for every item, he estimates the cost of manufacturing pig iron here at \$9 per ton, including the labor, material, expense, interest, repairs and contingencies.

The fact that the Alabama & Tennessee Coal and Iron Company (now consolidated with several other companies into a corporation with 88,000,000 capital) is at present erecting three large blast furnaces at Sheffield is a sufficient indication of the views of the President, Col. E. W. Cole, the

well-known Nashville financier, who built the East Tennessee Railroad system. But his verbal expression of them is equally emphatic:

"I have looked into the advantages of Sheffield, and of every other business point in Alabama, and the result is that I have planted myself right here, and made this city the headquarters of my company, as well as the center of my expenditure. Here is the river upon which the pig-iron of the world can be sent to market, and reaching, through its tributaries, every city in the valleys of the Mississippi, the Missouri, the Ohio, and away down to the Gulf, and thence to the ocean. I have already planted here myself over 8,200,000, with more following. I have absolute faith in Sheffield's future. In two years from now you will see 300 carloads of coke being delivered daily at my furnaces here. You will see 100 carloads daily of pig-iron being exported from the same furnaces. You will see the Tennessee River alive with Sheffield's shipping, and there will not be a river in the great Mississippi valleys which will not be coursed by Sheffield's pilots."

A glance at the attractions of the site of this city must conclude this inadequate summary of the facts and reasonings that justify the confidence of Captain Moses and his associates. These are, in general, beauty, healthfulness and remarkable adaptability to varied activities of a commercial and manufacturing center such as is sought to be established.

From a precipitous bluff of limestone that rises abruptly from the river to a height of several hundred feet, and whose rounded shape conforms to the slight bend of the stream, a rolling plain, which might almost be called a plateau, extends southward to Tusculumbia, two miles distant, and on several miles further to a range of hills which divides that portion of the Tennessee Valley from east to West, and which is locally known as the Little Mountain. The bluff-wall, which is densely wooded at the top, with trees and bushes, in every available crack, where soil has accumulated to a sufficient extent, is imposing and belongs to a sort of natural scenery that is by no means common in Alabama. Springs of clear water, moss-covered ledges, native vines, foliage of tropical luxuriance, and cavernous recesses (among the latter Hinda's Cave, which, to tell the truth, is somewhat disappointing in view of the extensive legend connected with it) abound along its face. The river at its base is usually somewhat muddy, but is sufficiently

broad and tranquil. The whole is to be reserved as a park, and if the hand of the "improver" is not allowed too great license, will constitute a point of superiority over most towns of the State. The plain is not wooded beyond the band of a few hundred yards in width that extends along the edge of the cliff.

The elevation, the absence of marshes that might cause malaria, contiguity of the mountains, the openness to breezes, which, as a matter of fact, do blow almost continuously, insure the healthfulness of the locality, and the records bear out the expectations in this regard that are naturally formed from the character of the environment. The rolling nature of the soil also is exceptionally favorable, and the thorough system of drainage which, it may as well be stated here, is to be applied.

There is no respect apparent, so far, in which the site will fail to meet the requirements of the busy community that will eventually occupy it. It is level, and will therefore present no obstacle to the grading for streets and houses. The soil is firm, and affords good foundations for the loftiest edifices. The water supply is abundant, and "Reservoir Hill," an elevation near the river, already chosen for the future water tower, is high enough to supply the tallest buildings and give them protection from fire. Once freed of its mud, the water from the Tennessee is pure and wholesome. The natural landing, extending for three-fourths of a mile along the base of the bluff, is admirably fitted for the construction of a wharf that shall be adequate to all the demands that will be made upon it by a growing commerce. The rock and lime and lumber with which to make the needed improvements are just at hand. The river, as has been shown, could and will be employed for the transporting of the manufactured product to its Western market, and will, moreover, constitute a perpetual protection against railway monopoly, but it was never for a moment supposed that railroads could be dispensed with. Accordingly, as has been said, Captain Moses and his associates bent their energies, from the first, to the securing of these most effective promoters of material development.

As might have been expected, the Memphis & Charleston was the first of already existing lines to attract their attention, and it was not difficult to persuade the directors of this road to extend their track to Sheffield. It was decided that here

should be located the main shops of the entire road; and the workmen and their families will make an increase of at least 2,000 in the population of the town. The Memphis & Charleston is a part of the Richmond & Danville system, and through it Sheffield has direct connection with Memphis, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Lynchburg, Danville, Richmond and other points of importance in Tennessee and Virginia, and with Rome, Atlanta, Macon and Brunswick, Ga.

The immediate and particular need of the young community, however, will be principally supplied by a road which owes its existence entirely to the need itself. This is the Sheffield & Birmingham, which was organized for the purpose of furnishing raw material to the furnaces. By its immediate and direct connection is obtained with nearly every trunk line operating in the South. A large portion of the mineral region through which it passes has hitherto been totally neglected on account of the absence of any means of transportation. Now that such means have been supplied, not Sheffield alone, but every community interested in the development of these resources must reap the benefit.

Along the line of the road are inexhaustible brown hematite iron-ore beds, which will assay over fifty per cent. of metallic iron, inexhaustible quantities of limestone lying along the line of the road for many miles, which will be useful for building purposes, for flux in the furnaces and for ballasting the line of railroad so as to make it one of the safest and best in the South. The road runs through immense depths of sand and sandstone, the sandstone being fine for building purposes and the sand being of rare qualities and fit to be used in the furnaces for making glass. Also, the road runs through great quantities of cement-gravel, which is the very finest material for ballasting railroads and making streets. Lower down in Walker County it strikes the inexhaustible coal measures and runs through them for many miles. Thus we have iron, coal, limestone, sand, sandstone and cement-gravel—six different raw products, besides quantities of red ochre—all being immediately along the line and all in inexhaustible quantities. This railroad is designed to be run and managed as much as possible to advance the interests of Sheffield.

The Nashville, Florence & Sheffield came next. It is a branch of the Louisville & Nashville system. It passes through some of the finest ore and timber lands of Southern Tennessee, afford-

ing a second means of obtaining a supply of the materials necessary to manufacturing iron, and giving connection directly with Nashville, Louisville, Evansville, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Birmingham, Montgomery, Mobile, Pensacola, Chattahoochee, New Orleans and other places of prominence.

These three lines give Sheffield the benefit of competition in nearly every direction. With them alone, added to her river transportation, she would be well equipped. Concerning those which have been organized or projected at various times since the founding of the city: some of them are already building, and the probability is that the majority, at least, of them will be carried through to completion.

The Sheffield & Seaboard, which is under contract to locate its principal shops at Sheffield, has two lines surveyed to Aberdeen, Miss., where it will connect with the Illinois Central and the Mobile & Ohio, giving communication with Mobile, New Orleans, Jackson, etc., and crossing the Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham this side of Aberdeen, with the latter making a competing line to Memphis and Kansas City. The Ohio Valley Railroad is in operation from Hendersonville, Ky., to Marion, Ky., and has been surveyed to the bank of the river opposite Sheffield. The Tennessee Central & Alabama is graded from Trenton to Milan, Tenn., and surveyed thence to the opposite bank of the river. These will give additional competition to St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, and other points west and north. The Gulf & Chicago is projected as an air-line from Mobile to Chicago, *via* Sheffield. The Chicago, Montgomery & Florida, another road that is only projected so far, will extend from Sheffield, *via* Montgomery, to Chattahoochee. The Sheffield & Atlantic, now in process of organization, will extend from Sheffield, *via* Cullman and Anniston or Gadsden, to the Georgia State line. The people of Atlanta have recently successfully applied to the Alabama Legislature for certain rights to be granted to the Atlanta, Mississippi & Atlantic Railroad, which, if completed, would extend from Sheffield to Atlanta, and thence to some seaport in South Carolina or Georgia. Steps are now being taken for the construction of a railroad to Paducah, and of one from Sheffield, in a north-easterly direction, to Somerset, Ky. A road to Gallatin, Tenn., *via* Pulaski, has been projected. The Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railroad

Company think of extending their line in the direction of Sheffield.

The historian has purposely abandoned the order of time in speaking of the various assured and probable railroad enterprises connected with Sheffield, in order that the entire view of this phase of the city's growth might be presented at once. He has also endeavored to be thoroughly candid, admitting that there is doubt and uncertainty in regard to the majority of the projects mentioned. However, he must not be understood as conveying the idea that the weight of probability is not in favor of the opinion that they will be undertaken (where not already begun) and successfully carried out. Again, it must not be forgotten that those already secured are enough to establish Sheffield as a railway center, and that the river will always serve as a protection against their possible abuse of the power they unquestionably possess.

But the making of iron was always the chief end of Sheffield. Accordingly the securing of furnaces, equally with the securing of railroads, was the object of its leading spirits, and when consummated, has served to mark the successive steps in its growth.

The beginning of recovery from the financial depression of the spring of 1854 was signaled by the organization of the first furnace company. It was in the summer of 1856, and the style of the corporation is The Sheffield Furnace Company. It began with a capital of \$150,000, and closed a contract for a 125-ton blast furnace. The work began in September.

In the following February (1857), a more imposing triumph was scored. The Alabama and Tennessee Iron and Coal Company, with a capital of \$2,200,000, besides 70,000 acres of increasingly valuable coal and iron lands, during that month decided to make Sheffield the center of its operations. A contract was let for the erection of three furnaces, each of a capacity of 150 tons daily, to be completed, one in thirteen, one in fifteen and one in seventeen months, for the sum of \$564,000. Fifty teams and 100 men were put to work leveling the ground, and making excavations for the foundations.

Soon after, the Lady Ensley Furnace Company let a contract for a 125-ton furnace, to be ready early in the year 1858. This completed the securing of the five furnaces so often spoken of in the enumeration of the city's enterprises. These, when

completed, will have an aggregate daily capacity of 1,000 tons of pig-iron.

The railroads and furnaces brought in their train a number of lesser industries, which will be noticed further on. A general brightening up, a firmer feeling that soon became an enthusiastic hopefulness, was the immediate result. The stock of the Sheffield Land, Iron and Coal Company, which by grants of land and other inducements had been very active in bringing in these enterprises, ran up from \$30 to \$200 a share, the par value being \$100. The prices of real estate rose in proportion. Investors flocked in from all directions. The prosperous state of things throughout the recently developed South, in general, affected favorably the public attitude toward the youngest product of the new order of things in Alabama. Throughout the winter greatest activity and excitement prevailed. Fortunes were rapidly acquired; population greatly increased; houses were built and companies organized for the purpose of building more; stores were set up; two banks—The First National, C. D. Woodson, president; and Bank of Sheffield, Alfred H. Moses, president; each with a capital of \$100,000—were organized; real estate agents came in swarms; tents were necessary for the temporary accommodation of the workmen, prospectors and settlers. There could be no doubt that, for success or failure, wisely or unwisely, a vast amount of energy had been called into play.

The fluctuations that so constantly and so strangely prevail in the business world have not failed to show themselves throughout the history of the Sheffield undertaking. Stocks in the Sheffield Land, Iron and Coal Company and in the various furnace and railroad companies have risen and fallen, and so have the prices of real estate. But the work on which all these things ultimately depend has gone steadily on. Population has steadily grown, and the only way in which the story could be told would be to chronicle the successive arrivals of enterprises and men.

#### PARTIAL LIST OF ENTERPRISES NOT ALREADY MENTIONED.

The Sheffield Pipe and Nail Works, capital \$100,000; the Electric Light and Gas Fuel Works, \$25,000; the Sheffield Ice Company, \$25,000; the Sheffield Manufacturing Company, \$30,000; the Sheffield Contracting Company, \$60,000; the Alabama & Tennessee Construction Company, a branch of the St. Louis Planing Mill Company, \$500,000; the Enreka Brick and Lumber Company, \$30,000; the Sheffield Furniture Manufactory; the Doud Brick Company; the Richmond Brick Company; the Sheffield Bakery and Bot-

tling Works; the Sheffield Mineral Paint Company, capital \$50,000; the Sheffield Agricultural Works, \$40,000; the Sandstone Quarry Company; the Coleman Cotton Cleaner and Gin Company, capital \$100,000; the Sheffield Cotton Compress Company, \$60,000. Morris Brothers & Co., Steam Laundry and Dyeing Works; Flouring Mills; *Enterprise* Publishing Company; Water-Works (\$30,000 already expended); Sheffield Street Railway Company, capital \$50,000; Sheffield & Tusculumbia Street Railway Company, \$50,000, Jo. H. Nathan & Co.'s Savings Bank; Cleveland Hotel Company, capital \$50,000; Sheffield Hotel Company, \$120,000; East Sheffield Land Company, \$500,000; East Sheffield Brick Company; East Sheffield Water-Works Company; Hull & Keller's Fern Quarries; Voorhees' Galvanized Iron Cornice Factory; Sheffield Marble and Phosphate Company, capital \$100,000; the Sheffield Quarries; Mobile Real Estate Company, capital \$50,000; Sheffield Real Estate Company, \$50,000; Sheffield & Mobile Improvement Company, \$100,000; and the Sheffield Stone-Works. Reasonably certain to be secured in the near future are, a charcoal iron furnace and chemical plant; a rolling-mill and a large machine shop.

Many of these enterprises have been inaugurated since the writers last and only visit to Sheffield—in July and August, 1887—and of those which were already resolved on many had not been started. The consolidation of the several corporations which now form the Sheffield and Birmingham Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, with a capital stock of \$1,225,000, took place at that time. None of the furnaces mentioned was then in blast; they now all approach completion. The population was between two and three thousand, although there were scarcely houses sufficient to accommodate one thousand comfortably. Everything indicated incompleteness. Even the attractions were such as pertain to change and growth. Some of the streets were graded, while a few were only staked off, though all were named, Montgomery avenue, the central business street, running north and south, was well lined with buildings—business blocks toward the south, and dwellings, some of them quite handsome, toward the north and near the river. The other streets and avenues presented a somewhat curious appearance. On nearly every one of them there were buildings of some sort, but the distances between them, and the varied characters of the buildings themselves—here a block of stores standing alone in a grassy field; there a finely-constructed residence touching a hut or tent, intended for temporary use—showed plainly the difference between a town that has taken years to form itself, such as the Old South abounds in, and a town which is springing up in fulfillment of a plan that was



matured before the first corner-stone was laid. The one is a growth, the other is more properly a conscious creation. The one is a result of the unprompted, sometimes undiscerned, action of natural causes and possibilities, and the other is a result of the discovery, and bringing into play, of such causes and possibilities by the intelligence and power of men who seek their own ends in a broad and liberal way. It would be unfair as yet to express a preference for the one or the other of these two methods of city building, for the conscious evolution of such a town as Sheffield is a new phenomenon to which there is no parallel.

As yet, we have only the beginning of the process, and the beginning can scarcely be taken as a fair basis of opinion concerning the appearance of the end—or rather of a later stage in the development, to which, let us hope, there will be no end. The first stages of this development do not present many features of beauty, but there are indications of a coming attractiveness.

Industrialism is not altogether unlovely. Repellant as are many of its characteristics, selfish as are its aims, doubtful as are the means it frequently uses, it does yet sometimes, perhaps always, conduce to the accomplishment of worthier objects in better ways than those that fill the minds of its moving spirits. Great cities are built that money may be made; but great cities, when built, are the nurses of art and letters, the centers of enlightenment, the fields of charity. Sheffield has come into existence because certain capitalists thought that through the establishment of certain industries at this particular site their wealth might be increased, and because in the interests of those few who are rich are bound up the interests of many who are poor. For the same reasons it will continue to grow. But the lower aims are united with higher purposes; and the iron city on the Tennessee, that will give wealth to hundreds and bread and homes to thousands, may and shall contribute somewhat to the better riches that are the property of all men. Here, perhaps, lessons of civilization will be learned; the power of intellect, through machinery and contrivance, will be augmented; institutions of learning will be built; art will be cherished; philanthropy will be exercised; applied Christianity will show its inestimable value and receive its fitting honor. Let us hope, at least, that from the co-operation of so many energies something better and fairer than furnaces

or mills can fashion may be contributed to the life of our country and of the world.



**ALFRED H. MOSES**, distinguished citizen and capitalist, Sheffield, is a native of Charleston, S. C., and was born September 16, 1849. After passing through the high schools of that city, he entered Charleston College, and was graduated therefrom with first honors in the class of 1869. Immediately after graduating he entered the office of Watts, Judge & Jackson, at Montgomery, this State, and began the study of law. Some time in 1869 he was appointed to a clerical position in the Circuit Court of the Middle District of Alabama, and was thereby precluded from taking any very conspicuous part in the war. It appears, however, that toward the close of hostilities he was made captain of a company, and saw some service in and around Pensacola and Mobile.

With the dawn of peace Captain Moses, associated with other gentlemen, embarked in the real estate business at Montgomery. This concern, which soon became one of the most extensive of its character in the State, still has an existence; and, though Captain Moses is a resident of Sheffield, his business interest is retained therein. In May, 1884, he accepted the position of Vice-President and General Manager of the Sheffield Land, Iron and Coal Company, and at once moved with his family to this place. From that time to the present, the history of Sheffield is the history of Captain Moses, and the reader is here referred to the incomparable chapter written by Professor Brown especially for this work, and entitled "Sheffield."

To undertake the creation and construction of a city upon a hitherto barren field, and somewhat isolated from the business world, required no small amount of nerve, to say nothing of an incalculable outlay of money, and yet to do this, Captain Moses left a lucrative and well established business in one of the pleasantest cities in the world, and how well he has succeeded in the accomplishment of the gigantic undertaking, may be read in the history of Sheffield.

Captain Moses is a gentleman of polished address, superior education, and makes a pleasant and agreeable impression upon all with whom he comes in contact. He is an excellent judge of men and things, forms his conclusions rapidly,

and with remarkable correctness. He is noted for his courteousness, for his honesty, and sincerity of purpose. He is liberal in his dealings with his fellow men, broad in his ideas, far-seeing in speculation, patriotic in his devotion to the State and her best interests, and enjoys the reputation of having done as much to advance the interests of all Northern Alabama as any other one man. From a recent publication we quote: "Mr. Moses, at the organization of Sheffield as a municipality, was appointed by Governor O'Neal, Mayor, which office he still retains. He was elected president of the Bank of Sheffield in February last, and is a director in the Sheffield Furnace Company, Sheffield Pipe and Nail Works, and the Sheffield & Tusculumbia Street Railway Company. His residence is located on the highest spot in Sheffield, overlooking the Tennessee, and would do credit to a city of 500,000 inhabitants. It is a marvel of taste, beauty and simplicity, and strangers are cordially welcomed by him and his charming family."

Captain Moses was married November 8, 1871, to Miss Janett Nathan, of Louisville, Ky., and has had born to him five children: Sarah A., Alfred H., Adaline L., Lee J. and Joseph W.

**CHARLES D. WOODSON.** President of the First National Bank of Sheffield, was born in Madison County, Ga., August 10, 1856, and is a son of William D. and Martha R. (Floyd) Woodson. He was educated at the common schools and at Emory College, Georgia, and at the age of seventeen years accepted a clerical position in the freight department of the Georgia Central Railroad. From here, at the end of one year, he transferred to Atlanta, where he was employed for the next succeeding eleven years in the State National Bank, being promoted from messenger to teller. In January, 1887, he located at Sheffield, organized the First National Bank, and became its president. Though a young man, Mr. Woodson is regarded as one of the most skillful and successful bank managers in Northern Alabama. He is a director of the Sheffield Land and Coal Company and treasurer of the Sheffield and Birmingham Railway Coal and Iron Company. He is also secretary and treasurer of the East Sheffield Land Company, treasurer of the Lady Ensley Furnace Company, treasurer of the Shef-

field Street Railway Company, treasurer of the W. B. Wood Furnace Company of Florence, and treasurer of the Southern Charcoal and Furnace Company of that city. [For particular information regarding these industries, see histories of Sheffield and Florence, this volume.]

In consideration of the high esteem in which Mr. Woodson is held in Northern Alabama, the publishers take pleasure in illustrating this work with his portrait.

William D. Woodson, father of Charles D. Woodson, was born in Prince Edwards County, Va., in 1810, and at the age of twenty-one years, located at Thomaston, Ga., where he afterward became postmaster, and carried on a mercantile business. He landed at that place with but fifty cents in money, but before the outbreak of the late war he had accumulated a large fortune. He took part in the Florida Indian War, during which he held the rank of colonel. He died in 1865, at the age of fifty-five years.

Colonel Woodson's wife was the daughter of the late Stewart Floyd, a prominent jurist of Georgia.

**WASHINGTON R. WESTON.** a prominent business man of Sheffield, was born at Weston, Ga., March 24, 1847, and was the son of Joseph L. and Elizabeth (Rose) Weston. In December, 1861, he left school to enlist in the army, and was soon afterward made a lieutenant on the staff of Gen. W. H. T. Walker. He remained in this position about six months, when the command to which he was attached was disbanded, and he immediately joined Cutts' Artillery as a private. He was the youngest man in that command, and, probably, in consideration of that fact, he was made mail-carrier between Richmond and Cutts' headquarters. On the last of the Seven Days' Fight in front of Richmond, he was run over by a caisson, and so seriously injured, as to lead to his discharge from the service. He was taken home by his father, who thereafter bitterly opposed his re-entering the service; notwithstanding this opposition, however, he rejoined the army as a private in the Sixty-Fourth Georgia Regiment, in which command he remained until July, 1864, when he was captured by some of General Grant's men, while in the act of trading tobacco for pork. He was sent to Washington, where he subsequently took the oath



Oct. 9 11 - 1888



of allegiance, and remained at the North until the close of the war. From the cessation of hostilities until 1886, at which time he located at Sheffield, he was variously employed at railroading, attending school, farming, manufacturing, orange-growing, milling, merchandising, etc. After coming to this place, he engaged in the lumber business, and was one of the incorporators of the Sheffield Manufacturing Company, of which he became secretary, treasurer and business manager. He was also one of the incorporators, and is secretary, treasurer and business manager of the Sheffield Ice Company, and is variously interested with other important industries of this place. He was the first City Treasurer of Sheffield. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Captain Weston is a wide-awake, public-spirited, present-day man, a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor.



**DR. HUGH W. BLAIR** was born in Savannah, Ga., October 2, 1862, and is the son of Hugh A. and Maggie A. (Howard) Blair. He received his primary education at Knoxville, Tenn., and, in the spring of 1883, was graduated at Cumberland University as an A.B. After an interval of a short time he entered Vanderbilt University, Medical Department, where he graduated as the valedictorian of his class in 1885.

He began the practice of medicine at Carthage, Tenn., soon after leaving college, where, in a short time, he built up for himself a good practice, and was honored by being made president of his County Board of Health, in which capacity he served until he came to Sheffield in March, 1887. He is a member of the State and County Medical Societies and a member of the American Medical Association.

As a practitioner Dr. Blair has met with remarkable success from the beginning, and, possessed of a thorough education and a well-balanced mind, the future for him is altogether bright.



**J. O. H. NATHAN**, Lawyer and Banker, Sheffield, was born in Louisville, Ky., January 7, 1856, and at the age of thirteen years was employed in his father's dry goods establishment in that city. In 1875 he

located at Austin, Miss., in general mercantile business, and at the same time took up the study of law. He also about that time edited the *Cotton Plant*. In 1883, after having suffered various reverses by flood and fire, he engaged in mercantile business at Montgomery, and in 1884 located at Sheffield. After practicing law a while at Tusculumbia, he opened an office at Sheffield, and began business as a speculator. His returns in this business soon enabled him to meet all obligations and furnish him with ample capital with which to engage in the general brokerage and banking business. His investments have proved profitable, and he is at this time identified with the most prominent industries of the city. He is one of the directors of the bank of Sheffield, and is treasurer of the Sheffield & Tusculumbia Street Railway Company. He has recently formed a law co-partnership with Col. Thomas R. Roulhac, of Greensboro, Ala., and they are said to have a large and growing practice.



**THOMAS J. TURPIN, M. D.**, son of Thomas J. and Eliza (Bobo) Turpin, was born November 29, 1849, in Claiborne County, Miss. He attended the common schools in his vicinity until 1866, when he entered the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, where he remained two years. He then returned to Louisiana, began the study of medicine, and was graduated from the University of Louisiana, at New Orleans (now known as the Medical Department of Tulare University), in the spring of 1871.

Dr. Turpin first located in Madison Parish, Louisiana, and, one year later, went to Forkland, Ala. In 1883 he moved to Eataw, Greene County, this State, and in August, 1887, located at Sheffield, where he still remains. Dr. Turpin was married in April, 1873, to Miss Anna Blocker, of Greene County, daughter of Col. John R. and Amanda (Watson) Blocker. They have three children, Anna, Fannie and Alice.

Dr. Turpin is a member of the Medical Societies of Greene County and of the State. He and his wife are communicants of the Episcopal Church.

Dr. Turpin's father was born in Maryland; took his degree of M. D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and located in Claiborne County, Miss. He afterward moved to Hindes County, that

State, and subsequently settled on a plantation in Morehouse Parish, La., where he died in 1863. His wife was born in Kentucky, and came to Mississippi with her father at a very early day. They reared two sons and four daughters, of whom but three are now living, viz.: Mrs. Fannie Amos, of Madison Parish, La.; Mrs. G. A. Peterkin, of Bastrop, La., and the subject of our sketch.



**WILLIAM WARREN PRATER, M. D.**, was born in Loudon County, Tenn., and is a son of Hugh G. and Elizabeth J. (Warren) Prater. He received his primary education at the Loudon High School, and was graduated from Cumberland University, as A. B. in 1879. In 1880, he entered Vanderbilt University, Medical Department, and graduated therefrom in the class of 1882. He began the practice of medicine in Wilson County, Tenn., and located at Sheffield in October, 1886.

From the beginning of his practice, Dr. P. has met with flattering success. He was a member of the International Medical Congress, which met in Washington City in September, 1887, and is at this writing, secretary of the Colbert County Medical Association. He was married, March 1, 1882, to Miss Maggie H. Blair, daughter of Dr. Hugh A. Blair.

The Doctor is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and is prominently identified with the advancement of the best morals of Sheffield.

The Prater family is one of the oldest in Tennessee. Hugh G. Prater was born in Loudon County in 1824; his father, Samuel Prater was born at the same place in 1800, and his grandfather, who was born in North Carolina in 1775, was one of the first settlers on the Tennessee River.



**W. S. WHITE** was born in Barbour County, Ala., January 15, 1844, and at the common schools of his native village acquired a fair English education. June 17, 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate Army, his company being the first one to leave the State, and remained in the service to the close of the war. With the First Alabama, he was at

Pensacola one year, the term of his enlistment. At the end of that time he joined the Thirty-ninth Regiment, and with it served under General Bragg in his Kentucky campaign and was subsequently in every battle fought by the Western Army, from Shiloh in 1862 to Bentonville in 1864. He was four times wounded, and from the beginning to the end he never missed a day from actual service that was not the direct result of a gun-shot.

From 1866 to 1876 Captain White was farming. He was elected Sheriff of his native county and enjoys the distinction of being the only man who ever filled the office without a rule having been instituted against him. At the end of his term as Sheriff, he was elected Tax Assessor, in which position, the record shows, he exercised such energy and tact that the county revenue was not only doubled, but the rate of taxation was reduced one-half, the first year of his administration.

With the expiration of his term as Tax Assessor Captain White retired from public life, and as the head of the firm of W. S. White & Co. he embarked in the cotton business at Eufaula and Clayton. In January, 1887, he was elected business manager of the East Sheffield Land Company, and immediately moved to this place. He was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Sheffield, and is a member of its board of directors. He was one of the projectors of the Sheffield Street Railway Company, and is now its Superintendent and General Manager. As a member of the Sheffield City Council he is conspicuous as chairman of some of the most important committees.

Captain White was first married December 26, 1870, to a Miss Richards, of Augusta, Ga. She died five years later; and in September, 1878, he married a sister of the Hon. Henry B. Tompkins, of Atlanta.



**GEORGE P. KEYES** was born at Athens, this State, September 8, 1829, and is a son of Gen. George and Nelly (Rutledge) Keyes. He graduated at LaGrange College at the age of eighteen, and soon thereafter commenced the study of the law. He was admitted to the bar, but having little taste for the profession, became editor of the Athens *Herald*, which he conducted for two years. He then located in Montgomery, and for several

years held the office of Register and Master in Chancery. In 1861 he was among the volunteers at Fort Morgan. In 1862 he entered "Hilliard's Legion" (afterward "The Alabama Legion"), and served as sergeant-major. After the retreat from Kentucky, his health being greatly impaired, he was discharged from the service. He returned to Montgomery and was in command of a regiment of home guards at the date of the surrender. After the war he was appointed, without solicitation on his part, again to the office of Register and Master in Chancery, and was filling that office when ousted by the Reconstruction Act. Sometime thereafter he became associated editorially with the *Montgomery Advertiser*, a position he filled for several years. In 1880 he established the *Alabama Progress*, as the official organ of the department of education. After conducting this paper two years, he located at Florence, expecting that to be the principal Tennessee River town; but when it was determined to build the "new city" on the lovely site on which Sheffield is now located, he became an enthusiastic friend and advocate of the enterprise. It was he who induced the Moses Brothers, of Montgomery, to make an investigation, the result of which led to their becoming such important factors in the success of Sheffield. Mr. Keyes was a member of the first firm to start a business of any character in the infant city. He was the first man to declare himself a citizen of Sheffield. After the land sale he had the first (frame) residence erected, and his present residence must be known as the first brick residence ever built in Sheffield. He is now officially connected with several of Sheffield's important enterprises, and the increase in values has made him one of the prosperous men of the place.

Before his connection with the leading Democratic paper of the State, Mr. Keyes had already achieved reputation as a writer. Thereafter, he was counted one of the most forcible writers of Alabama. He is also the author of a number of poems, several of which have been read on Confederate memorial occasions in Montgomery. His longest, and perhaps best, poetical production, "The Old Grave Digger," was once read before a select audience in Montgomery, and though much admired, was never printed.

Mr. Keyes is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and has for many years held official positions in the Church; he is also widely known as a most earnest and able advocate of pro-

hibition. His pen and his example and influence have always been in favor of education, temperance and religion.

Mr. Keyes was married in August, 1859, to Miss Fannie Gayle, of Montgomery, who died, leaving one child. His second wife, to whom he was married in 1879, was a daughter of the Rev. R. H. Rivers, of Louisville. She died in 1882, and in 1887 Mr. Keyes was married to Miss Jennie S. Rainey, of North Carolina.

The senior Mr. Keyes was born in Washington County, Va., November 8, 1792, and died at Athens, June 13, 1833. His wife was born in 1799, and died at Athens, October 22, 1834. He came to Alabama when it was a territory; was a captain in the Florida war, and afterward a brigadier-general of the militia. He was known as General Keys, and, though a young man, was very popular, and wielded much influence in public matters throughout the State. One of his sons, Wade Keyes, was a prominent attorney and jurist; he was Assistant Attorney-General of the Confederate States, and was the author of several law publications. Another of his sons, John W., was a lieutenant in Hilliard's Legion until transferred to the medical department, where he remained till the close of the war. He now resides in Florida. Hon. Henry C. Jones, of Florence, married a daughter of General Keyes, and another of his daughters was the first wife of Gen. John D. Rather, of Tusculumbia.



**QUINCY C. HUNTER** was born in Chambers County, Ala., September 29, 1841. He was brought up on a plantation, and received his education at the common schools. He lost his father when but five years of age; his mother died in February, 1886.

In March, 1862, Mr. Hunter enlisted as a private soldier in Company I, Thirty-seventh Alabama Regiment, and participated in several battles near Vicksburg, being then in General Baker's brigade. He was in all the fights about Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge, and in a number of those of the Atlanta campaign, including the battle of Peach Tree Creek and one before Atlanta. He went from that city to Mobile in the fall of 1863; was transferred again to North Carolina, and surrendered in April, 1865. In 1879 Mr. Hunter

engaged in mercantile business at Ozark, Ala., and in July, 1885, located at Sheffield, where he made successful investments in real estate and erected a residence which was among the first built in that city. Hunter Block, built by him, is one of the institutions of this place.

Mr. Hunter was married in November, 1885, to Miss Fannie, daughter of S. L. and Frances (Disnake) Hill, of Chambers County, Ala.

Mr. Hunter's parents were Alsey and Martha A. (Stillwell) Hunter, natives of Georgia. He was a minister in the Baptist Church. She was a daughter of John Stillwell, who served as a soldier in the War of 1812.



**GEORGE T. MCGREGOR**, Merchant, Sheffield, was born in Halifax County, Va., July 12, 1849, and his parents were Stokley and Dallie E. (McDaniel) McGregor, of Halifax County, Va. What education he received was from the common schools of that State. Soon after the close of the war he removed to Mississippi, where he became an extensive farmer, and remained until 1881. In January, 1887, he invested in Sheffield property, and in April following located there in his present business.

He was married in October, 1870, to Miss Jennie Gray, daughter of Frederick Gray, Esq., of Noxubee County, Miss., and has had born to him six children: Maggie E., Fred. W., Georgie, Sallie, Rossie and John G.

The elder Mr. McGregor was a large planter and slave-holder in Halifax County prior to the War. He migrated to Columbus, Miss., in 1860, and from there to Tennessee in 1867. His father, John McGregor, came from Scotland to the United States in 1808, and located in Halifax County, Va., where he became a wealthy planter and slave-owner, and where he spent the rest of his life. The McDaniel family also came from Scotland, and were wealthy planters in Halifax County.



**WILSON R. BROWN**, was born in Marion, Ala., September 5, 1860. He received his education at Howard College, that city, and became teller in the bank there when but fifteen years of age. A year later he accepted a situation in a wholesale dry goods store at Selma, Ala., and while en-

gaged in that concern, made good use of his spare time by reading Blackstone. In 1883 he went to Nashville, Tenn., and engaged as traveling salesman for a large wholesale establishment. Three years later he returned to Marion and edited the *Marion Standard* for one year. In December, 1886, he engaged in the real estate business at Sheffield, and is now the president of the Real Estate Association of that city.

Mr. Brown is one of the most active and brilliant young men of Sheffield, and has been recognized as among those who take the most interest in the progress of that rapidly advancing city.

The subject of this sketch is a son of Wilson R. and Mary C. (Parrish) Brown. The senior Mr. Brown was born in Mathews County, Va., in 1815, came to Marion County, this State, in 1836, and resided there until his death, which occurred in 1882. He was first a merchant and planter, and in his later years carried on a banking business. He was a very wealthy man before the war. His wife, Mary C., was born in Hillsborough, N. C. Her mother, Elizabeth Huntington, was a native of Connecticut. The Huntington family are of English descent. Our subject's parents reared seven sons and one daughter, viz.: Charles G., an attorney at Birmingham; Wilbur, Henry P., Wilson R., David H., Eugene L., and W. G., a professor in the Marion Military Institute.



**J. M. TURNER**, one of the most accomplished photographers in Alabama, with studios at Sheffield and Gadsden, Ala., is a native of Mobile, where he was born August 25, 1863. He was educated at Greensboro, this State, and at the age of twenty, engaged in photography at Marion. From Marion he moved to Florence in 1884, and from there, within a few months, to Anniston. Later on he located at Gadsden, and in 1887 established himself at Sheffield. At this writing he is running galleries in both Sheffield and Gadsden, and has the reputation of turning out the best work north of Montgomery. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and is deservedly a popular young man.



**ABRAM I. MOSES**, resident Director of the Mobile Real Estate Company, was one of the pioneers in the Sheffield enterprise. Mr. Moses



is a native of Charleston, S. C., and one of the seven sons of the late Ira Moses, a rice planter of St. James' Parish, in that State. After graduating at the High School in his native city, the subject of this sketch went to California, and, after serving four years in the revenue service of the United States Government, returned East, and became a member of the firm of Wyman, Moses & Co., hardware dealers, Montgomery, Ala. In the war between the States Mr. Moses joined the Fifty-third Alabama Regiment and served on General Harmon's staff. In 1864, ill health forced him to resign his commission, and at the close of the war he took up his residence in Mobile. Becoming interested in the Sheffield land purchase, Mr. Moses induced a few of his Mobile friends to join him in organizing the Mobile Real Estate Company, a corporation formed for the purpose of buying and improving lots in the future great city of the Tennessee Valley. Elected manager of the company, Mr. Moses took up his residence near Sheffield in June, 1884, and at once commenced the erection of the block on the corner of First street and Raleigh avenue, now recognized as "Mobile Block." The completion of this work was followed by the construction of twelve neat cottages, two livery stables, eight stores on the corner of Montgomery avenue and Second street, a three-story addition to Mobile Block, and the company's office on Montgomery avenue. The large expenditures made on behalf of this company show Mr. Moses' confidence in Sheffield, and after three years labor in pushing ahead the building up of this vast and growing enterprise, he lives to see his work a success, and his company enjoying a fair return from a venture which many predicted would end disastrously to all who were bold enough to brave the results growing out of the distressful panic which passed over the entire country in 1884. Mr. Moses is firmly impressed with the belief that Sheffield, with its advantages, is destined to become the second Pittsburgh of America.



**PAUL W. SMITH**, son of Wm. H. and Julia P. (Hannon) Smith, was born at Montgomery, Ala., August 25, 1860. He was for a number of years in the employ of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company at Montgomery, and for several years was book-keeper and teller of the Commercial

Fire Insurance and Banking Company, of that city.

He came to Sheffield in February, 1887, to accept the position of Cashier of the Bank of Sheffield. He resigned this position to devote his time to his mineral interests, and is now Vice-President and General Manager of the Sheffield Mining and Manufacturing Company, and Vice-President of the North Alabama Abstract and Real Estate Company of Sheffield.

In April, 1888, he married Eugenia M. Bragg, daughter of W. L. Bragg, of Montgomery, who is now one of the Inter-State Commerce Commissioners of the United States.

Wm. H. Smith, our subject's father, was born at Sufield, Conn., in 1814. He came to Montgomery in 1835, and was for a number of years a partner in the mercantile firm of Sayre & Smith. After Mr. Sayre's death Mr. Smith entered the cotton business, in which he continued until 1882, when he was elected Treasurer of the city of Montgomery, which position he still holds.

Our subject's mother, Julia Pauline Hannon, daughter of Rev. John Hannon, was born at Knoxville, Crawford County, Ga., in 1832, and died March 12, 1885. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Smith reared seven children, viz.: Lester C., an attorney-at-law at Montgomery, and who represented that county in the last Legislature; Mary E. (deceased), who was wife of W. J. Cameron, now president of the First National Bank of Birmingham; E. H., W. H., P. S., Paul W. and H. H. The Smith family are of English origin, and they came to New England in 1638. In 1835, W. H. Smith came to Alabama.



**J. B. SULLIVAN**, son of W. M. and Elizabeth (Bostick) Sullivan, was born in Maury County, Tenn., January 10, 1846, and received his education at Jackson College, Columbia, Tenn.

Mr. Sullivan enlisted in Company E, First Tennessee Cavalry, in 1862. He was engaged in the battles of Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, New Hope Church, Resaca, and nearly all the campaigns from Chattanooga to Atlanta, including two fights at the latter city. He was also in two raids into Tennessee under General Wheeler and one under General Forrest. He served under General Wheeler in his last fight at Bentonville, N. C., and surrendered at Charlotte,

N. C., May 23, 1865. After the war he returned to his home at Columbia, Tenn., and attended school one year. He then became a farmer and traded in stock, in which pursuits he met with very good success. He located in Sheffield August 15, 1887, and there engaged in the livery business.

Mr. Sullivan was married September 20, 1867, to Martha E. Neeley, daughter of A. J. and Parrilee (Drake) Neeley, natives of North Carolina and Alabama, respectively. Mr. Drake was one of the first settlers of Maury County, Tenn. Mr. Sullivan and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is a Mason.

Mr. Sullivan's father, W. M. Sullivan, was born in Dickson County, Tenn. He was sheriff four years of Maury County, and was a soldier, and

served as a captain in the Forty-eighth Tennessee (Confederate) Regiment three years during the late war. He was the father of seven children, namely: J. B. (the subject of this sketch), Mary D., Anna, (wife of W. F. Goodrum), Ophelia (wife of J. M. Warley), Emma and W. B. (a physician at Sheffield).

Thomas Sullivan, grandfather of J. B. Sullivan, came from Ireland at a very early day. He was a blacksmith, lived in Tennessee, married Ruth Warley, and reared a large family of children.

Elizabeth Bostick, Mr. Sullivan's mother, was a daughter of Bailey Bostick, who was born in North Carolina, and moved to Georgia at a very early day. He was a millwright. He married Tabitha Wood, and shortly afterward moved into Tennessee. They also reared a large family.



## VIII. TUSCUMBIA.

BY CAPT. A. H. KELLER

This is one of the oldest towns in Alabama, with a history full of interest to those who are the descendants of the pioneers of the Tennessee Valley, as well as to the student, who can find in its pages the record of adventures as thrilling, and achievements as heroic, as any that have been depicted by either historian or novelist.

This sketch, however, will be confined mainly to chronological events and statistical matters connected with the settlement and development of Tusculmbia and the country immediately surrounding it.

As far back as 1780, the French Colony on the Wabash River established a trading post at the mouth of the Occocoposo, or Cold Water, Creek on the Tennessee River, about one mile from the northern limit of the present site of Tusculmbia. This creek runs through the town, and is the outlet for the immense spring which rises from the earth near the center of the town and flows in a circuitous route to the Tennessee River two miles away. It affords a fine power for mills and factories, and has been utilized as such for many years.

Professor Toumey, in his "Geological History of Alabama," gives the measurement of this spring at 17,724 cubic feet of water flowing from it per minute, or enough to furnish every person in the United States about four gallons each per day. The temperature is 58°, and although strongly limestone it is pleasant to drink.

At the time of the establishment of the colony alluded to at the mouth of Spring Creek, Nashville was the most important trading station in the Southwest, and was not exempt from hostile incursions by the Indians, who held the country from the Alabama River to the Cumberland. For a number of years depredations by them upon the Cumberland settlements were frequent and de-

structive. In the early part of 1787, Col. James Robertson organized an expedition, which descended the Cumberland and ascended the Tennessee, as far as the mouth of Duck River, but at this point he was defeated and forced to return. In June, 1787, he started on a second and more successful trip, marching south from Nashville with 130 men to Bainbridge, a small village on the Tennessee, about ten miles from Tusculmbia. Moving from this point westward, along the south bank of the river, he found the Indian village, at or near the mouth of Spring Creek, or Occocoposo, as it was then called. The Indians, and their French allies, retreated to a strong position, a short distance up the creek, where Robertson attacked, and defeated them with heavy loss, and destroyed their village and captured the trading post and a large quantity of supplies.

The French prisoners were taken to Colbert's Ferry, ten miles below, and allowed to return to the Wabash Colony, Colonel Robertson returning to Nashville by land. [See Pickett's History of Alabama.]

In 1802 General Wilkerson made a treaty with the Chickasaw Indians, whereby he secured from them permission to cut out a wagon road from Natchez, Miss., to Nashville, Tenn., crossing the Tennessee River at Georgetown, twenty miles below Tusculmbia. In 1814 Gen. Andrew Jackson and Col. Benjamin Hawkins were empowered to make treaties with the Indians, with a view to securing some of the vast and fertile territory then held by them. In the fall of 1816 they granted to the United States all the territory from the headwaters of the Coosa westward to Cotton Gin Port, Miss., and thence north to the mouth of Caney (now Canoe) Creek on Tennessee River, ten miles below Tusculmbia.

The first white family to settle in Tusculmbia

was that of Michael Dickson in 1815. Soon afterward, four of his brothers-in-law, from Smith County, Tenn., Isaiah McDill, James McMann, — Matthews and Hugh Finley, arrived. The following year, 1816, was remarkable for an unprecedented drought, which prevailed all over this territory. Capt. Jno. T. Rather, who died in Tusculumbia a few years ago, when nearly ninety years old, often spoke of the distress of the people on account of the scarcity of breadstuffs at that time. Corn sold at five dollars per bushel. The nearest mills were at Huntsville, Ala., and Mt. Pleasant, Tenn., about seventy miles distant, from whence all of their meal and flour was hauled in wagons.

The first white child born in Tusculumbia was Miss Anna Dickson, who married Dr. W. H. Wheaton, who died in Nashville since the late war. She was living but a short time ago.

Hugh Finley was a blacksmith, and owned the first shop opened in the place. In 1816-17 quite a number of families arrived and settled in the present limits of Tusculumbia, which was then known as Big Spring. Col. James McDonald was afterwards appointed Postmaster for the Big Spring office. He was a distinguished officer of the United States Army, having won distinction in the battles of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane, and came to Tusculumbia from Knoxville, Tenn. He was joined here by his brother-in-law, David Keller, from the same place, and both moved to Russell's Valley, remaining two years, when they returned and purchased farms near Tusculumbia. Colonel McDonald died on his farm, "Glencoe," in 1827, and Mr. Keller, having sold his farm and accepted the office of Superintendent of the Tusculumbia & Decatur Railroad, died ten years later. Mr. Keller and a man named George Miller, from Fayetteville, Tenn., owned the first stocks of goods ever sold in Franklin County, or rather in the territory afterwards embraced in that county. Col. Thomas Hindman, father of Gen. Thos. Hindman, of Confederate fame, brought Mr. Keller's stocks from Knoxville, and sold it out at York Bluff, on the present site of Sheffield.

In 1817 a battalion of United States soldiers arrived at Tusculumbia, and began the work of cutting out a new wagon road from Nashville, Tenn., to Columbus, Miss., called the Military Road. This was done under General Jackson's supervision, and the point at which he crossed the Tennessee is now known as Jackson's Landing, in the limits of Shef-

field. About this time General Jackson purchased the large tract of land lying between the river and Tusculumbia and upon which the larger part of Sheffield is now located. In 1816-17, a number of families located at York Bluff, which was laid off by General Coffey in 1820 as a city, with broad and regular streets running north and south and east and west. This town was soon abandoned, its citizens moving to the more prosperous town of Tusculumbia, and had not a house left when Sheffield was formed, to tell where a town had been.

Mr. Miller, who first sold goods at York Bluff moved to Tusculumbia and built the first brick house, now known as the Glendall House on Sixth street, in 1819. He afterwards moved to West Tennessee and died there.

Tusculumbia was surveyed and laid off as a city by General Coffey in 1817. Its limits were a mile and a half east and west and a mile north and south. None of the streets are less than ninety-nine feet wide, and the commons on the margin are much wider, that on the north being 334 feet. These streets and commons were dedicated by the Government for the use of the citizens of Tusculumbia, and the Supreme Court of Alabama has decided that the fee to them is still in the Government and they can not be disposed of by the city authorities.

In March, 1817, Congress passed an act establishing the Territory of Alabama. At that time only seven counties had been organized in the Territory. These were Mobile, Balcony, Washington, Clark, Madison, Limestone and Lauderdale, and they had been organized under the territorial government of Mississippi. Upon the assembling of the Territorial Legislature at the town of St. Stephens, Franklin County was organized, but the act provided that the jurisdiction should not extend beyond Cane Creek, ten miles west of Tusculumbia, that being the boundary line between the lands granted by the Indians and those reserved by them under the treaty of 1816. The lands west of Cane Creek were held by the Indians until they were removed beyond the Mississippi in 1836.

The first superior or circuit court ever held in Franklin County was at the house of William Neeley, on Spring Creek, a few miles southeast of Tusculumbia, September 7, 1818. Obadiah Jones was judge, Henry Miner, district attorney, and Richard Ellis, clerk. The grand jury was composed of William Neeley (foreman), Jacob Humble, William Welch, Andrew Blackmoor, Strange

Caltharp, John Bell, Goldman Kimbro, Isaac Pickens, Argyle Taylor, James Wilcox, Pryor Landsford, Matthew Marce, Matthew Gwynn, and William Scott. For lack of a room large enough, the court adjourned to the house of Michael Dickson, at Cold Water (Tuscumbia).

Anthony Winston was the first representative from Franklin County, in the Legislature. He was the grandfather of Col. John Anthony Winston, who was Governor of the State afterward. He was raised in Tuscumbia. Robert B. Lindsay, Esq., of this place, a native of Scotland, and a brother-in-law of Governor Winston, was elected Governor of the State in 1870. Tuscumbia was also the former home, if not the birthplace, of two United States senators. Robert Ransom, the father of Senator Matt Ransom, of North Carolina, was one of the early settlers of Tuscumbia, and opened the hotel called the Franklin House.

Thomas Hereford, father of the West Virginia ex-Senator Hereford, was also a hotel keeper here, and was proprietor of the Mansion House, near the Big Spring.

Ex-Senator Henry S. Foote also commenced his career here as a farmer and editor, and fought a duel with Edmund Winston, an uncle of Governor Winston. Tuscumbia has also had a representative in the lower house of Congress, in the person of Major Joseph H. Sloss, now of Huntsville.

Upon the assembling of the first Legislature of the State, at Huntsville, on the first Monday in October, 1819, a bill was passed, incorporating the town of Ocoeeoposo (now Tuscumbia). Thomas Limerick was appointed mayor, with Philip G. Godley, Micajah Tarror, Abram W. Bell, and Littleton Johnson, aldermen. At the next session of the Legislature, the name of the town was changed to Big Spring, and, the following year, to Tuscumbia, after a celebrated chief of the Chickasaws.

The first railroad that was built west of the Alleghanies was that from Tuscumbia to the Tennessee River. It was commenced in 1831 and finished in 1832, and was two and one-eighth miles in length. In 1834 it was merged into the Tuscumbia & Decatur Railroad. For twenty-five years after this road was built there was an immense trade done with New Orleans by the river. Magnificent steamers ran to that place, some of them carrying 6,000 bales of cotton. They were palatial in their appointments and accommoda-

tions for passengers. Parties in search of pleasure could find no pleasanter nor more enjoyable pastime than an excursion on one of these elegant boats to the Crescent City. Other steamers ran regularly, as they now do, to the cities on the Ohio and to St. Louis; but the New Orleans trade was broken up soon after the completion of the Memphis & Charleston Road in 1857, which road bought the Tuscumbia & Decatur Road, and abandoned the branch to the Tuscumbia Landing.

For a number of years previous to the great financial crisis in 1837, Tuscumbia did a large wholesale business. Most of this was done in two rows of brick storehouses known as "Commercial" and "Planters' Row." The latter was destroyed by fire about the year 1837. The former is still standing, all of the stores being occupied and in a good state of preservation. A street railway from the depot to Main and Sixth streets, for the delivery of freights, was built in 1834.

Until the completion of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad the Tuscumbia postoffice was a distributing office, and probably the largest and most important from Nashville to New Orleans. A number of stage lines converged here, which were owned by such veteran stages as Patrick, Ficklin, Chichester, and others. The immense warehouses at the Tuscumbia Landing, which were constructed of stone and brick, were burned in 1862 by Turchin's Brigade of Mitchell's Division of Federal troops.

In its former and better days, probably no town of its population in the South had more wealth in its immediate vicinity; but that did but little towards building up the town. The planters bought their supplies in New Orleans and Louisville, and sent their children abroad to be educated, leaving only the poorer classes to do their trading at home.

In the fearful struggle between the North and the South—1861-5—there was no part of the South more completely devastated than was the beautiful Tennessee Valley. Tuscumbia was in the center of the fiery, desolating track of the armies of both sides. Large blocks of brick stores and many private houses were destroyed and condemned. Cavalry horses roamed at will through grounds that were formerly the pride of their owners. Upward of thirty of Tuscumbia's young men were killed, and for years after the sound of battle had died away she sat on the ashes of desolation, waiting for the dawn of a better day,

which, although long delayed, has come. The giant young city of Sheffield has stretched her limits to within half a mile of her gates, and she has caught the contagion of progress and enterprise, and within the last two years has doubled her population. She is experiencing some of the doubtful effects of a hot-house boom, but observant and far-seeing men recognize the fact that she has every natural advantage that any other place in Northern Alabama has, and that which money can never secure. Her society is as good as can be found anywhere. She has churches of all denominations and first rate schools. The Deshler Female Institute stands in the front rank of Southern schools. It stands as a monument to the memory of Brig. Gen. James Deshler, of Tusculumbia, who was killed at the battle of Chickamauga. The sum of six thousand dollars has been voted by the City Council to enlarge the free school for white males, and the rapidly increasing revenue from taxes will amply justify the expenditure, and support the school.

Tusculumbia challenges comparison with any town in the South as to its healthfulness and exemption from epidemics.

An examination of the tables of mortality for the last twenty years will not show an excess of one per cent. per annum, as the death rate, including both black and white.

Where parties desire to engage in business at Sheffield, they can reside at Tusculumbia and avail themselves of the convenience of two "dummy" lines to reach their business in a few minutes. Real estate, although greatly enhanced recently, is still comparatively cheap. A water works company has been organized to supply East Sheffield and Tusculumbia from the spring, and gas or electricity will speedily be introduced to light up the streets.

#### CHURCHES.

*The Presbyterian Church.*—This church was organized in 1824, by Rev. Dr. Blackburn, of Frankfort, Ky., and the church building now standing was commenced and completed in 1826-7. For several years the large frame building near the spring was used for church services.

Rev. Dr. Campbell was the first pastor of the church, and Messrs. Arthur Beatty and James Elliott were the original elders, with Susan Winston, Elizabeth Johnson, Ann Beatty, A. W. Mitchell, Eliza Mitchell, and Sarah Mitchell as mem-

bers. Soon after this Rev. G. W. Ashbridge, of Philadelphia, Pa., took charge of the church, which received many additions from this time on.

Mr. Ashbridge was pastor from 1827 to 1830; Mr. Arnold was pastor from January 1, 1831, to June, 1831; James Weatherby was pastor from 1831 to 1837; J. O. Steadman was pastor from 1837 to 1845; N. A. Penland was pastor from 1845 to 1852; C. Foster Williams was pastor from 1853 to 1855; Abram Kline was pastor from 1856 to 1860; B. N. Sawtelle was pastor from 1861 to 1872; Mr. Brown was pastor from January, 1873 to June, 1873; Horace P. Smith was pastor from 1873 to 1877; James G. Lane was pastor from 1878 to the present time. Messrs. Sawtelle and Smith died during their pastorate.

In 1828 a Presbyterian Camp-meeting was held near La Grange, Ala., and was largely attended, and a great revival took place.

During Dr. Steadman's pastorate there was a series of meetings held in the church by Rev. Daniel Baker, of Texas, resulting in a great religious awakening; also another in 1848 by Rev. Dr. Hall, and still another several years ago, when Mr. Lane was aided by Rev. J. W. Hoyte, and many additions were made to the membership.

*The Baptist Church.*—This church was established in 1823, Eblers J. Davis and Jeremiah Burns composing the Presbytery. J. Burns was pastor until 1832. John L. Townes was the next pastor, and filled the pulpit ten or twelve years. He was succeeded by R. B. Burleson, and he by Jackson Gunn. Rev. James Shackelford and his son-in-law, C. W. Hare, have filled the place since Mr. Gunn's pastorate.

The church building was erected by the Campbellites, or Christians, mainly through the personal efforts of Dr. W. H. Wharton, but it was not paid for, and the contractor, W. H. Patterson, sold his claim to George W. Carroll, who sold it to Edmund Elliott, a member of the Baptist Church. Through him the title passed to his church.

*The Methodist Church* was organized in 1822 by Thomas Strongfield, then stationed at Huntsville.

The first Quarterly Conference was held March 13, 1824. Alexander Sale was presiding elder, and David Owen and James Smith were local preachers; W. S. Jones was steward, and Richard Thompson class leader. In this year Rufus Ledbetter was assigned to the Franklin Circuit.

In 1826 Finch P. Scruggs had charge of the

Circuit. He died in Holly Springs, Miss., in 1881. At that time J. B. McFerrin, who died in Nashville a year or two ago, and who was editor of the *Christian Advocate*, and author of a work called "Methodism in Tennessee," was a young preacher at this place. Mayor James Lockhart was an earnest and influential member of the church at that day, and it is said that he paid one-half of the expenses of it. Mr. McFerrin, aided by John Sutherland and Mr. Haynie, raised the money to erect the present building, which was commenced in 1826. Edward Stegar did the brick and Nelson Anderson the wood work. The first sermon was preached in the church by John Haynie in May, 1827.

Rev. Mr. Shoemaker is the present incumbent, and the membership is about 250, being the largest in the town, except that of the colored Baptists, which is over 500. During the pastorate of Rev. F. A. Owen, in 1828, the largest revival ever known in the church took place.

*St. John's (Episcopal) Church.*—This church was built in 1852, mainly by Dr. William H. Newsum, who died in February, 1862. He donated the lot upon which it stands, and contributed more to build the house than any one else.

The Rt. Rev. N. H. Cobbs was then bishop of the diocese, and his son, Rev. R. A. Cobbs, was the first rector, and remained in charge six years. The rite of confirmation in this church was administered for the first time on November 14, 1852, when six persons were presented by the rector.

Upon the occupation of Tusculumbia by the Federal Army in 1862, they camped in this church and destroyed the large part of the register, in consequence of which a complete and accurate history of it can not be given to include the period between 1858 and 1866. Rev. George White, the venerable rector of Calvary Church, Memphis, Tenn., lately deceased, Rev. W. H. Thomas, of Maryland, and Rev. Mr. Whiteside were rectors during that period. On April 1, 1886, Rev. J. B. Gray, now of Washington City, took charge of the parish. At that time there were only fourteen communicants, some having moved away and others having died. Rev. T. J. Beard, now of Birmingham, was next in charge and he was succeeded by Rev. Peter Wager, who remained six years.

Rev. B. F. Mower came to the south pastorate of the Tusculumbia and Florence churches in June 1878, and resigned in October, 1887. The church building was much injured by the cyclone of Nov-

ember 22, 1874, and Mr. F. D. Hodgkins, his wife and four children were killed at the same time. Mr. Hodgkins was superintendent of the Sunday-school of this church. Two handsome memorial windows in the church attest the loving remembrance in which they were held. The three chancel windows are memorials to Dr. W. H. Newsum, the founder of the church, and to his two sons, William O. and Alexander M. The former was killed at the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, and the latter died of yellow fever contracted in Memphis in 1878. There are also memorial windows for Mr. John Curry, Mrs. Lou McFarland, Mrs. Emma Eggleston and Mrs. Maria Hicks. These windows are of stained glass, and the interior of the church presents quite a handsome appearance. This church is in the diocese of Bishop R. H. Wilmer, whose first official act in the church was the confirmation of a class of 12, presented by Rev. J. B. Gray, March 24, 1867.

Rev. Mr. Phillips, of Baltimore, has recently taken charge as rector.

*The Catholic Church.*—The commencement of Catholicity in Tusculumbia is associated with two families of the great Celtic branch of the commonwealth of nations. One was an Irish family, the other French. The name of the former is no longer anything more than a local reminiscence; the latter is still identified with all the active enterprises—religious, educational and social—of the growing town and its vicinity. Far from the influences attaching to the environment of the house of worship, and the accustomed and established services of religion, the heads of those two families, Mr. John Baxter and Dr. William Desprez, exhibited in their lives the teachings of their faith and how deep were the roots of their early religious training. Mr. John Baxter was born in Ireland and came early to this country. He died of apoplexy in 1874. A son of his, John B. Baxter, lives in New York. Dr. Desprez was born in Paris in 1806. He lived some years in Ireland and came subsequently to this country. He died in Tusculumbia of yellow fever during an epidemic of that disease, in October, 1878. He was a man of most upright character and sincere piety. He accomplished what is found by experience to be the most difficult, albeit the most important of all the duties of a parent; he educated his children so thoroughly in the knowledge and obligations of religion that they and their children are to-day the most prominent and edifying

in its observance. Dr. Desprez married an Irish Presbyterian lady, sincerely and earnestly attached to her own faith, but who, seeing what a potent factor Catholic doctrine was in moulding her husband's character and inspiring his conduct, could with difficulty believe that faith to be wrong, and consequently seconded his efforts in the training of their children in the religion which gave lustre to his own life. Shortly after the death of her husband, Mrs. Desprez embraced the Catholic faith. She still lives, surrounded by her children and grandchildren, honored and respected by her neighbors.

The first Catholic Church was built in 1869, through the exertions of Dr. Desprez and Mr. Baxter, assisted very liberally by the non-Catholic portion of the community. The site upon which it was erected was donated by Mr. Baxter. It was solemnly dedicated, under the title of "Our Lady of the Sacred Heart," on the 30th day of September, 1869, by the Rt. Rev. John Quinlan, Bishop of Mobile, assisted by several priests, and attended by a large concourse of people. Rev. Father John B. Baasen, who is at present pastor of Pensacola, Fla., was the first pastor of the young community. This church was never fully completed, and it was destroyed by the tornado which did so much damage to the town in November, 1874. Father Baasen again built a small temporary chapel, still standing, and now used as a store-room by the Benedictine Sisters, where the people worshipped until 1878. In that year, the Rt. Rev. Boniface Wimmer, Abbot of the Benedictine Order in Pennsylvania, purchased from Father Baasen the house and property situated at the eastern extremity of the town. Rev. Matthew Sturenberg, O. S. B., was sent by the Abbot to take charge of the congregation. By his exertions a new church was erected, and, on the 8th of August, 1880, was solemnly consecrated, under the same title as the old one, by Bishop Quinlan, assisted by Rev. Benedict Menges, O. S. B., and Rev. Joseph Keeler, O. S. B. In the evening of the same day, the bell of the church was blessed by the Bishop.

On February 24th, of the following year, four Benedictine Sisters arrived, and have since conducted the parochial school. They have also kept a few children as boarders. Their accommodation for this class of scholars has been and is still very limited, but the increasing demand

will necessitate the erection of more extensive buildings. The Catholic congregation of Tusculumbia is increasing. There are two masses every Sunday, at 8 and 10 o'clock, and vespers and benediction in the afternoon at three o'clock. Every morning there is mass at 7.30 o'clock, at which the children of the parochial school attend. The Benedictines are established *in perpetuum* in the two counties of Colbert and Lauderdale, and, besides Tusculumbia, have churches and stations in St. Florian, Florence, Sheffield, Decatur, Huntsville, Cullman, Hanceville, Dickson, Courtland, Moulton and some minor places. They are hard workers, and self-denying men. The character of the men sent on these southern and arduous missions may be inferred from the fact that, when the Right Rev. Abbott Wimmer, a most ardent friend of the South and of Southern missions, died, the Pastor of Tusculumbia, Rev. Andrew Hinterach, Order of Saint Benedictine, was chosen as his successor to govern one of the most extensive religious Orders in America. Reverend Oswald Moosmuller, Order of Saint Benedictine, pastor of Cullman has been appointed Prior of the head house of the Order in Pennsylvania. He is the founder of the Industrial School for Colored Boys in Skidaway Island, near Savannah, Ga. By the product of his own literary labors and without collecting a cent, except two or three times having an innocent "strawberry festival," which brought not much, he has accomplished what perhaps no other priest in America has ever done. He has built three churches: one at Skidaway for the colored boys and people of the island, and two at Savannah, one for white and the other for colored Catholics. Rev. Benedict Menges, Order of Saint Benedictine, for ten years identified with the missions of Alabama, has recently been appointed Superior of those missions, and will shortly reside in Tusculumbia.

The development of the mineral resources and the growing industries of North Alabama will necessarily induce immigration and create a commensurate demand for educational facilities, and it is the intention of the Benedictines, as soon as circumstances will permit, to select a suitable site for a college, in which the youth of our own and neighboring States may, at little cost, receive an education to fit them for the positions and callings which may offer, and enable them to contribute to the future material and moral well-being of our city and State.



## SCHOOLS.

The *Deshler Female Institute* is a handsome two story brick building on Main street, located in the center of the block or square which includes the residence of the late David Deshler, who bequeathed the entire property as a site for a female school. The building, which cost about \$12,000, was destroyed by a cyclone in 1875, was rebuilt, and has been well patronized and is now in a flourishing condition under the management of Mr. Dell. It is called "The Deshler Institute," in honor of General James Deshler, who was a native of Tusculumbia and a graduate of West Point, and was killed in the late war at the battle of Chickamauga.

The city council have recently appropriated \$6,000 for the benefit of the public male school for the whites, which will put it on a good footing.

In addition to the above there are several smaller private schools.



**ROBERT BURNS LINDSAY**, a native of Lowlands, Scotland, was born in 1824, and educated at the parochial schools, and from thence was sent to the University of St. Andrews. He was a prize student of Bursar under the principalship of the celebrated Sir David Brewster. In 1844 he came to the United States on a visit to his brother, David R. Lindsay, who was a teacher in the State of North Carolina. He concluded to remain in this country, and located in the latter State, where he became a teacher. In 1849 he removed to Alabama, located at Tusculumbia, and taught school until 1852. While in North Carolina he began the study of law under Col. Robert Treat Paine, and after coming to Alabama continued his studies. He was admitted to the bar in the last named year. In the fall of 1853 he was elected to the lower house of the State Legislature as a representative of Franklin County, and in 1857 was elected to the State senate as a Democrat. In 1860 he was appointed an elector for his district on the Democratic ticket, but refused to serve. He, however, accepted a similar position on the Douglas ticket, being a conservative and opposed to secession. He resisted secession with all his might and power, but after the ordinance was passed he remained loyal to the State of his adoption.

After the war he was again elected to the senate, where he remained until reconstruction times. From that period until 1870 he practiced his profession with success. In the latter named year he was elected Governor of the State and served one term, refusing to allow his name to be presented for a second term. Two months after his term expired he was stricken with paralysis, and has ever since been an invalid; but he has still retained his practice, although not as actively as before. Since his retirement from the Governor's office he has taken no part in politics.

Governor Lindsay was married, in 1854, to Miss Sarah Miller Winston, the accomplished daughter of William Winston, and a sister of Gov. John Anthony Winston. She is also a sister-in-law to Governor Pettus, of Mississippi. This union has been blessed with numerous offspring, but only four daughters survive, the eldest being the wife of Robert H. Watkins, Esq., of the Birmingham *Apo.*

The family belongs to the Presbyterian Church, and the Governor is distinguished as being one of the oldest members of the I. O. O. F. of this State.



**JOSHUA BURNS MOORE**, the gentleman whose name heads this sketch is a noted example of what can be achieved by industry and indomitable resolution. He is a leading and distinguished lawyer of the North Alabama bar, and as an advocate before juries has few equals in the State.

Mr. Moore's grandfathers, Moses Moore and William Burgess, were South Carolinians, and emigrated to Alabama, locating in Franklin County, in the early history of the State. Each lived to an unusually old age; the former died at the age of eighty-six, and the latter at the age of ninety-six years. Mr. Moore's father, William Moore, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and died in 1819. He was a poor man, and the subject of this sketch received only such education as could be picked up at the old-field schools, which he attended in the interim of working in the fields during crop season until he was fourteen years of age. At this time he quit school, undertook a course of study without a teacher, and a year afterwards borrowed a copy of Blackstone's Commentaries, commencing the study of law, which

he diligently prosecuted until admitted to the bar at the early age of seventeen years.

His first practice at the bar foreshadowed the marked success that has attended his professional career.

As an advocate in criminal cases, Mr. Moore is eminently successful. Not only is he formidable in argument, but there is scarcely a passion of the human heart he can not play upon. In the management of either civil or criminal causes he is so reticent of the points relied upon that among his contemporaries he is called the "silent lawyer."

His adversary can never anticipate when, where, or how he will be stricken.

His impressive, earnest, and eloquent addresses to juries are well calculated to carry conviction home to them.

Mr. Moore served as a senator in the Legislature of Alabama during the sessions of 1874-5 and 1875-6, taking a leading part in all the measures of reform enacted during those important sessions.

In 1858, Mr. Moore was married to Thomas Ella, youngest daughter of Edward and Parthenia Pearsall—a beautiful and accomplished woman. Their union was blessed with four daughters, two of whom are still living. In 1874, while Mr. Moore was at Montgomery, attending a session of the Legislature as a member of the senate, a tornado swept over the city of Tusculumbia, in which his wife and two youngest daughters were killed, his large brick residence being leveled with the ground.

Mr. Moore, before the war, took no active part in politics, but confined himself exclusively to his profession. With a large majority of the people of the northern section of the State, he opposed the secession of Alabama from the Union, but when the war came, every sympathy he had was with the Southern people. From ill health he took no active part in the war, but in every other way contributed to the Confederate cause. After the surrender, when President Johnson's proclamation was issued, he urged the people to acquiesce in the inevitable course of events, and when a Constitutional Convention was called to meet in Montgomery in September, 1865, to revise the Constitution of the State in conformity with the abolition of slaves, he was elected a delegate from Franklin County, and took a leading part in its proceedings. But the policy of the President was not acceptable to Congress, and the action of the Convention was not recognized. Reconstruction

measures were enacted by which the intelligence of Alabama and other Southern States were disfranchised, and illiteracy ruled the hour. It culminated finally in a great upheaval in Alabama, in which local government was the issue.

Mr. Moore, like many others, abandoned his profession and took the stump for many months. It was the most memorable contest ever fought in the State, and there are many who will never forget the grand appeals he made in favor of the supremacy of the white people over the ignorant negro race in the local government of the State.

It is hardly necessary to add that Mr. Moore is a Democrat in politics.



**WILLIAM COOPER**, was born in Brunswick County, Va., January 11, 1802, and died at Tusculumbia, Ala., August 16, 1887. He was educated at Nashville, Tenn., there studied law and was admitted to the bar. He located first in the practice of his profession at Russellville, Ala., from which place, at the end of three years, he moved to Tusculumbia, where he spent the rest of his life. From an almost obscure youth, without the benefit of financial inheritance, he rose to be one of the most prominent attorneys in the State and, prior to the war, one of the wealthiest men in the South. He continued the practice of his profession up to within a very few days of his death. He was a prominent member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities.



**T. F. SIMPSON**, Proprietor and Editor of the *Weekly Dispatch*, Tusculumbia, Ala., was born in this city, in September, 1865. He received a high-school education, and at the age of fourteen years entered the printing office of the Tusculumbia *Democrat*, which paper was established in 1878. He remained in this office about one year, and then entered the *North Alabamian* office, where he spent two years. He then attended school for about two years, after which he was engaged in the office of his father (who was tax assessor) for a short time. He spent one year in a printing office at Eutaw, Ala.; returned to Tusculumbia, and established the *Weekly Dispatch*, in October, 1886. From the very start Mr. Simpson has been its editor, and he has filled that





*A. H. Keller*

position with marked ability. His brother, O. G. Simpson, is connected with him as associate editor.

The *Weekly Dispatch* started with a circulation of about 350, but at the present writing it has a circulation of over 700, and does the largest advertising business of any paper in Northern Alabama.

Mr. Simpson is a prominent member of the Knights of Pythias.



**ARTHUR HENLEY KELLER**, was born February 5, 1836, near Tusculum, and is a son of David and Mary Fairfax (Moore) Keller.

He was reared and educated in Tusculum, where he also received instructions from Governor Lindsay. At the age of nineteen years he entered the law department of the University of Virginia, and when twenty-two years of age received his license to practice from Gov. A. B. Moore, who was then circuit judge. In November, 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Confederate army. He was detailed as a quartermaster-sergeant under Dr. D. R. Lindsay, of the Twenty-seventh Alabama, stationed at Fort Henry. He had charge of the stores, and after they were destroyed at Florence, he was assigned temporarily to the staff of Gen. Sterling Wood. In July, 1862, he joined General Roddy's cavalry as a private, and in September of that year rejoined his old regiment as quartermaster at Vicksburg, with which he remained until July, 1864, when he was made paymaster of General Roddy's division of cavalry, a position he held to the close of the war.

When peace once more reigned supreme over the land, Captain Keller engaged in the receiving and forwarding business at Keller's Landing until the courts were opened, when he practiced law until 1874. In December of that year, he purchased the *North Alabamian*, and was its editor ten years. In July 1885, he was appointed United States Marshal for the Northern District of Alabama, and in June, 1886, was confirmed by the Senate.

Captain Keller was married November 12, 1867, to Mrs. Sarah E. Rosser, daughter of William Simpson, a well-known commission merchant at Memphis. She died in March, 1877, leaving two sons. In July, 1878, Captain Keller led to the altar Kate Adams, daughter of General Charles

W. Adams, of Memphis, and to this union have been born two children, Helen Adams and Mildred Campbell; the older lost her hearing and sight when but eighteen months old, and is now being educated by Miss Annie Sullivan, from Perkins Institute for Blind at Boston.

Captain Keller and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he is a member of the Knights of Honor and the A. O. U. W. The Captain has never solicited political preferment, but represented his party as a delegate to the St. Louis Convention in 1876, and also as a delegate at large to the Cincinnati Convention in 1880.

The father of our subject was born in Hagerstown, Md., in 1788, where he received a good education. He migrated to Knoxville, Tenn., where he entered mercantile business, hauling his goods in wagons twice a year from Philadelphia, generally making the trip on horseback. In 1820 he removed to Alabama, locating near Tusculum, where he remained until his death, which occurred in 1837. He was engaged at farming until one year before his death, when he became superintendent of the Tusculum & Decatur Railway. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics was a staunch Whig. He reared seven sons and three daughters. The Kellers came originally from Switzerland to America in the person of Caspar Keller, the grandfather of our subject. He came to this country during colonial days and settled in Maryland. He reared a large family, descendants of whom can be found principally in Maryland, Virginia, Missouri and North Alabama.

The mother of our subject was born in Rockbridge County, Va., in 1796. Her father, Col. Alexander Moore, was an aide to General LaFayette at the surrender of Yorktown, and she was a second cousin of General Robert E. Lee. The Moore family were wealthy planters of Virginia. They trace their lineage to Sir Thomas Moore of England, and were among the first settlers in Virginia. They were communicants of the Episcopal Church.



**SAMUEL JOHNSTON COOPER, M. D.**, was born September 4, 1845, and is a son of L. B. Cooper, of Tusculum. He received a common school education, and in March, 1863, enlisted in Co. I, of W. A. Johnson's Cavalry Regiment.

He participated in the battles of Harrisburg, Miss., Newnan, Ga., and was with Forrest at the surrender of Athens, Ala. He was also in all the fights as far as Pulaski, Tenn., and at the battle of Selma. He surrendered at Pond Springs, Ala.

Immediately after the close of the war he returned home and entered a mercantile establishment as clerk, and in 1866, in connection with other gentlemen, entered mercantile business on his own account, the firm name being Nelson, Wilson & Cooper. In 1868 he began the study of medicine with Dr. Abernathy, and graduated from the Memphis Medical College in 1871. He remained in the hospital at Memphis for one year, then returned to Tuscombua, where he has since been engaged in the practice, and has built up for himself the reputation of being one of the best and most skillful physicians of that city.

In the winters of 1873 and 1874, Dr. Cooper spent some time in New York at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, where he received private instructions under Drs. Wyeth and Loomis.

Dr. Cooper is a member of the Medical Association of Colbert County and of the Board of Censors. He is also a member of the Presbyterian Church, and of the Orders of Knights of Honor and Knights of Pythias.



**DR. ROBERT TOWNS ABERNATHY**, son of John T. and Sarah (Ellitt) Abernathy, was born in Lawrence County, Ala. November 22, 1824.

John T., the senior Mr. Abernathy, was born near Lunenburg Court House, Va., about 1806, where he received a limited education. He was a farmer and merchant in Virginia; removed to South Florence, Ala., and later on to Tuscombua, before the Mexican War. From the latter place he went to New Orleans, where he was engaged up to the outbreak of the war, when he returned to Alabama and turned his entire attention to farming. He started in life comparatively a poor man, but succeeded in accumulating a handsome fortune. He reared a large family, and died a few years after the war. His father, David Abernathy, was of Scotch-Irish extraction. He was one of the early settlers of Virginia; served during the Revolutionary War, and later on became one of the pioneers of Huntsville, Ala.

The mother of our subject was a daughter of Richard Ellitt, a native of Virginia, and also a

soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was of Scotch ancestry.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and received an academic education from La Grange College, this State. He then began reading medicine, and graduated in March, 1849, from the University of New York. After his graduation he located at New Orleans, from whence he removed to Macon, Miss., and in 1851 located at Tuscombua. For some time prior to the war, and while in the practice of medicine, he edited the *Tuscombua Constitution*.

After the evacuation of Corinth, he enlisted in the Confederate service as surgeon of the Fifth Alabama Regiment, with which he remained until the surrender at Pond Springs, with Gen. P. D. Roddy's command. After the surrender he returned home and resumed the practice of his profession. In connection with his lucrative practice he conducts an extensive farm.

Doctor Abernathy was married March 12, 1856, to Caledonia Carrol, daughter of George W. and Lucy H. Carrol, and has had born to him five children—Lucy, Willie, Tracy, George and St. Elmo. The doctor is a Presbyterian, and his wife is a communicant of the Episcopal Church.



**DR. WILLIAM R. JOHNSTON** was born at Tuscombua, April 7, 1825, and is a son of Amos A. and Elizabeth R. (Ward) Johnston, natives of Bertie and Edgecombe Counties, N. C.

The senior Mr. Johnston was born in 1795. He reared a family of seven children, viz.: Martha A., deceased; William R., our subject; Lucy M. (Mrs. John L. Bunch); John Robert, steamboatman; Patrick Henry, died in his youth; Sarah E. (Mrs. William Challen), and James W., adjutant of brigade, Cheatham's Division, and was killed at Franklin, Tenn. The senior Johnston located at Tuscombua in 1824, where he became a very prominent man. He served as magistrate, and was colonel of the militia, and was also a member of the Masonic fraternity. He died in 1852. The Johnston family came originally from England, and it is from this same family that the famous Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston is a lineal descendant.

Dr. William R. Johnston's father being a poor man, his education was somewhat limited, and at the age of sixteen years he began work in a

printing office. He began reading medicine, and graduated from the University of Louisville (old school) in 1851. He practiced medicine for eight years, then drifted into dentistry, which profession he has followed with marked success.

Dr. Johnston was the first man to raise a company for the Confederate service in Middle Tennessee, which was known as the First Tennessee Regiment. This regiment participated in the battle of Cheat Mountain under General Lee, and was later transferred to General Jackson's command, under whom they participated in the battles of Shiloh and Perryville. After these latter battles Dr. Johnston joined Forrest's Regiment, with which he remained until the close of the war. He was on hospital duty two months prior to the surrender.

Before the war the Doctor accumulated considerable money, but when peace once more returned he found himself apparently a poor man. He immediately began the practice of his profession, and by his own perseverance and skill has again accumulated a handsome competency.

Dr. Johnston was married October 26, 1852, to Mrs. Martha Franklin, *nee* Houston, daughter of James B. and Rebecca (Herndon) Houston, and niece of ex-Gov. Sam Houston, of Tennessee, afterwards President of the Republic of Texas and United States Senator. The Doctor is a member of the F. & A. M. and the I. O. O. F.



**RICHARD L. ROSS**, Druggist, Tusculmbia, was born October 26, 1825, near Triana, Madison County, Ala. He received a good English education, having attended school five years at Tusculmbia. Leaving school at the age of eighteen years he entered a grocery store as salesman, where he remained until November, 1846, when he engaged in the drug business. With the exception of two years during the war he has continuously followed this latter business, and has been quite successful in building up a large trade.

He entered the Confederate service in May, 1864, and was detailed to the medical department as clerk for the chief surgeon of General Roddy's command, where he served until the war closed. In 1883 he was appointed county treasurer of Col-

bert County, and was elected to that office in 1884 by a large majority.

Mr. Ross had lost all of his hard earnings by the results of the war, but by indomitable will and energy, and by close application to business, he has succeeded in recuperating his fortune. By his well-stocked shelves and pleasant home one would scarcely believe that he had ever met with any loss or reverse during his life. He is much respected by those who know him, and is regarded as one of Tusculmbia's best business men.

He was married in October, 1871, to Martha E. Cooper, daughter of L. B. Cooper, of this city, and one bright, interesting and highly accomplished daughter, Frances H., lives to cheer this happy union.

Mr. Ross is a leading member of the I. O. O. F., Knights of Honor, Knights of Pythias, and Knights and Ladies of Honor. His wife is an active and devoted member of the Presbyterian Church.

Our subject's father, Alexander Ross, was born in Spotsylvania County, Va., about 1783, and learned the trade of brickmaker.

He married Elizabeth Cooper, of Virginia, and in 1810 migrated to Frankfort, Ky., where he followed brick-making and contracting until 1825; then located near Triana, Madison County, Ala., where he engaged in farming, and also at his trade to some extent. In 1834 he located at Decatur; moved to Tusculmbia in 1847; and finally located in Lawrence County, where he died in 1849. He reared an interesting family of eleven children: Ann, Elizabeth, Francis H., Mildred Ann, William J., Frederick A. (now postmaster at Tusculmbia), Mary B., Henry V., Richard L., Martha E. and Amanda M. The Ross family came originally from Italy, in the person of the grandfather of our subject, Vincent Ross, who came to America when but eighteen years of age and located in Virginia, where he married and reared a large family. From this family descended many of the leading citizens of Northern Alabama.



**JAMES JACKSON**, Attorney-at-law, Tusculmbia, was born July 20, 1848, in Franklin County, this State, and is a son of William M. Jackson.

He received his education at Florence and Tuscumbia (Ala.), St. Mary (Ky.), and St. Louis (Mo.) University. After leaving school he farmed and clerked for about three years. In 1872 he began reading law with William Cooper, at Tuscumbia, and was admitted to the bar at Frankfort, this State. He returned to Tuscumbia and at once entered into the practice of his profession. From the very start he came into prominence, as an attorney of more than ordinary ability, and is now enjoying a large practice.

Mr. Jackson takes a deep interest in politics. In 1877 he was elected county treasurer, and served in that office one term. In 1882 he was elected to the Senate, on the Republican ticket, and in 1886, made the race for Congress, as an Independent, against General Wheeler.

Mr. Jackson is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons.

**EDWARD BENTON ALMON**, Attorney-at-law, Tuscumbia, was born April 18, 1860, at Moulton, this State, and is a son of George W. and Nannie (Eubank) Almon. He was reared on a farm; attended a common school until about seventeen years of age, when he entered the State Normal School at Florence, from which institution he graduated, and in 1883 was graduated from the State University.

He began the study of law with his brother, and was admitted to the bar at Bel Green, in 1884. He practiced there until 1885, when he located at Tuscumbia, where he has since continued his practice with marked success. In May, 1886, Mr. Almon formed a partnership with James T. Kirk, and the firm is now known as Kirk & Almon. He is Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Colbert County; is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor, and is also identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Almon's father, George W. Almon, was born at Pulaski, Tenn., in 1817; came to Lawrence County, Ala., with his parents in 1822, and here received a common-school education. He afterwards engaged in farming, in which he has been very successful. His wife, Miss Nannie Eubank, was a daughter of Thomas Eubank, a native of Virginia. She was born in Huntsville, Ala., December 28, 1822. Both the old people are still living.

They had born to them seven sons, of whom six have grown to maturity, viz.: William M., farmer; Thomas N., farmer; George C., attorney and State Senator from the Twelfth District; Lorenzo Dow, farmer; Henry G., farmer; and the subject of this sketch. The Almon and Eubank families are descendants from English ancestry.

Mr. Almon was married on December 13, 1887, to Miss Luie Clopper of Tuscumbia.

**ROBERT CLOUD**, born May 4, 1844, in Marshall County, Miss., is a son of Dr. Joseph F. and Mariah (Vaughan) Cloud. He was reared and educated in his native county, and at the age of sixteen years, went to Arkansas, from which State, in 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Tenth Arkansas Regiment, and was afterwards taken out by his father on account of his youth. In 1862 he joined Company E, Thirty-fourth Mississippi, and participated in the battles of Farmington, Perryville and Lookout Mountain, at which latter place he was captured in November, 1863. He was kept in prison at Rock Island eighteen months; was exchanged at Acklin's Landing, at the mouth of Red River in May, 1865, and returned to his native town, where he engaged in the confectionery business one year, and later on in the drug business.

In 1869 he located at Tuscumbia, engaged in the drug business, and is now one of the most prosperous and influential business men. He is a wide-awake, public-spirited citizen; always takes an active interest in the development of the country and in the welfare of the community. He has served the people as alderman and as mayor two terms.

Mr. Cloud was married in October, 1871, to Miss Francis E. L. Deprez, daughter of Dr. William and Susan (Giffney) Deprez. This union has been blessed with four children, namely: Susan D., Lillie Vaughan, Willoughby, Robert E. and Fannie J. B. The family are devoted members of the Roman Catholic Church.

Dr. Joseph F. Cloud, the father of our subject, was a descendant of English ancestry. He was married at Whitesburg, Ala., from which place he moved to Mississippi, where he has continually been in the practice of medicine. He died in 1862, at the age of fifty-eight years. He reared eight children, namely: John B., deceased; William D., was killed while with Morgan on his raid in





Yrs truly  
Robt. Cloud



Ohio. He was a sergeant in Duke's Regiment, and was a gallant soldier; Jerry H., deceased; J. F., was a gallant soldier under Longstreet; Robert E. died in Mississippi, while serving in the Confederate Army; Robert, the subject of this sketch; Lillie O., deceased; and Henry C., who died in Texas. The mother of our subject was also of English lineage.

In appreciation of the merits, and of the high esteem in which Mr. Cloud, the subject of this sketch is held, the publishers take pleasure in embellishing this volume with a handsome steel plate engraving of that gentleman, which is a true likeness of one of Northern Alabama's distinguished citizens.



**DAVID W. HICKS** was born in Davidson County, Tenn., July 31, 1830, and is a son of John C. and Ann Maria (Waters) Hicks. He received a good education at Eureka College, Richland, Miss., and at the age of 18 years engaged as a salesman in a commission house at Yazoo City, that State. In 1853 he went to Gonzales, Tex., where he engaged in the dry goods business, and nine months later returned to Mississippi, and engaged in business for about seven years. In 1860 he came to Tusculumbia and married Miss Sarah A. Hobgood, daughter of John and Martha A. (Alsobrook) Hobgood, of that city.

After his marriage, Mr. Hicks engaged at planting, and in 1862 he entered Captain Kumpie's Company for six months, after which, said company was re-organized and known as Company K, Eleventh Alabama Regiment, and Mr. Hicks was elected second lieutenant. He participated in the first fight at Decatur, the battles of Fishing Creek, Sulphur Trestle, Tenn., Moulton and Selma, and was in Forrest's command at the time of the surrender. After the war he resumed farming and now owns a large plantation near Tusculumbia.

Mr. Hicks and wife are communicants of the Episcopal Church, and he is a member of the I. O. O. F. They had eight children born to them, viz.: John C.; Martha A., wife of W. T. Elam, of Mississippi; David B., deceased; Ann M., deceased; Lottie H., Sarah B., McReynolds, and Edgar W.

The father of our subject was born near Richmond, Va., and at the age of about 18 years located in Davidson County, Tenn. He was an aide, with the rank of major, to General Jackson,

and had command of the post at Mobile while Jackson was at New Orleans. After his marriage he studied medicine, and in 1830 located in Lawrence County, Ala., about twelve miles east of Tusculumbia, where he lived nine years, then removed to Sumter County, and thence to Carroll County, Miss., where he lived until his death, which occurred in August, 1865, at the age of 33 years. He was a planter, and accumulated considerable property while in Mississippi. He was Grand Master of Freemasons for many years while in Alabama, and was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He reared a family of six children, viz.: Sarah (Mrs. Judge Jas. J. Chewning, of Mississippi); B. M., physician, now deceased; David W., our subject; Marianne W. (Mrs. A. J. Tidwell, of Mississippi); John W., of Memphis; and Robert H., of Mississippi. The Hicks family came originally from England, and the Waters are descendants of Scotch ancestry.



**JAMES A. PATTERSON** was born March 17, 1813, in Trumbull County, Ohio, and is a son of John and Susan (Adams) Patterson.

The senior Mr. Patterson was born in Fayette County, Ky., and was a saddler by trade. He moved to Trumbull County, Ohio, where he was married; later on he removed to Mt. Vernon, and finally to Mansfield, where he died in 1820. He reared three children, viz.: James A., our subject; Margaret, wife of James Raymond; Augusta, wife of Elijah Worley, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Patterson family were originally from Ireland. The mother of our subject was a daughter of John Adams, a native of Trumbull County, Ohio, and a relative of John Quincy Adams, of Massachusetts. After Mr. Patterson's death, his wife moved back to Trumbull County, where the subject of our sketch received his education in the common schools.

James A. Patterson, at the age of nineteen years, came to Alabama, settled at Decatur, and immediately began teaching a private school. He taught about three months, when he entered a store as salesman, where he remained three years. Shortly after entering this store he was made postmaster of that city, which position he filled seventeen years. In June, 1830, he removed to Tusculumbia, where he has resided ever since.

While at Decatur, Mr. Patterson built a large cotton factory, and was one of the stockholders of the first railroad in Alabama. When he came to Tusculmbia he purchased 2,200 acres of land, on a part of which the city of Sheffield is located. He farmed until the outbreak of the war, at which time he owned about 100 slaves. After the war he engaged in the cotton commission business in Cincinnati for about three years, when he again resumed farming.

Mr. Patterson was married at Decatur, July 6, 1837, to Nancy C., daughter of Dabney A. Martin. They reared eight children, viz.: James A.; Susan G., wife of John E. Young; Laura, wife of H. Carloss; Ida, widow of Hiram Crawford; Martin D.; A. A.; Ann E.; and A. W. Mrs. Patterson died in September, 1853, and Mr. Patterson was married to Mrs. Malenia J. Lightfoot, daughter of Archibald McKissach, of Pulaski, Tenn. She died in the fall of 1862.

Before the war, Mr. Patterson had accumulated a large fortune, but sharing the fate of many others, he, at the end of the war, found that he had lost considerable of his fortune. He still owns 156 acres of land near Sheffield, which affords him a comfortable living. He has been a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for over forty-five years, and all his children are connected therewith. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity.

**JAMES E. KEENAN**, was born in Centre County, Pa., in 1841, and is a son of Stephen and Ellen (Kiernan) Keenan.

The senior Mr. Keenan was a native of County Cavan, Ireland. He came to the United States about 1824, settled in New York City, where he was engaged as a tailor seven years, and then located in Pennsylvania. He reared a family of four sons and three daughters.

The subject of this sketch received an academic education, and at the age of fourteen years engaged in the printing business for a short time. In the fall of 1859 he came South, and in 1861 joined an independent company at Iuka, Miss., under P. D. Roddy, which company formed a part of Major Baskerville's battalion. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Harrisburg, Miss., Sulphur Trestle, Tenn., and others in Northern Mississippi and Northern Alabama, and was in several skirmishes on the retreat to Selma. He also par-

ticipated in the battle of Selma and in all the engagements in which his command took part. In 1863 he was promoted to second lieutenant, and surrendered at Pond Springs, Ala., May 5, 1865.

After the war, Mr. Keenan came to Tusculmbia, and in 1870 engaged in general merchandise business, in which he has been very successful. He is an enterprising, public-spirited man, and takes a great interest in the development of the public schools.

Mr. Keenan was married in May, 1868, to Lettie Warren, of Tusculmbia. She is a daughter of Mervyn and Mary (Sloss) Warren, natives of Ireland and the State of Alabama, respectively. To this union were born nine children, viz.: Mervyn W., William S., Mary, Ellen, deceased, James E., Lettie, John, Margaret and Belle. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Keenan is a F. & A. M.



**SAMUEL HINDMAN** was born March 22, 1818, in Chester County, Pa., and is a son of Matthew and Sarah (Welsh) Hindman.

The senior Mr. Hindman was born in Ireland; came to America when quite young, and settled in Chester County, Pa., where he lived the balance of his life. He reared a family of eleven children, viz.: John O., Samuel, Matthew, Robert, Joseph R., Lucinda (Mrs. Wilson), Susan (Mrs. Elijah Gretchell), Sarah (deceased), Nancy A. (Mrs. Robert Douglas), Martha J. (deceased), Elizabeth (Mrs. John Wright). The family were all members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Hindman died before the late war, at the age of sixty-three years.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native town, where he received a common-school education, and at the age of sixteen years was employed in a cotton factory. Five years later, he learned the trade of carpenter and millwright, then removed to Jefferson County, Va., where he helped to build an iron works, and later on, moved to Loudon County, that State.

Mr. Hindman was married in 1846, to Barbara Hostler, of Jefferson County, Va., and has had born to him seven children, five of whom grew to maturity, to-wit: Matthew J., Joseph W., John W., Sarah E. (Mrs. John E. Tribbley, of Virginia), and Emma (Mrs. R. R. Guvagliney.)

Mr. Hindman entered the army in 1862, as quartermaster, and was in the battles of Ball's Bluff, second Manassas, and in many of the battles of the Shenandoah Valley. He was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, and in the spring of 1865, after the surrender, returned to his home. In 1871 he migrated to Alabama, locating at Tusculumbia, where he has been engaged in the milling business ever since.



**LEWIS B. THORNTON**, born May 28, 1815, in Spotsylvania County, Va., is a son of Philip and Sarah Taliaferro Thornton, (*nee* Miss Sarah Taliaferro Conway).

His father, Mr. Philip Thornton, was born in Caroline County, Va., April 28, 1777. He was a merchant for some years, and farmer most of his life time, and was the first man to introduce and run a cotton gin in Spotsylvania County. He represented his county in the State Legislature. He had born to him ten children, of whom five grew to maturity, viz.: Sarah T., wife of John C. Steward, of Virginia; Rowland, died in Arkansas; F. Fitzhugh Conway, died in St. Louis; Lewis B., our subject; Philip, who went on a whaling expedition and was lost at sea in 1842, and Thomas J., died in Washington Territory. Mr. Philip Thornton died in September, 1829. The Thornton family were originally from England.

The mother of our subject was a daughter of Captain Francis Conway, a native of Virginia, and a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The subject of this sketch received the best education that the common schools of his time afforded. Being ambitious to further advance his studies, he taught school and thus procured enough money to attend the University of Virginia. At the age of eighteen years he began the study of law at Richmond, Va. In 1811 he migrated to Shelbyville, Ill., and in 1843 to Northern Alabama, where he spent a few years teaching school, finally locating at Tusculumbia, where he taught school in connection with his law practice until 1850. In the latter year he turned his entire attention to the practice of law, which he has continued ever since. In 1855-6 he represented his county in the Legislature, and in 1857 was appointed Register in Chancery which office he held twenty-eight consecutive years. He also served as mayor of Tusculumbia before the war.

Mr. Thornton was married July 29, 1849, to Miss L. Virginia Nooe, of this State. She died about a year after their marriage, and on October 28, 1856, he was married to Miss M. Louisa Meredith, daughter of Col. Sam Meredith, of Tusculumbia. Colonel Meredith served under General Jackson in all his battles with the Indians. He came to Alabama when a young man, and died in 1853, at the age of sixty-seven years.

Mr. Thornton had born to him eight children, viz.: Meredith, Bedford, Conway, Hunter (deceased), Sarah, Oola, Fitzhugh (deceased), and Laura. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Thornton is an elder, and has been for more than thirty years.



**JAMES T. KIRK** was born April 7, 1858, in Franklin County, Ala., and is a son of James I. and Louisa Cleere Kirk.

Mr. Kirk was left an orphan at an early age and dependent upon his own resources. He made the best of the advantages offered at the common schools, alternating his time with farming and teaching until he was about eighteen years of age, when he took a clerkship in Winston County. In September, 1876, he began reading law with J. B. Moore, of Tusculumbia; was admitted to the bar in spring of 1880, and has since been in the practice at this place. In 1886 he formed a partnership with E. B. Almon under the firm name of Kirk & Almon. Mr. Kirk was married December, 1886, to Ella P. Rather, daughter of Gen. John D. Rather.

James, M. Kirk, grandfather of Mr. K., was born in North Carolina in 1794; moved to Franklin County, Ala., in his early life, and is identified with the oldest interests of said county. He fought through the Seminole War, and still lives on his old homestead near Russellville, Ala. His family consisted of three sons and three daughters. James T. Kirk, father of J. T. Kirk, Jr., was born in Franklin County in 1828, and died April 7, 1858. He married Louisa, daughter of George D. Cleere, an extensive planter and merchant in Lawrence County.



**LYDAL B. COOPER**, born December 12, 1813, in Davidson County, Tenn., is a son of Edmund and Martha (Jackson) Cooper. His father died

when he was very young, and consequently his educational opportunities were limited.

In 1832 he settled in Tuscumbia and began the study of law with his brother, William Cooper; was admitted to the bar in 1834, and on January 1, 1836, located in the practice at Courtland, Lawrence County, this State. In 1838 he returned to Tuscumbia, where he has lived ever since, and practiced law. Since the war, in connection with his law business, he has conducted a farm.

Mr. Cooper was married January 3, 1839, to Frances M. Harrington, daughter of Burt Harrington, who came to this county in 1827. They had born to them seven children, viz.: Martha E. Ross; Burt H., farmer; John P., farmer; Samuel J., physician; William W., physician, in Indian Territory; Harriet C. and Langston M. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and Mr. Cooper is an A. F. & A. M.

Edmund Cooper, the father of our subject, was born at Petersburg, Va., April 18, 1760. When a young man he was a cabinet-maker by trade, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. About 1815 he migrated to Tennessee, settled in Davidson County, and engaged in farming. Later on, he became an inspector of tobacco in Nashville, a position he held until his death in January, 1822. He was a prosperous business man, and his main object in going to Nashville was to educate his children. His third wife, who was the mother of our subject, was born in Brunswick County, Va. The Coopers came originally from Great Britain, and the Jacksons from Ireland.



**JAMES H. SIMPSON** was born June 26, 1832, in Lincoln County, Tenn., and is a son of Sol. P. and Lucinda (Conway) Simpson. He was reared on a farm, where he received a good English education, and at the age of sixteen years began teaching school, at the same time advancing his own studies. He taught school for about fifteen years, then entered a store at Barton Station as salesman and book-keeper.

In the spring of 1862 he enlisted in Captain Julian's command, under Colonel Roddy; served as orderly sergeant one year in Capt. Julian's command; was then transferred to Colonel Forrest's regiment, where he served three years in the ordnance department, after which he was discharged from the service. He returned home, taught

school, and in 1865 came to Tuscumbia, where he entered the wholesale and retail grocery business under the firm name of Inman, Simpson & Co. The firm changed hands several times, and in 1875 Mr. Simpson sold out his interest.

In 1876 he resumed teaching, which he followed for about one year, when he was elected tax assessor of Colbert County, which office he held seven years. In July, 1887, he was appointed clerk of the circuit court, to fill out an unexpired term. Mr. Simpson was first married January 25, 1853, to Miss Ada White. She died in February, 1854, leaving one child. In October, 1860, Mr. Simpson was married to Sue E. Gibbs, daughter of John and Mary (Mason) Gibbs, and to this union six children were born. She died in October, 1872, and his present wife was a Miss Sally C. Gibbs, who has born him four children. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Simpson is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and Knights of Honor. He has served as secretary of the board of aldermen of Tuscumbia, and takes a wide-spread interest in the development of his city and that section of the country.

Mr. Simpson's father was born in Union District, S. C., in the year 1805. When a young man he moved to Lincoln County, Tenn., where he was engaged at farming. He served in the Florida War, and in 1850 located on a plantation about ten miles from Florence, Ala. He next moved to Lawrence County, Ala., where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1875. He was a son of Edwin Simpson, who was born in Ireland and migrated to America during colonial days, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

The mother of our subject was born in Lincoln County, Tenn., and was a daughter of Frederick and Winnie Conway, natives of Georgia.



**GUIDE LUEDDEMANN**, of the firm of Lueddemann & Co., dealers in fancy dry goods, silks, etc., Tuscumbia, Ala., was born in Erfurt, Germany, and is a son of Frederick A. and Christiana (Linsdorff) Lueddemann.

The senior Mr. L., an officer of the Prussian army, came to America in 1847, locating in Ohio, and later on at Milwaukee, Wis.

The subject of this sketch engaged in mercantile business when a young man, and in 1864, located in Nashville, Tenn.

In the succeeding year, he came to Tusculumbia, where he formed a partnership with H. Leiforth, and was engaged in the dry goods business until 1868. In that year Mr. Leiforth withdrew, and was succeeded by James N. Sampson, of New York, under the style and firm name of Lueddemann & Co. This is now the oldest establishment of the kind in the city, and is the leading dry goods house of Colbert County. Their business has steadily increased from the very beginning, until it has assumed vast proportions, and they have now erected a large building in order to facilitate their rapidly increasing trade. They were the first merchants in that city to introduce lady clerks.

Mr. Lueddemann was married to Johanna Chisholm, of Nashville, and this union has been blessed with four children, viz.: Frederick, Max, Ernest, and Frieda. Mrs. Lueddemann is a member of the Christian Church, and Mr. Lueddemann is a member of the A. F. & A. M. and Knights of Pythias.



**JOHN A. McWILLIAMS** was born March 5, 1841, in Colbert County, Ala., and is a son of Hugh and Elizabeth (Quillin) McWilliams, natives of Tennessee.

The senior Mr. McWilliams was one of the early settlers of Alabama, and was an extensive planter. He was married in Franklin County, and had born to him six children, to-wit: James W., farmer, served in the Twenty-seventh Alabama, during the late war; William F., deceased; Mary C., deceased; John A., our subject; Elizabeth Ann, wife of Stephen Ayeock; Virginia I., widow of Russell Askew. The elder McWilliams died in 1846, and his widow survived him until 1876. The McWilliams family came originally from Ireland, in the person of the great-grandfather of our subject. He settled in Tennessee, and later on removed to Alabama.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm and received a common-school education. In December, 1862, he enlisted in Company A, Twenty-seventh Alabama, and participated in the battle of Perryville and several skirmishes around Corinth. In the spring of 1861, he returned home, thence went to Tennessee, where he was engaged at farming one year. He returned to Alabama, where he resumed farming, and followed it until 1872, when he entered mercantile business

near Tusculumbia. In 1880, he was elected sheriff of Colbert County, and located in the latter city, where he is still merchandizing, and has been very prosperous. In connection with his store he conducts a farm, cotton-gin and grist-mill.

In April, 1867, Mr. McWilliams was married to Lucinda B. Stoekwell, of Colbert County, and has had born to him nine children, viz.: Hugh A., William E., Mary B., Mattie E., Adelle B., Lucinda E., John W., James B., and Charlie A. The family are members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. McWilliams is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, Knights of Pythias, and Knights of Honor.



**J. N. SAMPSON** was born in Palmyra, N. Y., in 1843, where he received a common-school education. He served in Company A, One Hundred and Eleventh New York, from July, 1862, to the close of the war.

Immediately after the war he came south and located at Nashville, Tenn., where he worked for the Adams Express Co. In 1869 he removed to Tusculumbia, and engaged in mercantile business. In 1885, in connection with other parties, he purchased a brick yard and planing mill, which they run one year, and in December, 1886, was merged into the Eureka Brick & Lumber Co. This company was organized with G. Lueddemann, as president, but shortly afterwards H. Habbeller was made its president. The other officers are Charles Beck, of Florence, Ala., secretary, and J. N. Sampson, treasurer. The above named officers, together with M. I. Moses and E. Tray, of Cincinnati, compose the board of directors. The capacity of the brick yard is twenty thousand brick per day. This company established the first planing mill in the town.

Mr. Sampson was married in his native State.



**JOHN H. FISHER** was born May 4, 1843, in Vanderburg County, Ind., and is a son of Philip and Catharine (Gottschalk) Fisher.

The senior Mr. Fisher was born in Darmstadt; his wife in Hesse. He located in Evansville, Ind., where he was married and reared one child, the subject of our sketch.

John H. Fisher was reared in Evansville, Ind., and in 1852, moved with his grandfather to Mt.

Vernon, Ind., where he received his education. In 1857 he began the tinner's trade but did not complete it on account of the war. In May, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, Twenty-fifth Indiana Volunteers, and participated in the battles of Donelson and Shiloh and the siege of Corinth, where he was wounded in the foot and sent to the hospital. In January, 1863, he was discharged from the hospital and came home, where he was engaged in a drug store for three months, after which he was employed in the postoffice eighteen months. In 1864 he located in Sedalia, Mo., and clerked in a dry goods store four months. He returned to Mt. Vernon, and shortly afterward started a tin shop of his own which he conducted for a short time, thence removing to Evansville, and accepting a position as traveling salesman, in which he was engaged for about twelve years. He then entered business for himself in Poseyville, and in January, 1884, located at Tusculumbia, where he opened a hardware and queensware house and has since been doing a large business. He is a very enterprising and public spirited citizen and is always active in the interest of the town. He is now serving the people as alderman.

Mr. Fisher was married, in June, 1866, to Miss Nettie Grant, of Evansville, Ind., and has had born to him four children, namely: Catherine E., Fannie G., Alice C., and Edward A. Mrs. Fisher died March 16, 1873, and on November 9, 1876, Mr. Fisher was married to Miss Liddie A. Mears, daughter of Benjamin F. Mears, of Daviess County, Ind. To this union four children have been born, of whom two are living, namely: Frank A. and William H. The family are members of the Methodist Church, and Mr. Fisher is a Knight of Honor and a Knight of Pythias.

**ORLANDO MERRILL** was born April 27, 1828, at Tusculumbia, and is a son of Thomas B. and Ann E. (Rhea) Merrill, natives, respectively, of Kentucky and Tennessee.

He received a good education, and spent a short time at the University of Texas. During the war he was in the Ordinance Department at Jackson, Miss., in the capacity of clerk and inspector of arms. After the surrender of Vicksburg he went North and lived in St. Louis and Chicago, in which places he was engaged in the jewelry busi-

ness. In 1871 he removed to Memphis, where he remained for a few years; thence came to Tusculumbia, where he has since been engaged in the jewelry business.

Mr. Merrill was first married in February, 1862, to Sue Dunham, of Newark, O. She was a daughter of Asa and Susan (Whales) Dunham, natives of Connecticut. To this union two children were born: Louella and Clark. Mrs. Merrill died in Burlington, Iowa, while on a visit in 1867, and in May, 1871, Mr. Merrill was married to Miss Emily Shaw, daughter of James P. Shaw, of Rochester, N. Y. She bore him three children, of whom two are living: Ruth and Percy. The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church.

The father of our subject, with his brother, B. Merrill, came to Alabama in 1832, and located in Tusculumbia, where they were engaged in merchandising. They did an extensive business, and in connection with their merchandise business they leased and operated the Tusculumbia, Courtland & Decatur Railroad, afterward known as the Tennessee Valley Railway. They also ran the line of steamers on the Tennessee River. Before the war Mr. Thomas H. Merrill moved to Memphis, where he speculated in real estate, and died in the fall of 1860. He reared a family of eight children: Angie, Orlando, Edwin, Ella, Emma, William, Thomas and Lulu.

**BENJAMIN F. LITTLE**, born November 30, 1842, near Russellville, Ala., is a son of Claiborne and Sarah (Bruton) Little.

The senior Mr. Little was born in Tennessee, and with his parents migrated to Russell's Valley, Ala., in early times. He was a merchant, and died in 1849. He reared a family of eight children, viz.: William M., Edwin (deceased), Francis M., Rufus L., Coleman R. (deceased), John C. (deceased), Mollie (wife of Robert Martin), and the subject of this sketch. Coleman R. and John C. were members of the Tenth Mississippi Regiment during the late war, and both died while in the service. The Little family came originally from Ireland.

The subject of this sketch received a common-school education, and at the age of twelve years entered a store with his uncle, where he remained some time, and became a partner with J. O. Jones



at Russellville and Florence. This partnership was continued with much success until the breaking out of the war. In 1861 Mr. Little enlisted in Company H, Fourth Alabama Regiment, as second sergeant, and participated in the first battle of Manassas, after which he was promoted to second lieutenant. In the winter of 1861-62 he was transferred to the Army of Mississippi, where he served in the forage department of Bragg's army until that general started on his Kentucky raid. Prior to the battle of Munfordville he was as second lieutenant appointed to the command of a company of sharpshooters, and was engaged at Bryant'sville and Perryville. On the retreat from Kentucky he was made aide-de-camp of Woods' brigade. After reaching Dalton, Ga., he was appointed captain of the Fifth Alabama Cavalry, and was in that capacity at Moulton, Ala. He was then appointed recorder of military court for the northern district of Alabama, where he served until the close of the war. He was promoted to major, but did not receive his commission until after the surrender.

When peace once more reigned over the land, Mr. Little located at Tusculumbia, where he engaged in mercantile business. In 1871 he turned his attention to farming, which he continued until 1878, when he was engaged as general agent to procure the right of way for the Sheffield & Birmingham Railroad. Shortly after he was made paymaster of that road, which position he filled until the spring of 1886, when he engaged in the real estate business at Sheffield.

Captain Little was married August 2, 1864, to Miss Mattie Inman, only daughter of John D. Inman, Esq., an old and respected citizen of Tusculumbia. This union was blessed with three children: John C., Mattie R. (Mrs. F. W. Ross), and Sae. Mrs. Little died December 5, 1868, and the captain was married to Miss Emma Jones, daughter of Daniel Jones, of Holly Springs, Miss. She bore him five children, viz.: Lulie W., Edward, Laura F., Henry and Benjamin.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the captain is a member of the Knights of Honor and the Knights and Ladies of Honor.

The subject of this sketch is a great-grandson of Maj. William Russell, who passed through Alabama with General Jackson on his way to fight the battle of New Orleans, crossing the Tennessee River at the now city of Sheffield. After par-

ticipating in the battle of New Orleans as chief of Jackson's staff, he returned and settled in Russell's Valley, and for him the valley and the beautiful and thriving city of Russellville are named. There he lived and died, honored and loved by all who knew him.

**EDWARD P. RAND, M. D.**, was born November 7, 1848, in Lawrence County, Ala., and is a son of Dr. John W. and Catharine (Pearsall) Rand.

The senior Dr. Rand was born at Raleigh, N. C., in 1822, came to Alabama with his parents in 1831, and settled near Leighton. He was graduated from La Grange College, and also from Louisville, where he received his diploma as M. D. He practiced his profession at Leighton until 1859, when he engaged extensively in planting. From the disastrous results of the late war his fortune was considerably despoiled. He resumed farming after the war, but is now engaged in the practice of medicine at St. Joseph, Tenn.

The subject of this sketch received his education at the Cumberland University; began the study of medicine at Starkville, Miss., when twenty years of age, and graduated in 1872 from the University of Louisiana. He located at Tusculumbia in 1878, where he has practiced his profession ever since. He is a very successful physician and enjoys a large practice. He is a member of the North Alabama Medical Association and the County Medical Society.

Dr. Rand was married January 15, 1880, to Miss Mattie White, daughter of the late Mr. James M. White, of Memphis, Tenn. This union has blessed with two children: James and Edward. The doctor is a Presbyterian, and his wife is a communicant of the Episcopal Church.

**JOHN ANTHONY STEELE**, Probate Judge, Tusculumbia, Ala., was born at Gainesville, Sumpter County, this State, July 25, 1855, and is a son of William J. and Mary (Winston) Steele.

The senior Mr. Steele was born in Woodford County, Ky., August 10, 1809; graduated at Danville, that State; read law with John J. Crittenden at Frankfort, and was admitted to the bar; came to Alabama and at Gainesville practiced law. In 1852 he returned to Versailles, Ky., and there

continued the practice; was elected judge, and conducted extensive farming operations. He reared eight children: John A., Thomas, Jane A., Mary P., Andrew F., William J., James W., and Theophilus, deceased.

The Steeles originally came from Ireland. Thomas Steele, and his son John, grandfather of John Anthony Steele, were the first of that family to come to America, and they settled in Woodford County, Ky., where John Steele became a man of considerable local prominence. He was sheriff of the county a time or two, and a representative to the Legislature two terms. He was an officer in the War of 1812; was a Whig in politics, and a devout member of the Presbyterian Church. Mary Winston was born in Franklin County, Ala., in 1819. Her father, Anthony Winston, a Virginian by birth, settled in Alabama in 1818, and was a member of the first Legislature held in this State.

Judge Steele, the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this article, was reared on a farm in Kentucky; graduated in classical course from Princeton (New Jersey) College, class of 1852; afterward read law at Transylvania University, and was admitted to the bar in 1854.

Immediately after being admitted to the bar Mr. Steele came to Alabama, married and settled upon a farm in Colbert County. He was a member of the Secession Convention of 1861, and took a strong stand against that measure. However, when Alabama declared her withdrawal from the Federal Union, he at once espoused her cause, and in the early part of 1862, joined the army as a captain in a company in Forrest's Regiment. He was with the gallant Forrest through all his Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee campaigns, and surrendered finally at Selma in 1865. At once after the war he engaged in farming, and in 1870-71-72, represented his county in the Legislature. He was again in the Legislature in 1878-9; was elected probate judge in 1880 and re-elected in 1886.

Judge Steele was married in April, 1856, to Miss Martha B. Winston, and had born to him nine children: William W., John A., Thomas W., Annie H., Mary B., Judith M., Sarah W., Andrew M. and Edmund W.

The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and the Judge is of the Masonic fraternity, the K. of H. and the K. of P.



## RECORDS OF FOUNDING OF TALLADEGA FOUND

### "Talladega Battle Ground" Turned Into Seat of Justice

TALLADEGA, Ala., Dec. 15.—(Special.)—Records dating back to the founding of Talladega and its location as the county seat were examined Tuesday by Judge M. N. Manning in an effort to locate titles to certain local property.

The records were dated April 4, 1834, and were made between William H. Moore and others, owners of the land, and James H. McCann and others, representing the commissioners of Talladega, as appointed by the county judge under the act of December 13, 1833, "to permanently locate the seat of justice in the county of Talladega." An election was held to locate the county seat and the battle ground was decided on. This was certified by the sheriff to the county judge and he designated the site of the present city of Talladega. January 15, 1833, the sheriff certified to the commissioners that the "Talladega battle ground" be returned to the judge of the county court as a site duly elected for the seat of justice of said county.

## IX

## TALLADEGA

BY OUIS NICKLES.

[In attempting the following sketch, the writer is confronted from the outset by one of the greatest disadvantages that can attend an effort of this kind—the having more than once treated the subject, and being again called upon to take it up and present it in a new dress. Several of the descriptions referred to appeared, originally, in the *Mountain Home*, a well-conducted weekly of this city, and have since been widely republished. It, in the course of this sketch, therefore, I occasionally and unavoidably intrude upon their language and ideas, I will hold it a privilege that I am justly entitled to, but, at the same time, I wish to make a public avowal of the fact before-hand. This course will be in conformity with the etiquette of journalism, and also an act of courtesy that I am glad to have the opportunity of rendering Mr. John C. Williams, the editor of the *Home*, a gentleman whose enterprise and worth I esteem, and whose kindness I have often experienced.]

Talladega is on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, nine and a fraction degrees west from the Washington meridian, and fifty miles northeast from the geographical center of Alabama. By reason of its situation and extreme beauty, it is termed, by the Alabamians, the "Bride of the Mountains," an appropriate and not inelegant title borrowed from the famous appellation of Venice.—"The Bride of the Adriatic."

To the west, approaching within ten miles, and skirting the entire western border of Talladega County, flows Coosa River, a broad and sparkling stream, of considerable volume, which here varies from three hundred yards to nearly half a mile in width.

The magnificent valley in which the town lies also bears the same name, and is noted for its mineral wealth, its salubrity and fertility, and the diversified charms of its scenery.

No interior city is more admirably placed for development and growth. Yet we find little in the annals of Talladega up to a period of the present decade that could entertain or attract the reader.

There are yet living those who remember its location as a wilderness, teeming with wild fruits and starred with wild forest flowers; when deer, and

other noble game, were common objects of the chase, and when the wolf, and even the fierce panther, infested the neighboring mountains.

In 1832, the white man fixed his permanent home in this county. Most of the pioneer immigrants were from adjoining counties and from the States contiguous to Alabama.

In that year were harvested the first crops raised in the county by European descendants, and was also formed the nucleus of the beautiful town of which this narrative treats, and which now lies in full prospect before the writer.

Although spring is not yet far advanced into April, a time when the North is still sheeted with ice, more than one mocking-bird is trilling his notes from a tree near by; and the landscape, which, if transferred to canvas, would adorn the walls of the most elegant art gallery, is robed in all the different shades of green. The pastures and front yards are a-bloom with multitudes of fragrant flowers of brilliant hue; strawberries and early vegetables are ripe in the gardens, and the wild woods are spangled with the many thousand blooms of the semi-tropics.

Gazing upon this picture, it is difficult to fancy the transformation that has been wrought here since the years prior to 1832, when the red man and the animal life that yielded him subsistence or roamed as unrestrained as he through the forest, were the only tenants of the scene.

But events that have become historical, and of which the site of Talladega was the theatre, have associated its origin in the minds of many with an earlier period.

Prominent among these events was the battle of Talladega, fought November 3, 1813—more than eighteen years before the founding of the town.

The numbers engaged in this conflict were

scarcely equal to the advance guard of a great army, yet it has derived a certain luster from the fact that the Americans were commanded by Andrew Jackson, and their foes were the heroic braves of the Creek Confederacy.

A review of the engagement, which was one of the most sanguinary of the long and bloody drama, known as the Creek War, may not be uninteresting, and comes fairly within the pale of the present sketch.

In 1812-'13, inflamed by the arts and speeches of the celebrated Shawnee Chief, Tecumseh, the various Muscogee, or Creek, tribes entered the powerful league then being formed, at the instigation of the British, from the Lakes to the Gulf, among the frontier Indians.

The Muscogees, or, as they were termed by Americans, the Creeks — a name suggested by the many beautiful creeks that coursed their territory — were naturally imbued with a splendid yet ferocious courage, combined with the hereditary spirit of revenge implanted in their race. They came into the United States from northwestern Mexico, where they held a separate republic of their own, and were allies of Montezuma, in defense of his great capital, Mexico, that most superb of all aboriginal cities. Fleeing from the cruelties and oppression of Cortez (1520), they wandered across the Red and Mississippi Rivers, and lived for a number of years on the banks of the Ohio. Thence they came south in pursuit of their old enemies, the Alabamas, and dispossessed the latter of their lands upon the Yazoo.

Eventually (about 1620), the Creeks drove the Alabamas from their homes in this State, whither they had fled, and to which they left a glorious heritage — the name, ALABAMA.

Here, enchanted by the fruitfulness and beauty of the country, and the abundance of game, the Creeks determined to remain, and the Alabamas were finally merged into their confederacy.

Tecumseh, the greatest Indian warrior known to history, was gifted with an eloquence rarely equalled, and was magnificent in his personal appearance. His father and mother were natives of Alabama, born and reared on the Tallapoosa River, at a place called Old Augusta.

In addition to these advantages, he laid claim to the gift of prophecy, which had been imparted to him by his brother, the Shawnee Prophet, who was at that time more widely known and powerful than even Tecumseh himself.

Having ascertained from the British officers in Canada when a comet would appear, he used this eccentric star to delude the Creeks, telling them that his arms would be seen glittering in the heavens at a certain time, and that their appearance would be the signal for beginning the war.

He also accurately foretold an earthquake, but, unless it was a mere coincidence, his knowledge of the laws of that phenomenon, whether he evolved it from his own philosophy, or whether it had been handed down to him from the wisdom of the Aztecs, is something in which the wise men of the world would be glad to receive instruction.

As a further incentive to war, he gave assurance that Great Britain was ready to lend the league her unstinted aid and support.

It is not surprising then that this splendid enchanter, with his fame as a warrior and his surpassing eloquence, should have thrilled the hearts of the Creeks, and incited the majority of them to vengeance.

He had not long left their country for Detroit when his two prophecies were fulfilled, and the direful effects of his mission quickly became manifest.

The comet flamed in the sky, and an earthquake, more severe than that which desolated Charleston, visited the entire South, extending as far north as Missouri. In this convulsion wigwams tottered and fell, giant trees of the forest came to the ground with a crash; the county of New Madrid in Southeastern Missouri sunk several feet, and the town of New Madrid was engulfed in the waters of the Mississippi. Hostilities soon commenced. Many murders and other enormities were committed between February and August, 1813, by way of prelude. The first encounter of the war took place July 28th at Burnt Corn, in South Alabama, and on August 30th, of the same year, the storm broke in earnest. On that day occurred the terrible massacre of Fort Mims, one of the most atrocious horrors in the annals of border warfare.

The distressing news of this tragedy rapidly spread abroad, and called down on the Creek Confederacy the full wrath of the Anglo-Americans. Seven thousand men were at once called to arms by the Governors of Tennessee, Georgia and Mississippi Territories. The Tennesseans were the first to take the field; with General Jackson in command, they descended into Alabama, and passed through Huntsville October 11th. Great

difficulties were experienced in crossing the broad mountain plateau south of the Tennessee River, and much time was consumed at the southern base of the plateau in collecting supplies. Black Warrior, a town on the river of that name, and the village of Littfechee, on the headwaters of Big Canoe Creek, were laid in ashes. On November 3d the short, but fierce, engagement of Tallushatchee took place, at the Creek town of Tallushatchee, in Calhoun County. In this action upward of 200 Indians perished, among whom were, unfortunately, several women. The Americans were commanded by General Coffee, and had five killed and eighteen wounded. Jackson now crossed the Coosa Mountains with the main army, and massed his forces at Ten Islands, on Coosa River, about thirty miles from Talladega and a few miles below Greensport. He here erected a second depot for supplies (Fort Deposit, in North Alabama, having been the first), which he named Fort Strother.

On the evening of November 9th three natives, including Jim Fife, a warrior of some distinction, arrived at Fort Strother with the intelligence that a few friendly Indians were beleaguered in Fort Lashley, in Talladegatown, and implored assistance. Notice had been served on the garrison that it must surrender by the morning of the 9th, else the fort would be stormed and the inmates massacred. The characteristic stratagem by which Fife escaped from Fort Lashley in the presence of his enemies, enveloped in the skin of a large hog (with the head and legs attached), is as historical as the battle itself.

Jackson immediately crossed Coosa River with 1,200 infantry and 600 cavalry.

He encamped the night before the battle on the beautiful grounds now owned by Mr. S. M. (Shack) Jemison, on Cheaha Creek, six miles in a direct line from Talladega. At an early hour the next morning the army resumed its march on a trace-way\* leading across by the General McClelland (now the McKibbin) plantation, and, before sunrise, had surrounded the Creek encampment, inclosing it in almost a complete circle.

The infantry under Generals Hall and Roberts formed the northern semi-circle; the cavalry and mounted riflemen, the southern. Roberts' brigade was stationed along the hill where the Exchange

Hotel stands. Jackson's position was on the same hill, a little west of Roberts' brigade, but was afterward changed to a point on the eminence west of town, near the site of Mr. T. L. Isbell's residence. Hall's brigade was posted along the brow of Talladega-College Hill. The mounted riflemen took position on the slope where the Deaf and Dumb Institute buildings are located. The cavalry occupied the hills in the vicinity of Southwood, south of the cemetery. One thousand and eighty Creeks were ensconced among the reeds and willows that fringed the margin of the brooks to the southwest, or were encamped about the large spring which bursts from the base of the hill where the pump-rooms of the water-works stand, a few yards below Battle street.

The ninth of November had dawned, and they were awaiting the surrender of the fort, or the signal to take it by storm, either of which events meant the massacre of the besieged—a hundred and sixty friendly braves, with their wives and children. At eight o'clock, a heavy fire was poured into this encampment by Jackson's advance under Carroll, when the American lines closed up, and the battle (or rather carnage, for, owing to the nature of the Creeks, not one of whom begged for, or would receive, quarter, it was more of a carnage than a battle) became general. The Indians first made a rush in the direction of Roberts' brigade, and fiercely attacked his position. Terrified by the diabolical screams and yells of their painted assailants, a few militia companies gave way at the onset. The breach was at once filled by the mounted reserve under Col. Dyer, who dismounted and sustained the charge. Seeing this, the flying militia returned and fought with much gallantry.

After a brief but brave resistance, the Creeks began to retreat before the discipline and great odds of the Americans. Their flight was, of course, disorderly, as had been their mode of attack, and soon became a rout. Attempting to gain their Town House on Talladega Creek, most of them fled through the gap between Hall's and Alcorn's position, and were pursued and killed by Alcorn's cavalry.

The Town House was on the lands now known as the Terry Mill place, and was called the Talladega (or Border Town) Town House, the word Talladega signifying, in its original dialect, *Border Town*.

Upward of six hundred Creeks perished in this

\* Jackson did not come on the Jackson Trace, as many suppose. That route was blazed and cut out by his pioneers, for the return to Fort Strother, after the battle.

action. Two hundred and ninety-nine warriors were left dead on the field. Fully as many more were cut off in the flight, and the woods for several miles were strewn with the slain. They would listen to no terms, and utterly refused to surrender or be taken alive. Their implacable nature had taught Jackson that they fled only in hopes of future revenge, and the single resource left him was to wage a war of extinction.

Fifteen Americans were killed outright, and eighty-five wounded. Three of the latter, including Lieutenant Barton, died on the return march to Fort Strother, and were brought back to Talladega for burial. A dismantled and dilapidated piece of stone-masonry, in a field southwest from town, marks the final resting place of these eighteen soldiers. This small rock structure was once roofed over so as to shelter the burial-pit, but the roofing is gone, and the inclosure has fallen into almost complete decay.

Five more desperate encounters took place before the treaty of Fort Jackson, among them that of the Holy Ground, the scene of Weatherford's daring feat of horsemanship. It was there that the celebrated leader of the Creeks eluded capture by leaping his horse from the top of a high bluff into the Alabama River. With a mighty bound his powerful gray steed rose from the precipice and plunged into the river below. Both horse and rider sank out of sight beneath the waters, but presently re-appeared, and, as his pursuers did not care to imitate the deed, reached the opposite shore in safety, and escaped.

The war was closed by the battle of Tohopeka, or the Horse Shoe of Tallapoosa River, March 27, 1814. The Muscogee braves were almost obliterated from existence. Of all that Tecumseh had stirred to arms, not more than two hundred warriors remained, and most of these were so badly maimed and gashed with wounds, that they could not again go into battle. Some of them fled to Pensacola and the swamps of Florida, and were instrumental in bringing about the Seminole War. Their confederacy was crushed, their power was broken and they were compelled to sue for peace, which they proudly did, not for themselves, but for their women and children.

The speech of Weatherford to General Jackson, and his conduct subsequent to the defeat at Tohopeka, have shed a brilliancy around his name that will not soon fade. Jackson had issued special orders that this chief should be captured, if pos-

sible, and brought to him for punishment. Weatherford did not wait to be taken. Mounting the same noble animal which had borne him over the bluff and out of the reach of his pursuers at the Holy Ground, he rode into the American camp at sunset and went direct to the tent of Jackson.

"I am Weatherford," said he, confronting the General. "I do not fear you General Jackson. I have nothing to ask for myself. I am come to ask peace for my people. If I had an army I would fight you. Once I could animate my warriors to battle. I can not animate the dead. My warriors can no longer hear my voice. Their bones are at Talladega, Tallushatchee and Tohopeka. They are gone. I ask peace for my people, not for Weatherford."

As he concluded, several who had come up exclaimed "Kill him! Kill him! Kill him!" But Jackson commanded silence and said: "Any man who would kill as brave a man as that, would rob the dead!"

The foregoing epitome of the Creek War has been compiled from various sources. When the same thing is related by all the writers differently, the preference has been naturally given Pickett, the historian of Alabama, save in two or three instances, when he was manifestly in the wrong. He severely arraigns the biographers of Jackson for falsely reporting Weatherford's speech, when the truth is, he is at fault himself. They record it as it was remembered by Jackson's officers who were present and heard it delivered. He relates it as it was told by Weatherford years afterward in conversation with friends, and in a colloquial manner. The substance in all the versions is virtually the same, and we have preferred to follow the biographers, who hand down a speech, the manly eloquence of which so much impressed them at the time. Pickett confutes himself immediately afterward, by presenting a specimen of Weatherford's eloquence, which is directly in keeping with his address to Jackson as quoted above.

In 1820, an old gentleman was brutally murdered by two ruffians, at a sale near Weatherford's home. A justice of the peace in vain urged the by-standers to seize the two men, who defied arrest. At this juncture, Weatherford stepped forward and said:

"These, I suppose, are white men's laws. You stand aside and see a man, an old man, killed, and not one of you will avenge his blood. If he had

one drop of Indian blood mixed with that which runs upon the ground there, I would instantly kill his murderers at the risk of my life."

The justice then besought him to take them, telling him that the white man's law would commend the act. Thus adjured, he drew from its sheath a long silver-handled butcher knife which he carried with him, and advanced toward the murderers, who stood brandishing their knives some thirty paces distant. Being well acquainted with the fearless nature and herculean strength of the man with whom they had to deal, they dropped their weapons at his approach, and submitted without resistance.

More than three centuries ago, however, if the Spanish and Portuguese historians are to be believed, De Soto and his cavaliers entered the province of Coosa, and traversed the county and valley of Talladega (July, 1540) in search of gold.

A prolific vein of that precious metal existed, and is now being mined with success, in the Appalachian foot hills, six miles southwest from town. But the Indians were either ignorant of its presence, or cunningly deceived the Spaniards.

The latter left with the natives a negro, a brass kettle-drum, and several shields. The drum and shields, we are informed, were in possession of the Talladegas at a late date (probably at the close of last century), and were used as trophies in their annual festivals.

The province of Coosa, so highly extolled by the historians of the expedition for its fertility and charms, is at present comprised in Cherokee, Cahoon, Talladega and Coosa counties.

The fame of this wealthy province, of which the most attractive portion is embraced in Talladega County, extended to the Gulf of Mexico, and had reached the ears of the Spaniards on the Atlantic seaboard, and the province was held by the untutored, but nature-loving children of the forest, to be the fairest, the healthiest, and the richest of lands.

While the Spaniards were at his capital—a town situated in the territory now comprised in Talladega County—the chief of the province, a young man twenty-six years old, always dined with De Soto. One day he rose from the table and earnestly entreated the cavalier to establish a colony in his dominions, offering him choice of any region he might select. De Soto indeed contemplated peopling some delightful country, and he liked this better than any he had yet seen; but

dreams of golden cities and fabulous wealth, surpassing that of the Incas and Montezumas, dazzled his imagination and lured him farther west.

Thus, during the long interval that has elapsed since the march of De Soto to his grave in the Mississippi, this valley has been known to history, and esteemed as one of the most inviting spots on the globe.

Among those who settled here in 1832 were Hon. G. T. McAfee, the first Probate Judge of the county; Mr. Hugh Barclay, the first post-master of the town; his first wife, Mrs. Barclay, the first person buried in the city cemetery; Major James Hogan, who yet resides in the county, at his home in Mardisville; and Mr. W. L. Lewis, who is also still with us, a hale and venerable citizen of this city. His memory is a store-house of useful information, and from him the writer has obtained the facts in this sketch pertaining to the pioneer days of Talladega.

On the evening of his arrival Mr. Lewis was shown over the village and its vicinity (October 7, 1832). The embryo city was at that time called by its inhabitants, not Talladega, but the "Battle Ground." Albeit nineteen years had passed away since the battle, Mr. Lewis found abundant evidence that a bloody conflict had once occurred here. The slight eminence occupied by the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institute buildings to the east, and the city cemetery to the west, and the interval between it and Southwood, were strewed with Indian bones. These were scattered about mostly on the southern slope, increasing in number toward Cemetery Hill.

The dwellings and store rooms of the early settlers consisted of log cabins, located east of the spring, on the McIntosh Trace, a public highway leading from McIntosh Ferry, on the Chattahoochee River, to Kymulga Ferry, on the Coosa.

By the treaty of Fort Jackson (August 9, 1814) all the Creek territory—except that lying between the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers, embracing Talladega County (or, rather, that portion south of Coosa River, and north of a straight line drawn from Wetumpka eastward), was ceded to the United States. The Creeks were confined to these bounds in order to secure them against the intrigues of the British and Spanish, and to separate them from the Seminoles. To each head of a family was apportioned 320 acres, and to each chief a section. These lands were afterward

bought in by the Government, and in 1834 were surveyed and offered for sale (July 12).

At an election held the same year, Talladega was chosen county seat of Talladega County, over Mardisville, or Jumper's Spring, and Middleton, a hamlet at the ford where the Anniston & Atlantic railroad bridge spans Talladega Creek. The Presbyterian and Methodist Churches were established toward the close of that year, and in the spring of 1835, the Good Hope, since named the Talladega Baptist Church, was founded. The Episcopal Church did not obtain a firm footing until after the civil war.

In 1836, the Creeks, at the instance of Osceola, the Seminole Chief, again rose to arms, but their forces were meager and they were soon quelled. Peace was restored during the summer, and the remnant of this ill-starred people was removed to their reservation beyond the borders of Arkansas.

As foes, they were merciless to the utmost verge of cruelty, yet we can not dismiss them from this narrative without a tribute to their valor. Despite the military genius of Jackson, and the superiority of civilized over savage tactics, he would never go into battle against them without overwhelming odds in his favor. Whenever the numbers were with them, as at Burnt Corn and Fort Mims, they invariably came off conquerors, and then, woe to the conquered!

They were taller than the Americans, and straight as their own arrows. Most of their braves were above six feet in height, but their women were small, yet very pretty and exquisitely formed. They were exceedingly graceful in gesticulation and movement, and some of their chiefs possessed an eloquence unexcelled by the orators of civilized nations. History records no finer illustration of the typical Indian warrior, now a thing of the past, than the Muscogee brave.

The city of Talladega is at the gathering and radiating point of Talladega County, on a series of sloping hills, which sweep in successive tiers or benches from the heights north of town to the mountains south and east. The crests or which it is built and the green clad hills on either side add to its salubrity, and heighten the charms of its appearance.

Mineral waters of various descriptions are plentiful and easily accessible. Chandler and Talladega Springs, watering places of celebrity, are within the confines of the county. At Shocco, two miles from town, are chalybeate, sulphur and

freestone springs. The city itself is noted as a health resort, and visitors are flocking hither more and more every summer to get the benefit of the pure air that comes down from the mountains, and of the superb scenery around.

The area of Talladega is two by two miles at the maximum length and breadth, but until the past year the corporate lines were so circumscribed within these limits that the town was almost out of town; hence the census was given, and stands on the statistics, at about one-half the real population. The estimate at present is 3,800.

There are some seventy-five business firms and establishments, including a wholesale grocery, a wholesale tobacco-house, three banks, three hotels, a first-class opera house, two livery and feed stables, three newspaper and printing offices, two land companies, two real estate agencies, an ice-factory, and the Eagle Works, comprising a flouring and grist mill, a steam ginnery, extensive planing-mills and cabinet shops, and an iron foundry. There are also six law firms and five physicians.

*Our Mountain Home*, a weekly newspaper, John C. Williams, editor, was established in 1867. *The Sun*, J. W. Huston, editor, is an enterprise of the current year. *The Talladega Reporter*, a weekly newspaper, T. J. Cross & Son, editors, was established in 1867. The Banking House of Isbell & Co., Captain R. H. Isbell, president, was founded by Major James Isbell in 1848. The Bank of Talladega, Captain T. S. Plowman, president, was founded by William H. Skaggs in 1886. The Citizens' Bank, William H. Skaggs, president, is just established.

There are two fire companies, splendid gas and water systems, reckoned among the best in the State, a military company (the Talladega Rifles), and five secret organizations, to-wit: Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Knights of the Golden Rule and Knights of Honor.

The nearest marble quarry is at Cragdale, four miles distant; the Waldo gold mines are six miles; the nearest furnace in blast is at Ironaton, eight miles; the city furnace sites are at the western corporate limits of Talladega, on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad. These furnaces are in active process of construction. The brick and tile works are at Lake View, close to the base of the heights that rise above North Talladega.

Two railways, the Anniston & Atlantic and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, intersect the



town, and a third, the Talladega & Coosa Valley, has its eastern terminus at this point. This line has only twenty-five miles of track, but is by no means the least important of the three, connecting, as it does, with the Georgia Pacific and East & West roads at Pell City, tapping the Coosa coal fields, and leading through diversified and attractive landscapes. Its trains run on the Anniston & Atlantic track for two miles, and thence switch off to their own line, which skirts the base of the Sleeping Giant, extends through the mountain pass at Renfro, and penetrates broad forests of long-leaf yellow pine, on its way to Pell City. The early trip over this road, through a section of the valley, and through the hills that border Coosa River, is delightful. The beams of the morning sun slanting through the aisles of pines, tinged with yellow the rich grasses and cryptogamic growth beneath, give additional beauty to a picture which has a peculiar charm, especially for those unused to such scenes.

In intelligence, the people of Talladega are superior to those of any city of the same size in Alabama, and perhaps in the South. The town has been entitled the "School of Alabama's Intellect," and the number of distinguished men she has sent forth to help shape the destinies of the State and Nation, seem to verify the saying. The scenic and atmospheric conditions, and the narrow limits of Attica were no more favorable for imparting brilliancy and intellectual vigor to the cultured Athenians than are the influences of Talladega Valley.

Among the noted men now dead who have made this city their home in the past, were: Felix G. McConnell, Franklin W. Bowden, Sr., Marcus H. Cruikshank, Paul Bradford, Alexander Bowie, A. J. Walker and William P. Chilton. The first four of these gifted men served with ability in the halls of Congress (Mr. Cruikshank in the Confederate Congress); the remaining three did honor to themselves and their State in the Judiciary Department of Alabama—Messrs. Chilton and Walker as Chief-Justices of the Supreme Bench, and Mr. Bowie as Chancellor of the Northern Division.

Of the eminent men yet living, who belonged to the same school, are Gen. John T. Morgan, one of the most illustrious members of the United States Senate; Hon. Alexander White, an effective orator, and author of the widely-known "Bonnie Blue Flag" speech; Hon. J. L. M. Curry, the

present United States Minister to Spain; Gen. C. M. Shelley, ex-Congressman from the Selma District; Judge Sam. F. Rice, formerly a Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court; Hon. George W. Stone, the Presiding Chief-Justice of that Court; Gov. Lewis E. Parsons, the Provisional Governor of Alabama and ex-United States Senator; Judge John T. Heflin, prominent in legal circles for his knowledge of jurisprudence; and Hon. John W. Bishop, a brilliant orator of this city.

This high order of intelligence demands and has brought about an elegant and dignified state of society. Every community in the county has one or more churches, and there are one or more good schools in each precinct. In the city are eight churches, four for the white and four for the colored people. For the white people are the Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Episcopal churches, whose pulpits are filled by able ministers; for the colored, the Congregational, Methodist and two Baptist churches.

Educational opportunities are ample, and the schools under excellent supervision. The Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Dumb and Academy for the Blind are located here. During the present city administration an admirable system of public schools has been introduced. Here is also situated the Synodical Female Institute. This seminary stands on an eminence shaded with beautiful oaks, north of the Presbyterian Church. Its location is healthy and delightful. The building is a substantial brick structure, with a colonnade of heavy Doric columns in front. The collegiate department of the school comprises the four conventional classes, from freshman to senior. There is, moreover, a post-graduate course, which is not obligatory, but left to the will of the pupil or patron, and intended for those wishing to prepare themselves for special callings.

On the brow of a hill in North Talladega, and overlooking that part of town beyond the East Tennessee Railroad, is the city school, a commodious and handsome building after the modern style of architecture. This seat of learning is furnished with the latest appointments, apparatuses, maps and charts; is well managed, has a fine corps of teachers, and its methods are formulated from the most approved systems. Its curriculum embraces nine grades, and two hundred students are on the rolls. It is controlled by the city council, and has Mayor Skaggs for its president. A prosperous public school for the colored people has

been established on the same basis, and is also controlled by the city council.

The view from the observatory of the public school is most enchanting. Subjaacent, to the south, is the main portion of Talladega. Over the roofs of the houses are seen the Appalachian foot-hills, beginning at Cragdale Heights, and spreading out for miles beyond, while still farther off is the majestic purple of the Blue Ridge, looking just as grand and tranquil in the distance as the Catskills. Due west is the Sleeping Giant, northeast is Mount Parnassus, north, and inclining southwesterly, is the connecting ridge between Parnassus and the Sleeping Giant, and southwest are the Kahatchee Hills, miles away in the background; a beautiful vale in front, and rolling lands in the interval, traversed by Talladega and Wewoka Creeks, altogether constituting a panorama which seems to belong rather to fairyland than the realm of reality. Slightly tinged with azure, and invested with the rich verdure of the South, these scenes are such as the most skillful artist can not adequately depict.

This brings us to those two noble schools, the Alabama Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Academy for the Blind, at the mention of which every Alabamian should feel a glow of honest pride. These deserve a more extended sketch than the compass of this chapter will admit.

Since October, 1858, a school for the deaf and dumb has been located in Talladega, and during that time, with the exception of one year, has been conducted by Dr. Jo. H. Johnson, the present principal, with extraordinary fidelity and success. Prior to 1858, one or two fruitless attempts were made to establish an institution of this nature in Alabama, and in February of that year communication was opened with Dr. Johnson, then of Cave Springs, Ga., by Governor A. B. Moore and Gen. William F. Perry, our first State Superintendent of Education. The latter once lived in this city. His sympathies and conspicuous talents were enlisted in the cause, and to him is, in a great measure, due the rise of deaf-mute education in Alabama.

In this correspondence it was determined to open a seminary for deaf-mutes in the town of Auburn, the ensuing April; but, on inspection, the building engaged proved entirely unsatisfactory, and this, together with other circumstances—chiefly the resignation of General Perry—delayed

the undertaking until the 1st of October. On that day school was opened by Dr. Johnson in the spacious building still used for the purpose, and was conducted as a private work, or rather a work of private benevolence, for the income was very inadequate, until February 4, 1860. The rooms were furnished, and a large cistern—the first in the county, and still in use—was built at the principal's expense. William S. Johnson was the first student enrolled. Mr. Johnson afterward graduated at the National College for Deaf-Mutes, in Washington, and is now a professor in the Alabama institution.

By an Act of the Legislature 1859-'60 to establish "the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Dumb," a board of commissioners was appointed to locate the site and take necessary steps for the perpetuation of the school. The Commissioners were: Gen. Jacob T. Bradford, Dr. William Taylor, Marcus H. Cruikshank, Esq., G. B. DuVal, Esq., and Gen. James B. Martin. Dr. William Taylor alone survives, and is president of the existing board. They at once entered into negotiations for the purchase of the property, at that time known as the Masonic Female Institute, and rented and used by Dr. Johnson, for a deaf-mute school.

A purchase was soon effected for sixteen thousand dollars. The sum was paid over to Gen. John T. Morgan (now United States Senator), as attorney for the judgment-creditors, and this elegant property passed into the hands of the State, dedicated to one of the noblest objects that can engage the benevolence of man.

The buildings crown a slight eminence in East Talladega, "opened," says the Principal in his first report, "to every refreshing and purifying breeze, and commanding a most extensive, varied and animated prospect." The main structure is one of the most classical and substantial looking pieces of architecture in the State, albeit some others have cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. It is built of dark-colored, pressed brick, consists of four stories, and is after the Corinthian style, with a row of massive and beautiful columns in front. Within the same inclosure are two other four-story brick buildings, which would be ornaments to any city. A brick hospital, a much-needed convenience, has just been added. The grounds are spacious, and delightfully laid off and beautified with an elegance that would have charmed Shenstone.

No one better understands the influence of local

surroundings on the physical and intellectual faculties than the instructor of this class of unfortunates. In the report just quoted from we find the following thought, bearing directly on this subject: "Whatever captivates the eye, if properly directed, necessarily enlarges knowledge, elevates character, and gives the mind resources within itself, which are peculiarly valuable to those whom calamity deprives of a full share of that mental occupation derived from social intercourse."

With this in view, the large lawn in front was set with elms, maples, and oaks, and the grounds were sowed with perennial grasses in 1861. The site of the lawn is now occupied by a superb grove of beautiful trees, whose branches meet above a rich carpet of grass. A plot east of the main building is adorned with shrubbery and bright colored flowers, and near the front steps is a basin designed for a fountain and a fountain jet.

In 1862, Dr. Johnson being absent in the service of the Confederate States, Professor Fannin, of Georgia, acted as principal of the institute. From the records we find that he discharged the duties of that responsible position in a satisfactory manner. In 1866 the blind department was added, and the school assumed a dual character, under the name of the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

By an Act of the last General Assembly the sum of \$20,000 was appropriated for the erection of an academy for the blind. The building is receiving its finishing touches, and stands on a commanding hill outside the eastern limits of the city. Its design is very attractive, and, when completed, the structure will be one of the handsomest and best equipped for school purposes in Alabama.

The mode of instruction in the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institute is the combined method—signs, the manual alphabet and oral speech are all used as seems best in each special case. The buildings are all lighted with gas, and the whole premises supplied with water by the water-works. All deaf-mute and blind children, so deaf or blind that they can not be taught at the common schools, are entitled to admission free of cost, save for clothing and traveling expenses. The pupils are kindly treated and faithfully taught. So admirable has been the management of the institution as to attract the attention of foreign Governments. Only last year the Court of Spain wrote to Dr. Johnson, inquiring into his plan of instruction, with a view to improving their own methods.

Very curious is this in light of the fact that Peter Ponce, a Spaniard who lived before Alabama was discovered, was the first instructor of deaf-mutes of whom we have any knowledge, and that John Paul Bonet, also a Spaniard, was the first to write a treatise on the subject.

Scarcely inferior in appearance to the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institute is Talladega College, for colored people, with its cluster of buildings on the brow of a hill west of town. The water tower is a conspicuous object from almost any part of the city, and the court-house, the several churches, and the Eagle Works are model structures. Talladega is also noted for the beauty of many of her private residences. Inviting shade trees and tasty flower yards appear on all sides. Lit up and silvered by the full moon of a June evening, the scene can not be excelled, even in Andalusia. The most fragrant flowers are there in bloom, and the mockingbird sings all night long.

The city authorities, with William H. Skaggs as Mayor, are men of energy and talent. Under their administration Talladega has put on new life, and is making progress unprecedented in her history. Her industrial forces are thoroughly vitalized, and the immense wealth immediately around her, sooner or later to be developed and turned into the channels of commerce, assures her a brilliant future.



**REV. GEORGE AUGUSTUS LOFTON, D.D.**, distinguished Minister of the Baptist Church at Talladega, was born in Pontotoc County, Miss., December 25, 1839, and is a son of James B. and Olivia Ann (Settle) Lofton, natives of Edgefield District, S. C. He was educated at the common schools of Mississippi, at Starsville, Fayetteville, and Monticello, Ga., and was attending Mercer University at the outbreak of the late war. In June, 1861, he joined the "Gate City" Guards at Atlanta, and, as a member of the First Georgia Volunteers, participated in the battle of Cheat Mountain. In November following he was discharged on account of ill health, and in the spring of 1862 joined the Ninth Georgia Battalion of Artillery, of which he was at once elected adjutant. He served in Kentucky with Humphrey Marshall, in the fall of 1862, in Virginia the winter of 1862-63, and in the spring of the latter

year was stationed at Knoxville, Tenn. He took part in the battle of Chickamauga and in the Chattanooga campaign. At Chattanooga he resigned as adjutant, and was made General Buckner's aid to chief of staff; in November, 1863, he took command of Battery A, Ninth Battalion, and joined General Longstreet in the battles of Campbell's Station and Knoxville. At the latter place he took a conspicuous part, and was complimented by General Longstreet. In the Lynchburg campaign he was presented with a captured battery, and in the latter part of 1864 rendered distinguished service in the Shenandoah Valley. He was next transferred to Richmond, and on the James River and at Drury's Bluff commanded, with commendable skill, two batteries. From November, 1864, to the retreat from Richmond he was actively engaged, and he surrendered at Appomattox with General Lee.

After the war Colonel Lofton taught school in Webster County, Ga., until 1867, at which time, having studied law, he was admitted to the bar at Weston, that State, and entered upon the practice at Americus. In 1858, at the time of his conversion to religion, he was impressed with the idea of entering the ministry. This impression having remained with him, he was, in the fall of 1867, licensed as a Baptist minister. His first ministerial work was near Americus; and, in the beginning of 1868, he was called to Antioch, Lee County, Ga., and ordained regularly to the ministry. He was, directly, called to Shiloh, that State, and he preached at various places until 1869. Under his ministrations the little churches at Shiloh, Sharon and Smithville were materially benefited and their small congregations much increased. In 1870 he was called to Dalton, where he founded the Crawford High School, which was subsequently changed to the "Joseph E. Brown Institute." His next call was in July, 1872, to the First Baptist Church at Memphis, to which he added 300 members. He remained there through the yellow-fever epidemic of 1873. In 1876, he canvassed Tennessee in the interest of the Centennial Endowment for the Southern Baptist University, which, largely through his influence, was moved from Murfreesboro to Jackson.

In January 1877, Dr. Lofton accepted a call to the Third Baptist Church at St. Louis, where his efforts were happily rewarded, having added during his stay about 500 new members. In No-

vember, 1881, having become prostrated from much work, he resigned, and some time afterward returned to Georgia; and in January, 1884, again took charge of the church at Dalton. He came to Talladega in October, 1886, and here his efforts in the cause of Christ have been highly satisfactory to himself and his people.

Dr. Lofton takes an active interest in public matters generally, and particularly in the causes of education and temperance. He was one of the prime movers in transferring Howard College from Marion to Birmingham. He devotes much of his time to literature, and is one of the most forcible lecturers and writers upon religious topics in the South. He was married, March 29, 1864, to Miss Ella E. Martin, of Atlanta, Ga.



**JOHN MARTIN PHILIP OTTS, D.D.**, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Talladega, was born in Union District, S. C., in 1838. He graduated at Davidson College, North Carolina, in 1859, and from the Theological Seminary, in Columbia, S. C., in 1862. He was pastor of the Presbyterian Church, at Greensboro, Ala., from 1862 to 1867; of the First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, Tenn., from 1867 to 1873; of the West Presbyterian Church at Wilmington, Del., from 1873 to 1877; of the Chambers Memorial Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, from 1877 to 1884, and has since then been in charge of the Presbyterian Church at Talladega.

He is a writer of ability, and has been from his college days a frequent contributor to magazines and reviews. He has published the "Southern Pew and Pulpit," "Nicomemus with Jesus," "Lacónisms on Timely Topics," "The Gospel of Honesty and Essays on the Beautiful," "Our Educational Policy," "Lay Evangelism," "The Huguenots," etc.

He took and successfully held in the General Assembly at St. Louis in 1887, the position as leader of the movement toward the re-union of the Southern with the Northern Presbyterian Church.

His father, Prof. Robert G. Otts, was a school teacher in South Carolina. His grandparents were born in South Carolina, and on the paternal side were of German descent, and on the maternal side of Scotch-Irish extraction. His mother's

maiden name was Becknell. Her father was an Englishman, and her mother was of a mixed descent of Scotch-Irish and Huguenot blood. Dr. Otts was married the 31st of December, 1863, to Lelia J. McCrary, the only child of Col. D. E. McCrary, of Greensboro, Ala., and has had born to him nine children (all sons), of whom eight are living: Robert F., John M. P., Lucius M., Paul B. (deceased), Mark C., James W., Earnest V., Octavius M. and Louis E.



**JAMES ISBELL** was born in Wilkes County, N. C., in October, 1806. He was the youngest son in a family of eight children, and, as the name indicates, was descended from French ancestors. His father was a man of comfortable circumstances, and gave to the son such educational advantages as the schools of the county afforded. When he was twenty-five years of age, having located in Lowndesborough, Ala., he embarked in mercantile business with limited means. In the spring of 1836 he moved to Talladega where he resided until his death, December 6, 1871. For many years he made but little progress in his mercantile career, other than the establishment of a reputation for punctuality and integrity in all his dealings. These traits, however, furnish the key to the success which afterward attended his labors. Until the period of middle life he was actively engaged in merchandising, gradually restricting this pursuit to moneyed matters or transactions, and laying what proved to be the foundation of the banking house of James Isbell, afterward Isbell & Son. Later on in life he established the City National Bank of Selma, and of this he was president at the time of his death.

In 1846 Mr. Isbell made a public profession of his faith, and joined the Presbyterian Church. From that time on to the day of his death he never forgot that he was a professor of religion, and during the later years of his life he dwelt much upon the subject. Commenting upon his death the *Talladega News* said: "A great man has well said that 'success is the rule by which men must be tried.' Tried by this rule, Major Isbell will stand the test. He grew to wealth in our midst, but not in disregard of a good name. He maintained for himself the bearing and position of a real gentleman; honest in his dealings with men, and upright in the vast business life which occu-

pled so much of his time. His life had an object in view, and his energies were spent in attaining that object. The object was the honest accumulation of a fortune which should be useful to himself and others, useful to business and morals, useful to society and religion. His life was a success in that it attained that object. His natural politeness, general kindness, and unobtrusive suavity of manner, with his almost uniform habit of not speaking of a man at all, unless he could mention him kindly, were features in his character worthy of praise and imitation."

When Alabama passed the Ordinance of Secession, and by the terms of the Sequestration Act, creditors who owed Northern debts were required to pay them to the newly-established Government, Major Isbell owed several large debts to Northern creditors, which he paid over to the Government, as required. After the surrender some of his creditors offered to share the losses with him, and accept a portion of the amount in settlement. He promptly declined the offer, and paid the debts dollar for dollar.

Toward young men of steady habits he was always ready to lend a helping hand and give an encouraging word. As a master, he was kind, considerate and humane. As a citizen, he enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community.



**REV. WILLIAM MABRY**, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was born in Cleveland County, N. C., May 2, 1837, and is the son of Dr. William H. and Margaret (Barr) Mabry, also natives of North Carolina.

Dr. W. H. Mabry was born in Lincoln County, N. C., September 4, 1800; was early in life identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for eight years was a member of the South Carolina Conference. He afterward studied medicine, and adopted that as a profession. His father, Thomas Mabry, was born in London, England, and came to the United States with his father when about twelve years of age. The elder Mabry, who came to this country to superintend the construction of the Stroup Iron Works, served a short time in the Colonial Army in the Revolutionary War.

The subject of this sketch came to Talladega County in 1855, here taught school some time, and later on engaged in the drug business. He

afterward studied medicine, but he does not appear to have given that any particular attention. He first joined the Alabama Conference in 1859, and his first charge was at Blue Springs. He spent five years on circuits, and was presiding elder seven years. He has been stationed variously at Meridian, Miss., Tascaloosa, Decatur, Athens, Gad-den, Oxford, and Talladega, this State. He joined the North Alabama Conference in 1870. October 23, 1863, he married Miss Sarah R. DeGraffenreid, and has had born to him seven children: Mary E., William E. H., Sarah L., Annie S., Nannie B., John Maury and Thomas A.

Mr. Mabry is prominently identified with the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities.



**GEORGE KNOX MILLER.** Judge of Probate, Talladega County, was born at the town of Talladega, December 30, 1836, and is a son of George and Cynthia (Hamilton) Miller. His parents moved to Memphis, Tenn., when he was quite young, and there he learned the painter's trade. In 1857, he returned to Talladega, where he attended the Male High School one year, and from there entered the University of Virginia. From this institution he was graduated in the Classical Course in 1860, and he was in the Law Department of the University at the outbreak of the late war. Returning immediately to Alabama, he enlisted, June, 1861, as a private in the Eighth Confederate Cavalry, and remained in the service until the close of the war. From a private he was promoted in regular order to the captaincy of his company, and from first to last he participated in most of the battles of the Army of Tennessee. Near Shelbyville, Tenn., in January, 1863, he fell into the hands of the enemy, and was a prisoner about three months. This period constitutes the sum of his absence from actual duty during the whole time of his connection with the army.

After the final surrender, Captain Miller remained in South Carolina until 1866, in May of which year he came to Talladega, and entered regularly upon the study of law. He was appointed Register in Chancery in September, 1868, and held that office until January 30, 1884. He was Mayor of Talladega, continuously, with the exception of one year, from April, 1874, to Jan-

uary, 1884. In the latter year he was appointed Probate Judge to fill out an unexpired term, and in 1886, he was elected to that office without opposition.

Judge Miller is secretary of the Talladega Real Estate and Loan Association, and is more or less interested in various popular enterprises of this city. He was married, December 31, 1863, to Miss Celestine McCann, and has had born to him five children: Rosa, Jessie, Hampton K., Celestine and Zemina.

George Miller, the father of Judge Miller, was born in Charleston, S. C., in March, 1802. He came to Talladega in 1834, and moved to Tennessee in 1844. In 1849, he moved to Arkansas, and in 1856, returned to South Carolina, and from there came again to Talladega, where he died August 23, 1873. His wife died in Memphis in June, 1846. His father was John Miller, a native of England, who came to the United States about 1798. Having been accused of publishing the famous Junius letters, he was driven from England into France, coming thence, in a short time, to America. He was connected with Woodfall in the publication of the *London Post*. He settled in South Carolina, and established the *Pendleton Messenger*, a paper he conducted during the rest of his life.

Cynthia (Hamilton) Miller was a daughter of Thomas Hamilton, a soldier under General Marion, in the Revolution, and whose ancestors came from Scotland.



**CECIL BROWNE.** prominent Attorney and Counsellor-at-law, Talladega, was born in Shelby County, this State, January 27, 1855, and is the son of Hon. William P. and Margaret (Stevens) Browne. He received his education at the common schools in Alabama and at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn. He removed to Talladega in 1877, and was admitted to the bar in 1878, and has since given the practice of law his entire attention. He was elected to the Legislature, session of 1882 and 1883, and to the State Senate in 1886. In both houses he took prominent parts, being chairman of Committee on Revision of the Laws in the Senate. He married Miss Sallie B. Mosley, daughter of Dr. R. A. Mosley, Sr. She died May 14, 1887, leaving one child.

Hon. William P. Browne, father of the subject

of this sketch, was born in Vermont, in 1804. He was a lawyer by profession, came South in 1822, and settled in New Orleans, where he was variously interested in real estate, speculation, etc. He located in Mobile in 1836, and was in the Legislature from that place while the State capital was at Tuscaloosa. About 1850 he located in Shelby County, where he opened and developed the Montevallo coal fields. He was colonel of an Alabama regiment in the Mexican War. His death occurred in 1868. His father, Phineas Browne, was born in 1747, at Waltham, Mass., and subsequently moved to Vergennes, Vt. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and served several terms as representative in the Legislature of Vermont. He was twice married. The second time to a descendant of Gov. William Bradford. His father, Capt. John Browne, of Waltham, Mass., was born in 1705, and his grandfather, Abraham Browne, was born at Watertown, in that State, in 1671. Jonathan Browne, father of Abraham Browne, was born at Watertown, Mass., in 1635.

His father, also named Abraham Browne, came from Hawkedon, Suffolk County, England, and was one of the first settlers in Watertown, and a prominent citizen of that place. The Brownes held important positions in England, and many of them have occupied honorable positions in this country for the past two hundred and fifty years.



**HENRY S. DeFORREST**, President of Talladega College, was born in Oswego County, N. Y., March 17, 1833, and is a son of Lee and Cynthia (Swift) DeForrest, natives of New York and Connecticut, respectively.

Lee DeForrest was a son of Gideon, who was a native of Stratford, Conn., and a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He moved to Oswego County in 1815, and there married Hannah Byrdseye. He reared a family of five sons and three daughters, all of whom lived to a ripe old age, the youngest to die having reached the age of seventy-eight years. The DeForrests were Huguenots, and came from France to this country in the first half of the seventeenth century.

Isaac DeForrest, a French Huguenot, sailed from Holland to New Amsterdam in October, 1636. He reared a family of fourteen children, and from

them have sprung all the DeForrests of the United States.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Oswego County, and was graduated from Yale College with distinguished honors in the class of 1857. While in college he studied theology, which he afterward pursued in the University of New York City. He left the position of tutor in Yale to become for two-and-one-half years chaplain of the Eleventh Connecticut Regiment in the late war. After the war he was for some years a minister of the Gospel, and presided over congregations at Des Moines and Council Bluffs, Iowa, altogether for the period of fourteen years. He came to Talladega in 1879, and took charge of the Talladega College. He was married August 25, 1869, to Miss Anna Robbins, daughter of the Rev. Dr. A. B. Robbins, of Muscatine, Iowa, and has had born to him three children: Mary, Lee and Charles M.



**WILLIAM TAYLOR, M. D.**, son of John K. and Jane W. (Caldwell) Taylor, was born August 18, 1826, in Sumner County, Tenn.

The senior Mr. Taylor was a native of England; came to the United States when quite young; spent some years in Pennsylvania and Ohio; located in Tennessee in 1821, and in 1839 settled in Talladega County, Ala., where he was engaged in agriculture and milling. He died in April, 1877.

Dr. William Taylor attended in his youth such schools as his neighborhood afforded, which were meagre. However, he made good use of his limited opportunities, and entered the Medical Department of the University of Kentucky, at Louisville, from which institution he was graduated in 1848. Previous to his entering the medical college, he studied medicine with Dr. Henry McKenzie, of Talladega. He began the practice of his profession in 1848, in the State of Louisiana, where he practiced one year. In 1850, he went to California, remained one year there and returned to Talladega, where he was actively engaged in the practice until 1861. He entered the Confederate Army, and was appointed surgeon of the Seventh Alabama Regiment remaining with the command until it disbanded, in April, 1862. He was then assigned, as surgeon, to the Tenth Alabama (in the Army of Northern Virginia), was made senior surgeon of Wilcox's Brigade, and subsequently pro-

moted to chief surgeon of division, which position he held until the close of the war.

For a number of years Dr. Taylor was a member of the Alabama State Medical Association, participating in its deliberations and contributing papers to its published proceedings. As the chosen orator to appear before the annual meeting of the association at Mobile, in January, 1855, he selected as his subject, "The Eligibility of Mobile as a Site for a School of Medicine." The oration proved the inspiration which founded the medical school at Mobile, and under the wise and judicious management of Drs. Nott, Ketchum, Anderson, and other prominent physicians of that city, the Mobile Medical College was speedily organized and put in operation.

During the stormy political period from 1858 to 1861, Dr. Taylor edited the *Watchtower*, at Talladega. He warmly espoused and advocated the doctrines of the States'-rights wing of the Democratic party which culminated in secession. For a brief period after the war he was connected with the management of the *Daily Messenger*, of Selma.

After the war he returned to Talladega, where he still resides. Owing to failing health after his return he retired from the active practice of his profession and has since devoted his time to agriculture and milling at Cragdale, near the town of Talladega.

Dr. Taylor was one of incorporators of the Talladega Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and has been a member of the Board of Management since its organization. He was elected to the Legislature in 1876, and re-elected in 1880.

The Doctor was married in January, 1855, to Mary F., daughter of Allen and Annie (Blair) Elston. She died in May, 1857, leaving one child, William E.

The present Mrs. Taylor, to whom the Doctor was married in Calhoun County, this State, in December, 1871, is a daughter of Ross and Elizabeth (Boyd) Green. To this union three children have been born: John R., Joseph J. and Mary E.

**JOSEPH H. JOHNSON, M. D.**, was born in Madison County, Ga., in 1832, and came with his father, Seaborn J. Johnson, to Floyd County, that State, in 1834. He was reared on a farm, and at the early age of seventeen began teaching

in the Georgia Institute for the Deaf, and at the same time prosecuting the study of medicine. He attended lectures in Charleston, S. C., in 1853 and 1854, and was graduated from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1856. He continued to teach in the Institute for the Deaf until 1858, at which time he was elected Principal of the Georgia Institute for the Deaf, a position he declined. In September, 1858, he came to Talladega, under a contract with Gov. Andrew B. Moore and State Superintendent W. F. Perry, to undertake the founding of a State School for the Deaf. Here his life has been spent. The institution which has grown up under his management, and the Alabama Academy for the Blind just now completed, stand as monuments to his life work. He is the principal of the latter school also.

Dr. Johnson is an ardent Mason. He was the first master of Talladega Lodge, No. 261, and is the only person who has ever been elected to preside over all of the Grand Masonic Bodies in Alabama.

He is a member of the Methodist Church; is still in the prime of life, and actively engaged in his official capacity. He finds time to devote to the raising of thoroughbred Jerseys, in which business he is the pioneer in this section of the State.



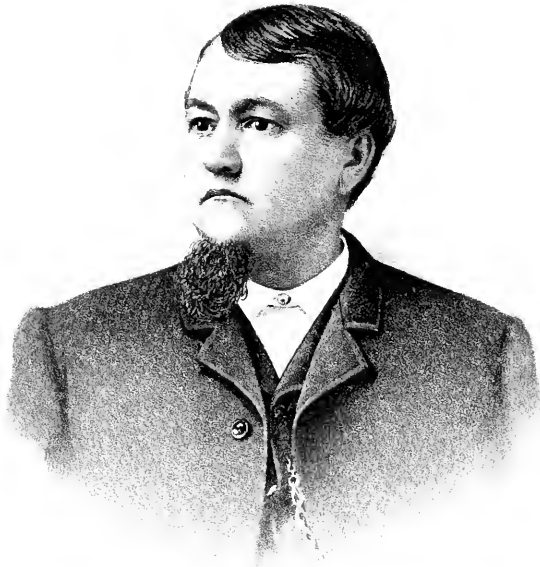
**HARRY R. BOSWELL, M. D.**, is a native of Talladega County, son of John W. and Damaris (Cox) Boswell, and was born in December, 1849. In 1871 he began the study of medicine at Talladega, and in 1874 was graduated from the Louisville Medical College as M. D. In the autumn of 1876 he returned to Talladega, entered at once upon the practice of his profession, in which he rapidly rose to high rank, and has here continuously, since that time, devoted himself thereto. He is the Secretary of the County Medical Society, a member of the State Medical Association, and was a delegate to the National Medical Convention in 1887.

Dr. Boswell married Miss Celia Parsons, the accomplished daughter of ex-Gov. Lewis E. Parsons, and their only child, a daughter, is named for its mother.

John W. Boswell, Dr. Boswell's father, was born in Jasper County, Ga., in 1826; and his wife

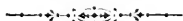






*D. W. Rogers.*

was born in Lee County, in that State, in 1830. Mr. Boswell, a planter by occupation, located in Talladega County in 1850, and here spent the rest of his life, dying in 1881. His father, Harry Boswell, was a native of Maryland, from which State he migrated to Georgia in an early day, and there married Eliza Roby. The Boswells came originally from England.



**PAUL GIST, M.D.**, is a native of Sevier County, Tennessee, and was born December 10, 1837. He was educated at the common schools and at Barrett College, Spencer, that State. At the age of sixteen years, he began the study of medicine at Knoxville, and in the winter of 1858-9, attended lectures at Nashville. In 1866 he entered the Atlanta Medical College and was soon thereafter graduated. He at once located at Talladega, entered upon a successful practice, and soon rose to an eminent position in the profession. He is a member of the Talladega Medical Society, and secretary of the Board of Censors.

Doctor Gist was married September 4, 1860, to Miss Sallie J. McNally, daughter of James and Elizabeth (Henderson) McNally, natives of Tennessee, and the three children born to this union and now living, are Willie S., Fannie and Paul M. The Doctor and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and he is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities.

Lieut. S. C. Gist and Angloria Frances (Porter) Gist, the parents of the subject of this sketch, were native of Sevier County, Tenn. Lieutenant Gist was educated at Annapolis; served twenty-one years in the United States Navy and died of yellow fever at Vera Cruz, Mexico, in 1847. At the time of his death he held the rank of Commander. His father, Mordecai Gist, was one of the first settlers of Tennessee, and was military governor of the Territory, preceding Governor Sevier.



**JOHN HARRINGTON VANDIVER, M.D.**, is a descendant of John Vandiver, a Pennsylvania planter, who migrated to South Carolina prior to the American Revolution, and there married into the Cannon family, of Carolina, one of the largest

and staunchest families of that State. The ancestors of both families were of Welch descent.

*Welch*

John Harrington Vandiver, M.D., was born in Spartanburg District, S. C., January 17, 1815. He was reared on a farm, received a common-school education, and, when nearing manhood, began the study of medicine in the city of Spartanburg, S. C.

In 1844 he was selected by the Electoral College of South Carolina as the messenger to carry the presidential vote of that State to Washington, and immediately thereafter he entered Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, from which institution he graduated in March, 1845.

In the autumn of that year he located in Calhoun County, Ala., where he practiced his profession twelve years, removing to the city of Talladega in 1857.

In 1847 he was married to Mary Eliza Emma McAfee, daughter of Hon. Green Taliaferro McAfee, the first County Judge of Talladega County, and one of the earliest and most prominent settlers in this city.

In 1858, in addition to his professional duties, Dr. Vandiver engaged in the drug business at Talladega, which he has continued uninterruptedly for thirty years.

He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a Royal Arch Mason of forty years standing, and a conservative man in all things.



**D. W. ROGERS**, President of the Talladega & Coosa Valley (Narrow Gauge) Railroad, was born October 4, 1815, at Calhoun's Mills, in Abbeville County, S. C., and is a son of Theophilus A. and Ann Eliza (Brown) Rogers, natives, respectively, of South Carolina and Georgia.

The senior Mr. Rogers was a merchant in Abbeville County for many years, and he died in April, 1883.

The subject of this sketch, D. W. Rogers, attended the common schools of his native county from the age of ten up to seventeen years, and in 1833 he entered the Confederate Army as a private in Company A (Capt. Benj. F. Johnson), Twenty-seventh Georgia Battalion, and remained in active service until his surrender at Greensboro, N. C. After the war he returned penniless to his old home in South Carolina, and for two years was

engaged in the merchant milling business with his father. Subsequently he went to Bartow County, Ga., where he was similarly engaged, in addition to farming, until 1870. In that year, he and his brother, D. M. Rogers, engaged in the saw-mill and lumber business near Taylorsville, Ga.; and in 1883 they projected and built the Etowah & Deatons Railroad, from Deatons Station on the East & West Railroad to Seney on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia. They built this road for their own use in the transportation of lumber.

In 1883 they moved their entire plant from the State of Georgia to Talladega County, and after rebuilding a much larger plant, and putting in improved machinery for handling the product of their mills, they named the place Renfroe. After the saw-mills were completed, they began building the railroad from Talladega to a connection with the Georgia Pacific and the East & West Railroads. This undertaking was completed in September, 1887, to a point known as Pell City, a junction of of the three roads, twenty-six miles distant from Talladega. The company controlled by Messrs. Rogers employ, in the aggregate, in their mills and railroad, about 150 men.

Through the enterprise, energy and business tact of these gentlemen, this county is being rapidly built up and developed in the vicinity of their railroad in a way that is astonishing, and the estimation in which they are held in the county is certainly to be envied.

The Rogers Bros. are regarded as business men of the highest standard, and it may be safely predicted that with a few such enterprising, wide awake, public-spirited men as they are, this county will rapidly come to the front in the race for popular favor.

D. W. Rogers was married in November, 1876, to Miss Laura A. Martin, niece of Judge G. M. Stokes, of Lee County, Ga., and to this union has been born one child, Edward A.

Mr. Rogers is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and has for many years taken an active part in Sabbath-school work.

**ROBERT H. ISBELL**, President of the Talladega Real Estate and Loan Association, is a son of the late Major James Isbell, and was born at this

place. He received his primary education at the schools of Talladega; was graduated from the Kentucky Military Institute in 1857, and from the Law Department of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., in 1859. He began the practice of law at Talladega, and on March 1, 1861, entered the army as captain of Company D, First Alabama. At Port Hudson he fell into the hands of the enemy and was sent to Johnson's Island, and from there, in April, 1865, to Fort Delaware, where he was detained to the close of the war. Returning to his native place he engaged in banking business in partnership with his father, the style of the firm being Isbell & Son. In 1871, this bank was changed to the banking house of Isbell & Co.

Captain Isbell is connected with the City National Bank; is a director in the Anniston & Atlantic Railway Co., and is treasurer of the Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroad Co. In addition to these enterprises he has other important interests in North Alabama, and is Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the I. O. O. F. for the State.



**CHARLES CARSON WHITSON**, Attorney-at-law, Talladega, son of Joseph McD. and Rachael R. (Carson) Whitson, was born at this place November, 1862. He received his primary education at the schools of Talladega, and at the age of nineteen years, in the office of Governor Parsons, began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar October 26, 1884, and entered at once upon the practice. In March, 1885, he formed a partnership with John W. Bishop, and the firm of Bishop & Whitson is one of the most popular and successful in Eastern Alabama.

The senior Mr. Whitson was born in Buckingham County, N. C.; came to Talladega in 1852, and here died November 7, 1885, at the age of about sixty-six years. During the late war he was a member of the Tenth Alabama Regiment as a private soldier. He reared a family of two sons and two daughters. His father, Joseph Whitson, also a North Carolinian, was a planter by occupation, and his grandfather was one of the first settlers of Buckingham County. He was a native of Virginia, and was a soldier in the Colonial Army during the Revolutionary War. The Whitsons came originally from England. One of the ancestors of the subject



of this sketch married a Miss McDowell, the name whereof is retained yet in the family. The Carsons came from Ireland, and Samuel Carson, a relative of Mr. Whitson's, was a member of Congress from North Carolina. He fought a duel with Dr. Vance some years ago, while dueling was more popular than at present. He afterward moved to Texas, where he rendered the State much valuable service, and was rewarded therefor by the donation by the State of an immense tract of land.

**OTIS NICKLES**, one of the most talented and accomplished young men of Talladega, was born at Guntersville, this State, July 27, 1856, and is a son of Richmond and Sarah A. (Patton) Nickles. He was educated at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., and has given most of his life to literature. Since coming to this place he has been continuously identified with the local press, aside from which he is correspondent for several of the leading periodicals of the country. He is the author of the history of Talladega as found in this volume, and the publishers take pleasure in commending it to the general reader as one of the most interesting and instructive chapters in the book.

The senior Mr. Nickles is a native of Massachusetts, and came to Alabama about fifty years ago. He located first at Wetumpka, going thence to Guntersville where he was many years in mercantile business. Directly after the late war he came to Talladega. His wife is a native of Huntsville, this State. They reared a family of three children. Mr. Nickles is a highly esteemed citizen of Talladega.

**HUGH L. McELDERRY**, Attorney-at-law, Talladega, was born in this county June 29, 1859, and is the son of Thomas McElderry, of Leesburg, Va. He was graduated from Emory and Henry College, Virginia, and in 1878, returned to his native place and engaged in farming and mercantile business. Having studied law in the meantime, he was admitted to the bar, and has since devoted himself to the practice thereof. He was married January 5, 1887, to Miss Ruth Van Aunsdal, of Eaton, Ohio.

Mr. McElderry, though a young man, has for several years occupied an enviable position at the bar, and it is no flattery to bespeak for him a future successful career.

**WILLIAM HUGHSON BURR**, was born in Camden, S. C., May 27, 1837, and is a son of Aaron and Elizabeth R. (Hughson) Burr, natives, respectively, of Rhode Island and South Carolina. He was thirteen years of age when his father came to Alabama and located at Selma. His first employment was as a clerk in the store of P. J. Weaver, and he remained with Weaver six years. In 1856, in partnership with Mr. Savage, he engaged in business for himself.

The firm of Savage & Burr continued until 1859, at which time Mr. Burr moved to a plantation on the Coosa River, some eighteen miles southwest of Talladega. In the spring of 1861, associated with others, he raised a company of volunteers, of which he was made first lieutenant, and tendered its services to the State. Arriving at Selma *en route* to Montgomery, and finding his father upon his death bed, he was compelled to forego army service at that time. In the fall of that year, however, he again, with others, raised a company for the Thirtieth Alabama, and immediately after the organization of that regiment he was appointed adjutant. At the end of four months he was elected captain of Company H, and one year later he was promoted to major. On the field at Nashville he was promoted from major to colonel, and assigned to the First Alabama. Having been seriously wounded, however, he was unable to take command of the regiment.

While leading a charge at New Hope Church, Colonel Burr was pretty badly wounded. He was also wounded at the siege of Vicksburg and at the battle of Nashville. After the last-named engagement he never rejoined his regiment, though he was on his way to it when notified of the final surrender and the cessation of hostilities.

In the fall of 1865 he engaged in mercantile business at Talladega, and continued it until 1868. From that date to the present time he has been employed as a traveling salesman for various New York houses. It is proper to state, however, that since 1881 he has also carried on a general merchant business at Talladega, in addition to which

he has been variously interested in other important enterprises.

July 20, 1858, the Colonel was married to Miss Sarah C. Borden, of Greene County, Ala.; and has had born to him six children: Aarona A. (Mrs. James A. Blackburn), Zaidée L. (Mrs. S. H. Henderson), Esther, Wallace, Willie Milton, Lydia A. and Borden H.

Colonel Burr is a member of the Board of Directors of the Institutions for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind, and a trustee of the Synodical Institute. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight of Honor, and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Aaron Burr, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1804, and was twelve years of age when he moved from Providence, R. I., to Charleston, S. C. In Charleston he engaged in the shoe business, and in 1830 established a branch store at Camden, that State, and lived there until 1850. In that year he moved to Selma, and was there in business until his death, August 2, 1862. He reared a family of two sons and one daughter. The latter, Annie, became Mrs. Frazier, of Sumter District, S. C. Charles H., his second son, was a member of the Seventh Alabama Regiment during the late war, and was killed at Seven Pines, Va. He was only eighteen years old.

William Burr, Colonel Burr's father, was a native of Providence, R. I. Tracing the lineage of Mr. Burr we find the following as their family tree: Wm. Hingham Burr was born May 27, 1837, in Camden, S. C.; Aaron Burr, of Selma, Ala., was born in Providence, R. I.; William Burr was born in Providence, R. I., in 1768; Ezekiel Burr, of Providence, R. I., was born in Rehoboth, Mass., June 14, 1739; David Burr, of Rehoboth, was born in Hingham, Mass., February 28, 1703; Simon Burr was born in England, February 25, 1655; Rev. Jonathan Burr was born in Suffolk County, England, in 1604, migrated to America in 1639, signed the Presbyterian Covenant in December, 1639, died August 9, 1644.

Joseph Burr, the first of this family of whom we have any account, was born in Suffolk County, England, in 1579.

**D. MORGAN ROGERS.** General Manager of the Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroad, was born in January, 1850, in Abbeville District, S. C., at Calhoun's Mills, and is a son of Theophilus A. and

Annie E. (Brown) Rogers, natives, respectively, of South Carolina and Georgia.

Theophilus A. Rogers, many years a merchant in South Carolina, was a descendant of Huguenotish ancestry. Several years previous to his death, in 1881, he engaged at merchant milling, and D. Morgan Rogers, when the father had returned from the war, in which he had served four years with the Confederate Army, engaged with him in that business. This was at Calhoun's Mills, S. C., and at Stilesboro, Ga. Afterward, in connection with his brother, DeWitt Rogers, D. M. Rogers engaged in the lumber and saw-mill business near Stilesboro. They there did an extensive business for three years, and then moved to Floyd County, that State, where they remained until 1883.

These brothers were projectors and builders of the Etowah Railroad from Deaton's Station on the East & West Railroad to Seney on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia and the Talladega & Coosa Valley. The building of this latter road was originated by Mr. Rogers and was the means of facilitating their extensive lumber business in Alabama, besides developing a large section of the country and building up several prosperous towns, some of which have bright futures.

D. M. Rogers has been the general manager of this road from the time the scheme was originated until the present date. He is vice-president of the Pell City Land Company, a town that was organized by him at the junction of the Georgia Pacific, East & West, and Talladega & Coosa Valley Railroads.

Mr. Rogers is full of energy and vim. He is a shrewd financier, a cultured gentleman, and a valuable acquisition to any community. He was married in June, 1873, to Mary E., daughter of Dr. William and Rebecca (Harris) Ware, of Lee County, Ga., and has had born to him one child: Kittie A.

He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, F. & A. M., and the Knights of Pythias.

**JAMES C. KNOX, M.D.,** was born in Jackson County, Ga., March 28, 1812.

Dr. Knox stood in the front rank of those grand men who illustrated the early history of Talladega County; he adopted the medical profession as his vocation in life, graduating from Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky., in 1834. Endowed



*D. M. Rogers*





by nature with a strong and vigorous mind, energetic, painstaking and thorough, he soon rose to eminence, and for many years, and up to the time of his death, stood at the head of his profession, and was regarded as the foremost surgeon in Northeast Alabama.

He possessed all the elements of a surgeon in a marked degree. He was a thorough anatomist, well grounded in the principles of surgery, with mechanical skill to execute any work his ingenuity contrived, and nerve to perform the most important operation. There was nothing within the domain of surgery, sanctioned by sound sense and the leaders of the profession, which he hesitated to undertake, and with that measure of success, which would have made him world-famous, had he located in a large city where his abilities could have been properly appreciated.

But his success in his profession was, by no means, confined to the domain of surgery; he was a master of the science of medicine in all its branches kept abreast with its progress, and was, himself, bold and original in the treatment of disease in whatever form it appeared. His extensive practice was not confined to his immediate community, but extended through adjoining counties, and to other parts of the State. During the active portion of his life he was in the saddle almost constantly, requiring two horses to meet the strain of continuous service. Possessing fine business qualities, notwithstanding a large and expensive family, his wealth accumulated rapidly, and, but for the results of the war, would have made him a handsome fortune.

Dr. Knox was of exalted and commanding character, and no one could come into his presence without at once recognizing him as a man of ability and great reserve power. In personal appearance he presented a handsome and striking presence, being six feet in height; possessing an erect and well-proportioned figure, he spoke his character in his carriage and dignified bearing.

He early connected himself with the Presbyterian Church, in which organization he soon became a ruling elder, and during his long life was one of the leading members and mainstays of the church at Talladega. He was especially devoted to the educational interests of the church, and was one of the moving spirits in the establishment of the present Synodical Female Institute, finally succeeding, in connection with others, in

placing the school upon a permanent and prosperous basis.

Soon after coming to Talladega he married Mary J. Bowie, the accomplished daughter of Chancellor Alexander W. Bowie, who is well remembered by all who knew her as a gifted and beautiful woman. The fruit of this union was a large family of most interesting children. Doctor Knox died at his residence in Talladega, March 27, 1877. He was three times married. His second wife was Mary E. Barnett. He afterward married Mrs. Margaret E. Rice, *nee* Johnston, who survived him.

ALEXANDER B. KNOX was the eldest son of Dr. James C. Knox. He was warm-hearted, brave and generous, and yielded up his life a sacrifice upon the altar of his country in the battle of Corinth, Miss. He was born June 15, 1838, and died January 29, 1863.

SAMUEL L. KNOX, the second son of Dr. James C. Knox, was the pride of his father's heart. He was regarded by all who knew him, as the most promising young man in Talladega at the outbreak of the war. He was a classmate, fellow-graduate and most intimate friend of the poet, Sydney Lanier, who cherished for him the warmest affection, and whose estimate of his intellectual pre-eminence was of the most exalted character.

He graduated at Oglethorpe College, Georgia, sharing the first honors of his class with his intimate friend. After leaving college, he continued his studies under the direction of the Hon. J. L. M. Curry, his uncle by marriage, who took the greatest interest in stimulating his ambition and broadening his scope of usefulness. He had chosen the law for his vocation, but just before applying for admission to the bar he answered his country's call, and entered the Confederate Army as first sergeant of the Talladega Rifles, which composed a part of the First Alabama Regiment. He was soon promoted to a lieutenantcy, and, at the end of twelve months, on the re-organization of the regiment, he was elected major. He was afterward promoted for gallantry to lieutenant-colonel, and was killed leading a brigade storming the breastworks in front of Franklin, Tenn. In personal appearance, Colonel Knox was tall and finely proportioned, being about six feet one inch in height. He had a magnificent carriage, and such was the admiration and affection of his men for him, that he seldom rode in their front

without receiving cheers from the regiment. He was fluent and eloquent in debate, and, during his service in the army made many stirring speeches, stimulating and encouraging his troops. He was mortally wounded at Franklin, and died before his friends could reach him, at the early age of twenty-four. He was born at Talladega, March 29, 1840, and died in Franklin, Tenn., December 21, 1864.

JOHN B. KNOX, the youngest son of Dr. James C. Knox, was born February 16, 1857. He came to the bar upon reaching his majority and formed a partnership with the late Frank W. Bowden, who had been admitted several years before. Although not yet thirty-two years old he is regarded as the equal at the bar of any lawyer in the State. While of delicate physique he is a diligent student and most persistent worker. He is now located at Talladega, and is engaged in the active practice of his profession.

He is not only prominent as a lawyer, but stands high in the councils of the Democratic party, which will, no doubt, be ready to crown him at no distant day with its much coveted honors.

He married Miss Carrie McClure, the accomplished daughter of Dr. Robert G. McClure, of Lewisburg, Tenn.

**J. A. EDWARDS.** Dealer in Real Estate, Talladega, was born in the Tallasahatchee Valley, November 7, 1851, and is a son of William and Mary A. R. (Heacock) Edwards. He came to Talladega in 1878, as Deputy Sheriff, and in 1880, was elected Sheriff. In 1884 he moved to South Florida for his health, and in 1887 returned to Talladega, and engaged in real estate business. He is a prominent stockholder in the Talladega Land and Iron Company, and president and general manager of the Talladega Ice Company. Aside from these corporate institutions he is interested in other important enterprises at this place. He was married, in October, 1883, to Miss Mary Mallory, daughter of Col. James Mallory, of this county.

William Edwards, with his parents, came to Talladega in 1849. He was a member of the Thirty-first Alabama Infantry, during the war. He reared a family of two sons and three daughters. His father, Zachariah Edwards, was a na-

tive of North Carolina. His wife was a daughter of Dr. Joseph D. Heacock, a native of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Heacock was a surgeon in the War of 1812, and afterward located in Tallasahatchee Valley. He came to Talladega in 1839 or 1840, and here practiced medicine many years. He died at the age of eighty-five. Some of his sons participated in the late war and acquitted themselves with much gallantry.



**WILLIAM NATHAN BOYNTON,** merchant, Talladega, was born at New Haven, Addison County, Vt., July 28, 1831, and is a son of Rev. Henry and Abigail (Barton) Boynton. He was graduated from Hamilton College, New York, in the classical course, in 1854, and from the law department of the New York University in 1857. He came to Alabama in 1854, taught school one year in Wilcox County, and in 1857, located at Cahaba, in the practice of law. In the summer of 1862, he joined the First Alabama Regiment, and remained in the service till the close of the war. Soon after leaving the army he located at Selma, where, in partnership with Alex. White, he practiced law until 1882. He came to Talladega in August, 1883, and engaged in mercantile business.

As a lawyer, Mr. Boynton was ranked among the foremost in Central Alabama, and since entering into mercantile business he has been remarkably successful. He was married June 28, 1859, to Miss Fannie A. Isbell, daughter of Maj. James Isbell, late of Talladega, and the children born to this union are William H., a student in Cornell University, Theodore Dwight, and four others that are now dead.

The senior Mr. Boynton, a Presbyterian minister by profession, was educated at Middlebury College, Vt., entered the ministry immediately after graduating, and remained in that profession until the time of his death. He was born in 1799, and died at the age of eighty-three years. He reared a family of four sons and three daughters, all of whom received collegiate educations. The Boyntons came originally from Scotland, in the persons of three brothers, one of whom settled in Connecticut, another in Georgia, and the third in Ohio. The subject of this sketch is the lineal descendant of the one who settled in Connecticut.

His father, John Boynton, migrated from Connecticut to Vermont at an early day, and was a soldier in the Colonial Army during the Revolutionary War.



**CHARLES W. STRINGER.** Merchant, Talladega, was born at Wetumpka, Ala., October 23, 1854, and is a son of Philip G. and Henrietta M. (Nelms) Stringer. He was reared and educated at Talladega, and in 1870, accepted a clerical position in a mercantile establishment at this place. He was afterward associated with his father in mercantile business, and at the death of the latter, he associated with him one of his brothers, and the style of the firm became E. J. Stringer & Co. He was appointed County Treasurer in December, 1884, and has been several terms the Alderman from his ward. He was married in December, 1880, to Mary E. Mayfield of this place, and has had born to him two children: Nettie and Ethel.

Mr. Stringer is a popular and successful merchant and is variously identified with other meritorious enterprises, at this place.

The senior Mr. Stringer, is a native of South Carolina, whence he moved into Georgia in 1830, and from there to Wetumpka in 1848 or '49. He married in Russell County, this State, in 1853, and came to Talladega in 1859. Here he was engaged in mercantile business until the time of his death which occurred in 1885. He was appointed Treasurer of this Company in 1874, and held that office the rest of his life. In this office he was succeeded by his son Charles W.



**JERE. T. DUMAS.** Wholesale Boot and Shoe Merchant, Talladega, son of Joel and Mary Lucy Dumas, natives of North Carolina, was born in Wilcox County, this State, March 12, 1847. He was reared on a farm, received an academic education, and was attending the State University in 1863, when called home by sickness. In the spring of 1864, he joined Company E, Eighth Alabama Cavalry, and remained in the service until the close of the war. After the final surrender he engaged in mercantile and warehouse business at Clifton, in partnership with his brother, Oba Dumas. They subsequently established a store at

Arlington, and in March, 1886, entered into business at Talladega. All of these concerns are in full operation, and the one at Talladega was the first wholesale house established here.

Mr. Dumas was married, September 7, 1869, to Miss Ella DeVan, who died in 1882, leaving six children: Alice, Sallie, Lula, Ellie, Henry and Jerry. February 6, 1884, Mr. Dumas married Miss Lelia DeVan, sister of his first wife, and to this union have been born two children: William Lawrence and Annie Lu; the latter died in May, 1887. The family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Dumas is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias.

The senior Mr. Dumas, prior to the war, was an extensive planter and slave owner in Wilcox County. He came into Alabama in 1836, and died in 1863 at the age of fifty-three years. He reared a family of five sons and three daughters, five of whom are living in this State, and one daughter, the wife of Judge C. D. Clark, of Chattanooga, Tenn. He was a son of Benjamin Dumas, a North Carolina planter, and his ancestors came from France.



**WILLIAM J. RHODES.** Merchant, Talladega, was born at Mobile, November 9, 1832, and was reared and educated at Talladega. In early life he learned the carriage-maker's trade, and was engaged in that business at the outbreak of the late war. In April, 1862, he joined Company G, Thirty-first Alabama, was made orderly sergeant, and remained in the service until the close of the war. He was at the battle of Chattanooga and the siege of Vicksburg; at Kingston, N. C., and in General Smith's Kentucky campaign. He was promoted to first lieutenant, and was a captain at the close of the war. He surrendered at Salisbury, N. C.; returned to Talladega, and from there to Calhoun County, where he followed farming four years. In 1872 he again came to Talladega, and engaged in the mercantile business, which he has since followed, with much success. He was appointed Tax Collector of this county in 1876, and held the office one year. He was married March 22, 1855, to Miss Sarah A. McLean, daughter of William McLean, Esq., one of the early settlers of this place.

M. G. and Mary A. J. (Arlington) Rhodes, the

parents of William J. Rhodes, were natives of the States of Georgia and North Carolina, respectively.

Mr. Rhodes was a carriage-maker by trade. He came to Alabama and settled in Clark County in 1831. He shortly afterward moved to Mobile, where he was in the carriage business until 1836. From there he moved to Morgan County, and in 1839 to Talladega County. He came into Talladega City in 1841, and was here in the carriage business until 1855, when he engaged with the Southern Express Company, and remained with them until his death, which occurred September 30, 1885. He reared five sons, four of whom were soldiers in the Confederate Army during the late war.



**JOHN T. ADAMS** was born in Winchester, Franklin County, Tenn., May 25, 1833; moved to Talladega, Ala., November 1833; married Miss Charlotte Miller, June 7, 1855; served through the late war as a member of Company G, Thirty-first Alabama Infantry, and is now the oldest citizen of the city of Talladega, Ala.



**W. K. McCONNELL** was born in Talladega County, March 25, 1841, and was reared from the time he was eight years of age by an uncle in Tennessee. At the outbreak of the late war he was a student at LaGrange College, and from there, in May, 1861, joined Company B, Sixteenth Alabama Regiment, as a private. He was soon afterward made color-bearer of his company, and was subsequently detailed as drill master of volunteers. He participated in the battles of Wild Cat (Ky.), Mill Springs or Fishing Creek, Shiloh, Farmington, Corinth, Boonsville, etc. He was promoted to lieutenant of engineers after the battle of Fishing Creek, and later on given command of his company. Before the final surrender, he was made adjutant, and held that position until the close. He also took part in the battles of Chattanooga, Munfordville, Perryville, and at Vicksburg was transferred to the Thirtieth Alabama. With this regiment he was at Chickasaw Bayou, Warrenton, Baker's Creek—where he was placed in command of his company by order of Gen. Stephen D. Lee—Big Black River Bridge, and afterward at Lookout Mountain, Atlanta and

Jonesboro. At Jonesboro he was made adjutant-general of Shelley's Brigade, and was afterward at Dalton, Franklin and Nashville. After the war he returned home and proceeded at once to Mexico, where he remained two years. From Mexico he came back to Alabama, located at Selma, and was there when appointed Commandant of the State University. He remained at the University something over a year, and in 1811 engaged in railroad business. He was subsequently appointed tax collector of Dallas County, and held that office seven years. In August, 1884, he came to Talladega, where he has been since employed as railroad and express agent. He was married May 7, 1868, to Miss Ellen Smith, of Columbia, Tenn., and has had born to him four children. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Knights of Honor.



**GEORGE W. CHAMBERS**, an active and enterprising business man of Talladega, was reared and educated at this place, and in the fall of 1861, joined the Talladega Artillery, and served with that command one year. In 1862 he entered Captain Bowie's Company, which, within six months, was transferred to the Thirty-first Alabama Infantry. With this command, he took part in the battles of Tazewell and Cumberland Gap, was with Bragg's army on its famous raid into Kentucky, and at the battles of Perryville, Port Gibson, Baker's Creek, Vicksburg, Murfreesboro (Tenn.), Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, the Dalton campaign, New Hope Church, Franklin, Nashville, and helped to bring up the retreat of the army from Nashville, Resaca (Ga.) and Atlanta. He surrendered with his regiment at Salisbury, N. C.

From first to last he was in all the engagements in which his regiment took part. After the war he engaged in the grocery business at Talladega, and here has since made his home.

Mr. Chambers has the reputation of being one of the most sterling business men in this part of the country. He is wide-awake, public-spirited, and takes an active interest in any and every thing that tends to develop Alabama. In 1887, he erected the Chambers Opera House, and since 1880 has been particularly active in real estate transactions. Over half a million dollars' worth of lands have

passed through his hands since the beginning of the North Alabama boom, and he now owns several thousand acres of the most valuable timber and mineral lands in the State.

He was married, on January 3, 1871, to Miss Emma S. Hopkins, native of Birmingham, England, and has had born to him six children: Joseph Sheriff, Maud Helen, Dollie Ida, George Oscar, Bennett Lester and Emma Fannie. The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Chambers was the originator of the organization of an English company with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, which is now erecting two 100-ton coke furnaces at Talladega. This will cause other manufactories to be built here. In fact, Mr. Chambers proposes to have an English colony located at or near Talladega.

**GEORGE A. JOINER** was born in Talladega, October 23, 1843, and is a son of James H. and Rachel (Williamson) Joiner. At the age of 18 years he entered the Confederate Naval Academy, near Richmond Va., and was graduated in 1864. He was for a short time in the service as an officer on the "Huntsville," and was wounded at Fort Blakley, Mobile Bay. He held the rank of past midshipman, and was recommended for promotion a short time before the final surrender. After Fort Blakley was stormed and taken, he was transferred to the "Nashville," and surrendered with that vessel. Soon after the war, he became associated with his father in the publication of a newspaper, and remained in that business until 1873, since which time he has been engaged in mercantile pursuits. He is at present an alderman of Talladega, and is secretary of the City Board of Education. He is also one of the trustees of the Alabama Institution for the Deaf and Alabama Academy for the Blind, having been appointed to that position in October, 1886, by Governor O'Neal. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, worshipful master of his Lodge, and has for a number of years been reporter for the Knights of Honor, and an active member of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Joiner was married May 14, 1874, to Miss Jennie Simon, who died August 4, 1880, leaving two children, Enfield and Harvey. The present Mrs. Joiner was Miss Mary F. Broadstreet. To this union has been born one child, Jeannette.

The senior Mr. Joiner was a native of Abbeville District, S. C., and at the age of twelve years came with his parents to St. Clair County, Ala. He located at Talladega in the spring of 1837, engaged in the grocery business for a short time, and in 1838 entered a printing office, in which business he continued, as editor and publisher, up to about 1868. He died in 1881. He published the Talladega *Watchtower*, and was for nearly three years Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of the State of Alabama, and for eleven years a member of the Committee on Work in the Grand Lodge of Alabama. He was forty-five years prominent in the Baptist Church, and twenty years superintendent of Sunday-school.



**THOMAS LIVINGSTONE ISBELL**, son of the late Major Isbell, was reared and educated at Talladega and when a boy entered the mercantile establishment of his father as a clerk. In 1862 he joined the First Alabama Regiment, and participated therewith in the battle of Corinth and siege of Port Hudson, and remained with the army until the close of the war. He was captured at Port Hudson, and was afterward in the service as a machinist, doing detail work at Selma, Ala., where he was when that place surrendered to General Wilson. After the war he again engaged in business at Talladega and was here several years, when he turned his attention to farming. He was married January 8, 1868, to Miss Mattie J. Norris at Selma.

Mr. and Mrs. Isbell and children are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**MARCUS McELDERRY** was born in this county, January 18, 1838. He was reared on a farm, and educated at the schools of Talladega and at LaGrange College. In the spring of 1861, he joined Company A, Eighth Confederate Cavalry, and participated in the battles of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Perryville, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Atlanta, etc., and in fact he never missed an opportunity for a battle from the beginning to the final close, at Bentonville, N. C. After the war he came home and for a short time followed farming. For several years prior to 1886, he was employed

as a book-keeper : since that time he has been in mercantile business for himself. He was married in September, 1868, to Miss Georgia Bowdon. To this union have been born three children : Fannie C., Elbert J. and Horace T.

**BENJAMIN F. WILSON.** Attorney-at-law, is a native of Montevallo, this State, son of Dr. John B. and Mary A. (Bandle) Wilson, and was born in 1854. After receiving an academic education, he took up the study of law, and in 1877, was admitted to the bar. He located at Talladega in 1885, where he is now prosecuting the pleas of the State. He was married in November, 1883, at Selma, to Miss Allie Smith, a daughter of Mr. Washington M. Smith, and has had born to him two children: Susie Parker and Frank M.

Mr. Wilson and wife are members of the Baptist Church, and he is a Mason and master of his lodge at Talladega. He has also held several State positions in the Masonic fraternity.

Dr. John B. Wilson is a native of Sevier County, Tenn. His father, Benjamin Wilson, was born in North Carolina, whence he migrated to Tennessee and later to Alabama. He lived some years at Huntsville, and moved from there to Montevallo, Shelby County.

**THOMAS J. CROSS, Sr.,** was born in Huntsville, Ala., the 25th day of November, 1822, and is the son of Andrew and Rutha Cross. Andrew Cross was a native of Petersburg, Va. He married Miss Rutha Duskin, of Raleigh, N. C., and soon after emigrated to Huntsville, Ala., where he carried on an extensive saddlery business until his death in 1836. His widow survived him until 1872.

Thos. J. Cross, Sr., came to Talladega in 1843, and was at once connected with the *Reporter*, a Whig paper, started that year, and has remained with it ever since.

In 1876 T. J. Cross and M. H. Cruikshank, the proprietors of the *Reporter*, purchased the *Watchtower*, an old Democratic paper, that was started about the year 1841. After the death of Mr. Cruikshank, Mr. Cross purchased the decedent's

interest in the paper. The title *Watchtower* was dropped some time since, and it is now published as the *Talladega Reporter*.

**THOMAS P. PLOWMAN,** Agent of the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, Talladega, Ala., was born in this place June 8, 1843, and is a son of George P. and Agatha C. (Scales) Plowman, natives of Tennessee. In May, 1862, he enlisted in Company F, Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry as a private soldier, and participated in all the battles from Murfreesboro to Chattanooga. He was wounded on the same day that General McPherson was killed, and was thereafter unable for service. In 1867 he engaged in mercantile and tanning business with his father. He discontinued the mercantile business about 1870, and continued the tannery until 1873. In the latter year he was appointed agent of the A. G. S. Railway at this place. Mr. Plowman has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married in 1872, was a Miss McClellan; the present Mrs. Plowman was Miss Annie Montgomery.

Mr. Plowman has been three times Mayor of the city of Talladega, and several times Mayor of her Common Council. He was eight or ten years chairman of the County Democratic Executive Committee, and is now the Vice-Grand Dictator of the Knights of Honor for the State.

**ROBERT A. MOSLEY, Jr.,** is a native of Montevallo, Shelby County, this State, a son of Dr. Robert A. and Mariah B. (Stevens) Mosley, and was born in July, 1841. He received his primary education in his native county and at Howard College; read medicine with his father, took a course of lectures at Mobile, and subsequently spent some time at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He joined the army in June, 1861, first with Curry's Rifles, and afterward with Blythe's Battalion. He participated in the battle of Belmont, and from there returned home, where, assisted by his brother, he raised Company E. for the Forty-first Alabama. He was made company surgeon upon the organization of the regiment. At the end of about a year he resigned as surgeon and was

made a lieutenant. He was with his command up to the battle of Murfreesboro, at which place he was seriously wounded. Returning home he entered the drug business, and followed it until 1868. In that year he was elected Mayor of the city, and established "*Our Mountain Home*," a weekly newspaper, which, in company with his brother, he published for ten successive years. In 1872, at Oxford, Ala., he established the "*Rising Star*," and at about the same time, the Rome (Georgia) *Daily*. Some time later, he started the *National*

*Weekly* and *Tri-Weekly Republican*, at Selma, Ala. In 1873, he was appointed Post Master at Talladega, and held that office until August, 1875.

Captain Mosley, was a delegate to the National Republican Conventions of 1876, 1880 and 1884; and in 1886-7 was the Washington correspondent of the *Chattanooga Commercial*. Since February, 1887, he has been engaged in real estate and insurance business. In June, 1862, he married Miss Josie Ware.



## X.

### ANNISTON.

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BY EDWARD A. OLDHAM.

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During the year 1852, Daniel, Alfred L. and E. L. Tyler, and James, John, Samuel and William Noble, organized the Woodstock Iron Company. The history of Anniston may be said to date from this event, as this company and the furnaces subsequently built by it formed the nucleus around which has clustered an industrial community whose fame has gone abroad throughout the land and beyond the sea.

At Oxford, contiguous to the present site of Anniston, the Confederate Government during the war had built a furnace, which had been destroyed by a raiding party under the command of General Croxton, whose brigade had been separated from the command of General Wilson in the neighborhood of Selma. The reputation of this old plant, and the exceptional quality of its former output, reached the ears of the Nobles, then prosperous ironmongers at Rome, Ga., and Samuel Noble, imbued with a desire to become better acquainted with the mineral resources of this section, sallied forth, five years prior to the formation of the company, and visited the ruins of the old furnace and explored the red hills north of the quaint little, old-fashioned village of Oxford, where the city of Anniston now stands. He was quick to perceive the enormous quantities of ore, and his iron sense, for which he is so justly distinguished, took in at a glance the richness of the deposits. Before his English eye, accustomed to the beauty of landscape and sky, there lay spread out a lovely valley, gracefully undulating, through which, in serpentine course, wound a little stream whose waters sparkled and sang as they frolicked over rocks and pebbles. To the north rose Blue Mountain, rich in a vestment of green, while grouped around the valley ranged lesser heights, children of the Blue Ridge wandered away from

their mighty parent. Mr. Noble was impressed with the natural beauty of the situation, and its fitness for the location of a great city presented itself to him, and the desire to become one of its founders filled his bosom with a proud ambition.

Through the assistance of the Quintards of New York, old friends, he purchased the largest and main ore deposits, and continued adding to the property until the formation of the company, which also added, by judicious purchases, from time to time, until the property became a vast territory of mineral lands, aggregating one hundred thousand acres.

The romantic manner in which Mr. Noble and General Tyler became interested in their subsequent enterprise, is concisely narrated in the following letter, written by Mr. Noble to Alfred L. Tyler, soon after the death of the latter's father in 1883. Mr. Noble writes:

"The death of the General recalls as vividly as if it were but yesterday my first meeting with him. In the spring of 1852, when you were acting vice-president of the South Carolina Railroad, I visited you at your office in Charleston on business, bearing a letter of introduction from J. M. Selkirk, superintendent of the Rome (Ga.) Railroad. While at your desk talking to you, I noticed an aged gentleman whose whole attention was fixed on the morning paper. Presently he laid it down, and went to one corner of your office and consulted a map on the wall. A few moments after he came to the desk where you and I were talking, and said to me: 'When I was building the Macon & Western Railroad some thirty years ago, I heard from men who were at work for me, of large bodies of iron ore in your part of the State. Do you know anything about it?' His earnest manner, and the interest he



manifested in putting the question, impressed me at once. I said to him he could not have questioned me on a subject with which I was more familiar; that there was hardly an iron property in Georgia or Alabama I did not know. He then said:

"When I was a young man I went into the iron business in Pennsylvania, and made one of the first attempts to make iron with anthracite coal. I went over to Wales, and brought over a founder to run the furnace, as at that time it was not supposed that there was any founder in the United States who could blow an anthracite furnace. We had trouble from the start with the founder, who dictated, and the furnace, which chilled up every time we started. The difficulties we encountered, and the disadvantages we contended against, were so great, that I resolved never to touch or become interested in any iron property that lacked a single advantage—that had not on it everything in abundance, and accessible for the cheap production of good iron. I have had the iron business burned into me, and have not forgotten my first experience; but if I can find a property that has on it every thing for making iron without buying any raw material, or bringing any to it, I might be tempted to go into the business again."

"I said I had been in the iron business myself, and then owned a property that combined in itself advantages over every other property I knew. I told him I believed there was no place in the South then accessible to equal it for making good and cheap iron. Nature could hardly have done more for it, and it would be real pleasure to me, I continued, if he would come to see it, as I was sure it would interest him greatly. Hesitating a moment, he said: 'I will try and come up and look at it within the next two weeks.'

"I had but little idea that a man of his age would, on a second thought, take such a long and uncomfortable journey, and was surprised at his coming to Rome some ten days afterward for a visit of inspection. At that time there was no railroad station, and only three old, unfinished houses at what is now the town of Anniston. So we stopped at Oxford, two miles below, where we found horses. He rode with me over the country, exploring every hill and valley, gathering information from everybody he met, and from the inmates of every house he passed, about the timber lands, limestone and rock quarries—their lo-

cation and extent—and then going to the places indicated and examining them himself.

Familiar as I thought I was with the whole country, I found while with him how much there was I had not looked into, or thought of investigating. Nothing escaped his observation. In his company I made the most thorough and exhaustive exploration of the country I ever made before or since. I was surprised at his knowledge and practical ideas concerning the requisites for iron manufacture. We rode for three days in succession, returning to the hotel in Oxford after dark, I thoroughly tired out, but the General fresh as ever. He would go down from his room, and with some choice tea—a present from an English sea captain, make a hot cup for both; the hotel people did not know how tea was 'cooked.' Sipping our Hyson, we talked over what had been seen during the day, and planned for the next. The General, I knew, was surprised and pleased with the property, although he said but little. After enquiring about the market for and price of iron, and the probable consumption at Rome, he said: 'I will go back and bring up Alfred to look at it.'

"The rest you know. The visit led to the organization of the Woodstock Iron Company, and shortly after the foundation of the town of Anniston. Then came the building up of a business of such magnitude and prosperity as led to a great increase of wealth and population in this section of the State.

"I never think of my first meeting with the General without being deeply impressed with its beneficial results to this portion of the country, a meeting which, at the time, was apparently a mere accident. From that time to my last interview with him in New York, two months before his death, his clear and active mind was always planning and suggesting something for the benefit of Anniston and its people. Plans and suggestions that to us seemed impracticable and premature, we found, from his clear reasoning and hearty co-operation, not only could be carried out, but were needed. In acting on his suggestions and plans, we found how wise he was in forethought, and wondered why we had not thought of the plans ourselves. To his earnest exertions and liberality we are indebted for the water works, the cotton factory and the car works, the promotion of immigration, the successful cultivation of the grasses, the introduction of blooded cattle and

improved stock, large and more comfortable dwellings for the workmen, the building of churches and schools for them, and facilities for the education of their children. He was a grand old man—one of the most generous and unselfish I ever knew, always interested in and planning for the welfare of others, and never so happy as when those he aided profited by his advice and assistance. I hoped he would have lived for years to come, and enjoyed the proud satisfaction of seeing the plans he had so generously and prudently formed for the welfare of the people of the town he had founded, grown to perfection. We shall miss him greatly. Who will impress us with the feeling of confidence in every new plan and undertaking that he was wont to give? To whom shall we look for the sound advice his age, experience and clear mind alone could impart? We miss him daily. We will always miss him."

In April, 1873, the first furnace of the company, at a cost of \$100,000, was completed and went into blast. This furnace, from that time, has run without intermission, day and night (Sundays included), without stopping, except for enlargement or repairs, turning out an annual product of 10,000 tons of iron. Not even the protracted depression which accompanied the great panic of 1873 was sufficient cause to bank the fires of their furnace, the demand for whose output being so much in excess of its capacity that another furnace was called into being, and in August, 1879, it was completed and put into operation. The following year witnessed the re-building and enlargement of the first furnace and the organization, by Mr. Noble and his associates, of a new company, known as the Clifton Iron Company, which absorbed the Alabama Furnace at Jenifer, together with 12,000 acres of land environing it. This company, in 1884, erected its second furnace at Ironaton, twenty miles from Anniston, which was blown in April 6, 1885, and has an annual output of 13,000 tons.

On the 12th day of July, in 1873, an election was held among the voters of the community to decide the question of incorporation, and a majority having favored this step, the place was incorporated as the Town of Anniston by order of the County Judge of Probate, and named, in honor of Annie, the wife of Alfred L. Tyler. On February 4, 1879, Anniston received a charter from the State Legislature, and Charles O'Rourke was chosen first Intendant. This charter was amended

and amplified by the Legislature of 1887, and Anniston then received its baptism as a city, Dr. R. P. Huger becoming the first Mayor, followed the succeeding year by F. W. Foster, both of whom were faithful and efficient officers.

To provide profitable employment for the wives and children of the operatives employed in the furnaces and other manufacturing establishments, a cotton factory with twelve thousand spindles, was erected in 1881, and the following year the car-wheel workers of Noble Brothers, were moved from Rome to Anniston. During the same year (1882) the construction of the water-works was begun by the sinking of a well ten feet in diameter and eighty feet deep, the whole lined with a heavy cast-iron curbing put in in segments all bolted securely together. A 150 horse-power beam engine was brought into requisition to pump the water from the well and force it to the reservoir at an elevation of two hundred and thirty-six feet, on one of the hills east of the city one and one-half miles distant. Water-pipes were laid through the principal streets, forty-five hydrants located at points where property was most exposed, and an ample supply of pure water was distributed over the town at a pressure of one hundred pounds to the inch, being great enough to dispense with the use of fire engines, and only requiring the employment of hose carriages to afford the town ample fire protection.

In the meanwhile an ideal city had been laid out, a perfect system of drainage designed, the streets macadamized, waterworks, stores, churches and schools built, and railroad connections secured. The entire business of the place was carried on by the company, who owned the furnaces, machine shops, saw-mills, stores, etc. The real estate which composed the town was not in the market, and the Woodstock Company owned the whole of it. Their policy was not one of exclusiveness by any means; the proprietor simply desired to lay, undisturbed, the basis of a model city, to carefully arrange the drainage, to systematically lay off and macadamize the streets, and perfect such embellishments and establish such industries as would have been impossible in a heterogeneous population. By 1883 the germ of a great city had been deposited, and Anniston was then formally opened to the public; having better streets, sidewalks, parks, shade-trees, water-works, schools, churches, hotels, etc., than many older cities with thousands of inhabitants. The streets run north and

south, east and west, and are macadamized with the lava-like slag from the furnaces, making a roadway which will last for ages. The sidewalks of many of the streets are laid with hard cement pavements and granite curbsings, while long rows of beautiful shade-trees of the water oak variety are an attractive embellishment to a number of thoroughfares.

At this time, the company had secured for Anniston the Georgia Pacific and the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroads, and with their own capital had built the Anniston & Atlantic, and projected the Anniston & Cincinnati. The construction of these railroads and all of the local improvements did not entail a dollar of expense upon the town, which at that time contained about four thousand people.

Systematic endeavor has characterized the founders of Anniston from the very inception of the undertaking, and in order to insure the perfection of every detail, three organizations were effected—the Woodstock, the Clifton, with its quartette of charcoal furnaces and its bee-hives of industrious inhabitants, known to the world by the musical names of Ironaton and Jenifer, and the Anniston Land and Improvement Company. This latter body expended vigorous efforts toward the building up of the city, and held out liberal inducements to new industries and additional population. The different religious denominations were aided by the donation of building lots, and to this generous policy may be attributed the prosperous growth of the churches of Anniston.

In 1883, Murray & Stevenson were induced to move their foundry from Cartersville, Ga., to Anniston, and, about the same time, an ice manufacturing company was organized with W. J. Rushton as president, W. J. Cameron as secretary and treasurer, and F. W. Dixon as manager. In 1884 a Brush electric plant to light the town was established, using arc lamps of two thousand candle-power. The same year was made notable for the commencement of the work of erecting the Inn, a graceful specimen of Queen Anne architecture, and a hostelry whose luxurious appointments and external attractions have won for it the title of "the famous Anniston Inn." It occupies an elevated position in the centre of a twenty-acre lawn, and commands a splendid view of the city. A few years later the Parker House, now known as the Anniston Tavern, was built, and during 1888 the Hotel Wilmer will be com-

pleted. There are other houses of accommodation in the city.

In November, 1886, a company, with a capital of \$50,000, was organized to erect and operate the Alabama Car Works. John W. Noble was chosen president, and E. E. G. Roberts became secretary and treasurer. The capacity of the works, at that time, was about ten cars a day, giving employment to over two hundred men.

So quietly have the projectors of Anniston labored, that, when the city was thrown open to the world in 1883, those visiting it were not prepared to see a model city in embryo. The *démouneal* was complete, and the fame of Anniston spread rapidly throughout the country, drawing hither a steady stream of people.

The handful of enthusiastic founders who composed the trio of companies before alluded to began to be oppressed by a sense of responsibility, as they saw their cherished undertaking assume such rapidly enlarging proportions. Their properties had become too cumbersome for individual management, when outside capital stepped forward with proposals for the purchase of a portion of the holdings. The Woodstock and the Land Companies were each capitalized at \$3,000,000, this valuation having been fixed by the prospective purchasers, and was accepted by their owners as a basis for the sale of one-third of the former company and one-half of the latter, consequently on January 22, 1887, the transfer was made to the new organization, since which time the original owners of the property have owned two-thirds, or \$2,000,000 in the Woodstock Iron Company and one-half, or \$1,500,000 of the stock of the Anniston City Land Company. Of the latter company, Col. John M. McKleroy, of Enfaula, is president, and Duncan T. Parker, president of the First National Bank, is treasurer.

On Monday, January 24th, following the date of organization a land sale was held, lasting half the day, during which nearly half a million dollars' worth of property was sold. The growth of Anniston from this time forward was remarkably rapid, and by the spring of that year the population had increased to over 7,000.

In addition to the Anniston City Land Company there were organized the Mechanicsville, West Anniston, South Anniston and the Draper-Riddle Land Companies, and the Ledbetter Land and Loan Association, all of which have exerted a healthful influence in building up the city.

The reorganization of the land company and the inauguration of a vigorous policy on the part of Colonel McKleroy, the president, was productive of much benefit to the young city, and a number of new enterprises was set on foot. The Anniston Pipe Works Company was organized in February, 1881, with D. T. Parker as president, L. H. Smith as secretary and treasurer, and Robert T. Carter as superintendent. This company was formed with a cash capital of \$300,000, and owns 120 acres of valuable land adjoining the city limits. These works, which are in process of erection, will, when completed, have the distinction of being the most extensive gas-and-water-pipe foundry in the world. This plant, including the yards, cover an area of twenty acres, the main building being 504 x 130 feet, with two wings, each 275 x 36 feet. Over 300 men will be employed, working up 300 tons of iron per day.

The construction of this huge plant called into existence additional furnaces to supply it with the crude material; therefore, simultaneous with the commencement of the pipe works, construction began on two new coke furnaces, projected by the Woodstock Company, and located in convenient proximity to the great plant, which alone will consume nearly the entire output of the new furnaces. The latter are being built throughout by Anniston workmen, including the five large engines, thirty-six boilers, furnace stacks, hot blast ovens, and other general iron work. When completed these furnaces are to have a capacity of 100,000 tons per annum. To provide an inexhaustible supply of fuel for this immense plant, the Woodstock Company secured a controlling interest in valuable coal mining properties lying in Bibb, Shelby and Jefferson Counties, consisting of 30,000 acres, and composing the richest portion of the Cahaba Coal Field.

Close in the wake of the foregoing enterprises came the steel blooming, the extensive fire-brick works of Taylor & Sons, planing-mills and numerous brick yards, the Barbour Machine Works, transplanted from Eufaula, the cotton compress, and a number of lesser industries; but the greatest industrial event of 1887 was the coming to Anniston of the United States Rolling Stock Company, a New York corporation, representing immense capital. This concern absorbed the car works, and at the time of this writing, are enlarging that plant to a capacity of twenty-five freight cars per day and six passenger coaches a month,

giving employment to over a thousand skilled workmen, and adding to the population of the city several thousand souls.

When the original plans of Anniston were formulated, it was intended by her founders that this should not only be a model city in perfect streets and attractive architecture, but that it should be a model city in point of morality and religious observances; Anniston has, therefore, become noted for her handsome churches, and from its earliest inception, the town has enjoyed the wholesome benefits of a prohibitory liquor law.

The founders of Anniston being Episcopalians, a church of this denomination was the first to be built here. The parish was organized in February, 1881, the town having previously been a mission station under the charge of Rev. J. F. Smith. When the parish was organized, Rev. Wallace Carnahan, of San Antonio, Texas, was called to the rectorship, and, during his incumbency, Grace Church was built, the means being furnished by the families of Alfred L. Tyler and Samuel Noble. It is built of cut sandstone from quarries within the city, and the interior is finished throughout in red cedar, highly polished, and the windows are of stained glass. The building cost \$35,000. Rev. Mr. Carnahan was succeeded in 1886 by Rev. Philip A. Fitts, of Clarksville, Tenn. The Episcopalians have several successful missions in other parts of the city.

The next denomination "to build an altar to the Lord" in Anniston were the Methodists. In 1883-4 they erected a house of worship and placed Rev. T. H. Davenport in charge. He was followed in 1885 by Rev. F. T. J. Brandon, and the next two years by Rev. J. T. Morris, who was succeeded in 1888 by Rev. Alonzo Monk, D.D. The Methodist Episcopal Church, with Rev. Dr. J. T. Mann, pastor, are erecting a costly and beautiful stone edifice on Leighton avenue. There are several Methodist missions elsewhere in the city.

The Baptists have two congregations. Rev. E. T. Smyth has been the pastor of the First Church since its formation in April, 1883. The increase of the denomination necessitated the organization of another church, and in July, 1887, the Twelfth Street Church was formed. Rev. G. A. Nunnally, D.D., was chosen pastor. This congregation will erect a handsome structure during 1888.

In 1884 the Presbyterians organized a congrega-

gation, Rev. James D. McLean becoming stated supply. A building committee was appointed, who secured plans for an imposing house of worship from Valk, the celebrated New York architect. By April, 1887, the chapel, with capacity for three hundred, was completed. It is a model of taste and elegance, finished in natural woods, with most improved seatings, large stained glass windows, and both are and incandescent electric lights. Upon the resignation of Rev. Mr. McLean, in April, 1887, Rev. R. M. DuBose, of Fayetteville, Tenn., became pastor. The Presbyterians also have successful missions in other parts of the city.

The Cumberland Presbyterians, Christians and Catholics have comfortable houses of worship, and the Hebrews contemplate the erection of a handsome synagogue during the present year. The colored people are well provided with churches, the Congregational having a large membership and a handsome building. The Young Men's Christian Association was organized in 1887, and is in comfortable quarters. This body intend erecting a fine building shortly.

Penetrated with a desire for the benefit of the rising and coming generations, schools of the best kind have been established in Anniston. By an Act of the Legislature, this city is made a separate school district, the schools being controlled by the Mayor and Council and School Superintendent. A handsome public school building has just been completed in the western part of town, and another in the eastern portion. Beside these are the Noble Institute for Girls and the Noble Institute for Boys, both occupying beautiful buildings, erected through the munificence of Samuel Noble. There are several schools for the colored population.

In August, 1883, the first newspaper of Anniston, *The Weekly Hot Blast*, was issued, with C. H. Williams as editor. He was succeeded a few years later in the editorship by Walter M. Ryals, and afterward by J. H. Kinnebrew, W. O. Butler, S. E. Noble and W. H. McKella. In March, 1887, a stock company was formed, and the paper was changed to a morning daily, taking the Associated Press dispatches. James R. Randall, author of the famous war lyric, "My Maryland," and at that time principal editorial writer of the *Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle*, was called to the editorship of the *Hot Blast*, and Edward A. Oldham, editor and proprietor of the *Winston (N. C.) Sentinel*, became

the manager. At the close of 1887 W. H. Edmonds, of Baltimore, purchased the paper from the company, and it has since been conducted under his proprietorship.

In 1885 the *Evening Watchman* made its appearance, with Milton A. Smith, of Gainesville, Ga., as editor and publisher, and who has continued its publication to the present writing. Both the *Hot Blast* and the *Watchman* publish weekly editions. In February of the present year, W. O. Butler, previously city editor of the *Hot Blast*, began the publication of a small but neat afternoon paper called the *Daily Picayune*.

In the latter part of the year of 1884, after the city had been thrown open to the public, the First National Bank began business with a paid up capital of \$100,000. The business of this institution has enjoyed a steady increase, until within a period of less than five years, it has attracted deposits amounting to over \$1,000,000, and it has paid regular semi-annual dividends of four per cent., and accumulated a surplus of nearly \$200,000. The officers of the First National are: D. T. Parker, president; Samuel Noble, vice-president; O. E. Smith, cashier.

In March, 1887, with a capital stock of \$50,000, the Anniston Savings Bank and Safe Deposit Company was organized, with John B. Rees as president, W. S. Larned as vice-president, T. C. Stephens as cashier, and, in the following June, the Bank of Anniston, with \$100,000 capital stock, began its career, with J. R. Draper as president, W. G. Ledbetter as vice-president, and C. D. Woodruff as cashier.

The fraternal order, have a large membership in Anniston. The Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Red Men, Knights of Honor, and the United Workmen have lodges, and the Knights of Labor have two assemblies. The fire department consists of three organizations, excellently equipped; the Glen Addie, Dan Tyler, and Anniston City Hose Reels. The Anniston Rifles was organized in 1877, and is a prosperous military company. John B. Rees is the present captain.

There is at this time in course of erection a handsome city building, and, being completed, is a commodious Union Passenger Depot, constructed of native sandstone and ornamental brick. There is also an opera-house, the interior of which is being rearranged and furnished in an elegant manner with all modern improvements. These are Anniston's only public buildings aside from the

churches, but when the city is older she hopes to induce a Government appropriation for a postoffice building, commensurate with her growth and the business necessities of the place. Anniston further calmly contemplates the day when she will be a county seat, and when this dream is realized, there will ascend toward the blue sky above her an imposing temple of justice, which will be a triumph of the combined genius of the architect and the contractor.

Among the business houses of the city are many commodious brick structures, some with handsome iron fronts and large plate-glass show windows, and others with fronts of terra cotta, ornamental brick and blue sandstone trimmings. The magnificent Constantine building, on the northwest corner of Tenth and Noble streets, is an enduring monument to the public spirit and farsightedness of its owner, Mr. D. F. Constantine.

Some one has said, "show me the architecture of a city and I will tell you what kind of people live there." If beautiful architecture is any indication of the intelligence and culture of a community, then Anniston will leave a pleasurable and highly favorable impression upon the mind of the visitor within her gates. The elegant mansions of the wealthy and the picturesque cottages of the humble toilers all bear the impress of the architect.

As a place of residence and resort Anniston possesses the advantages of pure air, good water, and a salubrious, even-tempered climate. The site of the town has every feature that an experienced engineer would desire in selecting a perfect location for a city. The valley in which it is situated is eight hundred feet above the sea, sloping from the east and west to the center, with a gentle fall toward the south, affording a perfect natural drainage. One thousand feet above the valley towers the Blue Mountain range, and the picturesque slopes present attractive building sites, from which the eye is charmed by a panorama of beautiful views, extending to a distance of thirty miles or more.

Enjoying the facilities afforded it by four railroads, and the probability of still another, the East Alabama being extended from Roanoke, Anniston has already become a jobbing centre of considerable importance. Messrs. Comer & Trapp, wholesale grocers, do a million dollars' worth of business annually. Draper, Mathis & Co., and

a new corporation known as the Mercantile Company, enjoy a tremendous trade with the surrounding country. Coming years will witness the extension of Anniston's commerce into other lines of the jobbing trade.

The Electric Street Railway is the only street railroad whose track is laid in Anniston, but the present line which runs between Oxford and Anniston were given permission by the city council, a few months ago, to enter the city and extend its tracks through a number of streets.

In preparing a chronicle of the early history, initial influences, its government and growth, and the industrial, social and religious life of an old settled town, the writer has a comparatively easy task; to leisurely record the important events in their chronological order, easily obtainable from numerous authentic sources; to describe the social warp and religious woof, the legal acumen and medical lore, interspersed with picturesque traditions—treasured creations of the old civilization, which still flourished in grey hairs, behind gold rimmed glasses, old-fashioned stocks, an impenetrable dignity, under the outstretching arms of umbrageous oaks. To depict this repose and portray the characteristics, born of an elegant leisure, is a pleasurable undertaking because of its comparative freedom from retarding obstacles; but to write of the vigorous young life of a town like Anniston, the embodiment of the energizing influences of a rejuvenated South, is quite a different thing. The young town, though a full-fledged city, is yet in its formative state and dissimilar in every particular to the older community. While the historian wasn't looking Anniston attained its magical growth, and, like the traditional Irishman's flea, keeps moving so rapidly that the Argus eyes of the chronicler can scarce count the towers thereof, consider the palaces, or mark well her bulwarks.

The industrial activity of the place is so great that it is difficult for even the press of the place to keep accurate pace with the developments continually being consummated. Among the new enterprises now building, or whose early establishment in Anniston is fully assured, are a grist-mill, a model gas plant, another ice factory; an extensive stove works, projected by Samuel Noble and his associates in the Woodstock Company; a locomotive works, being an enlargement of the machine shops of Pindar & Co.; and the Universal Horseshoe Works, which has a cash capital of \$300,000. During the first year the number of

inhabitants has swelled from 7,000 up to fully 12,000, and the industries already projected, together with those certain of establishment, will give employment to a sufficient number of operatives to make, with their families, a population of fully 20,000 by 1889.

In the language of James R. Randall, the poet-editor, "Here, then, at Anniston, we have all the material and natural advantages of any favored spot the world over. Here we have much the larger part of all the demands of industry, civilization and wealth-production. Here we have enchanting beauty, cultivated associations, and all that makes opulence, happiness and reputation. The foundations of our city have been laid soundly, deeply, securely. Its growth will be serene, safe and unshakable. In no place in the wonderful mineral region of Alabama can be seen a better or an equal illustration of the maxim that it is with the life of a town as the life of a man—that 'he who builds solidly labors long under ground.'"

**FELIX W. FOSTER**, Mayor of the city of Anniston, son of Rev. W. S. and Jane (Hancock) Foster, natives of South Carolina, was born in Union County, S. C., March 12, 1845. The senior Mr. Foster, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, migrated from South Carolina to Cherokee County, Ga., in 1832, and is there living at this time (1888) at the age of seventy-six years. His father came from England to South Carolina, as did also the Hancock family. Dr. Hancock, an eminent physician, came to this country prior to the Revolutionary War, settled in South Carolina, and was one of the original importers and dealers in negroes as slaves. He reared a family of five daughters, one of whom became the wife of the Rev. W. S. Foster.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm, and educated in Georgia. He entered the army in March, 1862, as a member of Company E, Cobb's Georgia Legion of Cavalry, and, with that command, participated in the battles of Upper-ville, Harper's Ferry, Gettysburg, Williamsport, Funkstown, Culpepper, Brandy Station, Manassas, Stevensburg, siege of Petersburg, etc. At the battle of White Oak Swamp he acted courier for Generals Young and Hampton, and finally surrendered at Greensboro, N. C.

At the close of the war Mr. Foster returned to Georgia, and for ten years followed farming. After merchandising for a period of five years in Georgia he removed to Mississippi, where he for three years followed farming, and in November, 1882, located at Anniston, in the real estate business. In 1885 he engaged in the lumber business, to which he is yet giving attention, and in January, 1888, was elected Mayor of this city.

Mr. Foster was married, August 10, 1885, to Miss Emma Evans, daughter of Major T. D. Evans, and the children born to him, are Minnie G., Mattie B., Thomas W., Jennie J., Emmet Everett, and Ella May.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Foster is a Mason.



**REV. G. A. NUNNALLY, D.D.**, Pastor of the Twelfth Street Baptist Church, Anniston, is a native of Walton County, Ga., son of William B. and Mary Talbot Nunnally, and was born March 24, 1841.

The senior Mr. Nunnally, a native of Virginia, migrated to Georgia in 1817. He was a farmer by occupation, and had been a gallant soldier in the War of 1812. He was a son of John Nunnally, also a native Virginian, and who had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War. His wife was the daughter of Edmund Talbot, also of Virginia. The Talbots likewise moved into Georgia at an early day.

The subject of this sketch graduated from the University of Georgia in 1859, and soon thereafter was elected to a professorship in the Female College at Hamilton, that State. He was subsequently, and for many years, principal of Johnson Institute, at Monroe, Ga. During the war he was quartermaster, with headquarters at Rome, and in 1865 he entered the ministry. In connection with the discharge of his duties as minister he was teaching until 1876. At that time he accepted the pastorate of the church at Rome, and since that date has devoted his entire time to the ministry. In 1885 he received a call to Eufaula, Ala., where he remained two years, and had the satisfaction of seeing the congregation over which he presided greatly augmented by the addition of many new converts to the cause of the Master. In July, 1887, he came to Anniston, in response

to the urgent call of a newly organized church. Here his efforts have been amply rewarded, and he is held in the highest esteem, not alone by the members of his congregation, but by all who know him.

Dr. Nunnally is a profound scholar, and a man of fine literary tastes. Since he was sixteen years of age he has been connected variously with different publications. He was for some time editor of the *Christian Index*, a denominational paper, published at Atlanta, Ga., and is still indirectly connected with it. He is devoted to the cause of temperance, and has been for many years prominently identified with that movement. While in Georgia he was one of the prime movers of the temperance legislation that has since brought that State so conspicuously before the eyes of the world as a stronghold of prohibition.

November, 1859, Dr. Nunnally was married to Miss Mary Briscoe, the accomplished daughter of Ralph and Sarah (Dougherty) Briscoe, of Georgia, and his children are named, respectively, Alonzo H., William J., Lucius M., Sarah and Kate.

**REV. ROBERT MEANS DU BOSE**, of the Presbyterian Church, Anniston, was born at Liberty Hill, S. C., in July, 1849, and is a son of the Rev. Julius J. and Margaret (Thompson) Du Bose.

The elder Du Bose, also a minister of the Presbyterian Church, attained prominence as a preacher and as editor of the *South Carolina Temperance Advocate*. He was also at one time Treasurer of the State of South Carolina. He died on the eve of his removal to Alabama, in 1852. After his death, instead of coming direct to Alabama, as was previously purposed, the family remained many years in South Carolina. Of his three sons, Dr. W. S. Du Bose, now of Shelby County, this State, was a surgeon in the Army of Northern Virginia, during the late war; Rev. Hampden C. Du Bose (of the Presbyterian Church) also served through the late war as a member of the State Cadet Corps of South Carolina. He married a Miss McAlpine, of Talladega, Ala., and has been for fifteen years a missionary in China.

The subject of this sketch, was reared at Darlington, S. C., and was graduated from the Uni-

versity of that State, in 1871. Subsequently, in the spring of 1874, he was graduated from the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C., and came at once to Alabama. From here, within a short time, he removed to Tennessee, where he remained about two years. From there he returned to Lawrence County, Ala., and spent five years in evangelistic work. In January, 1883, he accepted a call from the Fourth Presbyterian Church, at Louisville. From there in the spring of 1884, he was called to Fayetteville, Tenn., and in September, 1887, he came to Anniston. He was married, July 4, 1876, to Miss Kate G. Garth, daughter of George M. and Kate (Gilchrist) Garth, and the three children born to this union are named, respectively, Nannie, Margaret and Katharine.



**REV. ALONZO MONK, D.D.**, Pastor in charge of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Anniston, son of the Rev. Francis M. and Margaret (Henderson) Monk, natives, respectively, of the States of Georgia and South Carolina, was educated at DeWitt College and Vanderbilt University. In 1872, at Pine Bluff, Ark., he joined Conference, having been on the 12th of October of that year duly licensed to preach. The following three years he was on circuit work, stationed four years in Little Rock, Ark. and four years in Camden. He was ordained Deacon by Bishop Kavanagh, and Elder by Bishop Keener, of New Orleans. Coming to Alabama he spent four years at Tuscaloosa, and in December, 1887, came to his present charge. He is now only thirty-four years old. The State University of Alabama conferred upon him the degree of D.D., June 22, 1877. November 14, 1887, he was married to Miss Betty Carl, of Somerville, Tenn., the accomplished daughter of Jacob E. (Cartwright) Carl, and the four children born to this union are named, respectively, Carl, Era, Alonzo and Marion.

The senior Mr. Monk was born in 1829, and gave his lifetime to the ministry. He died in Little Rock, Ark., December, 1880. He was considered one of the bright lights of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was a distinguished Mason. He was chaplain of the fifty-sixth Alabama Cavalry during the war, and commanded that regiment a short time toward the close of hostilities. He reared a family of six sons



and one daughter, viz.: Walter, deceased; Camilla, wife of C. A. Harris (she was first married to W. H. Hagan, of Little Rock); Alonzo, subject of this sketch; Bascom, Methodist Episcopal minister, in Arkansas; Frank, deceased; Harry, a farmer, in Arkansas and Simeon a teacher.

Simeon Monk was the name of the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He was born in Alabama in 1792, and died in 1876. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and also in the war with Mexico. He reared a family of three sons and six daughters. The Monks came originally from Scotland.



**REV. SAMUEL P. WEST,** Pastor of the Glen Addie Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Anniston, was born at Montevallo, Shelby County, this State, October 30, 1858, and is a son of John P. and Mariah (Mills) West. He received his education at the schools of his native county, and afterward taught for a period of two years. He was licensed to preach in November, 1881, and assigned as his first charge to Cullman. From Cullman he was sent to St. Clair County, where he remained two years. He was ordained Deacon in November, 1883, and Elder in the fall of 1885. In the autumn of 1884, he was assigned to Talladega, remained there three years, and in December, 1887, came to his present charge.

Mr. West is a successful and popular minister of the gospel. All the churches that have been under his charge have prospered. He was married July 5, 1886, to Miss Ava Cowen, the accomplished daughter of Elijah and Ruth Cowen, of Talladega. He is a member of both the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities.

The senior Mr. West, now a farmer in Shelby County, entered the Confederate Army at the outbreak of the late war as captain of a company; was soon afterward promoted to the rank of colonel, and assigned to the Tenth Alabama Cavalry. He commanded that regiment four years. Prior to the war he had served his county as sheriff, and had represented it in the lower house of the Legislature. His father, Joshua West, migrated from Rockingham County, Va. to East Tennessee at an early day, and in 1816, came from the latter place to Shelby County. He was a physician and a minister of the gospel.

The Wests came originally from England.

**JOHN MARTIN MCKLEROY,** prominent Attorney and Counselor-at-law, Anniston, son of William H. and Martha Gill (Shorter) McKleroy, was born at Eufaula, this State, May 13, 1843. He was graduated from Howard College in 1860, and the following year migrated to Texas. After a few months' service with a Texas frontier company in Indian Territory, he, in May, 1861, enlisted as a private soldier in the Third Texas Cavalry, and with that command served one year in the West. In 1862 he was appointed adjutant of Hilliard's "Legion," with the rank of first lieutenant. With the "Legion" he saw service in Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia and the Carolinas.

At the formation of the Tenth Confederate Cavalry, of which Hilliard's command formed a part, McKleroy was elected third lieutenant of Company A. He was afterward made captain of that company, and later on, his superior officers having fallen into the hands of the enemy, commanded the regiment for a time. He was wounded, March 10, 1865, near Fayetteville, N. C., and returned to Eufaula soon after the final surrender.

Immediately upon reaching home, Captain McKleroy began the study of law, and in November, 1865, he was admitted to the bar. Entering at once upon the practice, he rose rapidly to a conspicuous position in the profession.

He was elected State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1874, held the office one term, and declined re-election. In 1876 he was a member of the State Legislature, acquitted himself with distinguished credit, declined re-election, and in 1882 was a formidable candidate for gubernatorial honors. He was chairman of the State Democratic Executive Committee in 1886, and exhibited therein eminent executive ability.

January, 1887, Captain McKleroy was made president of the Anniston City Land Company, and soon thereafter located in this city.

He is a director in the Woodstock Iron Company, and in the Anniston & Cincinnati Railway Company besides being financially interested in various other important corporations.

Captain McKleroy is regarded as one of the very brilliant attorneys of Alabama, and in the management and direction of the Anniston City Land Company has proved himself a financier of far more than ordinary ability. He was married February 28, 1867, to Miss Martha L. Woods, daughter of Clayton R. Woods, of Eufaula, and

the two children born to this union are named, respectively, William H. and Hattie H.

**WILLIAM FRANCIS JOHNSTON.** Attorney-at-law, was born in Pickens County, this State, July 19, 1853, and is a son of Robert T. and Mildred C. (Terry) Johnston, natives of South Carolina.

He was reared and educated in his native county, and was admitted to the bar in 1872. In November of that year he was elected County Solicitor of Pickens; held the office one term, and in 1887 came to Anniston, where he formed a partnership with John M. Caldwell.

Mr. Johnston is considered a brilliant lawyer, and one of Anniston's most enterprising and popular citizens. He was married October 13, 1880, to Miss Elizabeth B. Weir, the accomplished daughter of Gen. Andrew Weir, of Pickens County, and the names of the children born to this union are William Frank, Walter Weir and Edith A. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston are members of the Presbyterian Church.

The senior Mr. Johnston, a lawyer by profession, came with his parents to this State in 1818. He was graduated from Danville (Ky.) College in 1837, and subsequently received the degree of A. M. from the Alabama University. He located in Pickens County, in the practice of the law, and there spent the rest of his life. In 1841 he edited the *Pickens Register*. He was twice a member of the Legislature, the last time while the capital was at Tuscaloosa. From 1858 to 1861 he was in charge of Pickensville Female Institute, and from 1861 to 1864 was in the employ of the Government as Tax Assessor, and was a colonel in the militia. From the close of the war until 1868 he had charge of the Pickensville Institute, and from 1868 to 1870 was in charge of a school at Mayfield, Ky. In the latter year he returned to Pickens County and resumed the practice of law. He died in February, 1877, at the age of sixty years.

Of the five sons and three daughters reared by Col. R. T. Johnston, we have the following brief data: John D. (deceased) was a physician and soldier in an Alabama regiment during the late war; Robert T. J. (deceased) was captain of Company I, Seventh Alabama Cavalry. He studied law after the war; was an O'Connor

Elector in 1873, and died at Mayfield, Ky., in 1874; Job C., now an attorney-at-law in Pickens County, was also a member of the Seventh Alabama; William F., the subject of this sketch, and Samuel T., a farmer in Texas.

David Johnston, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Scotland; came to America in 1799, and was a planter in South Carolina.

**JOHN M. CALDWELL.** Attorney and Counselor-at-law, Anniston, son of John H. Caldwell, Esq., was born at Jacksonville, this State, July 6, 1851. He was educated at the schools of his native town, and from the age of seventeen to nineteen years gave his time to teaching. He studied law under his father, and in February, 1873, was admitted to the bar. He came to Anniston in 1883, and was the first City Attorney authorized by this corporation. He is the present representative of Calhoun County in the Legislature. Though a young man, Mr. Caldwell is recognized as one of the foremost, if not the leading lawyer of Calhoun County. He was married in November, 1881, to Miss Carrie L. Randall, the accomplished daughter of Mr. R. O. Randall, of Gadsden, and has had born to him two children: Mary J. and Edith.

In the Legislature Mr. Caldwell takes a conspicuous and active part and performs much arduous duty. He is chairman of the Committee on Corporations, and a member of the Committees on Judiciary and on Public Roads and Highways. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the Masonic fraternity.

**JOSEPH J. WILLETT.** Attorney-at-law, Anniston, is a native of Carrollton, Pickens County, this State, where he was born September 29, 1861, and is a son of Elbert D. and Candace (Bostick) Willett. He is a graduate of the State University, and received from that institution the degree of A. M., in 1880. He was admitted to the bar in 1882, and in 1883 located at Anniston, where he is recognized as one of the brightest young attorneys of the Calhoun bar.

The senior Mr. Willett is a native of Tennessee, and a graduate of Emory and Henry College, Virginia. He came into Alabama in 1854, located at Carrollton, in the practice of law, and there, with the

exception of the time spent in the army, has continuously remained. During the war he was major of the Fortieth Alabama. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1815, and of the Legislature, session of 1818-9. He is the father of five sons: Frank, Elbert, Joseph, George, and Archibald. His father was named Joseph Willett, also a native of Tennessee, and his grandfather was Zadok Willett, a native of Maryland. Zadok Willett was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and helped to fight the battle of King's Mountain under General Sevier. His father was also named Zadok, whose grandfather came from England with Lord Baltimore. The Bosticks came from England, and settled in South Carolina in the colonial days, and many of them have been prominent in various Southern States, in politics and at the bar.



**GORDON MAC DONALD.** Attorney-at-law, Anniston, son of Dr. Alfred and Olivia (Cooper) MacDonald, natives, respectively, of South Carolina and Pennsylvania, was born at Mount Meigs, Montgomery County, this State, October 16, 1853. He received his primary education at home under private instructors. At the age of eighteen, in the office of Fitzpatrick, Williamson & Goldthwaite, he began the study of law at Montgomery, and in April, 1874, was admitted to the bar. He practiced his profession in Montgomery until April, 1887, when he located at Anniston, and formed a partnership with Howard Williams, Esq. In April, 1882, he was married to Miss Belle Cary, of Richmond, Va. She is the accomplished daughter of the late gallant Capt. G. A. Cary, of Virginia. To this union has been born one child, Olivia.

Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald are communicants of the Episcopal Church.

Dr. Alfred MacDonald was educated in Philadelphia, came to Alabama in 1810, and in 1855 was killed by one of his slaves. It appears that the negro had applied to the Doctor for permission to visit his, the negro's wife, and having been refused, he attacked the Doctor with a rail and killed him. The negro was burned to death for the crime. Of the Doctor's three sons, Alfred was killed during the war, Robert T. is chief engineer of the Mexican National Railway, and

Gordon forms the caption of this sketch. His only daughter, Louisa, is now the wife of Dr. Hallonquist. Dr. MacDonald's grandfather was born in Scotland, and came to this country with Alfred MacDonald's father after the Scotch rebellion in 1715.

The Doctor's wife was a descendant of the celebrated tragedian, Thomas Cooper.



**N. DUNHAM VAN SYCKEL,** Principal of the Noble Institute for Boys, Anniston, was born at Bound Brook, N. J., October 30, 1861. He is a graduate of Rutgers (N. J.) College, and an experienced educator. After leaving college, he taught some time on Long Island, and was subsequently employed by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. In 1881, his health being somewhat impaired, he removed to Southwestern Virginia. In 1885 he came to Alabama, and at Birmingham was made principal of Paul Hayne Grammar School. He remained in that position one year, when he was promoted to principal of the Birmingham High School. This position he resigned in 1887 to accept the principalship of the Noble Institute.

It is not the province of this work to state conclusions in writing of current men, but it is only justice to say in this connection that Prof. Van Syckel meets in an eminent degree, as professional educator, the highest expectations of his patrons.

The Professor is a son of Elbridge and Bethany (Dunham) Van Syckel, natives of New Jersey. Elbridge Van Syckel was a son of Daniel Van Syckel, and in his day was a wealthy merchant of New York City. Daniel was a son of Aaron Van Syckel, a native of New Jersey. Aaron was the son of Rynier Van Syckel, whose father was also named Rynier, and whose grandfather, Feremendus, came to this country from Holland in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and settled on Long Island. The Van Syckels are quite numerous in the Middle States, and many of them have filled high public positions. Both the Van Syckels and the Dunhams are among the oldest families of Hunterdon County, N. J.

Bethany (Dunham) Van Syckel is a daughter of Nehemiah Dunham, a son of James Dunham, who was a son of Nehemiah Dunham, of Clinton, N. J. The latter Nehemiah Dunham distinguished him-

self as an officer in charge of commissary during the Revolutionary War, and his children were all ardent patriots.

The Dunhams, also, are numerous, particularly in New Jersey, and many of them figure prominently in the history of Church and State. Nehemiah Dunham, last referred to, was a grandson of Rev. Edmond Dunham, who was born in New England in 1660, and Edmond was a son of Benajah Dunham, whose father, John Dunham, came to Massachusetts from Lincolnshire, England, in 1630, and was among the first settlers of Dartmouth.



**WILLIAM H. EDWARDS**, Editor and Proprietor of the Anniston *Hot Blast*, one of the most popular newspapers published in North Alabama, and one whose opinions receives more attention and favorable comment at the hands of the metropolitan journals of the United States than probably any other paper in the State, barring the Montgomery *Advertiser*, is a native of Norfolk, Va. He was born in September, 1853, and is a graduate of the University of his native State.

For some years prior to his coming to Anniston he was connected with the Baltimore *Manufacturer's Record*, an antecedent of eminent degree; and that he brings with him the highest endorsement of that great paper would be sufficient guaranty of his merit, were it needed, and were it not true that he is a man possessed of the happy faculty of establishing himself at once in the good graces of a community, *ubique volens*.

Mr. Edwards took charge of the *Hot Blast* in June of the present year.



**CHARLES C. MCCARTEY**, President of the Anniston Bloomery, is a native of Lewis County, N. Y.; son of Francis and Loxina (Dorwin) McCarty, respectively of the States of Massachusetts and New York; was born May 14, 1828. When eight years old, he, with his parents, emigrated to Green Bay, Wis. While there he learned the arts of the different tribes of Indians, to speak seven different languages (the French as fluently as his own), to excel in the use of the gun

and the bow and arrow, and to paddle a canoe to the admiration of the red men.

When eleven years old, he was pursued by hostile Indians, and ran ten miles to save his life, on a very hot day. For some time the white settlers lived in constant fear of being scalped. All retired at night with their clothes on, to be ready for the signal (which was the ringing of a bell) to flee to Fort Howard. Soon after this reign of terror, old Zack Taylor removed the hostile Indians to the Rocky Mountains.

Mr. McCarty moved to Fon du Lac in 1842. While living there he engaged in different branches of business. He went to Glen Arbor, Mich., in 1855, and engaged in lumbering, wooding and milling; working between 300 and 500 men. At that point he built one of the largest and finest piers on the chain of lakes; it is known as Mack's Dock. He was also agent for the Northern Transportation Company of Ohio, running a daily line of steamers from Ogdensburg to Chicago. From Glen Arbor Mr. McCarty moved to Pontiac, Mich., and engaged in the hardware business and farming. He went to Knoxville, Tenn., in 1876 for his health, and there embarked in the wholesale drug trade, and in 1887 came to Anniston. While in partnership with Morrison Bros., he organized what is now known as the Anniston Bloomery, an incorporated concern, with a capital stock of \$50,000.

Mr. McCarty started in the world without money, but he was a genius, and in many things an expert. The results of his undertakings attest these facts.

He was married in January, 1850, to Miss Elizabeth Darwin, of New York, daughter of Hubby and Elizabeth (Jones) Darwin. He and wife are Episcopalians, and Mr. McCarty is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities.

This branch of the McCarty family sprang from an Earl of Scotland.

Francis McCarty was a soldier in the War of 1812, and drew the first pay-roll at Sackett's Harbor. He was the son of Clark McCarty, who was an officer under General Washington, and who was with that General in his historical crossing of the Delaware in December, 1776. Tradition says that Washington asked who was in charge of the crossing, and when told "McCarty," exclaimed, "Thank God! it is in safe hands."

The McCartys were all a large, brave and powerful race.

**HUGH STEVENSON** is a native of Scotland, and was born in 1839. He was educated in his native town of Johnston, and there learned the moulder's trade. He came to the United States in 1871, worked some years at his trade in Brooklyn, N. Y., and came to Rome, Ga., in 1881, as foreman in the foundry of Noble Bros. From Rome he went to Cartersville, that State, where he began business for himself, and in 1883 came to Anniston, where, in partnership with Edward Murvey, he established the foundry works, which he has, since the death of his partner in 1885, continued to manage. He manufactures engines, general machinery, and everything in that line. He was without means when he came to this country, but his industry has been rewarded until at this writing he is sole proprietor of a manufacturing establishment valued at \$40,000.

Mr. Stevenson was married in Scotland to Miss Annie Johnston; she died prior to his leaving that country. In 1878 he married Miss Annie Wilson, a native of England.

Mr. Stevenson is a member of the city council, and is fully identified with the best interests of the progressive city of Anniston.

**WILLIAM S. LARNED**, Vice-President of the Anniston Savings Bank and Safe Deposit Co., and Treasurer of the Oxanna Building Association, was born at Fishkill, N. Y., June 30, 1851, and is a son of Samuel and Sarah (Newell) Larned, natives, respectively, of Michigan and New York. He was an only son, and was given a classical education at Cornell University, after which he attended one year at an architectural school in Boston. From 1877 up to his coming to Anniston, in 1885, he was cashier of the Buffalo Courier Company. He came South in search of health, and, taking a fancy to the "Model City," located here. He was one of the prime movers in the organization of the Anniston, Oxford & Oxanna Street Railway Company, of which corporation he has from its beginning, been secretary and treasurer. Associated with his father, he established the South Anniston Hardware Company, and he was one of the organizers of the Anniston Savings Bank and Safe Deposit Co., and of the Oxanna Building Association. In addition to the above-named enterprise, she is more or less identified with and

interested in various other incorporated and private concerns. He was married August 20, 1878, to Miss N. P. Livingston of Carlyle, Penn., and has one son, Samuel W. Mr. and Mrs. Larned are communicants of the Episcopal Church.

**WILEY A. PATRICK**, Doctor of Dental Surgery, Anniston, native of Monroeville, this State, son of Miligan and Martha (Salter) Patrick, was born January 1, 1855. After receiving an academic education in his native town he spent a few years in a clerical position, and in 1881 took up dentistry. He was graduated from Vanderbilt University, with the degree of D.D.S., in 1886, and has since that time devoted himself, with marked success and manifest skill, to his chosen profession. He located at Anniston in 1888, and is at this writing in the enjoyment of a lucrative and aristocratic patronage.

**SAMUEL BLOUNT BREWER**, Dealer in Real Estate and Insurance, Anniston, is a native of Covington, Ga., son of the Rev. Aaron G. and Martha (Taylor) Brewer, and was born November 2, 1834. Prior to eighteen years of age he had devoted his time to such duties as were incident to rural life and to the acquisition of such education as was practicable at the common schools. His father located in Atlanta, Ga., about 1852, and was there in charge of the *Christian Telegraph*, subsequently the *Southern Olive Tree*, and Samuel was his assistant editor for two years. In 1854, he returned to Montgomery, this State, whence the family had moved to Atlanta, and taught school until 1859. In the latter year he was elected Assistant Clerk of the House of Representatives, and in 1861 joined the Third Alabama State Troops in their expedition to the Pensacola Navy Yard. He was called home by the Legislature to resume the duties of Assistant Secretary. Subsequently he acted as one of the secretaries of the Secession Convention. Some time later he was made Chief Clerk of the Commissary Department, and in 1863 he was commissioned major in the Confederate Army and placed in charge of the records of the Commissary

Department at Richmond. He left the Confederate capital in company with Mr. Davis, and was acting Commissary when they reached Greensboro, N. C.

After the war Major Brewer returned to Montgomery, and in 1865 was elected Journal Clerk of the Provisional Legislature in the permanent State Government, a position he held until ousted by Reconstruction in 1870. In 1874 he was elected Secretary of the State Senate, and in 1877 he returned to Atlanta, where he was in business until 1883. In July of that year he came to Anniston, where he has since been actively engaged in real estate and insurance business.

He was married, October 1, 1861, to Miss Marion G. McFarland, of Richmond, Va., and has had born to him eight children: Maggie G., Daisy, Walter, Annie T., Charley B., Alpine G., Mary H., and Irving K. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Rev. Aaron G. Brewer was born near Trenton, N. J., in 1795; was ordained as a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church by presiding Elder Soule, afterward the distinguished Bishop Soule, and became a prominent minister in New York City. He severed his connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1821, and, associated with four others, organized the Methodist Protestant Church, in New York City, in 1826. He was sent South by the new denomination in 1830, and organized stations therein at many places in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. He died at Opelika, in 1877. At the time of his death he was President of the Methodist Protestant Conference of this State.

**C. H. CANFIELD**, President of the Anniston Granite Company, was born at Augusta, Ga., July 15, 1834, and is a son of Joseph G. and Emily Canfield, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Georgia.

The senior Mr. Canfield, in early life, located in Georgia and there died of yellow fever in 1839. His widow survived him but two years, and his son was reared principally by his grandparents, who educated him at the common schools.

April 28, 1861, C. H. Canfield joined Company H, Fourth Georgia Regiment, Confederate States Army, from which he was transferred the follow-

ing September, at Yorktown, Va., to Cobb's Cavalry.

In December, 1861, he was promoted to junior second lieutenant, and in September, 1862, "for distinguished gallantry in action," he was promoted to the rank of major. In a cavalry charge between Buckstown and Middleton, Md., September 13, 1862, he was seriously wounded.

Major Canfield remained in the army to the close of the war, when he returned to Georgia and embarked in mercantile business. In 1887 he came to Anniston and engaged in real estate business. He was one of the organizers of the Granite Company, and has been its president from the first. He is a director in the Anniston Savings Bank, and is variously interested in other popular enterprises.

In December, 1855, Major Canfield was married in Stewart County, Ga., to Miss Sarah M. Talbot. She died November 4, 1884, leaving one daughter. The present Mrs. Canfield, to whom the major was married in August, 1886, was Mrs. J. F. Alston, of Columbus, Miss.

**JOHN J. MCPHERSON**, Dealer in Real Estate, Anniston, son of Neill and Eliza McNair McPherson, natives of Richmond County, State of North Carolina, was born in Walton County, Fla., August 17, 1847.

The senior Mr. McPherson, after his marriage in North Carolina in 1829, migrated to Florida, where he practiced law for several years, and held various official positions up to 1862. During the Creek and Seminole War he held the rank of adjutant in the regiment commanded by Col. Levin Brown, and was, altogether, a man of considerable prominence and influence. He held a United States office during the administration of Presidents Pierce and Buchanan, and up to the commencement of the civil war in 1861. He also held various minor civil offices in Walton County; and was elected, six years in succession, Enrolling and Engrossing Clerk in the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, and was elected Secretary of the Senate of the State of Florida.

In 1863, he came into Alabama, located at Hlaw Ridge, and from there, in 1866, moved to Union Springs. In 1884 he came to Anniston, where he yet resides. He is now in the eighty-first year of

his age, and his wife, who died on the 20th day of April last, was in her seventy-eighth year. They reared a family of three sons and two daughters, of whom we have the following brief information: William was a member of the Third Florida Regiment during the war, entering the army as a private, and coming out with the rank of captain. After the war he moved to Los Angeles, Cal., and there practiced law until the day of his death. His only son, William B. McPherson, is now a resident of Paducah, Ky. Sally C., deceased, was the wife of Mr. George Shackelford. Annie Bell is the wife of Robert W. Allen, a teacher at Palestine, Tex. Malcom is a merchant in Anniston; he was a member of the Sixth Florida Regiment.

The grandfathers, McPherson and McNair, came originally from Scotland. John J. McPherson, and his sisters and brothers, acquired the principal part of their education at a school taught by the Rev. John Newton, a Presbyterian preacher, at Knoxhill, in Walton County, Fla. At the age of sixteen years he entered the drug business as a clerk and a student of pharmacy, and was thus employed for a period of twelve years. In 1873 he established a pharmacy of his own at Union Springs. He came to Anniston July 1, 1884, and was engaged in the drug business here until July 1, 1887. He was in real estate business until January 1, 1888. He was married, November 6, 1876, to Miss Fannie A. McCarty, daughter of Rev. W. A. McCarty, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Midway, Bullock County, Ala.

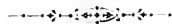


**WILLIAM HOWARD WILLIAMS**, Dealer in Real Estate, Anniston, is a native of Williamsport, Maury County, Tenn.; was born March 6, 1846, and reared and educated at Columbia, that State. In 1864 he joined the First Tennessee Cavalry, and remained in the service until the close of the war. He began business in Columbia in 1865 as a druggist, and was afterward dealing in clothing. He came to Anniston in 1883, and was here in the clothing business three years. Since 1886 he has been giving his entire attention to real estate, although he is now much interested in manufactures.

Mr. Williams is regarded as one of Anniston's

most enterprising and successful business men. His wife, before marriage, was Mary E. Sarven, daughter of Mr. John Sarven, a large carriage-manufacturer of Columbia, Tenn. They were married in June, 1873, and there has been born to this union the following named children: Nellie, Sadie, Howard S., James E., Mary and Edith. Mr. Williams is an elder in the Presbyterian Church and is a Knight Templar Mason.

Edward and Elizabeth (Dedman) Williams, parents of the subject of this sketch, were married in Tennessee. The Williams family were North Carolinians. They came early into Tennessee, and the town of Williamsport was named in honor of them. Edward Williams is now about seventy years of age. He has long been an active business man; was a merchant at Columbia, and was the president of the Dutch River Valley Railroad. He was largely interested in building that road, and has been officially connected with it from its inception.



**BRAXTON B. COMER**, extensive Planter and Wholesale Dealer in Merchandise, Anniston, is a native of Barbour County, this State, son of John E. and Catherine (Drewry) Comer, and was born November 7, 1843. He was educated in his native village, at the State University, and at Emory and Henry College, Virginia, graduating from the latter institution in 1869. He is now one of the largest farmers in the State; runs a retail store at Spring Hill; is the owner of extensive orange groves, pineapple orchards, etc., in the South, and is interested in milling and various other enterprises. He came to Anniston in 1886, and, in partnership with S. B. Trapp, established the present wholesale concern with which he is identified. His wife, before marriage, was Miss Eva J. Harris, of Cuthbert, Ga., and his children are named, respectively: Sallie B., J. Fletcher, MacDonald, Mignon, Catherine, Beverly and Eva. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the Masonic fraternity.

The senior Mr. Comer came from Georgia to Alabama in 1849, located at Spring Hill, and there erected the first steam mill of that county. Before leaving Georgia he had been Judge of a *visi prius* court, and after coming to Alabama he served in the Legislature. He died at the age of forty-seven years. He reared a family of six sons.

His father, H. M. Comer, was a native of Virginia, and of English descent. He migrated to Georgia at an early day, and there became an extensive planter.



**M. F. McCARTY**, is a native of Bullock County, Ala., son of Dr. W. A. and Belinda (Connor) McCarty, and was born July 4, 1846.

Mr. McCarty was educated at the East Alabama Male College—now known as the Agricultural and Mechanical College—and at the outbreak of the late war was attending the Military Institute at Glenville. In the spring of 1863 he enlisted in Company A, Sixty-first Alabama, and remained until the close of the war, participating in the battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, around Petersburg, etc. He was captured at Spotsylvania, but paroled in time to take part in the last battles about Petersburg. He surrendered with General Lee at Appomattox, returned immediately home, and for several years devoted his time to planting. So soon as he had accumulated means sufficient, he entered college. While in the senior class, he met and married Miss Sallie Jenkins, of Montgomery, and soon thereafter, in his native county, resumed farming. In 1880 he engaged in the drug business at Auburn, and in 1883 located at Anniston. Here he established the second furniture house started in this place. He sold out his furniture business in 1887.

Dr. W. A. McCarty came from South Carolina and settled in Bullock County when a young man, and preached regularly as a Methodist minister for about thirty-five years. Of his two sons, M. F. only is living. William E. was a member of the Sixth Alabama Regiment during the late war, after which he moved to Texas, and there died. The Doctor's four daughters are all married; two living in Florida and two in Alabama. Before entering the ministry the Doctor was a lawyer by profession.



**BENJAMIN F. SAWYER**, Mayor of the city of Oxanna, a suburb of Anniston, is a native of Talladega County, son of Ansel and Sarah (Norris) Sawyer, and was born May 18, 1833, at Jumper's Springs, now the town of Mardisville. He was reared to manhood on a farm; is self-educated,

and from the age of 18 to 23 superintended the business of his mother. He began business as a merchant at Columbiana, continued there four years, and was farming when the war broke out. In June, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company K, Tenth Alabama, and in July following was commissioned to raise a company. This he proceeded to do; and he armed and equipped them at his own expense. At the head of this company, then an independent command, he participated in the battles of Belmont and Columbus, and was shortly afterward assigned to heavy artillery. In the fall of 1861, he joined a Mississippi regiment, and at the battle of Shiloh was wounded. This retired him from active service for a short time, but he rejoined the army in September, 1862, and was at the battle of Mumfordsville, from which place, on account of his wound, he was assigned to post duty at Chattanooga. He re-joined his command at Shelbyville, where his company was transferred to the Twenty-fourth Alabama in the spring of '63. At Murfreesboro he was again wounded, but slightly. About this time Captain Sawyer was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and as such he participated in the battle of Chickamunga, the Atlanta campaign, and in Hood's Tennessee campaign. After the battle of Franklin he was promoted colonel, and for some time before the close to the final surrender he commanded a brigade. For a few years succeeding the war he was variously employed in farming and mercantile business, and in 1869 he established the *Mountain Home* at Talladega. He edited this paper about a year, and in 1870 took charge of the *Rome (Georgia) Daily*. From the *Daily*, within a short time, he transferred to the *Rome Courier*, which paper he edited about five years. He then established the *Rome Tribune*, and conducted it about two years. In 1874 he edited the *Atlanta Evening Commonwealth*, and in 1879, he was at Newark, N. J., in the interest of an invention of his for the manufacture of paper bags.

Colonel Sawyer came to Anniston in 1883, and soon afterward established the *Oxanna Tribune*. At this time his literary work is confined principally to correspondence, and he contributes variously to the *Atlanta*, *Philadelphia*, *Boston*, and *New York* papers. In 1887, associated with S. and W. S. Larned, he established the *South Anniston Hardware Company*.

September 7, 1857, Colonel Sawyer was married to Miss Charlotte Ambrester, of Talladega County.



**JOHN CLARK LE GRAND, M.D.**, prominent Physician and Surgeon, Anniston, is a native of Calhoun County, this State, son of J. C. and Martha A. (Watson) LeGrand, and was born December 6, 1854, at the town of White Plains. He spent the first eighteen years of his life on his father's plantation, and in attendance at the common schools. He subsequently attended a high school in Georgia, read medicine and graduated from Atlanta Medical College in the spring of 1880. He began the practice of his profession in his native county, and was located at Weaver's three years. In autumn of 1883 he located at Anniston, and here readily took rank among the foremost of his profession. He was one of the charter members of the Calhoun Medical Society, organized April 30, 1880, and has been its secretary ever since. He is at present Assistant Health Officer for Calhoun County at Anniston, and the representative of the county society to the State Medical Association. He is a member of various

fraternities and societies, and is altogether one of the most promising young professional men of East Alabama. He was married December 2, 1880, to Miss Jennie Lee Ayers, of Carnesville, Ga., and his three children are named, respectively, Mary Ruth, Bessie and Annie Forney. The Doctor and his wife are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Doctor is prominent as a Mason, Odd Fellow, Knight of Honor and United Workman.

Since coming to Anniston the Doctor has been not only successful in the practice of medicine, but it appears from the records that his investments in real estate have been highly profitable.

The senior Mr. LeGrand came from Georgia to this State, settled near White Plains, followed teaching several years, entered the Confederate Army in 1863, and died at Atlanta in April, 1864. He reared a family of four sons and two daughters. His father was a native of South Carolina, and the LeGrands were French Huguenots.



## XI. JACKSONVILLE.

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The town of Jacksonville is situated on the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad, and has a population of from twelve to fifteen hundred people. It was settled in the very earliest history of the county, and while the Indians were still resident here. The county records were destroyed in 1864 by the raid of Federal troops that came through on their way South, and only left one book, which has in it the map of the old town. This book shows the town was laid off in 1833. The county was then named Benton; the earliest settlers were composed of emigrants from the States of South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee, the lineal descendants of whom comprise a large part of its present population. Its early settlers were, some of them, men of large means and lived in elegance and ease, and gave to the town, in its former days, its wide distinction for social hospitality, benevolence and Christian charity which it still holds.

The town is situated on the foothills of the Blue Ridge, and is surrounded by beautiful valleys on all sides; the scenery is lovely, and the vision never tires in looking on the mountains and the undulating valleys that go out in all directions. It has a perfect system of natural drainage, all water flowing rapidly into large streams that run along near the town. There is a large and bold limestone spring that flows from the foot of the hill on which the town is situated, and affords more than a million gallons of pure, fresh water per day. In addition to this there is a system of water works, owned and controlled by the town, which cost several thousand dollars, and brings, through large iron pipes a great quantity of water from a freestone spring that rises in the mountain some two miles east of the city. The natural pressure of this water in the pipes, from its elevation above the town, will throw the water over the highest buildings, and is an excellent protection against fire.

Jacksonville was the county seat of Benton County, and was established as such on the organ-

ization of the county. When the name of the county was changed to Calhoun, which it now bears, it still remained the county seat, and is to this day the capital of one of the wealthiest and most progressive counties in the State. Its first court house was built of brick, in 1838, and has stood in the middle of the public square for fifty years until a few days ago, when it was torn down, the county having erected, two years ago, a large and more modern and convenient structure, and one more in keeping with the needs and progress of the county.

The East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railroad passes within the corporate limits of the town. The East & West Railroad of Alabama, which is at present a narrow-gauge railroad, leading from Cedartown, Ga. to the coal fields of St. Clair County, passes within about one mile of the corporate limits, and negotiations have been pending for the introduction of the road into the town. There is a road partly graded between this place and Gadsden, Ala., and known as the Jacksonville, Gadsden & Atalla Railroad. There has been a road surveyed by the Georgia Central recently, through the town, contemplating the construction of a road from Carrollton, Ga., *via* Jacksonville, to Decatur, Ala. There is also a mineral railroad from this place to Anniston, twelve miles south, in contemplation.

For many years the bar at Jacksonville ranked along with the highest in the State, and has furnished a number of very prominent judges, chancellors, legislators and members of Congress; one of whom, A. J. Walker, was a member of the Supreme Court of Alabama, and was at one time Chief-Justice. The medical profession have had a number who were distinguished in their line. The most of the older members of this profession have recently passed away, and their places have been filled by younger men, who are achieving distinction in their calling.

The Jacksonville *Republican* is a staunch Democratic journal, and was established here fifty-one





*Tho: A. Walker.*

years ago. It has always been one of the leading weekly papers in the State. Almost from its foundation it was edited by the late J. F. Grant, who was at one time Treasurer of the State, and after his death the editorial management fell upon Hon. L. W. Grant, who is his son and who has given much character to it throughout the State for its sound principles and its able editorials. It is held in high esteem by the people of the county, and is a familiar visitant to almost every fireside.

There are Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal, Baptist and Episcopal churches in the town, and there are Lutheran and Catholic congregations in the place that are visited regularly by ministers of their faith, but they have no organized churches as yet.

The chief pride of the town is the State Normal School, situated here, which is doing a valuable work in turning out enthusiastic teachers, whose influence will soon be felt throughout this entire section of the State. It has the aid and encouragement of the entire community, and connected with it is a high-school of the very first class, which has an attendance of from two to three hundred pupils.

The disasters of the war left the people of the town impoverished, and quite a number of its distinguished and public spirited citizens fell victims to what they deemed the cause of their country in the late contest—some on the field of battle, and some succumbed to the fatal maladies that are incident to a soldier's life. On account of these depressing influences the town has not stepped forth in the march of industrial progress as rapidly as has been the wish of its public-spirited citizens. With the recent outburst of improvement, and the upheaval of the industrial energy throughout the mineral district of North Alabama, Jacksonville has kept pace, and has put on the garb of improvement, and taking advantage of the rich and exhaustless mineral wealth that lies imbedded in the hills in the town and in the immediate vicinity, a number of men from other cities, who have abundant faith in the final outcome of this entire section, and a number of resident citizens here, about a year ago organized a corporation known as the Jacksonville Land Company. This company acquired by purchase about twelve thousand acres of valuable land lying in the corporate limits, suitable for business lots and for places for dwellings, and of valuable iron and

timber lands adjacent to the town. Some months ago the entire property of the Jacksonville Land Company was sold to the Jacksonville Mining and Manufacturing Company, another corporation, with a capital stock of \$1,500,000. This new company has recently purchased about one thousand acres of valuable land in the corporate limits of the town, for which they paid a large sum, and now have a corps of engineers in the field laying off their property into town lots, with a view of putting a limited amount of them on the market. It is the purpose of the company to build up a model and thriving industrial and manufacturing town, and to do it they have abundant means in the magnificent resources of their property. Negotiations are now pending, with every prospect of a speedy settlement, for the establishment here of two or three industries that are new for the South, and will be of the greatest importance to the upbuilding of the county and town.

On account of its elevation above the sea, Jacksonville is a place of refuge in the hot summer months for the people in the cities south of us, and its mild winters are a temptation to the people of more arctic regions to come and dwell with us. To accommodate this class of people a large hotel, with all modern conveniences, which is to be elegantly furnished, is now in process of erection, and will cost from twenty to twenty-five thousand dollars.

The spirit of progress is among our people, and all things point to the coming future, which is near at hand, when Jacksonville will be known and called "The Queen of the South."



**THOMAS A. WALKER**, whose portrait embellishes this chapter, was born in Jasper County, Ga., January 5, 1811, and his parents were Thomas F. and Ferbee (Smith) Walker. The family came to Alabama in 1819, and here afterward made their homes.

Thomas A., familiarly known as Judge Walker, was educated at the State University; began the study of law when twenty years of age, and was admitted to the bar two years later. He located first in the practice at Elyton, and remained there until 1836. He had been elected Solicitor for the Ninth Judicial Circuit in 1835, and it was the

year following that he moved to Jacksonville. He is now the only man living at this place who was here at that time.

At the outbreak of the Creek Indian War, he was holding the office of brigadier-general, and by order of Governor Clay, he raised a battalion of troops for the service, and led them to Columbus, Ga., where they were mustered into the command of General Jessup.

Judge Walker has served three terms in the Representative branch of the State Legislature and six years in the Senate. At the time of his first election to the lower house (1839), he was holding the office of Solicitor, which disqualified him as a legislator. However, a new election was at once held in his county, and he was again chosen, and took his seat two days before adjournment of the session.

He was first elected to the Senate in 1842, for a term of three years; and he was the president of that body at the close of the late war. Under the Reconstruction Act he was for a time disfranchised. The negroes that blacked his boots and groomed his horses could vote and hold office, but the Judge, having had intelligence enough to entertain opinions of his own, and courage enough to express them, was not the sort of man a carpet-bag and blatherskite Congress deemed fit to exercise the right of franchise in the South. Under the domination of that scum of Northern society that settled down upon the Southern States like a pestilence, in the wake of the triumphant army, the servant was to become the master, ignorance and crime should wield the lash, and intelligence and virtue should tread the wine press. But it is God that directs the destinies of Nations, and in the fullness of His own good time all things are righted.

While Judge Walker has survived many of the evils that beset him in those days and seen many of his unofficial opinions verified by the highest tribunal of the land, he has not held or sought to hold any office since his re-enfranchisement. Prior to 1858, he was nine years a Circuit Court Judge. From 1858 to the close of the war between the States he was president of the Alabama & Tennessee Railroad Company and that road was built under his administration from Columbiana to Blue Mountain station in Calhoun county. The road was afterwards completed to Dalton, Georgia, by New York parties, and later on went into bankruptcy and the Judge was made one of its receivers.

Judge Walker was married August 30, 1836, to Sarah McGehee. She died in April, 1880. Thomas T. Walker, Judge Walker's father, was a native of Hancock County, Ga. He came to Bibb County, Ala., in 1819, and in 1820 moved to Montevallo, in Shelby County, where he remained until his death.

The father of Thomas T. Walker was named David Walker, a native of Buckingham County, Va. He was a soldier under Washington in the Revolutionary War. The family originally came from England. Feribee Smith, the wife of Thomas T. Walker, was a daughter of Ezekiel Smith, a native of South Carolina. He was also a Revolutionary soldier, and was descended from English parentage.



**REV. MARSHALL HALL LANE, D.D.**, of the Baptist Church, Jacksonville, was born at Washington, Wilkes County, Ga., July 9, 1845, and is a son of Dr. James H. and Mary C. (Simpson) Lane, natives of the same county.

Dr. J. H. Lane was educated at Mercer University in classical course, and was a graduate from the medical department of the State University. He is devoted to his profession, and has been a remarkably successful physician. He reared three sons and two daughters. He is a member of the Baptist Church and of the Masonic fraternity.

His wife is a daughter of William Simpson, one of the original settlers of Wilkes County. Mr. Simpson was a native of Virginia, and of Scotch-Irish ancestry. The Simpson family are among the oldest and best known families in the State of Georgia.

Dr. Lane's father, Rev. Micajah A. Lane, of the Baptist Church, came from Virginia to Georgia when he was but six years of age. After a long and popular service in the ministry, he died in 1887, at the great age of ninety-seven years.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county; educated at Wright and Hoyt High School, and at the age of seventeen years entered the army as a member of Wingfield's Battery of Cutt's Battalion (A. P. Hill's Corps), Army of Virginia. He was at the battles of Gettysburg and Petersburg, and all the engagements from Gettysburg to the close of the war; but was at home

on a furlough at the time of the final surrender.

Immediately after the war he attended Rockby Institute, Georgia, taught by Col. R. M. Johnson, a prominent Southern author. From this institution he entered the University of Virginia, and studied law two years. Returning home he formed a partnership with Generals Toombs & Du Bose, and practiced law three years. Since then he has given his whole attention to the ministry and the cause of education. He has been pastor of several churches in Georgia; of the Central Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., from which place he returned home on account of ill health; traveled two years as an evangelist in Kentucky, Tennessee and Arkansas, and for six years prior to his coming to Alabama had charge of Hern Institute, Cave Springs, Ga.

He came to Jacksonville to live in December, 1877; he had been pastor of the church here five years while living at Cave Springs, Ga. It may be said that during his pastorate at this place the membership of the church grew most wonderfully, having increased from a roll of twenty-one to one hundred and thirty-seven. He has also been pastor of Alpine Church, in Talladega County, for two years, and during the two years the membership of that church has been more than doubled. The honorary degree of D. D. was conferred upon him by the Alabama State University at the commencement exercises of 1886.

Dr. Lane was married October 6, 1868, to Undine Brown, of Hancock County, Ga. She is a daughter of the celebrated Dr. Algeron S. Brown, one of the most celebrated physicians who ever lived in Georgia. To this happy union were born twelve children, viz.: John S., Edward McIntosh, Mary Undine, Louise E., Sidney B., Eugene C., Bluebell C., James A., Marshall H., Jr., Marguerite T. and Reynolds. One boy died in infancy.

Dr. Lane is one of the most brilliant pulpit orators in the State.

years came to the United States. He settled in New York City, and in 1846 moved to Mobile, where he was engaged in the commission business. He was a first lieutenant in the British Guards under Capt. Daniel Wheeler during the late war. Afterwards he moved to Clarke County, Miss., where he conducted a large cotton farm. He was married in New York, and reared a family of eight sons, viz.: James S., a sea captain; Francis S., wholesale and retail grocer of Mobile; Wallace W., clerk in Mobile; Jefferson Davis, deceased; Frederick P., teacher in Clark County, Ala.; Emile L., student; and Alex. J., student in the State Normal College. The senior Mr. Gibson was a member of the Presbyterian Church and died in 1872. His wife was a native of New York, and of English extraction.

The subject of this sketch was reared in Mobile. He was graduated from the University of Alabama as A. B. in the class of 1884, and received from the same institution the next year the honorary degree of A. M. After having taught school at Mulberry, Autauga County, this State, about one year, he was elected a member of the Faculty of the State Normal College (through the influence of Colonel Lewis, of the State University), and after the resignation of J. H. Chappell, he was elected president of the College, which position he is now filling.

Professor Gibson has certainly won for himself much distinction, having worked his way up to the present position by his own energy and hard study. He is regarded as one of the most brilliant educators of the State. He is an eloquent speaker, a ready debater, and a man capable in all respects of filling the high position to which he has been called. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

**JOHN D. HAMMOND** was born in St. Clair County, Ala., October 27, 1838, and is a son of Richmond and Mary (Ash) Hammond.

The senior Mr. Hammond was born in Lawrence District, S. C., in August, 1801. He came to Alabama with his parents in 1816, and settled on the west bank of the Coosa River, near Greensport; there entered lands, and remained until his death, which occurred in July, 1861. He was an active farmer, and succeeded in accumulating a large fortune. At his death he owned about six thousand acres of land. He was in the Legisla-

**CARLETON BARTLETT GIBSON**, President of the State Normal College, was born at Mobile, Ala., September 18, 1864, and is a son of James S. and Antoinette Julia (Powers) Gibson.

The senior Mr. Gibson was born in South Dumfries, Scotland, in 1824, and at the age of eighteen

ture at different times from 1835 to 1848, and assisted in the organization of many of the earlier counties and did much toward shaping the development of the State. He reared six children, as follows: Mary E., wife of Isaac Looney; Jane C., wife of William Cross, of Shelby County; William C., of St. Clair County; Richmond F., deceased; Peter LaFayette, physician, was killed at Shiloh; and the subject of this sketch. The grandfather of our subject was a native of South Carolina, and was a descendant of English ancestry.

The mother of our subject was a native of Franklin County, Ga. She was a daughter of Colonel John Ash, who was a soldier in the war of 1812. The Ash family came originally from Ireland.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in his native county. He was married May 18, 1858, to Fannie A. Whisenant, daughter of William J. Whisenant, of Calhoun County, this State. To this union were born seven children, viz.: Walter E., Willie B., Anna L., Peter L., Mary A. E., Fannie W. and Katie. Mrs. Hammond died in 1884.

Mr. Hammond entered the army in the fall of 1863, as a member of a cavalry company of State troops. He served until the close of the war, when he resumed farming. He was engaged at farming until coming to Jacksonville in 1867; here he ran a hotel about ten years.

Mr. Hammond was elected to the Legislature from Calhoun County, in 1880, and served two terms, taking an active part in the passage of the Railroad Commission Bill and in the law regulating the convict system of the State. He was indefatigable in the interest of education, and was conspicuous in the establishment of normal schools at Jacksonville and Livingston, and in aiding the State University, the A. and M. College, and the common schools.

His politics, like those of his father's, have always been Democratic. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the Masonic and Knights of Honor fraternities.

**WILLIAM MARK HAMES**, Attorney-at-law, Jacksonville, was born in Hancock County, Ga., and is a son of William and Ritzpah Z. (Moore) Hames, natives of Virginia and North Carolina, respectively.

Mr. Hames' parents were married in Hancock County, Ga., and there reared five sons and two daughters. The elder Mr. Hames died in December, 1857. He was many years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was much beloved by those who knew him. His wife was a daughter of Jeremiah Moore, a native of Scotland.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated at LaGrange, Ga. In 1844 he came to Macon County, Ala. where he taught school four years, removing thence to Oxford, where he taught two years. He read law under A. J. Walker, and was admitted to the bar at Jacksonville in September, 1855. He has been in the practice ever since and has built up for himself a reputation as a brilliant and successful attorney.

Early in 1861, Mr. Hames entered the Second Alabama State Troops as a first lieutenant, and later became captain of Company A, Second Alabama Regiment. This command was disbanded at Fort Pillow, and he returned home, reorganized his company, and joined the Fifty-first Alabama Cavalry as captain. He was out but a short time, when, on account of his ill-health, he was compelled to resign and return home.

In 1857-8, he was Assistant Clerk of the State Legislature, and in 1863-4, was elected member of that body. In 1875 he was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, and took an active part in its deliberations.

In January, 1866, he was married to Mary E. Jones, daughter of James Jones, of Tennessee. The children born to this union are: Leonidas G., Lizzie R., James G., John N., Ezra and William. The family are members of the Old School Presbyterian Church.

**SAMUEL D. G. BROTHERS**, Attorney-at-law, Jacksonville, was born in Calhoun County, this State, June, 19, 1858, and is a son of Dr. Philip H. and Jennie (Downing) Brothers, natives, respectively, of St. Clair and Calhoun Counties, this State.

Doctor Brothers has been a practicing physician in Calhoun County, nearly all his professional life; he spent five years in Texas and Louisiana. He and his wife are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. They reared eight children.



viz.: Samuel D. G.; William P., now deceased; was a graduate of the University of Alabama and College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md.; Elizabeth F., Mary Emma, George A., Philip H., Zulah Sarah and Thomas J. The Brothers family were originally from England.

Mrs. Doctor Brothers is a daughter of Thomas J. Downing, an early pioneer of St. Clair County. He was a descendant of Irish parentage, and was born in Tennessee, or North Carolina. He located in Calhoun County in 1835, where he died in 1860.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native county; was graduated from the University of Alabama in the class of 1880, and from the law department in 1881. After leaving college he located at Jacksonville and formed a partnership with Willett & Willett, of Anniston, the style of the firm being Brothers, Willett & Willett.

Mr. Brothers was married October 21, 1885, to Ella Wyly, of Jacksonville. She is a daughter of Benjamin C. and Elsie (Snow) Wyly, natives of Georgia and Alabama, respectively. Mr. Brothers and wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

**JOHN HENRY CALDWELL.** Attorney-at-law, Jacksonville, son of John M. and Emily G. (Bell) Caldwell, natives, respectively, of the States of Kentucky and Virginia, was born at Huntsville, this State, April 4, 1826. He was educated in his native town, and at Bacon College, Harrodsburg, Ky. At the age of seventeen, he began teaching school, and continued at that vocation four years in Limestone County. He came to Jacksonville in 1848, and for four years had charge of the Jacksonville Female Academy; the succeeding four years he was in charge of the Male School at Jacksonville, and in 1851 and 1852 edited the Jacksonville *Republican*. In 1855 he assumed the editorship of the *Sunny South*, and was conducting this paper in 1857, when he was elected to the Legislature. In 1859 he was elected Solicitor of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, was re-elected in 1863, and in 1865 was removed for political reasons by Governor Parsons. He was immediately re-elected to the Legislature, but for similar reasons was removed by the military in 1867. Having been admitted to the bar in 1859, he at once entered the practice of his profession. He was elected to Congress in 1882, and re-elected in 1884.

Mr. Caldwell is a talented gentleman of easy address, an agreeable and fluent speaker, and in all of his official trusts has acquitted himself with dignity and credit. He was married in November, 1846, to Miss Mary D. Greer, of Fayetteville, Tenn.

**LEONIDAS W. GRANT.** Editor and Proprietor of the Jacksonville *Republican*, was born August 8, 1843, in this city, and is a son of J. F. and Elizabeth (Riley) Grant, natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, respectively.

The senior Mr. Grant came to Calhoun County, Ala., in 1834, to take charge of a Baptist paper. In 1837, he became proprietor of the paper, changed its name to the Jacksonville *Republican*, and published it until the day of his death. In 1870 he was elected State Treasurer, and in 1872 was renominated for that office, but in common with the Democratic State ticket, was defeated. He was a prominent Mason, and an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He reared one son and four daughters.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated at Jacksonville. He attended the Wesleyan University at Florence, and was about to enter upon the junior year when the war broke out. In June, 1861, he enlisted in the service as a private in Company G, Tenth Alabama Regiment, and in 1862 was promoted to sergeant-major. In 1863 he was promoted to adjutant of the regiment. He participated in the battle of Dranesville, and in all the engagements in which his regiment took part, except the battles of Cold Harbor and the Wilderness. He surrendered with General Lee.

In 1867, Major Grant founded the Gadsden *Times*, remained with that paper until his father was elected State Treasurer, when he returned to Jacksonville and purchased a half-interest in the *Republican*. In 1874 he was elected to the lower house of the State Legislature, and in 1880, was elected to the State Senate, in which body he served with distinction four years. At this writing (1888), he is the Democratic nominee for State Senator from the Seventh District.

He is a brilliant speaker, a terse and vigorous writer, and one of the most enterprising men of North Alabama. He is prominently identified with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias fra-

terities, and is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Major Grant's wife was Miss Annie Foster, the accomplished daughter of Chancellor John Foster, of this city.



**JOHN M. CROOK, M.D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Jacksonville, was born August 4, 1847, at Alexandria, Calhoun County, this State. He was reared in his native village, received a common school education, and, at the age of fifteen years, entered the University of Alabama, where he remained until he reached the senior class, when he enlisted as first lieutenant in the Army of the Confederate States. After his father's death he took charge of his plantations, and subsequently, in 1872, at Alexandria, engaged in mercantile business, and continued thereat until 1878. In the last named year he moved to Jacksonville, and remained there four years, engaged, in the meantime, at farming. In 1883 he began the study of medicine, and in 1885 was graduated from Baltimore College of Physicians and Surgeons. Immediately after graduating he was appointed resident physician of the Maryland Woman's Hospital; remained there one year; spent six months at Bay View, and returned to Jacksonville, where he has since devoted his time to the practice of his profession.

Dr. Crook is one of the most accomplished physicians in Northeastern Alabama, and is held in highest esteem by the people and the profession generally. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and is always identified with every movement tending to advance the best interests of the community in which he resides. He served the city of Jacksonville from 1880 to 1883, inclusive, as Mayor.

In April, 1876, the Doctor was married to Miss Annie Whateley, the accomplished daughter of the gallant Col. George C. Whateley, who fell at the head of his regiment, the Tenth Alabama, at the battle of Sharpsburg, Md. Mrs. Crook died in January, 1878.



**CHARLES H. MONTGOMERY, M. D.**, of Jacksonville, was born at LaGrange, Troup County, Ga., January 2, 1845. He was reared

in his native town, where he received a good education and was prepared to enter the senior class of the Southern University at Greensboro, this State.

On the announcement of the secession of Alabama, his heart beat in unison with the people of his adopted State, and in April, 1861, he enlisted in an artillery company made up at Selma, and commanded by his father. The first year of his service was in Virginia; after which he served in artillery with Forrest's Cavalry, in whose command his company saw much active service. At Selma, for "courage and bravery," he was recommended for promotion to a lieutenantcy. His last engagement was at West Point, Ga., in April, 1865.

Immediately after the war, he settled at Evergreen, Conecuh County, Ala., where he began the study of medicine, and in 1866 was graduated as M. D. from the Washington University, Medical Department, Baltimore. He attended lectures also at Atlanta, where he afterwards practiced his profession for a long time. For the past fourteen years he has been located near and at Jacksonville, where he has met with much success, and is regarded as one of the best and most skillful physicians of North Alabama.

Dr. Montgomery was married, January 6, 1870, to Jennie Chamberlain, whose father was a nephew of General Warren, of Revolutionary fame. Two children, Paul and Julia, bless this union. The Doctor is a member of the Presbyterian church, of the Masonic and I. O. O. F. fraternities, and of the Knights of Honor and Improved Order of Red Men.

The father of Dr. Montgomery, Col. Joseph T. Montgomery, was born in the Waxhaw Settlement, N. C. and when a boy came with his parents to DeKalb County, Ga., where he was reared. He was the founder of LaGrange Female College, and was widely known as a most thorough educator. He moved to Summerfield, Ala., in 1857, and there presided over Centenary Institute. From the latter city he entered the army as captain of the Jeff. Davis Artillery, and later on he was advanced to lieutenant-colonel of the Fourteenth Georgia Artillery, in General Bragg's army. Impaired health compelled him to resign before the close of the war, and in 1870 he moved to Marshall, Tex., where he founded the Marshall Female College, and where he remained until his death, which occurred in July, 1872.

He was an active and leading member of the





James Cook

Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was a man of superior mental ability. He was regarded as one of the most popular educators of the South, and was highly respected and beloved as a citizen and Christian. He married Julia A. F. Cameron, of Troup County, Ga. They reared three children, viz.: Charles H. (our subject), Walter V. and Mamie E., who died at Jacksonville in 1885. She was an eminent teacher, and at the time of her death was a member of the Normal School faculty, at Jacksonville. Walter V. Montgomery is a member of the Doctor's family, and is at present studying medicine with him.



**JAMES CROOK, Jr.**, was born at Alexandria, Calhoun County, Ala., October 12, 1841, and is a son of John M. Crook, Sr., and Margaret (Miller) Crook, natives of Spartanburg District, S. C.

John M. Crook, Sr., was born in 1810, and came to Alabama in 1834. He was a lawyer and farmer by profession and occupation, and took an active part in politics, though declining all official position for himself. He was a delegate to the Secession Convention of 1860, and took a prominent part in the deliberation of that body.

The Crook family came originally from Wales, settling first in Virginia, and moving from there into South Carolina. James Crook, Sr., the paternal grandfather of Maj. James Crook, Jr., was reared and educated in South Carolina, and had the honor of representing the county (then district) of Spartanburg, at different times in both branches of the State Legislature. He married a Miss Owen, a lady of Scotch-Irish descent, and, in 1834, came to Alabama. Here he purchased large tracts of fertile lands and devoted himself to agriculture. Samuel Miller (the maternal grandfather of Maj. James Crook, Jr.) and his wife, who was a Miss Dean, were of Scotch-Irish extraction, and Samuel Miller was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. A few years prior to the War for Independence, a large number of Scotch-Irish settled along the foothills of the Blue Ridge in Pennsylvania, Virginia, North and South Carolina, when their farther pilgrimage was arrested by the beautiful scenery, fertile lands, and salubrious climate of upper South Carolina.

Here they built their cabins near springs of cool and delicious water, erected school-houses and

churches, and were soon living in peace and plenty, such as they had never known in the Mother Country. There both had been denied them by the cruelties of religious persecution.

No grander specimens of humanity have been produced anywhere on earth than those who were born and reared in this "Piedmont Region," and should we take their achievements from American history, it would be robbed of some of its grandest success in war, in statesmanship and religion.

Not long were those noble pioneers left in the enjoyment of the blessings which Providence had so bountifully bestowed upon them. When the oppressions of the Mother Country began, some of those same Scotch-Irish were the first at Mecklenburg to declare their independence of a government which they had learned to distrust before crossing the ocean. Among the first to take up arms, were Crook, Owens, Dean and John Miller, of the Tiger River settlement, in what is now called Spartanburg County, S. C. All four of those men were great-grandfathers of Maj. James Crook, Jr., the subject of this sketch. The three first named served gallantly throughout the War for Independence in the American Army. The last named, John Miller, was killed by Tories and Indians during the year 1775. The assassins were hidden under a bridge over which he had to pass on his way from Fort Nicholas to his home. Fort Nicholas was situated a short distance from the scene of the occurrence, on North Tiger River, and Miller was going for supplies for his own and other families then being protected at the Fort. A thrilling account of his death is recorded in Howe's History of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina. He left one son, Samuel Miller, who, seven years later, took part in the battle of Cowpens. The last named was the maternal grandfather of Major Crook, who thus had four great-grandfathers and a grandfather in the Revolutionary War—an honor of ancestry which can be claimed by but few living men. Samuel Miller was subsequently sheriff of Spartanburg County, at a time when that office combined the duties of the present clerk and probate judge.

Major Crook was educated at the Universities of Alabama and Virginia. From the latter institution he took his departure a short time before the end of his last term, and in June, 1861, enlisted in Company D, Tenth Alabama Regiment, as a private soldier. In 1862 he was promoted to first lieutenant; in 1864 he was made captain, and

later on was promoted to the rank of major of Cavalry. Soon after his transfer to the Cavalry service, he was captured, and was imprisoned on Johnson's Island until the close of the war. Prior to his capture he had participated in many hotly-contested battles.

After the cessation of hostilities, he returned to Alexandria, and during the following year, at Jacksonville, began the study of law in the office of Hon. W. H. Forney. He was admitted to the bar in 1867 and at once entered upon successful practice of his profession. In that year he was made chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of his county, in which capacity he served for six years, and was contemporaneously a member of the State Democratic Executive Committee. In 1868 he was a Seymour and Blair elector, and made a very thorough and active canvass of his district. In 1869 he was elected as the nominee of the Democratic Party to the lower House of the General Assembly. In 1876 he was appointed by Governor Houston to the highly honorable and responsible position of a trustee of the State University, and in 1883 he was made, by statute, a director in the Normal School at Jacksonville, in both of which capacities he is still acting. He continued to give his attention to the practice of his profession until 1881, when he was elected Railroad Commissioner, with Hon. Walter L. Bragg as president and Hon. Charles P. Ball, associate. He continued in this position four years, since which time he has been giving his attention to his private business—principally manufacturing, farming, and the breeding of blooded stock.

Major Crook was married to Miss Annie E. Ponder, of Montgomery, Ala., in 1868, by which marriage he has a son, James Flournoy Crook. Mrs. Crook died in 1869, and in 1871, Major Crook was married to Miss Reynolds, a daughter of Major Walker Reynolds, an influential citizen of Talladega County. To this union four children have been born: Hannah, Walker R., Martin and Eppie, the latter now deceased.



**ISAAC LEONIDAS SWAN**, Clerk of the Probate Court, Jacksonville, was born September 24, 1832, in McMinn County, Tenn., and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Wood.) Swan.

The senior Mr. Swan was born in Knox County,

Tenn., in 1798; was a captain in the Seminole War in 1836; died in Bradley County, Tenn., to which he moved, about 1840; left living seven children, of whom three were sons, viz.: Isaac L., our subject, Samuel Jones, a farmer of Tennessee, who served in the Southern Army from that State, and William Alexander, who died in Arkansas. His father married a Miss Gamble, and was one of the pioneers of Knox County, Tenn., where he lived until his death. He reared a large family. The Swan family came originally from England, and the Woods family are of Scotch origin.

Isaac Leonidas Swan was reared and educated in Tennessee, and in September, 1853, came to Jacksonville, where he was soon afterward appointed Clerk of the Probate Court. He filled this office six years, and then accepted a position as book-keeper for J. B. & G. H. Forney. In the spring of 1861 he entered the army as a member of Company G, Tenth Alabama, and participated in the battles of the second Manassas, Wilderness, Petersburg, a short siege below Richmond, and other minor contests.

At the close of the war he returned to Jacksonville, and shortly removed to Selma, where he was employed as book-keeper until 1870. From Selma he returned to Jacksonville, and in 1874 was appointed to the position he has since continuously filled; Clerk of the Probate Court. He is identified with the leading industries of Jacksonville, and is a member of the Knights of Honor.

Mr. Swan was appointed County Treasurer in 1875, and having been elected to that office in 1877, held it until 1880. He was married June 6, 1866, to Miss Mary F. Cannon, of this city. Her father, Judge L. W. Cannon, a native of South Carolina, was among the early settlers of Calhoun County.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Swan are named, respectively: Mary E., William Gordon, Mattie P., Fannie Lee, Emma A. J., Samuel L., John R., Flora Alabama, Hannah Cleveland, and James Hugh.



**JOHN P. WEAVER**, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Jacksonville, was born near Weaver's Station, Calhoun County, February 26, 1860, and is a son of Lindsey and Lucinda (Pace) Weaver, natives of Putnam County, Ga.

The senior Mr. Weaver came to Calhoun County

about 1836, and here followed farming the rest of his life. He and his wife were members of the Baptist Church, of which he was a deacon. He died in 1861, at the age of fifty-seven years, and she in 1879, at the age of sixty-four years. They reared nine children, viz.: Richard, David F., Thomas L., John P., Lizzie (Mrs. Woodruff); Louisa, wife of Judge James Aiken, of Gadsden; Fannie, wife of P. M. Watson; Hattie, wife of A. Seabrough; and Arcadia, wife of W. J. Allen, of Bessemer, Ala. Richard, David F. and Thomas L. are farmers by occupation; the two first named were soldiers in the Southern army during the war between the States.

The Weavers came originally from Germany, and Lindsey Weaver's father was one of the pioneers of Putnam County, Ga. Richard Pace, Mrs. Weaver's father, was one of the early settlers of Calhoun County. He was a Baptist minister, and as such was held in highest esteem.

The subject of this sketch was reared on a farm in his native county, and at the age of fifteen years engaged as clerk for the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railway, at Weaver's Station, a position he held until 1886. In August of that year he was elected Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Mr. Weaver is a member of the Baptist Church, and a popular citizen of Jacksonville.



**HENRY FLOYD MONTGOMERY**, United States Commissioner, was born near Atlanta, Ga., in November, 1846, and is a son of James F. and Elizabeth (Young) Montgomery, natives of South Carolina. He was reared on a farm, and educated at the common school. February, 1864, he entered Ferrel's Battery (General Forrest's command), and subsequently took part in the battles of Decatur, Florence, Selma, etc. He was paroled at or near Atlanta May 14, 1865. After the final surrender he returned to Georgia, and from there later on moved to Texas, where he remained until 1867.

Returning again to his native State, Mr. Montgomery engaged in mercantile business, and in 1869 he came to Jacksonville. He was here in business till 1871, and after a few years, absence returned in 1880 and is now here with at least a degree of permanency.

Mr. Montgomery has been very successful in business, and is a man of more than ordinary intelligence and judgment. He was married in Feb-

ruary, 1873, to Miss Mary Linder, daughter of Dr. D. P. Linder, of Jacksonville, and has had born to him six children, viz.: Bessie, Floy, Lillie, Joe Linder, John and Grace. The family are members of the Pro-byterian Church, of which Mr. Montgomery is an elder. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor.

James F. Montgomery, the father of Henry F., when a boy, accompanied his parents to Georgia where he was reared and educated, and where he became a substantial planter. During the Florida War, (1836) he held the rank of captain and took part in several hard fought battles. He reared a family of four sons and two daughters, of whom three are now living, viz.: Henry F., William R. and Emma Haynes. He was a highly esteemed citizen and a man of considerable local influence. He died in 1847, and his widow, some years afterward, married Matthew Osborne, of Marietta, Ga.

Mr. Montgomery's father, Maj. James M. C. Montgomery, was a son of James Montgomery, who came from the north of Ireland in 1740, and settled in South Carolina. Prior to 1821 he moved to DeKalb County, Ga., and located on the Chattahoochee River, near Atlanta. Here he met, and, in due process of time, married Nancy Farlow, a noble Christian woman, native of South Carolina. Their home was in what is known as the South Bend of the Chattahoochee, and was a familiar rendezvous for the early travelers through that part of the State. The old gentleman, remembered now by few of the many who enjoyed this hospitality, the rest having, like himself, joined the silent majority, was of the same stock from which descended Gen. Richard Montgomery, who fell at the Battle of Quebec in 1775. He was well-informed on all topics of the day, and represented his county in the Legislature several terms. He was noted for his charity and for the kind treatment of his slaves, and was beloved and honored by all who came in contact with him. He reared a family of six sons and five daughters, all of whom received the best education that was available, and who in later years became worthy citizens of this section of the country.



**PEYTON ROWAN** was born in Pendleton District, S. C., October 18, 1816, and is a son of

James and Sarah Rowan, natives of the same place.

The senior Mr. Rowan was a planter by occupation, and reared five sons and three daughters. In about 1820 he came to Jefferson County, near where Birmingham is now situated, and in 1824 removed to St. Clair County, where he spent the rest of his life. He died in September, 1880, at the advanced age of ninety-three years. His wife died about 1862. The grandfather of our subject was a native of Spartanburg District, S. C., and of Irish extraction.

The mother of Peyton Rowan was a daughter of William Pullen, a native of Virginia. He took part in the Revolutionary War, and soon afterward moved to South Carolina, whence, in 1820 he came to this State and settled near Birmingham, where he died at the age of ninety-six years.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in this State. At the age of eighteen years he entered a store as salesman at Ashville, and in 1842 became a partner, which partnership lasted until 1865. In 1866 he came to Jacksonville, where he engaged in the mercantile business, and in January, 1871, took in as partners W. H. and Walter Dean; the firm name being Rowan, Dean & Co. This firm has done, and is at the present writing doing, the largest business of any house of the kind in Calhoun County.

Mr. Rowan was married April 16, 1856, to Miss Ann Forney, sister of General Forney, of Confederate fame. This Union has been blessed with four children, viz: Dr. John F., of New York City; Sallie L.; Emma M., wife of Bernard Gaston, of Montgomery; and George H.

The family are communicants of the Episcopalian Church, and Mr. Rowan is a member of the Masonic fraternity.

**EMMETT F. CROOK** was born at Alexandria, Calhoun County, this State, July 27, 1851, and is a son of John M. and Narmeza (Woodruff) Crook.

Mrs. Crook is a daughter of Caleb Woodruff, a native of Spartanburg, S. C., who came to Calhoun County in 1834. His father was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was of English ancestry.

The subject of this sketch was reared and edu-

cated in his native county, and at the age of seventeen years entered a store as salesman. In 1874 he engaged in general merchandising at Alexandria, and he continued thereat until 1883. In 1886 he was elected Probate Judge. He has always been active in politics, has taken part in all the State conventions since 1876, and was chairman of the county conventions of 1882 and 1884.

Mr. Crook was married December 19, 1872, to Miss Sallie Walker, daughter of Whitfield and Mary (Mangum) Walker, natives of South Carolina. Mr. Walker was colonel of an Alabama regiment during the war. He is now Collector of Internal Revenue for the District of Florida. Mr. Crook has had born to him four children, viz.: Maud, Ida, Whitfield Walker and John M. The family are members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. Crook is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Knights of Honor.

**WILLIAM H. DEAN** was born in St. Clair County, this State, October 6, 1845. He was reared and educated in his native county, and from there, in 1861, entered the Southern Army, as a member of Company A, Tenth Alabama Infantry. He was with his command in its many engagements up to and including Gettysburg. On the retreat from the latter place he fell into the hands of the enemy and was imprisoned at Point Lookout and Fort Delaware for several months. He located at Jacksonville in 1867, where he has since been actively engaged in business. Mr. Dean was married July 24, 1884, to Miss Ida M. Steel. Mrs. Dean died in 1885.

**GIDEON C. ELLIS**, Attorney-at-law, was born in Blount County, this State, November 7, 1825. He was reared in his native county and received his primary education at the common schools. He came to Jacksonville in 1851, and in the office of Mr. Geo. C. Whately began the study of law. In 1852 he was admitted to the bar, and at once formed a partnership with his preceptor.

This partnership continued until April, 1861, at which time Mr. Ellis enlisted in defense of the



South as a member of the First Alabama Regiment. He had been but a few months in the service, however, when his protracted ill-health necessitated his discharge. Soon after returning home he resumed the practice of law, and has since devoted his time and talents thereto.

In 1855 Mr. Ellis represented Calhoun County in the Legislature; during the period of the war he held the office of Register in Chancery, and in 1865 he was returned to the Legislature and kept there two terms. This seems to constitute the sum of his office holding. As a legislator he was faithful, active and efficient, in fact it is doubtful if Calhoun—somewhat prolific in the production of talented men—has ever been better represented in the General Assembly than during the period of Mr. Ellis' incumbency. A lawyer of rare attainments, he not only knew the needs of his people, but he had the ability to present them, and, if need be, the courage to defend them.

As an attorney and counselor-at-law, he is ranked among the foremost of the Calhoun bar, and as an advocate his reputation is by no means local. He is recognized by all who know him as a gentleman and a scholar; and as a citizen of Jacksonville he is held in high esteem.

Mr. Ellis was married in January, 1866, to Miss Mary Turney, the accomplished daughter of the Hon. Hopkins L. Turney, late United States Senator from Tennessee. She died in 1883. The present wife of Mr. Ellis was a Miss Combs before her marriage to Mr. King, her first husband.

**JOSEPH A. GABOURY**, distinguished as having, as civil engineer, constructed the first practical and successful Electric Street Railway system in the United States—viz., that of Montgomery, Ala.—is a native of Montreal, Canada, and was born in April, 1852. After a thorough preparatory training in his native city, graduating from St. Hyacinthe College, he visited Paris, France, and there completed his study of mining and civil engineering. Returning to Canada in 1871, he followed his profession until 1874. In that year he came South, where his eminent ability as civil engineer found ready recognition. In the practical pursuit of his profession he visited the principal cities of the Gulf and South Atlantic States, and in 1885 located at Montgomery, where, as before noted, he constructed the Electric Street Railway system of that city.

Mr. Gaboury came to Jacksonville in September, 1887, and in February, 1888, associated with others, perfected the organization of the Jacksonville Mining and Manufacturing Company, a gigantic joint-stock concern with 8500,000 capital.

It is to Mr. Gaboury that the people of this vicinity are indebted for the discovery near here of the immense beds of kaolin, which chemists and porcelain men pronounce equal to any found in the world. Under his direction and management this kaolin is to be developed, and as its virtue and quantity is unquestioned, Jacksonville may be looked to at an early day as the seat of one of the most important industries of the South.



## XII.

### ATALLA.

This enterprising and thriving town is situated on the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, and not far from the center of Etowah County. It was founded in the year 1870, and was the outgrowth of the railroads that were being constructed about that period. Its beginning was marked by the usual characteristics of new towns — a few rude buildings thrown together by the pioneer carpenter, a store, a blacksmith shop, dwelling, tavern, etc. A part of the plantation of W. C. Hammond, donated by him for the purpose, was selected as the site of the town. Upon the construction of the railroad, a station was established here, which gave impetus to the growth and development of the place. Subsequently the town was incorporated, and new additions were made to accommodate and meet the wants of the population, which now numbers about one thousand souls, and is rapidly increasing.

Some of the oldest families settled in and about the country now known as Atalla and its vicinity, and many of them and their descendants yet dwell here and occupy prominent positions in society and in the professions. The chapters on Etowah County and the city of Gadsden, found elsewhere in this volume are replete with historical and biographical matter that will be found of much interest to the people of Atalla.

The word Atalla is of Indian origin, and was used by the Cherokees to express the two words that in all languages seem most to thrill the tenderest chords of the heart: "My Home."

The town was laid out with a good deal of care, taste and judgment; its streets and avenues having been run at right angles with each other, greatly facilitate improvements and add much to the symmetry and mechanical or artificial beauty of the place.

The town was incorporated as a city in 1872. In that year a destructive fire swept over it — in fact, very nearly the whole place was reduced to ashes. The people, undismayed, went to work

with renewed energy to replace what the fire had taken away, and it was not long before all evidences of the conflagration had disappeared.

The first move made toward the establishment of a school and church at this place was in 1872 by Judge Henry Pickens. He purchased the site, and gave it to the town on the condition that it should be used for school and church purposes only. These institutions, churches and schools, have since become prominent among the attractions of the city.

The first newspaper established at Atalla was by P. J. Smith, during the days of Reconstruction. It was called the *Republican-Union*. Being radical in politics it was necessarily short-lived. However, it prospered for a time, and finally went down with flag at full mast. After the *Republican-Union* had ceased to cast its effulgent beams upon the unfortunate, the people of Atalla were *minus* an organ wherewith their praises might be sounded, until 1885. That year saw the birth of the *Pick and Shovel*. The name at least was the embodiment of industry. But whether its founders were unused to these tools, or had no affiliation with the labor they sought to represent, or an unsympathetic and unappreciative public met its smiling face with a cold and stony glare, is not known. Certain it is, however, that *Pick and Shovel* did not stimulate the authors of its being to that exertion necessary to perpetuate its existence, and it followed the fate of its predecessor, to be succeeded in due time by the *Crescent*.

Atalla was prosperous for several years, and until the railroads upon which it depended went into bankruptcy. After that it had a precarious existence for almost a decade of years.

The resuscitation of the railroads subsequently, did not benefit Atalla, at least for some time, for trade went to other places and through other channels; and some of its most prominent business men located elsewhere, thus depriving it of a very important auxiliary to its progress.

In a stagnant, listless condition the town remained until the opening of the iron mines in the mountains surrounding it. The development of this new industry, with all of its various accompaniments, put new life and vigor into the place and started it on a safe and solid road to prosperity.

Atalla is advantageously and picturesquely located—resting where the two valleys seem to blend together, and looking up to the beautiful ranges of mountains towering above. Its adjacent lands are fertile, capable of producing liberally any of the cereals, vegetables and grasses familiar to Tennessee. Added to this is a climate that for salubrity and healthfulness, is unsurpassed by Southern Italy. All these things considered, there can be no doubt of the future prosperity of Atalla—and of all Northern Alabama as well.



**HENRY W. PICKENS**, Mayor of Atalla, was born near Huntsville, this State, April 1, 1824. He was reared on a farm, received a liberal education, and at the age of sixteen years began the study of law. Not finding the legal profession suited to his taste, he abandoned it, and turned his attention to school-teaching, which he followed for sixteen successive years. About 1852 he located at Gadsden, and engaged in real estate business. In 1862 he entered the army as third lieutenant in the Thirty-first Alabama, and in August following was promoted to captain. In November, 1862, on account of ill-health, he was detailed to the supply department of the army. Prior to secession he was a strong Union man, and advocated that doctrine publicly from the stump, and with much force. After the war he engaged in farming, and in 1870 located at Atalla, where he gave his attention principally to real estate business. In 1870 he was Superintendent of Education for the county of Etowah. He was married October 7, 1845, to Miss Lucy W. Nowlin, of Madison County. To this union thirteen children have been born, three of whom died young: William K., Sarah E. (Mrs. J. C. Nobles), Susan (Mrs. W. T. Wimpee), Cornelia (Mrs. J. B. Rogers), Katie (deceased), David W., Claudie (deceased), Henry W., George B. and Jennie.

Mr. and Mrs. Pickens are consistent members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Joseph and Selina (Brazelton) Pickens, were the parents of Henry W., whose name heads this sketch. Joseph was born in Pickens District, S. C., and, his father having died, he came with his mother and four sisters to Alabama at an early day, and settled near Huntsville. He became a prominent farmer of Madison County, and owned a place seven miles east of Huntsville, where for many years he maintained an extensive camp-meeting ground. He was a prominent member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He reared a family of eleven children, viz.: Hypasia, wife of Rev. W. G. Milligan; Dr. A. G. Pickens, deceased; Henry W., the subject of this sketch; Catherine, deceased, was the wife of Leonard Lamberson; Elizabeth, deceased, was the wife of Preston Mills, who died in the Confederate Army; Jane, deceased, was the wife of John H. Haden, and was the mother of Charles J. Haden, known to the newspaper world by the name "C. Aytch"; Margaret, now wife of Mr. Trice, of Occlusa, Miss.; Joseph William; James C.; John M.; and Lydia, deceased; she was the wife of Mr. Barnett. The old gentleman died in 1870. His widow still survives him at the age of about eighty-six years. His father was Andrew Pickens, a native of South Carolina. The family came originally from Ireland, and all the Pickenses in this country sprung from the same stock. The history of the Pickens family is identified prominently with that of South Carolina.



**WILLIAM P. SHAHAN** was born near Atalla October 3, 1845, and is a son of John and Editha (Chandler) Shahan. He was reared on a farm and educated at the common schools and at Atlanta College. When a young man he taught school some five or six years, and at the age of 25 turned mill-wright. In 1878 he engaged in mercantile business in the country seven miles west of Atalla, in partnership with J. Shahan, now a wholesale grocer at Birmingham; in 1884, associated with M. L. Foster, he engaged in business at Gadsden, and was there for two years. In April, 1886, he started in business at Atalla.

Mr. Shahan began life when a young man without money, but at this time he is rated all the way from \$50,000 to \$75,000, and is recognized as one of the most successful business men in Northeastern Alabama. He was married February 28, 1876,

to Miss Minnie Ewing, of Gadsden, and the five children born to this union are named, respectively: Willie, Whitley, Arthur, Flora and Charley.

John Shahan moved from Georgia to Alabama in 1836, and spent the rest of his life at Chandler, this State. He reared a family of four sons and five daughters. He died in 1856.



**DANIEL T. HAMNER** was born in Marion County, Ga., June 3, 1838, and is a son of Wesley and Mary M. (James) Hamner, natives, respectively, of the States of Georgia and North Carolina. In his early life he attended the common schools, and afterward an academy in Bullock's County, this State.

At the age of twenty years he was licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He afterward taught school a few years in addition to preaching, as opportunity afforded. He entered the Alabama Conference in 1862, and was ordained elder. At the end of three years his health having failed, he returned to farming, and later on to teaching. In 1869 he engaged in mercantile business at Echo, Dale County, Ala., and in 1877 he moved to Wynnville, where he remained until January, 1886, at which time he came to Atalla. Here he engaged in mercantile business in addition to looking after his farming interests in Blount County. He was married in February, 1861, to Miss D. M. Miller. One of his sons, George W., is clerk in the United States Treasury Department; another son, Charles W., is at school; Edward D. is in the United States Pension Office. The others are Homer H., a student; John M., Ida E. and Lois. The eldest three are all college graduates, and the others are in school.

Wesley Hamner was born in 1812, in Putnam County, Ga., and moved into Marion County when a young man; being a cripple—from accident—he learned the shoe-making trade, which he followed a good many years. He was an independent soldier in the War of 1836; came to Alabama in 1843, and returned to Georgia in 1847. In 1856 he returned to Alabama and located in Pike County. After the war he moved into Butler County, where he died in 1886. He was an earnest Christian gentleman, and much devoted to his family. He reared two sons and seven daughters; Sarah J., wife of N. Cowart, of Georgia; Daniel T., the subject of this sketch; Martha, wife of

Benjamin Hudson; Mary E., wife of Augustus Parker; Julia S., wife of R. H. J. Hildreth; Frances (deceased) was the wife of William McKinney and the mother of five children, all of whom were drowned in attempting to cross a stream of water in 1876; Ellen, wife of N. D. Hathorn; Susan W., wife of Sidney Williams; John W. T., a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**JAMES HARDEN WOOD, M. D.**, was born in Macon County, Ga., March 30, 1857, and is a son of William H. and Susan (Harden) Wood, natives of Monroe County, Ga. He was reared on a farm and received his primary education at the North Georgia Agricultural College. At the age of twenty-one years he began the study of medicine at home, and in the spring of 1882 was graduated from Vanderbilt University. Immediately after leaving the university he located at Atalla, where he entered at once upon a most flattering practice. He was married, March 22, 1883, to Miss Ida Lester, daughter of Dr. J. H. and Elizabeth (Cox) Lester, of Atalla.

Dr. Lester, a surgeon in the late war, was one of the pioneers of Atalla.

William H. Wood, the father of Dr. James H. Wood, was born in 1828, and his wife in 1831. He was a substantial planter, and owned about seventy-five slaves. He tendered his services to the United States in the War with Mexico, but it appears they were not particularly needed.

He moved into Alabama in 1876, and located in DeKalb County, where he died in December, 1886. He reared eleven children, as follows: Dr. James H., Leola (wife of Lemuel M. Small), Susan (wife of James M. Tidmore), Tommie, William H., Hattie (wife of John Monroe), Ernest, Lena, Beulah, Pearl, and Claud.

Allen Wood was the father of William H. He was a native of Monroe County, Ga., and was a soldier under General Jackson in the war of 1812. He reared six sons and five daughters, all of whom grew to be men and women, and the sons were all Confederate soldiers during the late war. Two of them, Henry and Cleveland, were killed in Virginia, and the other at Chickamauga. William H. was a member of the Twenty-ninth Georgia Regiment during the late war, and held the rank of lieutenant.

The Wood family came originally from England, and settled in South Carolina. Fernando Wood, of New York, was of the same stock. The Harden family were numerous in Georgia. Dr. Wood's maternal grandfather, James Harden, owned about 300 slaves prior to 1861.



**DR. DUFF CHILD**, prominent citizen and a retired Physician and Surgeon, of Atalla, was born in Pickens County, this State, November 7, 1833, and is the son of George G. and Lucinda C. (Mitchell) Child, natives respectively of Connecticut and South Carolina. His primary education was acquired at a common school, at the age of eighteen he entered the Military Institute of Kentucky, where he remained one year. In 1855 he began the study of medicine in Mobile. Graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, in 1857, he returned to Mobile, to which place his parents had moved when he was seven years of age, and was there in the practice of medicine at the time the civil war broke out. Early in April, 1861, he joined the Third Alabama Regiment as a private in Company K. He was soon afterward made junior second lieutenant, and again, subsequently, appointed assistant-surgeon, and transferred to the Army of the Tennessee. From assistant-surgeon he was in due time promoted to the rank of full surgeon, and was in the Army of Tennessee to the close of the war. As army surgeon he was noted for his impartiality in the treatment of the sick and wounded. It mattered not to him to which army a man belonged when once he was assured that he was in need of medical treatment. After the war he spent some years in practice in different parts of the country, including Louisville, Nashville, and some of the western cities. He gave up the practice of medicine in 1875, and retired to a farm near Birmingham, where he remained until 1885, when he moved to Atalla, where he now resides.



**JAMES S. STEWART** was born at Faleon, Ark., May 23, 1855, and is a son of O. W. and Mary A. (Pope) Stewart, natives of North Carolina and Alabama, respectively. He received an

academic education, and after his father's death, spent three years at farming. He afterward engaged in the drug business at Gadsden and followed it two years. In August, 1876, he married Miss Lula Coker, of Cherokee County, Ala., and has had born to him two children: Vivian and Estella.

Some time after his marriage, Mr. Stewart moved to Atalla, where he has since been engaged in business. He is largely interested in mining and shipping iron ore, and is a stockholder in the Gadsden Furnace Company. He began life with little money, but by persistent industry and skillful management, he has succeeded in the acquisition of a reasonable competency.

The senior Mr. Stewart, moved from Winchester, Tenn., in 1852, to Faleon, Ark., and was there some time engaged in the mercantile business. After his marriage he returned to Winchester, and was there merchandising some time. Having taken up the study of medicine, he entered Transylvania Medical College, Lexington, Ky., and was graduated in 1858. He entered the army in 1861, and was appointed resident surgeon at Cooper Iron Works, near Cartersville, Ga. He was there when the army fell back to Dalton, when he was transferred to Montgomery, where he remained until nearly the close of the war. After the war he embarked in mercantile business at Auburn, Ala., and in 1870 sold out and moved to Gadsden. Here he devoted himself to farming and the practice of medicine.

Dr. Stewart was one of the most successful practitioners in this part of the country. In 1873 he went to Memphis, where he some time afterward died with yellow fever. He left a family of seven children, namely: Alexander H., a farmer; James S., the subject of this sketch; John P., a physician at Atalla; Mattie B., wife of A. J. Coats; Benjamin L., a merchant; Willie May, wife of D. H. Coats; and Edward R.



**ROBERT HUSTON DUNCAN** was born at Kingston, Tenn., October 19, 1853, and is a son of Robert and Nancy K. (Liggett) Duncan.

Mr. Duncan spent the first thirteen years of his life at his native place, and came with his parents to DeKalb County in 1866. From there the family moved to Dale County, Ga., whence

they returned to Alabama ten years later and located at Fort Payne. In 1870 young Duncan was employed as a clerk in a mercantile establishment, and later on he was with the Roane Iron Company, at Chattanooga, Tenn. He next returned to Fort Payne, and was engaged in the book business, which he pursued for some years, and which he continued afterward at Gadsden. He located at Gadsden in 1874, and was afterward on the road as a drummer for an Atlanta copying house.

His father having died in 1885 he took charge of his business, which required his attention thereafter for some time. He was married December 7, 1885, to Miss Anna Vincent, of Etowah County.

Mr. Duncan comes from one of the old and respected families of the South. As a citizen and a business man he has always held the esteem and confidence of the people.

**M. K. CLEMENTS** was born on the 18th of March, 1856, in Talladega County, Ala. His ancestors came from Europe and settled in Virginia about the close of the seventeenth century. His great-grandfather, James Clements, moved from Virginia to Georgia just before the Revolutionary War. There a son, William, was born, and about the close of the last century the family moved to Alabama and settled in Randolph County. Here William married Miss Winnie Horton, and on the 10th day of April, 1820, Benjamin N. was born; he married Miss Tempa Forrel. To this couple, the subject of this sketch was born. Benjamin N. Clements is a farmer, and M. K. Clements was reared on the farm amid the romantic scenery of the Hillabee part of Talladega County. He taught school in 1872-3, and in the fall of the latter year entered the A. and M. College at Auburn, where he was graduated with distinction in 1876. Soon after leaving college he married Miss Sophia Thomas. He taught school in Clay County in 1877, in Tallapoosa County in 1878, and in the fall of that year joined the North Alabama Conference and was appointed to the Valley Head Circuit in Wills Valley, DeKalb County, Ala., which he traveled until the session of the Conference in 1879, when he was appointed principal of the Guntersville District High School, located at Collinsville. He continued in charge of this school for seven years, and succeeded

in building up one of the best institutions of learning in that part of the State.

In the fall of 1886 he moved to Atalla, and established the Atalla High School, which is one of the best of the kind in North Alabama. He has three children: Edna, Earl, Victor Hugo and Merit DeWitt.



**EDWARD W. COX** is a native of this county and was born December 13, 1841. He was reared on a farm and educated at the common schools. He entered the army in the spring of 1861, as a member of the Thirty-first Alabama and served a short time, when he was discharged on account of ill health. In the fall of the same year he joined Captain Webb's Battalion, and served with it through the war. In the Thirty-first Regiment he held the rank of first lieutenant; in the Twelfth Battalion he was tendered a captaincy, but declined it. He took part in the battles of Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, the Dalton Campaign, and in all the engagements from Chatanooga to Atlanta. After the war he returned home and engaged at farming, to which he has since given much of his attention. He was in mercantile business from 1881 to 1887, and for the past year has been milling. He was married February 1, 1865, to Miss Elizabeth Hughes, and has had born to him three children: Miles E., Oscar and Lester. Mr. and Mrs. Cox are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Thomas J. and Elizabeth Cox, parents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Tennessee and Alabama respectively, the former being born in 1812 and the latter in 1818. The family, when Thomas J. was but five years of age, settled at Guntersville, this State, and the senior Mr. Cox, was there in the hotel business for some years. He constructed the first turnpike that crossed Sand Mountain.

Thomas J. Cox lived at Fisher's Gap a great many years, and there died in the summer of 1880. Elizabeth (Boyd) Cox, his wife, died in 1856. His second wife was a Miss Walker. By his first wife he reared four sons and one daughter; by his second, five sons and two daughters.

Mr. Cox was an extensive planter and slaveholder, and a citizen of considerable influence in the community where he resided. His widow yet survives him.

**JOHN B. MORAGNE** was born at Gadsden, this State, October 29, 1854; received a common-school education, and, since 1882, has been in mercantile business. His grandfather, John Moragne, a silver-smith by occupation, came from France, settled in South Carolina, where he became a wealthy planter, and in 1830, moved to Alabama.

John S. and Sarah (Revel) Moragne, parents of John B., were natives of Abbeville District, S. C. Mr. Moragne came with his father and settled in Cherokee County, this State, in 1830. He was a farmer by occupation, and much interested in the mineral deposits of his part of the country. He sunk, probably, the first shaft in search of minerals that was put down in Northeastern Alabama. In 1859 he purchased a large tract of mineral lands near Atalla, and in 1871 shipped to Wheeling, Va., the first ore leaving this State. He subsequently leased the mines, from which the family have since received a handsome royalty. He died in March, 1882, leaving a family of six sons and three daughters.



**THOMAS A. WATKINS** was born in Calhoun County, this State, December 25, 1856, and is a

son of James P. and Mary (Walker) Watkins. He was reared on a farm and educated at Calhoun College, Georgia, and at Jacksonville, this State.

In early life he moved to Texas, but soon afterward returned and engaged in business at Jacksonville, from which place he came to Etowah County. Here he engaged some years in farming, and for the last four years has given his attention principally to real estate.

He has bought and sold over 100,000 acres of mineral land since engaging in the business, and now owns several fine farms in this part of the country. In 1888 he established the *Atalla Herald*, a sprightly newspaper of much local popularity. Mr. Watkins is public spirited, and one of the progressive men of the county.

He was married in October, 1879, to Mrs. Lizzie E. Coleman, the daughter of Rev. Enoch Ellis, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Coleman was a native of South Carolina, moving thence into Georgia before the war, and later on into Alabama.

Mr. and Mrs. Watkins are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Watkins is a Mason.



## XIII.

# TUSCALOOSA.

By W. C. RICHARDSON, PH. D.

**BLACK WARRIOR TOWN.**—On the 18th day of October, A. D. 1540, Hernando de Soto, a distinguished Spanish cavalier, whose name is associated with perhaps the most romantic expedition recorded in the annals of the Western Continent, fought, as Spanish chronicles relate, the battle of Manvilla with the natives, headed by their renowned Chief Tuscaloosa. This appellation gave name directly to the river, and remotely to the Creek Settlement—Black Warrior Town, which ultimately developed into the town of Tuscaloosa. The Indian Village at that time occupied a site on the banks of the Warrior just below what is now known as Newtown.

A strip of land several miles in width, skirting both sides of the river, and extending from the falls of the Warrior to its junction with the Bigbee, had been left by mutual consent as neutral, or at least as disputed ground between the Creeks and Choctaws.

When trading posts were established by the Government at Washington, throughout Mississippi Territory, which included the present domain of Alabama, at which goods were to be furnished to the Indians "at cost for their furs and peltries," a Creek Chief, by name Ochechemotla, obtained consent of the Choctaws (in 1809) to locate a settlement known as Black Warrior Town at the falls of the Warrior, to be held as a general rendezvous for the hunters and traders of his tribe.

When the Shawnee Chief, Tecumseh, was returning from "the Alabama towns" to his lodge on the banks of the Wabash, after his famous expedition in 1812, undertaken with a view to enlist the Southern Indians in a general uprising against "the pale faces," he passed through the settlement, which had already grown to be a considerable village.

In the fall of 1812, a party of Muscogeans, returning from a foray through Tennessee, after brutally murdering two of her children, bore off into captivity a white woman, by the name of Mrs. Crawley. She was brought to the "Falls of the Warrior," and there inhumanly treated. Finally, after great suffering, she was ransomed by the noble efforts of a trader and interpreter at St. Stephens, known as Tandy Walker, and restored to her home—an act which was publicly recognized and rewarded by the Legislature of Tennessee. Mrs. Crawley was thus, much against her will probably, the first white inhabitant of this locality.

Soon after the occurrence narrated above, the Black Warriors trading at the St. Stephens factory, while under the influence of "fire-water," betrayed their purpose of siding with the British in the war then impending—a design which, in the near future, provoked the battle of Burnt Corn, and led to the massacre at Fort Mims. Only the promptitude of the superintendent, George S. Gaines, who sent a runner to Governor Blount, of Tennessee, and secured the aid of General Jackson's mounted volunteers, enabled the whites to cripple the plans of the Creeks, and save the other defenceless white settlements from extermination.

In the sanguinary events that followed, the treachery of the inhabitants of Warrior Town was not overlooked. Enticed from the shelter of their stronghold, known as Seminole Fort, by a feint of their wily foe, the garrison was captured and the settlement destroyed. The savage occupants were killed, except a few who sought refuge in the swamps below the town.

Davy Crockett, who was in General Coffee's Tennessee command, states in his autobiography,



that when they reached the "Falls of the Warrior," the Indian town, which was "a large one," had been abandoned, and that the soldiers after possessing themselves of the "corn and dried beans" which they found in quantities in the cribs and adjacent fields, reduced the town to ashes. In 1818, Crockett again visited the spot, but found it only a place of skulls and desolation.

Isaac Cannon, who moved to Alabama in 1815, informed Captain McEachin, from whose fragmentary "History of Tuscaloosa," this incident is derived, that he and John Wilson came to Warrior Town in 1816, and selected an Indian old field, near Seminole Fort as a place of settlement. The fort at that time was in ruins, and Mr. Cannon counted "more than twenty human skeletons, supposed to be of Indians, bleaching in a place hard by." He stated that a large mound or circular fortification occupied the site of the park, now in front of the Tuscaloosa Female College, and that all along the bluff below were "the charred remains of Indian huts, indicating the recent destruction of an Indian town by fire."

Who built Seminole Fort? Who reared the fortification at Hill's Park? Did Col. John McKee, as held by Meek and others, with a band of Chickasaws, aided by Pushmataha, and his friendly Choctaws, destroy Black Warrior Town, or did Major Hinds, with his Mississippi dragoons, as conjectured by McEachin, perform the redoubtable deed? All we know is the town was sacked, its inhabitants killed or driven off, and that it was subsequently laid in ashes by Coffee's men. A few years ago, on its site traces of the old stone corn-mills and arrow-heads were still to be found. It now sleeps, however, unquestioned and untroubled. The spot where Tuscaloosa stands was, at that period, surrounded by a dense and impenetrable forest. Immense cane-brakes lined the banks of the Warrior, and even invaded the uplands. Game, including bear and panther, was everywhere abundant.

The early inhabitants of this immediate section were principally inhabitants of the upper districts of the Carolinas and Georgia, who had at first immigrated to the fabled Edens of the Tennessee Valley, and afterward allured by the glowing accounts of Coffee's returning soldiers, sought an Eldorado in Jones' Valley, along the trails and military roads opened by Jackson and Coffee in their descent upon the Alabama towns.

As a wild beast steals from its lair, so emerged

Tuscaloosa from the surrounding wilderness. Timid and shrinking, she did not come forth at one fiery bound. Her posture was drooped and crouching, her pace was slow and stealthy. She waited for the burial of the tomahawk, for the hushing of the ringing war-whoop. She stayed for the fires of Seminole Fort to die out, for the bones of the painted denizens of old Warrior Town to bleach beside its charred and blackened ruins, and then gently parting the rank growth of cane that covered the spot, she stealthily crept forth.

Her growth was at first slow and tedious. Impenetrable forests hedged in her steps. Pathless solitudes and trackless defiles everywhere bounded her view. From Jones' Valley to the Falls of the Warrior, the cry of the panther alone broke the awful stillness. The Mudtown trail and the St. Stephens Road alike led through a howling wilderness. The rude settler had expelled the savage, but the famishing "wolf" was at his "door." Constructing a hut of pine saplings with a clap-board roof which, in some sort, shielded him from the asperity of the weather, the deadly struggle for food began. Game was abundant, but bread had to be wrung from the "unwilling glebe." Often planted with the axe, next to the rifle the frontiersman's chief possession, the tardy harvest was welcomed with general rejoicing. Through toil, through suffering, through drouth, through famine, the infant city grew. No savage longer threatened its rising towers, but through many a vicissitude, it very slowly, very painfully advanced. It is narrated that pioneers venturing into the wilderness west of Tuscaloosa were compelled to pack their corn on horses from east of the Warrior.

The population of that period was very rude. It was, in part, made up of adventurers and land-sharks whom the recent wars had demoralized or rendered desperate—men who chafed under civil yokes, and who flocked to these inhospitable wilds because they were flavored with peril. They came and squatted upon the reserved section at the Falls of the Warrior, till they were dislodged by the land sales in 1824. The lands then passed into the hands of *bona-fide* settlers, men of a better type, who in time built homes that wore the air of comfort if not of refinement.

As stated, the present site of Tuscaloosa, being at the Falls of the Warrior, or head of navigation, had been reserved from entry and sale by the General Government. The fine expanse west of the

city had been included in a grant to the Hartford Deaf and Dumb Asylum. Seeing its advantageous location, a company composed of Marr, Perkins, Lewin, and others, purchased it. They knew it would one day be a city, or at any rate a valuable suburb, whenever the United States should throw open to buyers the reserved section. They proceeded to lay off the village of Newtown, selling alternate lots to purchasers, burdened with the condition that they should build upon them in a specified time. As our people had but just whipped the British and expelled the Indians, they were in no mood to listen to conditions, so they petitioned the General Government to lay off the present site of Tuscaloosa in lots and sell them without reserve. Much against the interests of the Newtownites, this was done by the Governmental Surveyor, Coffee, in 1821.

Hence arose a jealous rivalry between the two factions, that was protracted for many years.

Newtown had a court-house, a jail, and a ferry. It had a hotel, a steam mill, a cigar factory, a market-house and numerous stores, offices and dwellings. As population, however, like everything else movable, takes the line of least resistance, it naturally distributed away from monopoly and restriction. It spread along the bluff between the present Broad and Spring streets, where they could overlook, beyond the Warrior, the expanse later known as "New Kentuck," and where it could draw its supplies of water from the bold and sparkling springs that gurgled in the grassy coves below.

In time Newtown began to pale its "ineffectual fires" before the rising sun of Tuscaloosa. Her abandoned tenements were either torn down or wheeled into the rival village, until finally, in 1827, she was deprived, by the popular vote, of the court-house and jail, so that, to use the expressive language of another, "when Newtown was visited by the tornado, in 1842, it found little to destroy."

On the establishment of peace in 1815, among those who repaired to the land of promise were Patrick Scott, Jonathan York, John Barton, Josiah Tilley and William Wilson. It is stated that this last worthy built the first log-hut near where the old State capitol now stands, and that Jonathan York erected the first board shanty in the county of Tuscaloosa. An old log tavern arose on the south side of what is now Mr. Ed. Snow's lot. In time this was demolished, and what was

afterward known as the "Yellow Tavern," a weather-boarded structure, was built by Colonel Holbert on the southeast corner of the same lot, and facing the present Baptist Church. The first frame residence of consequence was erected by William R. Colgin, on Pine street near the "Big Gully." This was occupied for many years by Constantine Perkins. The second was the Childress place, now owned and occupied by Dr. John B. Read. The first brick residence in Tuscaloosa was built by Dr. James Guild. It is still a part of the "old Guild place," on Broad street, and occupied by Dr. Pearson.

John Barton was a blacksmith, and a brother-in-law of Jonathan York, both having married daughters of Patrick Scott. Josiah Tilley also resided in Tuscaloosa, and married a daughter of Patrick Scott. John G. Ring, a Kentuckian, was also joined in wedlock to one of the irresistible daughters of Patrick Scott, who seems to have been expressly raised up by providence to furnish helpmates to the early settlers of our rising city. He should be canonized as the Patron Saint of Tuscaloosa.

Hiram P. Cochran, father of our respected fellow-citizen, Dr. William A. Cochran, came to Tuscaloosa on Christmas day, 1816. The Doctor did not enter the village until the fall of 1817. The population at that period numbered about 300 souls. At the time of the land sales in 1821 the population had increased to 600. The first white child born in the city was, probably, Lucius Holbert, whose father was the proprietor of the "Yellow Tavern."

According to Hon. Washington Moody, who wrote a manuscript history of Tuscaloosa, Wm. L. Adams was the first lawyer that came to the county, John L. Tindall the first physician, John Click the first merchant, Richmond Carroll the first blacksmith, and Nathan Roberts the first printer.

Tuscaloosa is situated on a fine plateau at the falls of the Warrior, 202 feet above the level of the sea. The Alabama Great Southern Railroad touches its southern margin. It is 198 miles from Chattanooga, 55 miles from Birmingham, and 97 from Meridian, Miss. On the west lies the fruitful corn belt, next the river, where stock-raising is easy and remunerative. South of it the white fields of cotton cross the State, while above it lies the mineral district, which stretches far up through Jones' Valley.

The climate of Tuscaloosa is equable and salubrious. It is alike exempt from the rigors of northern latitudes, and the scorching heats of the torrid zone. From observations taken by Mr. J. C. Perkins, of the Alabama weather service, we learn that for the year beginning September 1, 1886, and ending August 31, 1887, the following results were obtained: The lowest temperature, in the early part of January, was 6 degrees above zero, and the highest, about the middle of July, 94 degrees—a range of only 88 degrees. The mean temperature for the year was 65.9°. There were only four days in the year when the mercury did not rise above the freezing point, and only fifty-six days when the temperature was at or below 32°. The mean relative humidity for the year was 97.5, which shows a comparatively uniform condition, neither too wet nor too dry. Only three inches of snow fell in all during the winter. The rainfall during the year was 36.1 inches. The dry season was during the fall and winter, when the farmer was gathering his crops.

The town of Tuscaloosa was first incorporated by an Act of the General Assembly of Alabama, approved December 13, 1819, and only comprehended the fraction of land known as the south fraction of Section 22, Township 21, Range 10 west.

By an Act of the session of 1825-6, establishing and permanently locating the seat of government for the State of Alabama, the corporate limits of Tuscaloosa were extended so as to include fractional sections 21 and 22, and sections 23, 26, 27 and 28 of the same township and range.

The charter of January 12, 1828, and all subsequent charters confine its limits to fractional sections 21 and 22 south of the Warrior River.

It would seem that a title of a city established as early as Tuscaloosa, and which had once been the capital of the State, would have been beyond dispute. Yet in June, 1887, certain parties presented themselves at the United States Land Office at Montgomery, and regularly applied to enter the entire city under the homestead law. Their applications were rejected, and on appeal to the General Land Office at Washington, the action of the Register was sustained by an able decision rendered November 29, 1887. The parties who proposed to enter the city fell into error, by finding no note of entry upon the tract book. The facts were that the town was originally laid off by

the Surveyor-General of the United States, and sold by lots from 1 to 511, and patented to each purchaser—the proclamation for such sale being issued by President Monroe, August 23, 1823.

The following is a list of the Mayors of the city, as far as they can be ascertained: William R. Bolling, Harvey W. Ellis, Dr. John Owen, Geo. N. Stewart, Wm. R. Smith, Robt. S. Inge, D. Henry Robinson, Robert Blair, James L. Childress, Joseph C. Guild, David Woodruff, L. S. Skinner, Robt. Blair, Robert Lacey, Jesse E. Adams, Obadiah Berry, Joseph C. Guild, S. B. Smith, Jno. S. Garvin, Josiah J. Pegues, T. F. Samuel, Robert Blair, Obadiah Berry, John J. Harris, Obadiah Berry, William C. Jemison.

A new code has lately been prepared by Wood & Wood, attorneys of the city, from which these *data* are derived.

Alabama was admitted into the Federal Union in 1819. Tuscaloosa County has sent no Senator to the Congress of the United States. The Representatives from this county, in the lower house have been as follows: 1829 to 1831, Robert E. B. Baylor; 1838 to 1844, George W. Crabb; 1825 to 1829, John McKee; 1851 to 1857, William R. Smith. In 1874 Burwell B. Lewis was elected to Congress from the State-at-large. He was elected again in 1878, and again in 1880, 1884 to 1886, John M. Martin.

Robert Jemison was Senator to the Confederate Congress from 1863 to 1865, and William R. Smith Representative in the lower house from 1862 to 1865.

From the organization of the State Government till 1845, the sessions of the Legislature were annual. On the removal of the capital from Tuscaloosa, they were made biennial. By the Secession Convention, they were changed back to annual, and on account of the exigencies of the war, there were three sessions in 1861. By the Constitution of 1875, they were again made biennial.

The State Convention in 1819 provided for the taking of the census and for the apportionment of State Senators. Under the first apportionment, Tuscaloosa and Pickens (then including Fayette), was constituted one senatorial district, and was entitled to one Senator and three Representatives. The following is a list of the Senators: 1819, Thomas Hogg; 1822 to 1832, Levin Powell; 1833, Dr. James Guild; 1834, Constantine Perkins; 1836, Samuel Johnson; 1837, George W. Crabb;

1838 to 1849, Dennis Dent; 1851 to 1862, Robert Jemison; 1863 to 1865, E. A. Powell; 1867 (no election), John M. Martin; 1876 to 1884, A. C. Hargrove.

Levin Powell came from Huntsville in 1816. He was a Virginian by birth, and fought with General Jackson in the War of 1812. He was the first Judge of Probate and the first Postmaster of Tuscaloosa. He was elected President of the Senate in 1828, and again in 1832. He died while in office in 1833, and his unexpired term was filled out by Dr. James Guild.

Constantine Perkins came to Tuscaloosa in 1819. In the same year he was elected District Solicitor, and in 1825 he became Attorney-General. He died September 17, 1836.

General Crabb was a Virginian. He was elected Comptroller in 1829. In 1836 he served in the Florida War, as lieutenant-colonel of the Alabama troops. He represented Tuscaloosa County in the Legislature in 1837. In 1838, he was sent to Congress to fill out an unexpired term, and was elected to the same position in 1839. Later, he removed to Mobile, where he was elected Judge of the Criminal Court in 1845. His death occurred August 15, 1846.

Dennis Dent was a Georgian. He came to Tuscaloosa in 1820. He served in the Legislature in 1834, and was twice re-elected. He was a member of the State Senate for thirteen years, and was elected President of that body in 1849, by one vote. He was a captain in the Creek War in 1836.

Robert Jemison was born in Georgia in 1802. He came to Alabama in 1821. He moved to Pickens County in 1826, where he was a cotton planter for ten years. Returning to Tuscaloosa, he represented the county in the lower house for eight years. In 1851 he was advanced to the Senate, where he remained twelve years. In 1862 he was elected President of the Senate. The following year he was called to the Confederate State Senate, to succeed the Hon. Wm. L. Yancey. In 1861 he represented Tuscaloosa in the Constitutional Convention. He died in the city of his adoption, October 17, 1871. Mr. Jemison was noted for his great force of character, his enterprise and his public spirit. Brewer has well said of him, that "Among the citizens of Tuscaloosa Robert Jemison stood like Saul among the children of Kish, a head and shoulders above his brethren."

E. A. Powell is a South Carolinian. He entered public life in 1835. For many years he was a member of the lower house. In 1863 he was elected to the Senate. His recollection of public men and measures is marvelous, and he is at present engaged in publishing his fifty years' reminiscences of Tuscaloosa, Fayette and Walker Counties. Colonel Powell is a lawyer in good standing at the bar, and is a deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

There have been three Presidents of the Senate from Tuscaloosa County, viz.: Levin Powell, Dennis Dent and Robert Jemison. Robert Jemison and Wm. R. Smith represented Tuscaloosa in the "Secession," and Moses McGuire and John C. Foster in the "Reconstruction" Convention.

Tuscaloosa has furnished three State Treasurers, as follows: 1829 to 1834, Hardin Perkins; 1834 to 1840, William Hawn; 1840 to 1846, S. G. Frierison. Also two Comptrollers or Auditors, viz.: 1829 to 1836, Geo. W. Crabb; 1848 to 1855, Joel Riggs.

#### BENCH AND BAR.

Prior to 1820, the Courts of Tuscaloosa had jurisdiction over all the Alabama territory west of her. What was then known as the County Court consisted of five judges elected by the Legislature, with power to choose one of their own members Chief-Justice. This Court was competent to try civil cases, to sit as a Court of Probate, and to perform the duties afterward assigned to the Commissioners of Roads and Revenues.

Till 1832 the Supreme Court was composed of the Judges of the Circuit Court sitting *en banc*. Between 1832 and 1852 it consisted of three Justices; it was then increased to five, but on the repeal of this law, in 1854, it reverted to three as before.

The Judges of this Court from Tuscaloosa were as follows: 1828 to 1832, Sion L. Perry; 1828, Eli Shortridge; 1828 to 1832, Henry W. Collier; 1836 and 1837, Henry W. Collier.

Collier was Chief Justice from 1837 to 1849; 1837 to 1847, John J. Ormand; 1868 to 1873; Elisha W. Peck. Judge Peck was elected in 1868, and took his seat by virtue of the Reconstruction measures. 1880 to the present time, H. M. Somerville. Judge Somerville has worn his honors so worthily that Tuscaloosa would feel a just pride in seeing him seated on the Supreme Court Bench of the United States.

Separate Supreme and Circuit Courts were es-

tablished in 1832; the Judges were elected by the Legislature till 1850, they are now elected by the people and hold their office six years.

Tuscaloosa has furnished the following Circuit Judges: 1832 to 1836, H. C. Collier; 1832 to 1834, Sion L. Perry; 1836 to 1843, Peter Martin; 1839 and 1840, Benj. F. Porter; 1841 to 1852, John D. Phelan; 1845, Lincoln Clark; 1850 and 1851, Wm. R. Smith.

Matthew Ulick was the first Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Thomas Owen was one of the earliest Judges of the County Court. He was succeeded by Marmaduke Williams, who held office till he was disqualified by the age limitation. Alexander B. Meek was appointed to fill his unexpired term. S. D. J. Moore held the office for some years and resigned. Washington Moody was appointed to fill his unexpired term. Arthur Foster was the last Judge of the County Court.

The Judges of the Court of Probate have been: 1832 to 1868, Moses McGuire; 1868 to 1877, William Miller; 1874 till present time, Newbern H. Brown.

Separate Courts of Chancery were established in 1839. The Chancellors from Tuscaloosa were: 1839, E. W. Peck; 1841, Joshua L. Martin.

From 1819 to 1865 the Attorney-General was Solicitor for the Judicial District in which the capital was situated. Since that time the two offices have been separated. Until 1868 they were chosen by the Legislature. The Attorney-Generals from Tuscaloosa were: 1825 to 1832, Constantine Perkins; 1836, Alexander B. Meek; 1838 and 1839, Lincoln Clark; 1847, William H. Martin.

#### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

In 1819 to 1820 several hundred persons lived in Tuscaloosa and its environs.

The medical profession at this early day was represented by Drs. Inge, Hunter, Purnell and Isbell, names almost unknown to the present generation.

Dr. John L. Tindall was a native of Kentucky. He came to this place about 1820. He was at one time president of the State Bank. He left Tuscaloosa about the year 1839, and settled in Aberdeen, Miss.

Dr. John R. Drish arrived in Tuscaloosa from Loudon County, Va., about 1820. Being a man of handsome fortune, he retired from the practice in 1837. He continued to live in Tusca-

loosa till his death, which occurred soon after the late war.

Dr. Samuel M. Meek came to this place about 1829, and was a practitioner of medicine till his death, which occurred about 1845. The name of his oldest son, Alexander B. Meek, as a man of letters and as an orator, will long shed lustre on the State of Alabama. Only two of Dr. Meek's children are living, Col. Sam Meek, a prominent criminal lawyer in Columbus, Miss., and B. F. Meek, LL.D., now Professor of English Language and Literature in the University of Alabama.

Dr. James Hullum was the son of a Methodist preacher. He came from Georgia in this place in 1824. He retired to the country in 1850, and died soon after the war at a ripe old age.

Dr. James Somerville came from near Fredericksburg, Va., in 1837. He died suddenly of apoplexy in 1842. One of his sons, H. M. Somerville, is a distinguished lawyer, and is at present one of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of Alabama.

Dr. Wm. A. Leland came to this State from Virginia about the year 1836, and in 1843 entered on the practice of medicine. He was a graduate from the Medical College at Philadelphia.

Dr. D. S. Ball arrived in Tuscaloosa in 1830. He was a Georgian. He married Miss Henrietta Jemison, an accomplished sister of the late Robert Jemison. He was a planter as well as a physician. He removed to New Orleans in 1840, at which place he died. He left a widow and three children.

Dr. Rufus Haywood, a descendant of one of the most distinguished families of Raleigh, N. C., came to this place from Greensboro, Ala. He was a skillful physician and good surgeon. He retired from the practice in 1836, in consequence of an attack of paralysis from which he never entirely recovered. He died a few years ago, at the residence of his relative, Mrs. Anna Prince, at the advanced age of eighty years. Dr. Haywood was never married.

Dr. W. I. Hays was a graduate of the Medical School at Lexington, Ky. He began the practice of medicine here in 1840. He was a consistent member of the Baptist Church till about 1882, when he died at the age of seventy-three.

Dr. James Guild, Sr., came to Tuscaloosa in 1821. He married a daughter of Hon. Marmaduke Williams. He was a fine surgeon as well as a physician. In 1833, he was elected Senator to fill

the unexpired term of Levin Powell, who died in office. He was also a member of the lower house as late 1845. He died, leaving several children, one of whom Dr. Fayette Guild, was a surgeon on General Lee's staff, and another, Dr. James Guild, a popular physician of this city. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and enjoyed the respect and confidence of the entire community.

Dr. Reuben Searcy was one of the pioneer physicians in Tuscaloosa. He was a member of the Legislature in 1838-9. He had much to do with the founding of the Alabama Insane Hospital, of which he was an honored trustee to the time of his death. He left several children, one of whom, Dr. James Searcy, is a prominent physician, and another, George Searcy, who is now president of the Merchants National Bank of this city.

In 1826 the State capital was removed from Cahaba to Tuscaloosa. The first session of the Legislature was held in November, 1826, in what was then known as the Bell Tavern. Work began on the new capitol in 1827. In the interim, the sessions of 1827 and 1828 were held in a two-story frame building erected for the purpose. The Legislature held its first session in the new building in 1829, and continued to occupy it till the removal to Montgomery in 1845.

In the wake of the removal, judges, lawyers, politicians, lobbyists, and men of desperate fortunes flocked to the place. The great crowd had to be transported, clothed, fed, wine and amused. Hence hotels, saloons, restaurants, gaming halls and theatres sprang up. Ladies, the wives and daughters of senators and representatives, as well as the mere pleasure-seekers and votaries of fashion, assembled from all parts of Alabama. Imperial citizens vied with each other in fêtes, that "inebriated" if they did not "cheer." Each session brought its lobbyings, its junketings, its "Sol Smith" carousals, its "Fougere" balls. The circus was attended by day, the "tiger" was vigorously fought by night. It was a season of carnival, of dissipation; mad gaiety was in the ascendant. For twenty long years this inebriety grew, till one unlucky morn. in 1845, the capital was removed from Tuscaloosa, and you may imagine the stampede and the city's awful shrinkage. Tuscaloosa suddenly collapsed—like a dream, "like a vision in the night," like the host of Roderick Dhu:

"Along Ben Led's living side"

the whole gorgeons show and spectacle fled. Poor

Tuscaloosa! Now came vows of penitence and acts of retrenchment. She had been living too fast; the costly mansion had to be given up, the carriage and horses sold, and the expensive furniture carted to auction. A sudden fit of enforced economy invaded every household. Improvement came to a dead halt. Paint and whitewash, mop and broom, were things of the past. Neglect was followed by decay. Old signs creaked over the doors of deserted offices, old fences reeled, old tenements tottered. There was no annual meeting, in fact—no meeting at all—that would bring back again the whole wealth and glitter of the State to our doors, to till once more every tavern, saloon and theatre with the clatter of life and vivacity. The old rookery was abandoned. One by one the State officials moved away, following the fortunes of the fair Montgomery, "the rise and expectancy of the fair State followed in their wake, the butterfly belles followed after them, and the old town was left to plod on in darkness as before."

What next? How repair her shattered, her seemingly irreparable fortunes? Should she look to the soil? Evidently, the further growth of the city must be maintained from other sources than from agriculture alone. The hands on the west of the city were deltas of fertility, but those in the east were comparatively sterile. No coal nor iron had yet been unearthed in quantity to suggest, by anticipation, that the town might some day rival a Pittsburgh or a Manchester. Providence, however, came to the rescue.

Though the capital had come and gone, the University still stood firm. The old capitol building was not to be delivered over to the bats and owls. Its fretted arches should ring again. The School should take the place of the Senate, and education should succeed jobbery. In the meantime the University, which had been a success from the first, advanced in popular favor. The "Tuscaloosa Institute" and the old "Atheneum" had already taken the field. Woodruff, the great pioneer bookseller, kept reminding the people that he "sold books opposite Donaldson's tavern." Price's "Thrashing Machine" had not been idle. Everything began to point to Tuscaloosa as an educational centre. Its health, its fine water, even its inaccessibility were quoted in its favor. Schools and boarding-houses sprang up, and boys and girls repaired from all parts of Alabama to this

"Auburn, loveliest village of the plain."

## SCHOOLS.

There have been a great many private male schools in this city, but few of them have been prominent or of long duration. Of the earlier schools, perhaps, that of William Price was the most noted. He opened his school for boys in 1829, calling it in his advertisement "The Thrashing Machine," and every trembling urchin whose luckless fate it was to enter its portals knew to his cost that this was no misnomer.

Sims' Female Academy was opened in what is now the Leach dwelling in 1829. Ninety pupils were enrolled the first session. There were five teachers. Armand P. Pfister, the author of the "University March," and Grand Secretary of all the Masonic orders in Alabama, was instructor in music.

The Tuscaloosa Female Academy was organized August 1, 1831. It was presided over by the gifted and accomplished wife of A. M. Robinson, Esq., in the building known in Tuscaloosa as the Eddins place. It was well patronized, and no doubt did good work for that day.

The building, afterward known as the Athenaeum, was erected by Dr. Drish for his private residence about 1830. In 1835 it had been enlarged by the addition of wings and opened as a female school. It was placed in charge of Rev. John Dagg, an eminent divine and theological writer of the Baptist Church. After 1837 it underwent many vicissitudes. It was conducted during the war by Professor Saunders and his accomplished wife, who afterward spent many years in Berlin. At one time the building was used as a school for boys by Dr. J. H. Foster and Eldred B. Teague. Again it was purchased and occupied as a private residence by Dr. Landon C. Garland, now Chancellor of Vanderbilt. Then it passed into the hands of the North Alabama Conference, which for several years maintained a Conference school there. It then acquired the name of "Methodist College," by which it was popularly known. It was subsequently purchased from the Conference by Prof. B. E. Larrabee, who added a concert hall and a suite of rooms.

Prof. Alonzo Hill, the present incumbent, next became the proprietor. He has enlarged and beautified it to meet the demands of his popular institution. The imposing building, now two stories in height, is surmounted by a mansard roof, and tower which commands a wide prospect of the city and its environs. A beautiful park with its

tasteful summer house and alleyed walks charms the eye of the visitor. The school has 18 officers and 225 matriculates, of which about 100 are boarders.

When the State capital was removed from Tuscaloosa, the capitol building was donated by the Legislature to the University. As that institution found it impossible to derive an income from it sufficient to defray the expense of repairs, it was leased by the State to a stock company for ninety-nine years, on condition that it should be kept open for a school. It was organized by the Baptists, who owned a controlling interest in the stock, and it is now widely and favorably known as the Alabama Central Female College. At different periods, it was presided over by Bacon, Brown, Lamean, Yancey and others. It is now under the able management of Prof. Sumner B. Foster.

During the war, Mrs. Tuomey, relict of the distinguished Michael Tuomey, kept the "Home" School in Tuscaloosa, in the building now occupied as a residence by Mr. E. N. C. Snow. She was assisted by her two accomplished daughters.

We should be recreant to the highest interests of education, and to worth which is as rare as it is estimable, should we fail to record that private schools were long kept by Mrs. Dr. Little and Miss Mary Irving. Their sacred memories are enshrined in the hearts of hundreds of their grateful pupils.

The Alabama Female Institute was chartered in 1824. At that period, it was perhaps "the only star that shone its beams over a State lying in ignorance." There was one contemporary school at Huntsville, of similar rank, presided over by Misses Southmayd, Smith and Stone. The first principal of the school was Rev. W. H. Williams; with him Miss Maria Belle Brooks, afterward Mrs. Stafford, was honorably associated. Miss Abby Fitch, afterward the venerated Mrs. B. Searey, was also connected with the school. Later it passed into the hands of Professor Hentz and his accomplished wife, Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz, a distinguished authoress. In 1856, Professor Stafford and lady assumed the direction of the school. With them, at a later date, Mrs. W. C. Richardson and Mrs. R. E. Rhodes were associated.

The University High School, under the proprietorship of Prof. W. H. Verner, was incorporated in 1857. The number of officers are three. Instruction is given in military tactics for the pur-

pose of discipline, and the pupils have been provided by the State with a stand of arms. About one hundred have matriculated the current session. The building is large and imposing, having a capacity for sixty boarders. It was formerly known as the Ursuline Convent, and is one of the handsomest places in the city.

The University of Alabama was established by an Act of the Legislature, approved December 18, 1819. It was opened for the reception of students April 17, 1831. The first president was Rev. Alva Woods, D. D., who was assisted by three professors. In 1865, the original buildings, except the astronomical observatory, were burnt by a brigade of United States Cavalry under General Croxton. The new building, or University Hall, was erected in 1868. In 1860 the military system was adopted, and for many years has been under the able management of Commandant T. C. McCorvey. The library has about 10,000 volumes. The buildings have lately been increased by the addition of Manly and Clark Halls. Garland Hall is also in process of erection. Two new residences, one for the Quartermaster and one for the Commandant, are now going up. The number of cadets during the current year is about 200.

The University is under the management of a Board of Trustees, who hold office for the term of six years. The Governor of the State is *ex officio* president of the Board.

The University Fund, from the interest of which the University is mainly supported, consists of \$300,000, the proceeds of the original land grant of Congress.

The recent land grant by Congress to the State of Alabama for the benefit of the University, was 46,080 acres. The land selected by the commissioners were coal and timbered lands. Up to January 25, 1888, about 11,000 acres of these had been sold for the sum of \$130,000.

Gen. H. D. Clayton, of Barbour County, has been president since the fall of 1886.

*Public Schools.* An Act approved February 17, 1885, constituted the city of Tuscaloosa a separate school district. This Act provided for a sufficient number of schools to meet the wants of the district. The schools are under the care of a Board of Education, composed of the Mayor of Tuscaloosa, who is president *ex officio*, and four other residents of said district. The first members of this board were: Mayor Jemison, president, *ex officio*; E. N. C. Snow, Capt. Festus

Fitts, Dr. E. C. Chisholm, and Capt. H. P. Walker.

The white school is divided into ten grades, the colored into seven.

Only the children and wards of actual residents of the school district, from seven to nineteen years of age are eligible to matriculation.

For two successive years, the school received a donation of \$300 from the Peabody fund.

By a special Act of the Legislature, the city was authorized to issue bonds to the amount of \$18,000 for the erection of suitable buildings. In pursuance of this Act, the large and commodious structure known as the Tuscaloosa Female Institute, with its spacious and beautiful grounds, was purchased for the sum of \$10,000. On the east side of this building, and connected with it, a very imposing and tasteful edifice is now rapidly nearing completion. When finished it will comfortably accommodate 500 pupils. Number of teachers at present employed in the white school, nine; in the colored, five. Number of pupils enrolled during the present session: white school, 370; colored school, 260.

The school was organized in the summer of 1853. Superintendent Mitchell is comparatively a young man, but he has thus far shown himself to be "the right man in the right place."

#### CHURCHES.

The first church in Tuscaloosa was built of clapboards, by the Baptists, in 1817, near where the Star stable recently stood. This denomination afterward built a brick church on a corner of Washington and Union streets, and worshiped there until 1885. In that year the present elegant structure on Market and Pike was completed, largely through the liberality of Miss Sallie Moody, now Mrs. D. T. Purser, of Birmingham.

The Methodists first worshiped in a church that stood on a corner of Pike and Washington streets. It was a frame structure, and was destroyed by fire many years ago. The present building on Market is a grand old relic. Its walls have echoed the utterances of Bishops Keenan, Robert Kennon, Thomas Summers, Dr. Hamilton, Robert Nabors, and other distinguished divines. It was repaired and modernized during the recent pastorate of Rev. Alonzo Monk.

The Presbyterian Church, also on Market street, is a time-honored structure. Among its early pastors, we record the names of the eccen-



tric Daniel Baker and the learned and eloquent Dr. William A. Scott, of San Francisco memory. It was during his pastorate, that it became necessary to add the western wing. For many years it has been in charge of Dr. A. C. Stillman.

Christ Church was organized in January, 1828. The church building was erected in 1829-30. It was regularly consecrated in April, 1835, by the Rt. Rev. Thomas Church Brownell, Bishop of Connecticut. About six years ago (1882) the church building was remodeled and modernized. The first Rector of the church was the Rev. — Judd. He was elected in 1829, but on account of ill-health, served only a few months. He died of consumption in Mobile, Ala.

The Rev. J. H. Stringfellow is the present Rector.

The Catholics of this city held their meetings in the basement of the Masonic Hall, until the County Commissioners purchased that building for a court-house. This necessitated a removal, and, for some months, they occupied the upper story of Mr. Harghey's house as a place of worship. In 1845 their pastor, the Rev. P. R. Hackett, procured over \$2,000 in subscriptions for the purpose of erecting a suitable church building. In the same year a lot was purchased of Joel White, on a corner of Pike and Washington streets, and the contract let to Granger and Doncho to build "a church of brick." On the 25th of January, 1846, the church, being finished, was dedicated with impressive ceremonies by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Portier, of Mobile. Prominent among the former pastors was Father F. M. McDonough. He was long a citizen of Tuscaloosa, and was noted for his fine intelligence and large charity. The present pastor, the Rev. J. M. Cassidy, is unobtrusive and scholarly, and seems to be very acceptable to his flock.

The Ursuline Convent was founded September 29, 1866. It flourished for many years under the management of the indefatigable McDonough, and the good religiouses, Charles, Josephine and Teresa. The diocese was not able to sustain it, however, and, as the postulants for admission grew fewer from year to year, the school was finally closed out in 1885.

#### THE PRESS.

The first newspaper published in Tuscaloosa was the *American Mirror*. This was commenced in 1820. It was issued weekly by Thomas M. Davenport. It was small, containing only four columns

to the page, and was printed in long primer and brevier.

In 1826 the *Alabama Sentinel* was published by Thomas Grantland. The sheet was small and the paper inferior. It was edited by Washington Moody, and contained the proceedings of the first sessions of the Legislature held in Tuscaloosa.

In 1827 the *American Mirror* was merged into the *Tuscaloosa Chronicle*, and published by Dugald McFarlane, who married Eliza, one of the daughters of Thomas Davenport. This paper had five columns to the page, and was an improvement on the *Mirror*.

In 1829 A. M. Robinson, Esq., established in Tuscaloosa the *Spirit of the Age*, a weekly journal. This was conducted for several years with marked ability. Mainly political, it was very largely literary. Its columns contained many educational articles and teemed with poetry; the paucity of locals, however, shows how flat and uneventful were those Arcadian days.

The *Alabama State Intelligencer* was published by the Bradfords from 1827, and edited by R. T. Brumly until about 1835, when Brumly resigned to accept the position of Professor of Chemistry in the University of Alabama.

The *Independent Monitor* was started in 1836 by M. D. J. Slade, with A. M. Robinson as editor. This sheet afterward enjoyed the distinction of being presided over by Prof. F. A. P. Barnard, a man of profound scholarship and of acknowledged versatility and genius.

In 1842 the *State Journal and Flag* was published in Tuscaloosa. It was owned and edited by John McCormick, who was also State printer.

After the removal of the capital from Tuscaloosa in 1845, the paper was purchased of McCormick by James W. Warren, who changed the name to the *Tuscaloosa Observer*, and as editor and proprietor he continued its publication till 1865. It was then purchased by his son, John F. Warren, who continued its publication until 1870.

At this period the *Monitor* was bought from Mr. Ryland Randolph, and merged with the *Observer* into the *Tuscaloosa Times*, published by John F. Warren, and edited by J. W. Taylor. In 1875 a dissolution of the firm of Taylor & Warren was declared, and the paper was afterward published by J. F. Warren and H. H. Brown, Mr. Brown purchasing a half-interest, and assuming the editorial control.

While Randolph had control of the *Monitor*, Tuscaloosa saw her darkest days. In that trying crisis he was the fearless exponent of Southern feeling, and often suffered for what others felt. It is no exaggeration to say that he bared his breast to receive the thrusts that were leveled at his section and his party, and flung himself into the breach with a gallantry which sometimes bordered on recklessness.

In July, 1855, the *Times* was purchased from Warren & Brown by the Times Publishing Company, which has recently sold the paper to Messrs. W. C. Jemison and Carl Gantzhorn, with the latter gentleman as editor and business manager.

In 1871 Ryland Randolph started a sheet called the *Blade*. This was no misnomer, for it was as trenchant as the scimeter of Saladin.

In 1876 Mr. M. I. Burton bought out the *Blade* and merged it into the *Gazette*. This he conveyed to the Nunnelys in 1878, who continued its publication till 1888. The *Daily Gazette* began its career in March, 1887.

Mr. Burton also started the *Clarion* in the fall of 1879, and discontinued its publication in 1881.

In about the year 1840, a literary magazine, entitled the *Southern*, was published. It survived only a few months. Its columns were graced by the effusions of such able writers as Alexander B. Meek, William R. Smith and F. A. P. Barnard. It brought to light a great deal of native talent. In its pages first appeared B. W. Huntington's "Bacon and Greens" and a very pretty song by Thomas A. Maxwell, beginning "Lady, Sing that Song Again." It was afterward set to music, and was quite popular.

#### SOCIETIES.

Tuscaloosa has boasted at different periods many clubs and literary societies. We can only glance at the more prominent.

The *Franklin Institute* was set on foot in 1830. It numbered among its members such distinguished names as Washington Moody, A. M. Robinson, Geo. D. Shortridge, Robert Inge and others. The object was improvement in debate.

The *Lycæum* was organized in May, 1831. It contained a galaxy of talent. We find among its managers the names of Dr. Alva Wood, President of the University; Judge Minor, George W. Crabb, H. W. Ellis, H. Tutwiler and A. M. Robinson. Its programme called for discussions and scientific essays.

The *Ciceronian Club* sprang into existence about 1838, and comprised the best literary and forensic talent of the city. This will be apparent when we recall among its members, A. B. Mead, Wm. R. Smith, Thomas Burke, F. A. Barnard, Newton L. Whitfield, Washington Moody, Alexander M. Robinson and A. W. Richardson.

The *Druid City Club* held its first meeting in ———. It included both sexes in its membership; and the learned lectures, the stirring debates, the witty sallies and spicy rejoinders which enlivened those Attic nights can never be forgotten. It was ably presided over for many years by Dr. B. F. Meek of the State University.

The *Historical Society* held its first annual meeting at the University of Alabama, July 14, 1851. Its officers were: Alexander Bowie, of Talladega, President; Albert J. Pickett, of Montgomery, First Vice-President; Washington Moody, Tuscaloosa, Treasurer; Joshua H. Foster, Secretary. Its Executive Committee consisted of: John J. Ormond, Basil Manly, D. D., Rt. Rev. N. H. Cobbs, Landon C. Garland and Michael Tuomey, all of Tuscaloosa.

An oration was delivered on this occasion by the President of the society, the Hon. Alexander Bowie, of Talladega, which oration was afterward printed in the first volume of the Transactions of the Society, in 1852.

At the last session Dr. W. S. Wyman, of the State University, was requested to prepare a history of the State of Alabama. His learning, his extensive knowledge of the aborigines, and his fine literary tastes eminently fit him for such a work, and it is to be hoped that he will not permit the stores that he has amassed to die with him.

#### ALABAMA INSANE HOSPITAL.

The Hospital was established by an Act of the Legislature, approved February 6, 1852. It was opened to the public in 1860. Trustees, appointed by the Governor, have control of the institution. This colossal establishment covers an immense area. As you come upon it suddenly it looks, as some one has well remarked, "like a spur of the Alleghanies." The grounds, about one hundred acres in extent, are beautifully laid out. Conservatories, summer-houses, fountains, arrest the eye, and every device is employed to cultivate the tastes and direct the minds of the patients. It is the theory of Dr. Peter Bryce, who is the able superintendent, that "kindness should be substituted

for force in the treatment of the insane." The novel and humane mode of treatment has attracted the attention of even foreign institutions and has given the Hospital a wide celebrity.

Then the war came. Ah, how chopfallen! The old town put on "sackcloth and ashes." She mourned like Rachel for her children, and refused to be comforted. She no longer aspired to wealth, but was content to struggle for a bare subsistence. She delved, she wove, she spun. Her daughters put on calico, her sons wore jeans. She no longer sung the old refrain, "Cotton is King," for she knew it was a hollow mockery. She abased herself. Her people did not disdain the plough, the wash-tub or any menial occupation. She counted the bead-roll of her heroes, she embroidered the banner, she placed the flag in the hands of her departing sons, and turned aside to weep through the long, long nights that awaited her. She gave her jewels to cover the naked, bleeding feet of her soldiery. With blinding tears she scattered flowers over fresh made graves, and enshrined in her heart of hearts the names of Rodes, of Eddins, of Burton and other of her heroes. Detested era! Blessed era! Era of darkness and gloom! Era of light and splendor! Era, baptized in blood—how we deplore, abhor, honor thee!

But Peace came, and with it a brighter day. Blood and tears cemented all hearts. She had had her gala day, and also her day of despair. Seasoned by adversity she comes forth from the fiery furnace more sober, more earnest, more trustful than before. On honest toil, on prudent thrift, on careful and painstaking economy, she grounded her hope of prosperity. Like a widow in her weeds, by her unattractiveness she hoped to win her way to peace and approbation.

For three decades after the war she "made haste slowly." She became an easy-going old town, with good social and educational advantages, a place to live in, but not to make a living. Her sons went abroad to work, her daughters to teach. By dint of refurbishing she managed to maintain a dingy respectability. She was remarked upon for her culture, and merited and attained the appellation of the "Athens of Alabama." In time her trade grew, her shops multiplied, her financial record was of the best. By industry and thrift her fortunes advanced, there came a revulsion. The "Magic City" began to emerge into prominence. She began to exhibit those auroral displays of prosperity that startled

the entire continent. Her siren promises to capital and enterprise were so alluring and so trustworthy, that she drew away hundreds of our citizens, and thousands of our money, which had lain idle in vaults, or had been locked up in petty enterprises since the war. The year 1886 closed on the city almost a wreck. Her business men, soured by disappointment, were breaking up, and following their investments, when suddenly, and most unexpectedly, a new era dawned. Distrust, growing out of repeated failures, had broken up coöperative enterprises. In this year, too, prohibition came in to distract the community, and political acrimony reached its height. Men, who had been life-long friends, seemed rushing to absolute antagonism. Brought, thus, to the verge of madness and folly, they saw their peril, and beat not too soon a hasty and wise retreat. Sinking, for a time at least, the exiting questions of the hour, they suddenly agreed to ignore all, to expend all, to dare all, for the security and safety of the city.

#### BANKS

There are three banks in Tuscaloosa, viz.: The Bank of J. H. Fitts & Co., the First National Bank, and the Merchants National Bank.

Mr. J. H. Fitts organized the Bank of J. H. Fitts & Co. in 1865, with Mr. Samuel A. Fitts as a copartner. This was the first bank established in Tuscaloosa after the ever memorable crash of 1836-37, and from 1865 to the year 1872 it was the only bank in the city. Its affairs have been managed with ability and prudence, and it was one of the banks which paid all demands on it in currency during the money panic in 1873. Although its present capital is only \$50,000, the individual property of each member is legally liable for its transactions, which gives it the highest credit and the entire confidence of the community.

The First National Bank was organized in 1871. Its incorporators were Washington Moody, Frank Moody, Dr. Peter Bryce, B. Friedman, R. C. McLester, and others. Capital stock, \$60,000. On the death of Judge Moody, March 31, 1879, Frank S. Moody became president, and Mr. Joe McLester succeeded him as cashier. On removal of the latter to Birmingham, Dr. John Little was appointed to fill the vacancy.

The Merchants National Bank of Tuscaloosa was organized principally by the young merchants of the city February 9, 1887. It opened its doors

for business May 5, in the office of the Land and Loan Company. Capital stock, \$100,000. It moved into the new Bank building, on Broad street, November 17, 1887.

Its officers are George A. Searcy, president, and Will Foster, cashier.

#### HOTELS, ETC.

Tuscaloosa has two fine hotels: the Washington, which has been long enough before the public to need no description or commendation, and the McLester House, a \$25,000 structure, which is on the eve of completion. The building is four stories high, has a mansard roof and elevator, a mammoth bay window, extending from the second floor to the roof, and a magnificent glass tower of similar extent on the southeast corner. It will have all the modern appliances for comfort, and even luxury.

The principal streets of Tuscaloosa are very spacious, being 120 feet in width, and thickly overlaid with gravel, making them firm roadbeds for vehicles.

The trees make Tuscaloosa the admiration of every new-comer. Her principal streets have a line of water-oaks in the middle, and one on each side, so as to present the appearance and the shade and coolness of forest arcades. This has imparted to the city the appellation of the Druid City, or City of Oaks.

THE TUSCALOOSA COTTON MILL was organized in 1879, with a cash capital of \$40,000. This mill makes a specialty of dyeing and weaving, buying its yarns on a guarantee of their being of the best quality. This company has from its earnings nearly doubled its capacity, and has declared and paid dividends to its stockholders amounting in the aggregate to eighty-one per cent. of its original capital. During the eight years of its present administration it has paid out in this community, in salaries and for labor, over a quarter of a million of dollars. It has 172 check or plaid looms, a spacious dye house, with cylinder drying machine, beaming room and work-shops, all run by a 150 horse-power engine, made by William Wright, of Newburg, N. Y. The principal owners are Mr. J. H. Fitts and his sons. Its officers are: J. H. Fitts, president; Festus Fitts, secretary and treasurer; and Arthur Fitts, superintendent and general manager.

TUSCALOOSA COAL, IRON AND LAND COMPANY was formally organized Jan. 15, 1887. The capital

stock of the company is \$1,000,000, represented by 33,000 acres of mineral lands, and about 4,000 acres of city and suburban lands. These form a belt on three sides of the city, the Warrior River bounding the fourth side. A year ago, the lands were old fields; now they teem with a new population and new industries. Streets and avenues have been opened and graded, and the city has extended her arms to embrace stores, lumber yards, brick-yards and various other enterprises that have sprung up on her outskirts like magic. A hundred and twenty houses have gone up in the last twelve months, but the demand for new homes is undiminished. The population has increased at least a thousand souls during the past year, and there has been a steady augmentation of trade.

COAL.—If you will examine a geological map of the State of Alabama, you will be struck with the fact that the lines of fracture which brought the coal and other minerals to the surface, converge from a wide area in North Alabama to Tuscaloosa, where the Warrior begins to be navigable. It looks like a vast funnel, through which the mineral treasures of Alabama are poured into our lap, to be distributed by the Warrior to the cis-Atlantic cities. Brown and red iron ore, fire-clay of fine quality, limestone and coal have been discovered near the city in inexhaustible quantities. Within ten miles of the city, veins of coal from four to six feet thick have been found, some of which afford superior gas and steam coal, and others a coking coal that bore off the prize from all competitors at the Piedmont Exposition.

According to an old number of the *Mobile Patriot*, coal was first tested in Mobile for fuel in 1830. It brought \$9 per chaldron. It was mined from the banks of North River. It was at that early day considered by experts to be "33½ per cent. better than the Liverpool Orell coal."

IRON.—The first Alabama iron tested in the Tuscaloosa smithies, was from the iron works conducted by the Messrs. McGehee, located about twenty-eight miles from this place, on the line between this county and Jefferson. It was pronounced to be of excellent quality.

THE TUSCALOOSA WATER WORKS were organized in February, 1888, with J. M. Wilcox, Macon, Ga., president; A. E. Boardman, treasurer; Wm. C. Fitts, Tuscaloosa, Ala., secretary; the works to cost about \$75,000. The water will be obtained from the Warrior River above the Alabama Insane Hospital, where powerful duplex pumps,

with a capacity of a million gallons per day, will be placed. The water will be conveyed from that point through a large main, and conducted into a reservoir, thirty-five feet deep by twenty-five feet in diameter, to be constructed on top of a tower of masonry one hundred feet high. This will furnish works having both a direct and a reserve pressure, and when completed will afford excellent fire protection, as well as good and wholesome water for domestic purposes.

#### RIVER NAVIGATION.

The Warrior River is generally navigable for steamboats as high as Tuscaloosa for seven months in the year. Attempts heretofore made for the improvement of the lower Warrior have been confined to clearing out obstructions, trimming the banks, etc. By the provisions of the River and Harbor Bill, \$100,000 was set apart to build locks and dams in the upper Warrior, so as to secure slack-water navigation.

Surveys have been made and plans and estimates are under consideration to open the river below Tuscaloosa to boats and barges for twelve instead of seven months in the year. If this work is accomplished and a good system of tonnage established, there is no reason, according to the carefully prepared estimates of Col. Horace Harding, United States Engineer in charge, why the cost of transportation from Tuscaloosa to Mobile should exceed thirty-five cents per ton.

#### RAILROADS.

The Alabama Great Southern Railroad, from Chattanooga to Meridian; the Tuscaloosa Northern Railroad, nearly graded, and bridge piers under contract, will connect with the Georgia Pacific, Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham, and the Sheffield & Decatur Railroads, at or near Jasper.

The following are projected: The Chicago Gulf Air Line, from Florence to Mobile; the Louisville & Nashville (Mineral), from Birmingham to Tuscaloosa; Houston (Texas), Natchez, Macon, Tuscaloosa & Birmingham; Montgomery Northwestern, *via* Prattville and Centreville to Tuscaloosa, and to connect with Georgia Pacific, Kansas City, Memphis & Birmingham, and the Sheffield & Decatur Railroads, at or near Jasper.

#### INDUSTRIES.

The Tuscaloosa Brick and Tile Company; the Warrior Brick and Building Company; the T. F.

Adams & Company Brick Yard; G. T. Ingraham's Lumber, Coal and Wood Yard; Allen & Jamison Lumber and Planing Mill; the Steam Cotton Gin of the T. C. S. Oil Mills; Black's Suspender Factory.

The Tuscaloosa Street Railway, whose cars run regularly from the Union Depot through the heart of the city to the University of Alabama, the Insane Hospital and to Lake Lorraine, a beautiful sheet of water that nestles among the woody knolls of Castle Hill. This lake, which is furnished with row and sail boats, and a miniature steam yacht, is destined to become the most popular resort around Tuscaloosa.

The Tuscaloosa Belt Railway is furnished with a dummy engine and a passenger car that plies between the depot and the city. The line will be extended in time, so as to make the entire circuit of the suburban lands of the T. C. I. L. Company.

On the Tuscaloosa Northern Railway, iron has been laid on the first section and the piers for a stone and iron bridge across the Warrior placed under contract.

There was a time when, from the Falls of the Warrior to Jones' Valley naught could be heard but the cry of the panther. Now the roar of a hundred locomotives scream along the path. On this beautiful plain, where once curled only the smoke of the lonely wigwam, anon will be seen the furnace belching its black vapors to the sky. Tuscaloosa aspires to be a queen among cities. She is already decking herself in the well-earned tiara of success. Placing one hand upon her beds of iron, and touching with her other her vast deposits of coal, she is calling to her sister city by the sea, and bidding her open her port to receive the mighty treasure that she will soon set afloat.



**HENRY De La MAR CLAYTON.** Among the more distinguished and gallant officers of the Confederate Army, Gen. Henry De La Mar Clayton occupied the highest position. To him may justly be ascribed the many qualities of which are made great soldiers. From a private, he became, through the various gradations of military rank, a General of Division. Only true merit, and that magnificent courage he so signally instanced in every battle, could have lifted him into a position of such high honor. General Clayton was born in Pulaski County, Georgia, March 7, 1827. His

father was Nelson Clayton, a native of Georgia, but, for many years prior to his death, a resident of Lee County, Ala. His mother was Sarah Caruthers. General Clayton's paternal ancestry was English and his maternal ancestry Scotch and French.

His father was a farmer and represented Pulaski County in the Georgia Legislature for many years. He moved to Alabama, settling near Opelika, in 1838, where he continued to reside until his death, in 1869. He enjoyed the distinction of being one of the best farmers in the State. He was patriotic and kind, never losing an opportunity to carry comfort and cheer to the heart of the soldier. His liberality in this direction was a source of much gratification to him and to his friends. At the close of the late war, he would carry a supply of sandwiches every day to the depot to distribute among the passing soldiers, who were returning home. His home was for the time converted into a hospital for the sick and wounded. His memory will ever be revered by these survivors of the conflict, in which his son bore so distinguished a part. His eldest son, Capt. Joseph C. Clayton, a gallant officer, received his death-wound at Murfreesboro.

Gen. H. D. Clayton received his early education at Vineville, in the suburbs of Macon, Ga., at a school taught by Mr. M. M. Mason, an instructor of great celebrity at that day. His subsequent scholastic training was received at Emory and Henry College, Virginia, where he was graduated with distinction, in 1848. He read law in the office of Shorter & Brother, a firm composed of the Hon. John Gill Shorter and the Hon. Eli S. Shorter, afterward a member of Congress, in Eufula, Ala., and was admitted to the bar in 1849. He married, in 1850, Miss Victoria V. Hunter, the daughter of Gen. John L. Hunter, of Eufula. So attentive had he been in all of his business affairs as to have acquired a considerable fortune.

In 1857 he was elected to the Alabama Legislature, without opposition, having received the unanimous nomination of the Democratic party, to the principles of which he had always adhered. He was re-elected in 1859. He was a member of the House in 1861, and chairman of the Military Committee at the time Governor Moore called for twelve-months' volunteers to relieve those who had been called out for thirty days to capture the navy yard and forts near Pensacola, Florida. A portion only of the volunteer regiment of which he had

been elected colonel, was received into the service. As he failed to obtain the consent of the Governor to muster the whole regiment into service, notwithstanding that every company was willing to enlist, he joined the Clayton Guards, a company composed of his neighbors and friends, as a private. As the Governor was thus disappointed in securing Colonel Clayton's services to the Legislature, and being convinced that he intended going into service at all hazards, sent him a commission as aide-de-camp, with orders to repair to Pensacola, and organize the Alabama troops on their arrival there into regiments. Upon the organization of the First Alabama Regiment, he was elected its colonel. Among the privates in this regiment were the Hon. John Cochran, Hon. J. L. Pugh, Hon. E. C. Bullock, Hon. Thos. J. Judge, and others of distinction.

Colonel Clayton, the period of service of the First Alabama having expired, desiring more active service, returned home and organized the Thirty-ninth Alabama Regiment, which he commanded in General Bragg's Kentucky campaign in 1862, and until after the battle of Murfreesboro. In this battle he received a severe wound in the right shoulder, and upon his return to his command, his wound having partially healed, without any previous knowledge or intimation of it, he was commissioned a brigadier-general, and placed in command of a brigade composed of the Eighteenth, Thirty-sixth, Thirty-eighth, and the Thirty-second and the Fifty-eighth (as one) regiments of Alabama troops, and assigned to Gen. A. P. Stewart's division.

Clayton's brigade took a conspicuous part in the battles of Chickamanga, Rocky Face Mountain, Resaca and New Hope Church. In the last named engagement he succeeded in defeating an attempted surprise of the enemy of his division, for which splendid achievement he was elevated to the rank of major-general, and given command of the division to which he had been attached. General Stewart having been promoted to lieutenant-general, Clayton's division was composed of Holtzclaw's (formerly Clayton's) and Baker's Alabama brigades, Stovall's Georgia brigade and Gibson's Louisiana brigade. Clayton's division bore a prominent part in the battles around Atlanta, Jonesboro and at Nashville.

General Clayton was several times slightly wounded, and at Jonesboro had three horses killed under him, escaping death or serious injury as by

a miracle. The day following a very affecting scene occurred as his division was passing his old regiment, the Thirty-ninth Alabama, some of the members of which had seen him fall from his horse, as they supposed never to rise again. The sight of him alive and well gave place to the most extravagant demonstrations of delight, and many wept for very joy. The strongest exhibition of General Clayton's skill, judgment and valor was shown during Hood's retreat from Nashville. The Federal General Thomas, in his official report, mentions Clayton's division in this language: "The rear guard stood undaunted and firm," General Thomas admitted the killing and wounding of 2,000 Federals in front of Clayton's division.

Lieut.-Gen. Stephen D. Lee, his corps commander, said of General Clayton: "I have never seen the personal gallantry displayed by him in the battles of Jonesboro and Nashville excelled during the war."

General Bragg, General Stewart, Gen. D. H. Hill, and General Hindman, under whom he served, often complimented him and his command. After the battle of Chickamauga, his neighbors presented him with a sword that cost \$2,000, and the finest that could be produced in the Confederacy, beautifully engraved with the inscription: "Presented to General H. D. Clayton by the citizens of Barbour County."

One of the most striking characteristics of General Clayton is his perfect devotion to whatever he undertakes. He was re-elected Judge, a position he had formerly held, in 1880, by the almost unanimous vote of the Third Judicial Circuit. He continued to serve in this capacity until April 10, 1886, when he resigned to become a candidate for Governor of Alabama. Although defeated at the Nominating Convention, he bore it with calmness and retired to his home at Clayton. In a few days a dispatch was handed him announcing his election as President of the University of Alabama. The occasion of this fact was followed by numerous congratulatory telegrams and letters, going to show the great satisfaction experienced by his hosts of friends at this bestowal of honor upon him. June 24, 1886, was the day upon which he received notice of his election as President of the University of Alabama, and it was hailed with great joy by the people of Tuscaloosa and the whole State of Alabama, who have a just pride in the proper direction and management

of their splendid and richly-endowed institution of learning.

Under the General Clayton's management, the University of Alabama has already shown marked improvement in various directions, and the number of students of the present session will compare very favorably with any in its history, if it does not exceed any previous session. General Clayton fills the chair of International and Constitutional Law as a professor of the University, and has had conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. He is the father of eleven children—seven sons and four daughters. Four of the sons are grown, two of whom are farmers, one a practicing lawyer, and the other, a graduate of West Point Military Academy, is a lieutenant in the Eleventh United States Infantry. The other sons are at home—two attending the University and one a pupil of University High School.

General Clayton discharges his duties as President of the University of Alabama as he did when a soldier, and no greater praise can be bestowed upon him, nor would he require it.



#### HENDERSON M. SOMERVILLE, LL. D.

Prominent among the new school of lawyers that have made their advent since the war and who wears the mantle of such illustrious disciples of Themis as Lipscomb, Ormond, Goldthwaite, Dargan, Chilton, Walker, Elmore, and their congeners, is Henderson M. Somerville, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama. In juridical scholarship and forensic power he is without a superior, and the tiara of the most brilliant of these great lawyers can be gracefully worn by him.

Judge Somerville was born in Virginia in 1837, and was brought to Alabama by his parents in early infancy. His father was Dr. James Somerville, one of the most distinguished physicians of his day, and his mother was Miss Helen Wallace, a lady of illustrious lineage.

Judge Somerville was graduated at the University of Alabama in the class of 1856, and his collegiate course was characterized by the logical operations of a highly analytical mind. In 1859 he took the degree at the Lebanon (Tenn.) Law School, and began the practice of law in Memphis. At the same time he was political editor of the Memphis *Appeal*, and his articles were tran-

and classically elegant." From 1862 to the close of the war he very ably filled the chair of Classics and Mathematics in his *Alma Mater*, and in 1865 he engaged in the practice of the law with Judge Ormand and Mr. Nicholson. This connection was shortly dissolved, and Judge Somerville formed a partnership with Capt. A. B. McEachin, of Tuscaloosa. For ten years this firm did as lucrative a practice as any in West Alabama. In 1873, the subject of this sketch organized the Law Department in the University. The natural result of his labors as a teacher of the law was to refresh his mind with its fundamental principles as enunciated by the great masters, Bacon, Coke and Blackstone, and to augment his profound legal learning.

Judge Somerville came very prominently before the people of Alabama in 1868, in defense of Ryland Randolph, the famous editor of the *Tuscaloosa Monitor*, tried before a military commission in Selma, on the charge of intimidating colored citizens. The press of that day speak in the most complimentary terms of his management of this case, and, while he was already a great lawyer, this was the first complete recognition of the fact by the public, and since then he has been a potential factor in the jurisprudence of Alabama. In 1877 the degree of LL. D. was conferred on him by Georgetown College, Kentucky, and the same degree was conferred on him by the University of Alabama in 1884, and by the Southwestern Presbyterian University, at Clarksville, Tenn., in 1887. He has twice been elected vice-president of the Alabama Bar Association. A very able member of the Alabama bar, in alluding to Judge Somerville, says he "is wonderfully gifted in evolving principles from abstruse questions of law, and in deducing truth from confusion of facts. His legal knowledge is broad and remarkably accurate; his powers of expression ready, clear and incisive, and the cast of his mind eminently analytical."

One of our Chancellors, in sketching his character in 1874, said: "As a speaker he is fluent, forcible, pointed and correct. His taste is critical, and his style more polished than is usually the case with public speakers in this country. His mind is quick, analytical and well cultivated; his morals are upright and pure; his judgment sound, and he has an undisguised contempt for whatever is mean and low." For the past fifteen years Judge Somerville has been an elder in the Presbyterian church, and throughout his career

he has been a faithful and zealous laborer in the moral vineyard. His intercourse with his fellow-man has beautifully illustrated Bacon's deduction in his essay on "Truth"—"No pleasure is comparable to the standing on the vantage ground of Truth." In 1880 he was appointed Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama, and has since been elected to fill that important office. The wisdom of his selection has been vindicated by his investigating mind, legal erudition, capacity to eliminate principles, tireless application, splendid physique, excellent health, equable temperament, delicate sense of justice, fixed determination to discover latent but potential facts and to penetrate the inmost recesses of subjects submitted for his adjudication.

Judge Somerville was prominently spoken of to fill the vacancy of the supreme bench of the United States occasioned by the death of Associate Justice Wood and for the position he received the endorsement of an overwhelming majority of the Bar and Press of the State. His eminent fitness for the position is unquestionable, and that he is the peer of any member of that august tribunal is equally beyond doubt.



**ELIJAH WOLSEY PECK**, son of David and Christiana Peck, was born at Blenheim, Schoharie County, N. Y., August 7, 1799. After a common-school education he, in 1819, began the study of law, and in the spring of 1824 was admitted to practice in the Superior Court at Albany, N. Y. He there continued practicing in the inferior courts until July, 1824, when he and another young man drove a buggy with a single horse to Huntsville. After remaining in Huntsville a few weeks, and seeing no opportunity for a young man without acquaintance or money, he procured a horse and left for Cahaba, then the capital of the State. On his way to Cahaba he met Mr. Streeter, a merchant of Elyton, who persuaded him to stay over night with him, and subsequently induced him to return to and make Elyton his home. Soon after settling at Elyton, Peck was seized with typho-malarial fever from which he recovered, after a lingering illness, to find himself without money and in a land of strangers. At that time there were two factions in the county, the leaders of which became involved in a law suit, which cre-



ated a great deal of bitter feeling. Peck was employed to represent one side. It was due to the admirable manner in which he managed his cause, and the triumph he scored, that he never afterward lacked for friends or money. He became the leading lawyer of the county, and achieved distinction in the Supreme Court. He formed a copartnership at Tuscaloosa with Harvey W. Ellis, and removed his residence to that city in 1832. The new firm secured a very lucrative practice, and upon its dissolution by the death of Ellis, Peck and the Hon. Lincoln Clark became partners, and were associated up to 1847.

About the year 1840 Judge Peck was elected one of the Chancellors of Alabama, and held the office until 1842. Up to 1867 he continued in the leading law practice at Tuscaloosa, and amassed a fortune of several hundred thousand dollars.

The Judge's mind was acute, analytical, strong and vigorous. He was a formidable opponent at the bar, and in his practice as a special pleader was an antagonist whom few, if any, cared to encounter. In politics he was a Federalist, a strict follower of the school of Alexander Hamilton, and, in after life, a great admirer of Henry Clay. He was an earnest Whig, intensely opposed to the Democratic party, and repudiated secession. During the late war he contributed liberally to the wants of the wives, widows and orphans of the soldiers, but positively refused to give anything in aid of the Confederate cause. He was a candidate for Representative to the Constitutional Convention of 1865 from Tuscaloosa County, but was defeated. In 1867, under the Reconstruction Act, he was again a candidate, and was elected. Upon the organization of the Convention he was chosen its president, and when the State election for executive judicial officer was called by that convention, he was elected Chief-Justice of Alabama, which position he held until June, 1873.

Judge Peck's address to the members of the State bar, January, 1869 (Forty-third Alabama Reports), commends itself to every Alabamian. It was the first offer of the olive branch, and resulted in the restoration of the judicial department of the State long before the political department had ceased to be oppressive. Like all great men, Judge Peck had many peculiarities. Quiet, undemonstrative and retiring in his manners, he was never known to do anything for mere show or display. Possessed of a moral courage scarcely equalled, he held to his convictions with

unflinching tenacity, and never shrank from the discharge of duty, however painful, hazardous or onerous.

He lived honored, respected and esteemed among his fellow-men, and died at his home in Tuscaloosa February 13, 1888, in the full hope of a glorious immortality as a reward of a correct, exemplary Christian life.

Judge Peck was many years a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church.



**WASHINGTON MOODY.** The man who achieves brilliant success in business life, or rises to eminence in a learned profession unaided by the auxiliary support of rank, powerful friends, or scholastic advantages, is a monument to the intellectual grandeur of his race. Such a man was Washington Moody. He was born in Mecklenburg County, Va., in 1807, and came with his parents to Tuscaloosa when a boy but thirteen years old. Having soon after been left one of a large family of orphans, whose means of support were small, he commenced the battle of life with little capital other than that which springs from honest purposes, a clear head and a brave and dauntless heart. With an education limited to a thorough knowledge of English grammar and arithmetic, and to three [months] study of Latin during which he read several books of Casar and acquired some knowledge of Virgil, he began the study of law. He clerked in the post-office, and did writing for Judges Minor and Crabb, to defray his current expenses. Day by day and night by night he toiled over his books, never abating his zeal and energy until he had mastered Blackstone's Commentaries, and become familiar with the history of his own and that of foreign countries. His range of reading included the polite literature of the day and the classical learning of past ages. He assisted Judge Minor in the preparation of his volume of reports, and systematically progressed in the study of the law until he attained the proud distinction of being one of the safest and soundest counselors of the Tuscaloosa bar. His mind, though quick and penetrating, was pre-eminently cautious, accurate and logical, and, consequently, he rarely reached a false judgment or an erroneous conclusion. His speech was deliberate; at times hesitating; but his arguments were invariably of clear expression.

He possessed an unusually retentive memory and a remarkably accurate knowledge of fact and date. His style of writing was terse, polished, and incisive. Few men knew better than him the peculiar force and beauty of the English language. He was engaged in many a gladiatorial contest at the bar with Ormond, Peck, the two Martins, Cochrane and Nicholson, all of whom found in him a professional foeman worthy of their steel. Toward the latter part of his life, he retired from the active practice of law and engaged in more quiet pursuits. Honest, industrious, and economical, he had prospered in his financial affairs. In the year 1812, aided by some of his friends, he founded the First National Bank of Tuscaloosa, and was elected its first president. His own character he impressed upon the conduct of the bank, and gave to it the reputation of being a safe and prudent institution. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that in times of stringency, when money could be easily lent at one, one and a half, or even two per cent. per month, Judge Moody, as the president of that bank, adhered to his life-long rule of charging at the rate of only eight per cent. per annum. For fifty years he was connected with most of the public enterprises in Tuscaloosa, and throughout that whole time no stain ever soiled his business character. He rendered unto every man his due, and often more.

He was firm and decided, but kind and gentle. Young men of limited means, struggling to acquire an education had for him a peculiar attraction, and toward them he was ever ready to turn a listening ear. He was a fond husband and a devoted father, and in all his social relations he was kind and sympathetic.

He died suddenly of apoplexy at his home in Tuscaloosa, on March 31, 1819. At a meeting called in honor of his memory by the Tuscaloosa bar, the following touching remarks were made by the Hon. E. W. Peck, who became eminent as a lawyer and a jurist in the same courts of law which witnessed the rise and success of Judge Washington Moody:

"Gentlemen of the Bar: We have come together to pay a becoming tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased professional friend and brother, Hon. Washington Moody, who, by an inscrutable and startling Providence, has been so suddenly taken from among us. I have known Judge Moody some fifty years—longer, I have no doubt, than any one in this assembly. When I first

knew him he was quite a young man, and was reading law with the late General Crabb, of this city, and writing in the office, I suppose to help pay his way; for, like many, and perhaps most, of the earlier members of the bar in this State, he began the struggle of professional life poor.

"Judge Moody, in some respects, was a remarkable man—a striking example of what may be accomplished by industry, economy and perseverance, aided by a good judgment. Without any of those factitious helps which sometimes usher a young man into public notice and give him fame and fortune, Judge Moody, by his own unassisted energies, with a good character, which he has left without stain or blemish as an inestimable heritage to his children, secured a reasonable share of both. During a long life, actively engaged in professional and much other important business, Judge Moody merited and enjoyed, among his neighbors and fellow-citizens, the reputation of an honest and honorable man. For the many virtues of our deceased brother, let us (it is grateful for us to do so) put on record a just and generous testimony of our sincere regard for his memory, and convey to his family our deep and heart-felt sympathy in their affliction."



**BENJAMIN F. MEEK, A. M., LL. D.,** Professor of English Language and Literature in the University of Alabama, was born at Tuscaloosa, this State, September 29, 1836. His father was the Rev. Samuel M. Meek, M. D., many years a prominent divine of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He came from South Carolina to Tuscaloosa in 1819, and here practiced medicine many years in addition to filling the pulpit at various places. In the latter years of his life he united with the Methodist Protestant Church, of which he was a minister at the time of his death, which occurred in 1846. His wife, Annie A. (McDowell) Meek, was a native of Charleston, S. C., and like her husband, was descended from the Scotch-Irish. Their eldest son, Alex. B. Meek, figures prominently in the history of this State. He was many years the Judge of the Probate Court at Mobile, and a member of the Alabama Legislature from 1853 to 1855, and again from 1861 to 1863. In the latter years he was Speaker of the House of Representatives. He was recognized as the founder of the public school system

of Alabama. In 1845-6, while James K. Polk was President, he was connected with the Treasury Department at Washington, and in 1847-8 was United States District Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama. He had served as Attorney-General in 1836, being appointed thereto by Governor Clay. From 1819 to 1853 he was editor of the *Mobile Register*, but he is better known to the literary world as the author of "Red Eagle," "Romantic Passages in South-Western History," and "Songs and Poems of the South." He died at Columbus, Miss., November 1, 1865.

John William Meek, M. D., another brother, was a prominent practitioner of medicine. He died in 1859. Samuel M. Meek, now of Columbus, Miss., a noted criminal lawyer, was lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-fifth Mississippi Regiment during the war. Henry F. Meek, a professional teacher, died at Landerdale Springs, Miss., while yet a young man.

Benjamin F. Meek, whose name heads this sketch, was the youngest of the family of five sons. He, as were his four brothers, was graduated from the State University, taking his degree in July, 1854. The degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the University of Mississippi in 1879. He has spent the greater part of his life as an educator, and is recognized by the brightest minds in the State as standing at the head of his profession. He was connected with the State University as assistant professor of Ancient Languages from 1863 to 1865. From 1868 to 1870, inclusive, he was professor of Ancient Languages in the Florence Wesleyan University, coming from there to his present position in 1871.

Professor Meek is an eloquent and forcible speaker, a terse and vigorous writer, a brilliant scholar, and is more than ordinarily endowed with all of the essential pre-requisites that go to fit him for the chosen profession of his life. He is a member of I. O. O. F., a regular communicant of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been superintendent of the Sabbath-school for more than twenty consecutive years. He was appointed the lay delegate from the North Alabama Conference to the Methodist Ecumenical Conference held at London, England.



**ROBERT A. HARDAWAY**, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Alabama, is a native

of Morgan County, Ga., where he was born February 2, 1829. His father was the Hon. Robert S. Hardaway, native of Virginia, and many years member of the Alabama State Senate.

Robert A. Hardaway was educated at the Jesuit College (St. Joseph), Mobile, and Emory College, Georgia, graduating from the latter institution in 1847. Of him, Mr. Brewer, in his "Alabama," says: "He went to Mexico as an officer of Seibe's Battalion, and distinguished himself as an officer of artillery in Virginia during the late war, rising to the rank of colonel. From the first Manassas, where he was not actively engaged, to his surrender at Appomattox, he was a participant in, or was present at, forty-one engagements, including all the great battles of the Army of North Virginia. And the guns of the Third Richmond Howitzers, a company of his artillery regiment, fired the last shot of that immortal army at Appomattox."

During the war with Mexico, he held the rank of adjutant of Alabama Volunteers; and he was chief civil engineer and superintendent of the Mobile & Girard Railroad from 1850 to 1857. At the outbreak of the war between the States, he left his plantation to become captain of artillery from Alabama, and on December 5, 1862, was promoted, for distinguished service, to the rank of major, in the Confederate States Army, and assigned to the First Regiment of Virginia Artillery, Second Corps A. N. V. The colonel and major of his regiment having been killed during the battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania, he was assigned to the permanent command as lieutenant-colonel; he had, however, been for some time, and up to the date of his promotion, in command of the regiment. After the "Wilderness" the regiment was reorganized, and became "Hardaway's Battalion," by which name it was known thereafter to the close of the war. As detailed by Mr. Brewer, a part of this command fired the last shot at Appomattox, and it still retains its organization as the Howitzer Battalion of Richmond, Va.

Immediately after the close of the war, he was appointed chief engineer and superintendent of the East Alabama Railroad, and held that position four years. From 1872 to 1881, he was commandant and professor of engineering of the State College, at Auburn, and from there took a position in the engineering department of the Tampico Division of the Mexican Central Railroad,

where he remained until he came to his present position with the State University, October 1, 1882.

As civil engineer and professional educator, no man in the South, if indeed in the United States, ranks higher than Colonel Hardaway. Of the hundreds of young men educated under and by him, many of them are now filling successfully high and important positions in various parts of the world. As a soldier, he was brave, chivalrous and efficient, and a complete history of his life would make a volume of entertaining and instructive literature.

Colonel Hardaway was married June, 1857, at Columbus, Ga., to Miss Hurt. She died in 1887.

The Colonel's two sons, R. E. and Benjamin H. Hardway, are both professional civil engineers, and the latter is now chief engineer of the East Alabama Railroad.

**SUMNER B. FOSTER**, the son of the Rev. Joshua Hill Foster, a distinguished professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy in the University of Alabama, was born at Tuscaloosa, October 15, 1854. His mother was Frances C. Bacon. Professor Foster's ancestors were English, and among the earliest settlers in Tuscaloosa County. He was prepared for college under the instruction of Dr. Meek and the Rev. J. T. Yerby. He attended Howard College in 1871-72, and entered the University of Alabama, from which he was graduated in 1876 with the degree of A.M. in the literary and LL.B. in the law department. After graduation, he taught, in connection with Professor Dill, a high school for boys, subsequently becoming its principal. After this, he took charge of the Institute at Union Springs, Alabama, with Professor Dill. He assumed the presidency and the chair of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of the Alabama Central Female College, with Dr. G. W. Thomas, vice-principal, in 1885.

Professor Foster is endowed with rare mental culture, and has proven equal to the task of conducting the celebrated institution of which he is president. As an educator, few young men of the South are more justly celebrated, and he is destined to take high rank in the list of those who have given their lives to the cause of knowledge and its proper dissemination in the minds of youth.

The curriculum of the College is thorough, and Professor Foster is ably assisted in his duties by a corps of competent teachers for the various departments involved in a young lady's thorough education.

**W. C. RICHARDSON** was born in Maysville, Ky., June 23, 1823. His father was Thomas Gaines Richardson, and his mother Sarah (Perry) Richardson.

The ancestors of his father were English; those of his mother of Welsh extraction, and were among the settlers of Culpeper County, Va., at an early period in the history of that State. The descendants of both families removed to Kentucky toward the end of the eighteenth century. The father of W. C. Richardson, the subject of this sketch, was a large tobacco manufacturer; at a later date a contractor and builder, and many of the older structures in Maysville, notably the market, the academy and the first bank building, were designed and erected by him. The mother was born in Woodford County, Ky., between Versailles and Lexington, in the heart of the "Blue Grass region," on a farm adjoining the celebrated Ashland estate. She was a relative of the distinguished Lee family of Virginia, and also of Bland Ballard, a noted Indian fighter of the "dark and bloody ground."

The father came to Alabama about the year 1837, and entered his three sons, Austin W., Warfield C. and Wilson G., at the University of Alabama, where they were graduated with distinction. Professor Richardson early embarked in teaching and steadily followed that honorable vocation until 1878. He was twice connected with the University of Alabama — once as a lecturer on Chemistry and Geology, and later as an instructor in Greek, and was in active service there when Croxton's raiders burnt and destroyed the buildings. He received the degree of Ph. D. from the Agricultural and Mechanical College, at Auburn, Ala.

In his earlier life, Dr. Richardson was an ardent devotee of the muses and is the author of "Gaspar," a romance, a poem written in the verse known as the *ottava rima* of the Italians. This production clearly evidences the poetic genius and ripe knowledge of Dr. Richardson at an age when men are rather inclined to frivolous amusement than to sober reflection and its concomitant ad-

vantages. Had the learned doctor persisted in wooing the charming idealistic fancies which constitutes so important and predominant an element of his nature, his name would have descended to the ages as one of the leading American poets.

The Doctor was however, at a later period, induced by the Alabama Historical Society to write "The Fall of the Alamo," an epic, which has not as yet appeared in print. He has from time to time contributed very creditable minor articles to the leading American magazines, which have attracted much attention from the literati of this country and Europe.

Dr. Richardson was married, in the year 1855, at Camden, Wilcox County, Ala., to Miss Kate C. Jones, a lady of rare worth and intelligence. Her father was the Rev. J. C. Jones, and her brothers are men of prominence in Alabama. Three children have been born to this union, a son, Clement W., and two daughters, Lucy Belle and Ida May. The former daughter, some years ago, married Mr. J. C. Harrison, of Tuscaloosa, and the latter, quite recently, Mr. Sterling A. Wood, of Birmingham, Ala. For several years, Dr. Richardson has been successfully engaged in the book and stationery business. His store is the resort of old friends, and he never appears so happy as when enlivened by their presence and their friendly converse. Dr. Richardson is truly a man of letters and a gentleman in every relation of life. To visit Tuscaloosa without meeting him would be to the litterateur and savant a misfortune indeed.

He delights to dwell upon the glories of the past, which are yet green in his memory, and to recall his youthful days at school. No man is more beloved by the people of Tuscaloosa than this venerable educator and literary genius, and no man to whom they are ever more willing to pay a grateful homage.

**WILLIAM H. VERNER**, the son of E. P. Verner and Emily C. (Foster) Verner, was born at Wallhalla, Oconee County, S. C., August 31, 1846. His early education was received at various private schools. He was graduated from Davidson College, N. C., in 1869, with the degree of A. B., and three years later with the degree of A. M. He enlisted in the military service of the Confed-

eracy as captain of a company of cavalry, in the Nineteenth South Carolina Regiment in 1861, and served with distinction to the close of the conflict. Returning to civil life he taught a school in Eutaw, Ala., where he had located, and afterward at Pleasant Ridge, where he was principal of the celebrated Archibald Institute. He came to Tuscaloosa in 1877, and conducted a High School for boys, and in 1886 established the University High School as a preparatory school for the University of Alabama.

Professor Verner has demonstrated great ability and efficiency as an instructor, and his institution is noted as being a model school for training young men and boys for higher scholastic attainments, as well as in the true essentials of morals and the true principles of manhood. Professor Verner married Miss Julia L. Oliver, of Greene County, Ala., in 1875, and has three children.

He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, a deacon and president of the Board of Deacons. His parents are still living on the old homestead in South Carolina, and are proud of their son who holds high rank among the great educators of the South.

**ALONZO HILL**, the son of Thomas J. Hill and Martha Foster, was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., April 1, 1846. His early education was received at Manly Academy and the famous Green Springs school under the learned Dr. Tutwiler. He was graduated with distinction at the University of Virginia and had conferred upon him the honorary degree of A. M. by the University of Alabama. His career as a teacher began at Bellevue High School, near Lynchburg, Va., and was continued by meritorious service in the Green Springs School, Alabama, and Calhoun Institute, Macon, Miss. In 1876, Professor Hill purchased the property of the Tuscaloosa Female College, which, as its president, he has since conducted in a manner to command the highest laudation of its patrons. The session of 1886-7 of this institution was especially a prosperous one, and is to be followed by the present session in a record of greatly increased attendance and a much improved curriculum.

Among the great educators of the South, no man has been more entitled to merit than Professor Hill, who has amply demonstrated his ability

to satisfactorily meet so grave a responsibility as is involved in the management and direction of the institution created and fostered by him. Professor Hill has succeeded in securing the services of the ablest and most experienced educators in the various departments, which, under his supervision and control, presupposes the acquisition of a thorough scholastic training. Young ladies are, through the systems here practiced, fitted for the affairs of life in which nature or art may direct them, and are taught, above all things, how essential are morals and manners to the security and integrity of woman.

Professor Hill served his country in her hour of direst need. As a private soldier of the Second Alabama Cavalry, he passed through the fiery ordeal. He married, in 1872, Miss Sallie B. Robertson, of Charlottesville, Va., and has four children.

The identity which has ever attached to the English race is conspicuously instanced in Professor Hill, who, while a dignified and learned gentleman, is still so staunch an advocate of duty as to permit no invasion of what he rightfully esteems its sacred relation. A devout member of the Episcopal Church, he is not, nevertheless, inclined to be sectarian or dogmatic, and permits his pupils to attend any church toward which natural training or proper prompting may lead them.

Tuscaloosa may well be proud of this most excellent tutor of the female mind, and to him should ascribe the honor and renown he has so worthily won, but which his innate modesty would cause him to disclaim.



**THOMAS CHALMERS McCORVEY.** Among the prominent young men of Alabama, who have grown to manhood since the close of the war between the States, there is no one better or more favorably known than Col. Thomas C. McCorvey, A.M., LL.B., who now fills the position of Commandant of Cadets and Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy and Political Economy in the University of Alabama. As his name indicates, Colonel McCorvey is of Scotch descent. His grandparents on both sides came from North Carolina and settled in Monroe County in this State in 1818—about the time that Alabama was admitted into the Union. His father was the Hon.

Murdoch McCorvey, who was for fifteen years the Judge of Probate of Monroe County, and it was under the personal supervision of his father that the subject of this sketch was prepared for college.

Colonel McCorvey was born in Monroe County, near the spot where his grandfather had settled nearly a half century before, and his boyhood was spent in that county. In the fall of 1870 he entered the sophomore class in Erskine College, South Carolina; but when the University of Alabama was rescued from the mismanagement of the "Reconstruction" era, he returned and entered that institution, from which he was graduated in the class of 1873, with high academic honors and as captain of Company C in the University Corps of Cadets. Only three days after receiving his diploma, and without his solicitation, or even his knowledge, he was elected to the position he now holds, and he entered upon the discharge of his difficult duties before he had reached his majority—at a time when there were a number of cadets in the corps older than himself.

In 1875 Colonel McCorvey was graduated in the University Law School, and at that time it was his intention to enter the practice of law; but he subsequently decided to retain his position in the University. In 1880 he was married to Miss Netta L. Tutwiler, a daughter of the distinguished scholar and educator, Prof. Henry Tutwiler, LL.D., who was the first Professor of Ancient Languages in the University of Alabama, and the founder of the famous Green Springs High Schools. In 1886 President Cleveland appointed Colonel McCorvey a member of the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

From boyhood Colonel McCorvey has had a decided taste for literary and journalistic work, and he has been a paid contributor of occasional articles upon historical, political and literary subjects to the *New York Nation*, *The Herald*, *The Sun*, *The Home Journal*, the *New Orleans Times-Democrat*, and other leading publications.

The present prosperity of the University of Alabama is in a large measure due to Colonel McCorvey's able and efficient services as Commandant of Cadets. To keep two hundred and fifty cadets under good discipline requires such decision of character and thorough knowledge of the various phases of human nature as are rarely found combined in one individual. The hundreds of young

men throughout Alabama and the South who have been under his command, bear testimony to his admirable executive ability. It was under Colonel McCorvey's supervision that the famous "Company E" of University Cadets, was trained—a company which, under the immediate command of Cadet Captain L. V. Clark, carried off the first prize at the New Orleans Exposition Prize Drill, and won the most unqualified praise for drill and discipline in the official report of the United States Army officers who acted as judges upon that occasion.

It is in the lecture room, however, that Colonel McCorvey impresses himself most upon the minds and characters of the young men with whom he is brought in contact. As a teacher of Philosophy he is thoroughly informed, and his lectures are clear, forcible and entertaining. He has the art of enlisting the deepest interest of his students in the subjects which he teaches. Political Economy is his special delight, and his broad and accurate acquaintance with its principles and his apt illustrations make a lasting impression upon his students.

In personal appearance Colonel McCorvey shows his Celtic blood. He is tall, erect and muscular. In the full uniform of his rank he presents a commanding military appearance.



**DR. DAVID L. FOSTER**, the son of J. Ellis and Susan A. Foster, was born at Monticello, Ga., October 27, 1831. He removed with his parents to Tuscaloosa in 1834. His education was received at the University of Alabama, and he was graduated from that institution in 1853. In 1857 he received his diploma as M.D. from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and commenced the practice of his profession at Mobile. He returned to Tuscaloosa in 1860, where he has since lived. Dr. Foster was in 1864 married to Miss Maria Beale, of a distinguished Maryland family.

He has been surgeon to the University of Alabama since 1877, and has proven a vigilant and faithful officer of his Alma Mater. Dr. Foster enjoys a large and lucrative practice, and is highly esteemed as a physician and a gentleman of culture. He has four children. His eldest son, Glenn, is a graduate of the University of Alabama, and is a book-keeper in the Merchants Na-

tional Bank of Tuscaloosa, Ala. Dr. Foster is a member of the Medical Society and of the Board of Health of Tuscaloosa. He is a member of the Baptist Church and is a Knight Templar.



**STERLING ALEXANDER MARTIN WOOD**, son of Alexander H. Wood, of Richmond, Va., and Mary E. (Evans) Wood, a native of Wolverhampton, England, was born at Florence, Lauderdale County, Ala., on March 17, 1823. His paternal ancestry was English and his maternal origin Welsh. His maternal grandfather was a major in the English Army, who served in America during the Revolution, and who was placed in charge of the military stores belonging to the British Government in New York at the close of hostilities, afterward returning to England. He died at sea on his voyage to this country, whither he was proceeding to settle. The paternal grandfather, Leighton Wood, an early resident of Philadelphia, became a citizen of Richmond, Va., in the beginning of the eighteenth century, and engaged in literary pursuits, assisting Chief-Justice Marshall in the preparation and revision of the "Life of Washington." The father, Alexander H. Wood, was born in the historic city of Richmond, Va., in 1795, and was a member of the noted Richmond Artillery, one of the more prominent military organizations participating in the war with Great Britain in 1812. At the close of the conflict he removed to Nashville, Tenn., where he married Miss Mary E. Evans, as has been stated, subsequently locating at Florence, Ala., with James Jackson, James and Thomas Kirkman and Gen. John Coffee, all of whom had been induced, by the advice of the celebrated Gen. Andrew Jackson, to cast their fortunes with that auspicious settlement. When, in 1836, General Jackson visited the infant town, since grown into prominence, and now taking conspicuous position among the rising cities and towns of North Alabama, Alexander H. Wood, although accounted one of the staunchest Whigs of that section, was appointed chairman of one of the reception committees, and made such strenuous exertions toward the proper entertainment of the distinguished guest, as to have incurred the strongest and most enduring approbation and acknowledgments of the Democratic party. This useful

citizen and liberal-minded partisan for many years conducted a large furniture manufactory at Florence, and was afterward largely interested in mercantile ventures.

S. A. M. Wood, the subject of this sketch, received instruction at various schools in Florence, and was prepared for college by the Rev. James L. Sloss, a distinguished Presbyterian divine, entering St. Joseph's College, Bardstown, Ky., in 1839, from which institution he was graduated with high honors in July, 1841. He began the study of the law under the Hon. Edmund Dillehunt, at Columbia, Tenn., and was admitted to the bar of Lebanon, Tenn., as an associate of the Hon. Charles Ready, a memorable and talented jurist of Murfreesboro, in 1844.

On account of failing health, consequent upon the arduous duties of his profession, he returned to his father's home at Florence in 1847, where he continued in the practice of his profession until the outbreak of hostilities between the States, in 1861. He was an active participant in the canvass for Breckinridge and Lane in 1860, as editor of the *Florence Gazette*, and had represented through his numerous and stirring speeches in the popular cause, a vigorous enthusiasm and a ready fund of appropriate knowledge, which stamped him as a leader and as the vigilant and gallant military commander he afterward became. He was elected captain of the "Florence Guards," the first company organized in Lauderdale County, which was incorporated with the Seventh Alabama Regiment, to the command of which he was speedily called, and afterward rose to the rank of brigadier-general.

General Wood saw very active service with Bragg during the bloody campaigns of that veteran commander, and won the plaudits of his superior officers through his splendid courage in many a hotly-contested battle. At Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Chickamunga, and Perryville, his troops covered themselves with glory. At Chickamunga, the prominent and decisive part played by his brigade, is made the subject of laudation by Gen. D. H. Hill in his paper in the April (1885) *Century*, in the following extracts:

"Wood's [Confederate] brigade on the left had almost reached Poe's house [the burning house] on the Chattanooga road, when he was subjected to a heavy enfilading and direct fire and driven back with great loss. [The plan of successive attacks, of course, subject the troops which drive the enemy from any position of the line to a cross

fire from those who remain in the line.] Cleburne withdrew his division four hundred yards behind the crest of a hill. The gallant young brigadier Deshler was killed while executing the movement. It was an unequal contest of two small divisions against four full ones behind fortifications. It was a struggle of weakness against strength, of bare bosoms against breastworks. Surely, there were never nobler leaders than Beckinridge and Cleburne, and surely, never were troops led on a more desperate 'forlorn hope'—against odds in numbers and superiority in position and equipment. But their unsurpassed and unsurpassable valor was not thrown away."

Of this famous charge, in which General Wood's brigade bore so distinguished a part, General Stewart says: "For several hundred yards both lines pressed on under the most terrible fire it has ever been my fortune to witness. The enemy retired, and our men, though mowed down at every step, rushed on at double-quick, until at length the brigade on the right of Brown broke in confusion, exposing him to an enfilading fire. He continued on, however, some fifty to seventy-five yards farther, when his two right regiments gave way in disorder, and retired to their original position. His center and left, however, followed by the gallant Clayton and the indomitable Bate, pressed on, passing the cornfield in front of the burnt house, and to a distance of two to three hundred yards beyond the Chattanooga road, driving the enemy within his line of intrenchments and passing a battery of four guns. Here new batteries being opened by the enemy on our front and flank, heavily supported by infantry, it became necessary to retire, the command re-forming on the ground occupied before the advance."

"This" says General Hill, "was the celebrated attack upon Reynolds and Brannan, which led directly to the Federal disaster."

General Wood received a severe wound in the head from a fragment of shell at Perryville, and was in consequence retired from service for some time.

General Wood was married in 1849 to Miss Lelia Leftwich, the daughter of Maj. Jesse Leftwich, a Virginian of distinguished parentage, and has had eight children—three sons and five daughters. Of the sons, William J. Wood is a prominent lawyer, of Evansville, Ind.; Sterling A., his father's associate in the practice of the law at Tuscaloosa, and a secretary to the Chief-Justice of the



Supreme Court of Alabama; and Bernard A., a civil engineer, now engaged in building the extension of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad to Florence.

The daughters are Rosa, the wife of Alfred B. Beall, of Wheeling, Jefferson County, Ala.; Lily E., the wife of Walter C. Harris, a prominent merchant of Tuscaloosa; Lelia B., Beulah E. and Mary V., who are unmarried. The General has since his residence in Tuscaloosa had a large and lucrative law practice, which embraces the County, State and Federal courts. He represented Landerdale County, Ala., in the Legislature of 1857-8, and Tuscaloosa County in 1882-3. He had, prior to his removal to Tuscaloosa, been Solicitor for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of North Alabama for six years.

General Wood has never offered for any office to which he has not been elected. He has made his home in Tuscaloosa since 1865, where he has won not only the most eminent distinction in his profession, but secured the confidence and esteem of all who have been brought into contact with him. He still retains in his sixty-fifth year all of the grace and dignity of his younger years, which signalized him as one of the most splendid specimens of physical manhood in the military service of the Confederacy.

The court record of General Wood is quite remarkable, especially as regards his career in criminal practice. He is known to have successfully defended fifteen cases in which indictments have been found for murder. It is, perhaps, fitting that in his son Sterling A. Wood the father may continue his legal celebrity, as the young attorney already gives promise of great talent, which, combined with his indomitable energy, must make him, if not the superior, at least the peer, of his illustrious sire. Surrounded by his children and grandchildren, amid the lights and blessings of his charming home in Tuscaloosa, General Wood will continue to the end of his days to find surcease from the stormy period of war and the arduous duties, self-imposed, which have linked his name with the great chain of events belonging to his history.



**ANDREW COLEMAN HARGROVE**, the son of John Hargrove and Martha (Hinton) Hargrove, was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., December

18, 1837. His father was a native of Georgia and his mother of North Carolina. The ancestry of the family is English. His paternal grandfather, the Rev. Dudley Hargrove, was an early settler in Pickens, and also in Tuscaloosa County, Ala. His father was a prosperous planter. Young Hargrove left home at the age of twelve to enter the academy of Jacob Baker, at old Jonesboro, in Jefferson County, Ala., near the site of the present flourishing town of Bossener. Here he continued his studies until October, 1852, when he became a student in the University of Alabama, from which he was graduated in the class of 1856. He taught a school in Tuscaloosa for three months in the fall of 1856. During the following year he read law in the office of Judge E. W. Peck. In January, 1858, he entered the Cumberland Law School, at Lebanon, Tenn., remaining one session, and from there going to the Harvard Law School, at Cambridge, Mass., from which he was graduated with the degree of LL. D. in 1859. He began the practice of law at Tuscaloosa in the latter part of 1860, which was interrupted by the outbreak of hostilities between the States and his departure for the seat of war as a private soldier of the Warrior Guards, under the command of the gallant Captain, afterward General, R. E. Rodes, in 1861. After service with the army in Virginia for twelve months, he was commissioned a lieutenant in Lumsden's Battery of Light Artillery from Tuscaloosa, which belonged to the Western Division of the Confederate Army, and with which he, as lieutenant, continued until the close of the war. During his military career he participated in the battles at Farmington, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Resaca, Peach Tree Creek, Franklin, Nashville, and numerous other minor engagements during Gen. Joseph E. Johnson's Georgia campaign. In fact, Lieutenant Hargrove followed the fortunes of the Western Army under Bragg, Johnson, Hardee and Hood through Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia and Alabama. He was twice dangerously wounded—once in front of Atlanta in 1864, being struck upon the forehead by a fragment of wood from a tree which had been shattered by a bursting shell, and the second time at Spanish Fort, near Mobile, in April, 1865, where he received a minie ball in the head, which, from the fact that it lodged beyond reach of probe or knife, he still carries, though with but little inconvenience or pain.

No one of the many gallant sons of Alabama who shared in the conflict is entitled to a braver or a better record than Lieutenant Hargrove, of whom his comrades relate prodigies of valor. His fame as a soldier was as marked as has since been his career as a lawyer and a legislator.

December 5, 1865, Lieutenant Hargrove was united in marriage to Miss Cherokee M. Jemison, the daughter and only child of the Hon. Robert Jemison, Jr., distinguished in Alabama history as a legislator and as a member of the Confederate States Senate. Mr. Hargrove resumed the practice of law in Tuscaloosa in the spring of 1866, as a partner of the law firm of Hargrove & Fitts, the members of which were himself and Philip A. Fitts, now the Rev. Philip A. Fitts, of Anniston, Ala. In 1871 Mr. Hargrove became associated with the Hon. B. B. Lewis in the practice of law, under the firm name of Hargrove & Lewis, a partnership continued until the election of Colonel Lewis as president of the University of Alabama in 1881. Mr. Hargrove has well and worthily filled many high public positions. He was elected and served as a member of the Constitutional Convention of Alabama in August, 1875. He was elected to the State Senate from the district composed of Tuscaloosa and Bibb Counties, in 1876, and again in 1880. His period of service as Senator lasted for eight years. In 1884 he was a member of the House of Representatives of Alabama. While in the Senate, he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee and chairman of the Committee on Finance, while he was a member of the Judiciary Committee and chairman of the Committee on Corporations.

In July, 1881, Colonel Hargrove was appointed by Governor O'Neal, together with Dr. E. A. Smith and Hon. I. Burns Moore, to select the 60,080 acres of the public lands granted by the Act of Congress of April 21, 1881, for the benefit of the University of Alabama. He is land commissioner of the University of Alabama. Colonel Hargrove is still engaged in the practice of his profession as a member of the firm of Hargrove & Van de Graaf. Colonel Hargrove is a genial, cultivated and hospitable gentleman, and impresses at first sight by his splendid physique and *distinguished* manner. He has acquired great success in his profession, and is possessed of a charming home and an accomplished wife. His two children, Miss Minnie Cherokee, yet in her teens,

and Robert Jemison, a student at University High School, in Tuscaloosa, go to make up the *summum bonum* of a happy family.



**DR. PETER BRYCE** was born in Columbia, S. C., on the 14th day of March, 1834. His father came from Scotland when quite young and settled in South Carolina, where he accumulated a fortune sufficient to give his children a liberal education and a respectable start on the journey of life. At the age of seventeen he entered the South Carolina Military Institute, and after remaining four years was graduated with distinction. This famous institution of learning was closed by the war, and the building was occupied as barracks by the United States soldiery. It has recently been opened, however, and promises to regain its influence and popularity. The high and important positions occupied by the graduates of this college during the war, and since then in the reorganization of the State Government, is very remarkable, and has done more to impress the Carolinas with the value of a purely scientific education than all the theories of Herbert Spencer and his school. Having decided to make medicine his profession, he entered the University of New York in 1857, and was graduated there in the spring of 1859. After graduating he spent some time abroad, principally in the hospitals of the city of Paris. He became deeply impressed very early in his career with the importance as well as the difficulties attached to a correct knowledge of diseases of the nervous system, and at once conceived the idea, and concluded to devote himself to that exclusively, as a specialty. He prosecuted his studies in the State Asylums of South Carolina and New Jersey, and in July, 1860, at the age of twenty-six, he was rewarded by being called to the superintendency of the Alabama Insane Hospital, which position he has held continuously up to the present time. It might not be amiss to add that he is, perhaps, the youngest man ever called to such a responsible position in this country.

Dr. Bryce is a man of commanding appearance and untiring energy. His pleasant and social disposition wins all hearts, and although he is always in a hurry, he has time for a pleasant smile and a kind word for everyone. He has

so much on his mind that he is compelled to move and think rapidly. He is a fine writer, a graceful speaker and an accomplished gentleman and scholar of many and rare attainments. Dr. Bryce held many positions of honor, among which was president of the State Historical Society, president of the State Medical Association, and is a member of the State Board of Health. He was summoned as an expert in the trial of Charles J. Guiteau for the killing of President Garfield, but declined to serve, not being able to leave his duties by reason of the absence of his assistants during the time he would have to be in Washington. The degree of LL. D. was conferred upon him by the University of Alabama, a distinction truly deserved.

Dr. Bryce married Miss Ellen Clarkson, a lineal descendant of the great Thomas Boston on her father's side and of George Herriott, who built the celebrated George Herriott Hospital, on her mother's side. Mrs. Bryce is a charming lady and wields an influence for good wherever she appears. Kind and gracious in her manner, she captivates all hearts and exemplifies that nobility of character and devotion to duty which have rendered her so truly a helpmeet to her distinguished husband, whose home in the midst of his onerous duties she so gracefully adorns.

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**DR. WILLIAM ALLEN COCHRANE.** There is perhaps in no town of its size in the United States more talent in the medical profession than can truthfully be cited of Tuscaloosa. The subject of this sketch is an able physician, besides being a cultivated gentleman of the old régime, and a worthy and useful citizen, full of honor and lofty purpose for the benefit of his kind.

He was born in Hall County, Ga., January 25, 1817. His father was Hiram P. Cochrane, and his mother Ann Stoker. His paternal grandfather was a native of Botetourt County, Va., but removed to Pendleton District, S. C., where Hiram P., his father, was born. Hiram P. Cochrane settled in Hall County, Ga., where he married, and removed to Tuscaloosa County, Ala., in 1817. The education of W. A. Cochrane was received in the best schools of the day and the University of Alabama, from which he was graduated in 1834. He taught a school for the two succeeding years, and entered

Transylvania University, at Lexington, Ky., where he received a course of lectures on medicine. He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1839. Returning to Tuscaloosa he began the practice of his profession, which he has continued to the present time. Dr. Cochrane has perpetuated the hardy and multiform good qualities of his Irish, Scotch and Welsh ancestors, and has been ever a consistent and upright man. He is a member of the Tuscaloosa Medical Society, and has been health officer of Tuscaloosa County since 1855. For the past ten years he has been Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the University of Alabama. Dr. Cochrane was married in 1862 to Miss Annie E. Coleman, of Lawrence County, Ala., and has four children. William C. Cochrane, his son, is an extensive manufacturer of carriages and buggies in Birmingham, and a daughter, Lucy, is the wife of F. R. Maxwell, of the wholesale grocery house of Maxwell, Brothers, Tuscaloosa. The other children are yet under age. Dr. Cochrane is a Knight Templar, a member of the Episcopal Church, and a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of the University of Alabama. He has been for the past eight years the Tax Assessor of the city of Tuscaloosa, and had previously held that office for several years.

Dr. Cochrane still retains in his declining years vivid remembrances of past events, and is possessed of more information about Tuscaloosa than, perhaps any one in it now living. In all of the varied relations of life he may truly be cited as a fitting exemplar, and the evening of his days will reflect the halo that crowned his youth with honor's wreath.

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**DR. WILLIAM C. CROSS.** The history of the Carolinas invokes that of a numerous war, who found an asylum within their borders. The progenitors of the subject of this sketch, by reason of their attachment to the cause of Olive Branch, were expatriated by Charles H. and settling in North Carolina, became large land proprietors. There were nine brothers of this family, who resided in Northampton and Gates Counties, N. C. William C. Cross, the son of Dr. William C. Cross, and Mary Harris Cross, was born in Covert County, Ala., January 18, 1836. His father was an eminent physician in his day. Of the brothers, four were physicians. Wm. C. Cross

was educated in Virginia, at Norwood and Randolph Macon College, and was graduated with the degree of A. M. from the University of Alabama, and M. D. from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. He began the practice of his profession in Bibb County, where he continued for two years, coming to Tuscaloosa in 1887.

Dr. Cross is an able physician and has been successful in his practice. He is the Surgeon-General of the Alabama State Troops, and ranks as senior colonel; is a senior counselor of the Alabama Medical Association, member of the American Microscopical Association, and a member of the Tuscaloosa Gun Club. Dr. Cross represented Tuscaloosa and Bibb Counties in the Alabama Senate in 1886 and 1887. Of Dr. Cross it may truly be said that not only is he destined to attain the acme of his profession, but to render himself distinguished for the talents and qualities of which great men are made.



**DR. EDMUND S. CHISHOLM.** The profession of dentistry has of recent years exhibited very great advancement, and its zealous advocates have accomplished many and highly important adjuncts. Among these, the subject of this sketch is pre-eminently deserving of notice.

Dr. Edmund S. Chisholm was born in Franklin County, Ala., May 29, 1840. His father was Gillington Chisholm, and his mother Cynthia Hill. His father was a mechanic. His paternal ancestors were Scotch; maternal, English. He attended school in Franklin County, Ala. His father was among the earliest settlers of Tusculumbia, settling there after the War of 1812. He had been a soldier under General Andrew Jackson. The subsequent education of Dr. Chisholm was received at LaGrange College, in Franklin County, Ala., and he was perfected in dental science by competent instructors and through his enthusiastic and laborious studies and a large practice. He married Miss Mary Hall, a teacher at the time in the Alabama Central Female College, of Tuscaloosa. He has practiced his profession in Tuscaloosa since 1873. He has had a large and lucrative practice and is generally acknowledged the leading dentist in the State of Alabama. His library of standard works on dentistry is one of the best in the country, and is very select and

complete. For five years past Dr. Chisholm has been the secretary of the Southern Dental Association, and has been once its president, once its vice-president, and presided over it as vice-president once. He was one of the organizers of the State Dental Association, and has since been chairman of the Board of Dental Examiners for the State. He was a member of the Council of the Section on Dental and Oral Surgery at the Ninth International Dental Congress, held at Washington, D. C., September 5, 1887, when he submitted a very able paper on "The Influence of Weather Changes on the Human Organism." Dr. Chisholm has contributed largely to various periodicals on subjects involved in the consideration of dentistry, and was the first to treat of the subject of weather changes and meteorological influences. He has given fifteen years to a consideration of and investigation into these salient points, and has done more to bring them to public notice than any other individual. He has been connected in various ways with the constitution of the Dental Association of the United States, and is a corresponding secretary of that body, and through it is brought into relation with all of the more noted dental surgeons of the world. Dr. Chisholm has, unquestionably, done more for the cause of dentistry than any one at the South, perhaps in the country, and remains a living monument to his great acts.



**DR. ROBERT AUSTIN ELLIS,** the son of Richard F. Ellis and Nancy C. Lee, is of Scotch-Irish extraction, and was born April 17, 1848. His progenitors were among the earliest settlers in Pickens County, Ala., and were prosperous planters. None of them were in public life. Dr. Ellis was prepared for college in the schools of Tuscaloosa, and was graduated with the degree of M. D. from Tulain University, New Orleans, in 1871. He began the practice of his profession in Tuscaloosa, but continued it afterward in Greene and Pickens Counties until January, 1887, when he returned to Tuscaloosa. Dr. Ellis is reckoned among the leading physicians of Tuscaloosa and is a refined and affable gentleman. He was married February 13, 1873, to Miss Jennie C. Sanders, daughter of Dr. William Sanders, of Newnan, Ga., and has five children.

**JOSIAH JAMES PEGUES** belongs to one of the many Huguenot families which, at an early period of South Carolina's history, found an asylum in that State, and which have since exercised great influence in the affairs of the American Republic. The great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch settled in South Carolina before the Revolution. The father of Josiah James Pegues was Christopher B., whose wife was Elizabeth H. Evans and the mother of the subject of this sketch. It was in South Carolina that this son resided until his fifteenth year. It was his birth-place—the date of his birth being July 19, 1825.

In 1839, he removed with his parents to Dallas County, Ala. He received his principal education at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md., graduating from that institution in 1845. Returning to the parental home, he devoted his attention to farming pursuits until 1861, when he came to Tuscaloosa. It was from this famous town that he marched with the first troops that left the county—the famous "Warrior Guards," commanded by the gallant captain, afterward Gen. R. E. Rhodes, who fell at Winchester, Va., as General Early grandly remarks, "in the very moment of triumph, and while conducting the attack with great gallantry and skill." This company was attached to the Fifth Alabama Regiment, and won undying fame on many an ensanguined field. Its fortunes and its perils were alike shared by the valiant Pegues, who subsequently became a captain of a company of cavalry in the Second Alabama Regiment, which he, later on, as its colonel, commanded.

The military history of Colonel Pegues involves the record of the Alabama troops who followed Bragg and Johnston through the numerous engagements in which valor brightly shone, but which, though disastrous in the end to the Confederate arms, must ever adorn the historic page, as exemplifying the noblest heroism and the most devoted patriotism displayed by any people in any age.

On his return to Tuscaloosa Colonel Pegues began to investigate the various systems of civic progress, and in 1866 received the appointment of Sheriff of the county, pending Reconstruction, and filled the office very satisfactorily for two years. In 1882 he was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County, and in 1866 elected to the same position, which he has creditably

filled, and which he still retains to the general satisfaction.

Colonel Pegues was married in 1848 to Miss Cornelia C. Alston, by whom he had two children, both of whom died in infancy, an affliction augmented by the loss of his wife, soon after. In 1854 he married his second wife, Miss Caroline M. Fitts, by whom he has had three children: Joe E., Samuel F. and Ida, who is Mrs. Eugene Eaton, of Gadsden, Ala. Colonel Pegues is a courteous and affable gentleman, and exhibits in manner and conversation the true essentials of his illustrious progenitors, whose impress has been so indelibly stamped upon the destinies of the Carolinas and of Alabama.

Colonel Pegues is a member of the Episcopal Church, and is a Mason of high standing. He, although in his sixty-third year, is hale and strong, and gives promise of adding many more years to his sum of life.



**NEWBERN HOBBS BROWNE**, Judge of Probate, Tuscaloosa, was born December 16, 1824. His parents, John Allen and Patsy (Hobbs) Browne, were natives of North Carolina. His grandfather, Henry Browne, came from Ireland and settled in Virginia, migrating thence into North Carolina, where he married Lucy Warnock. The Judge's grandmother Hobbs' maiden name was Newbern; hence his name, as written, contemplates three families.

John Allen Browne came to Alabama in 1834; settled in Tuscaloosa County, and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. Mr. Browne died in March, 1866, at the age of seventy years. Mrs. Browne died in May, 1859, at the age of sixty years. Of the three sons reared by them to manhood, the subject of this sketch was second in order of birth.

In 1846, Judge Browne was graduated from the State University of Alabama; read law with Judge R. F. Porter, and in 1848, was admitted to the bar. He was practicing law at the time the war broke out, and early in 1862 enlisted as a private soldier in Lunsden's Battery, and served with that command about two years, participating in the battles around Mobile and Atlanta. He left the army on account of ill-health, but returned to his country in 1864, and, as a private soldier, served to the close of the war.

From 1853 to 1859, Judge Browne occupied a seat in the lower house of the State Legislature, and in 1859 was elected Circuit Solicitor, which office he resigned to enter the army. He was again in the Legislature in 1873, and in 1874, was elected Probate Judge, an office he has since continuously held.

Judge Browne is one of the trustees of the Alabama Insane Hospital and Alabama Central College; member of the order of the Knights of Honor; identified at all times with the best interests of education, and is a consistent member of the Baptist Church. Away back in 1851, 1852 and 1853 he was a newspaper man; edited the *Tuscaloosa Observer*, a strong Democratic paper, now the *Tuscaloosa Times*. In 1862 he was favorably mentioned for Congress, but about that time the duties of a soldier were requiring so much of his attention that he was unable to look after political preferment, even had he desired it.

The Judge was married in Tuscaloosa County, January, 1874, to Miss Mary E. Prude, daughter of W. W. Prude and L. A. Prude. Mrs. Brown died March 8, 1886, leaving six children.



**JOSEPH JOHN ALSTON.** The Alston family has, from its earliest settlement in the Carolinas, been celebrated for the many admirable characteristics which distinguished its English and Welsh progenitors.

The first representatives of the name in America were three brothers from Wales, who settled in North Carolina, in the region now embraced in Halifax County, where they acquired extensive landed possessions, and speedily became, through their great wealth and many estimable qualities, the ruling people of that section. They were famous for their fine horses and a love for racing, the natural outburst of their lofty and imperious spirits. They maintained a state and style of living in accordance with that of their Welsh sires, who ranked high among the landed gentry of that country, and in conformity to the family record for a splendid and prodigal hospitality.

The next of the Alstons to arrive in America were two brothers of the English branch, first cousins of their Welsh predecessors, who settled in South Carolina, and, like their relatives, became the possessors of large landed estates and

numerous slaves. Equally noted for their magnificent mode of living, and their character for honor, dignity and chivalrous gallantry, as had been their Welsh cousins, they were, by common consent, accorded the distinction which comported with that which it was their evident ability to achieve. Neither the mutations of time, nor the reverses of fortune, have ever dimmed the bright escutcheon of these gentlemen of the old *regime*, which has been zealously guarded by their descendants.

Notable among the South Carolina members of this family were Washington Alston, the poet and artist; Gov. John Alston, who married the accomplished but ill-fated Theodosia Burr; and Gov. Robert Francis William Alston.

Joseph John Alston, the subject of this sketch, the son of William Williams Alston and Mary Haywood (Burgess) Alston, was born at Grove Hill, Clarke County, Ala., May 15, 1835. His paternal grandfather, Lemuel J. Alston, the son of Samuel Alston, one of the Welsh brothers mentioned as settling at Halifax, N. C., in colonial days, removed to South Carolina and located near the little town of Greenville, famed at that time as the seat of a law school. Here William Williams Alston, the father of Joseph John Alston, received legal instruction preparatory to his graduation from the more advanced law school at Columbia. He, however, never practiced his profession—the care of his inheritance of extensive tracts of land and numerous slaves demanding his exclusive time. Several years before the birth of Joseph J., his father removed to Clarke County, Ala., locating upon his patrimonial estate. Here the son received that kindly tutelage and exemplary training, which have since guided and distinguished him. His first venture after receiving such an education as the schools of that time afforded, was the establishment of a boot and shoe manufactory at Selma, Ala., which he successfully conducted up to the outbreak of hostilities between the States in 1861. Among the first volunteer troops of Alabama, as a member of an artillery company, he was assigned to duty at Fort Morgan, and was subsequently given the command, with the rank of captain, of a company of infantry, which he always led in the thickest of the fight with that splendid courage which has ever attached to the Alston name. Returning to his little family at the close of the war, denuded of his property, Mr. Alston embarked in the real estate business, in which he



*Yours Truly*  
*J. J. Alston*





has since continued, and from which he has secured a competency. Coming to Tuscaloosa in 1880, he at once became identified with the rising fortunes of that historic old town, which has put on the smiling garb of progress, woven from the abundant natural resources in coal and iron around it.

Mr. Alston married a daughter of Charles B. Jones, of Petersburg, Va., and has six children: Josephine, Mrs. Maxwell, of Tuscaloosa; Caddie, Samuel E., secretary and treasurer of the Tuscaloosa and Castle Hill Real Estate and Manufacturing Co.; George J., senior member of the firm of Alston & Maxwell, the leading jewelers of Tuscaloosa; Mary Hamilton, a recent distinguished graduate of the Tuscaloosa Female College; and Henry, a pupil of the High School of Professor Verner, and a promising and intelligent youth.

Mr. Alston represents in a conspicuous degree the characteristics of his illustrious ancestry and remains a veritable type of the race from which he is descended, and which has for many generations preserved its reputation for manly and noble qualities undimmed and untarnished. The owner of a beautiful home, embowered in the floral and arboreal beauties so characteristic of Tuscaloosa, and surrounded by a family in whom are concentrated his strongest hopes of affections, he is quietly and gracefully enjoying the reward of his many years of earnest and intelligent labor.



**JAMES OSCAR PRUDE.** The history of the Prude family, from which was descended the subject of this sketch, is invested with peculiar interest as involving to some extent a consideration of the earliest settlers in the Southern States. The family of Prude was among the first English settlers in South Carolina, John Prude, a native of London, coming to America and locating in Laurens District of that State in 1771. John Prude, Jr., the eldest son, was born in London, England, in 1769, and came with his parents to South Carolina, and William Prude, the second son, was born there October 15, 1774. John Prude, Jr., married Margaret Whitmore, of South Carolina, by whom he had eleven children, notable in the early history of that State. William Prude married Sarah Garrett, a native of Charleston, S. C., but settled at Abbeville, S. C. To this marriage eight children were born, who bore the distinction of prominence and importance in that

State during their lives. William Prude was married a second time to Mrs. Celia McDory, *nee* McShan, of Jefferson County, Ala. Of this union was born William Wellington Prude, January 31, 1824, the only child, and the father of James Oscar Prude, the subject of this sketch, whose mother was Lucretia Eliza Owen, of a noted Virginia family of the county of Prince George, who removed to Franklin County, Ala., and subsequently to Okolona, Miss., where she was married. The parents of James Oscar Prude settled in Jefferson County, Ala., near Jonesboro, and in 1845 came to Tuscaloosa County locating about six miles east of the city. Here was born, September 23, 1856, James Oscar, one of five children, and the youngest.

Here he grew up and was trained for college in various private schools. He was graduated from the University of Alabama at the age of nineteen with the degree of A. M., and taught school for two years following. He was appointed, at the age of twenty-one, Clerk of the Probate Court of Tuscaloosa County and filled that position with honor and credit. In 1881, he was elected Sheriff of Tuscaloosa County, and still continues in the office, the duties of which he discharges with signal ability.

Mr. Prude was married December 20, 1882, to Miss Lucy A. Browne, the daughter of Alonzo L. Browne, a large merchant and planter of Raymond, Miss. The maternal ancestors of Mrs. Prude were Richard and Elizabeth Hainsworth, natives of Switzerland, who settled in Sumter District, S. C., about the year 1733. From this family were descended the Hainsworths, Greenings, Brumbys and Gastons.

Both Dr. Richard Brumby and Dr. Arnoldus Brumby were distinguished professors in the University of Alabama, and were connected with educational institutions in South Carolina. Some of the more noted people of South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana were sprung from the branches planted by the Swiss progenitors of Mrs. Prude in South Carolina. Mrs. Prude unites in a remarkable degree the many noble qualities of her distinguished family, and is a shining ornament of the social circle. Mr. and Mrs. Prude have three children: Agnes Emily, James Oscar, Jr., and William W.

Sheriff Prude is a prudent and active officer, and enjoys the highest respect and confidence of all who know him.

**SEWALL JONES LEACH**, the eldest son of Ephraim Leach and Sophia (Jones) Leach, was born in the city of New York, November 14, 1812. When Sewall was eight years old his father removed to Owego, N. Y. Here was acquired the ruling motive in the life of Sewall Jones Leach, whose subsequent career exemplified the rarest mechanical ability, which raised him to the acme of his profession as a machinist. His educational advantages were very limited—four months in any one year comprising the greatest length of time he ever attended school. His studious application and indomitable energy, however, coupled with his facility to acquire knowledge, had, at the age of eighteen prepared him as a teacher, and for two years he successfully and satisfactorily conducted a school in the State of New York.

But the bent of his mind and the inclination of his studies were ever in the direction of mechanics. He studied dentistry at Utica, N. Y., and in 1837, having decided to locate in the South, he went to Mobile, Ala., where he engaged in the practice of his profession with the eminent Dr. Palmer. It is related of Dr. Leach that, he reached Mobile with but *nine dollars* in his pocket, a fund which had increased to as many hundred one year later. In 1838, he removed to Tuscaloosa, Ala., and was for some time engaged in the jewelry business with a younger brother. Their place of business will be remembered by the older citizens of Tuscaloosa, as the book-store of Joel White, now of Montgomery.

Dr. Leach was married, October 10, 1839, to Miss Elizabeth F. Fitts, of Tuscaloosa, and in 1840 was confirmed as a member of the Episcopal Church by Bishop Scott. For several years he continued the practice of dentistry in connection with his jewelry business. In 1844-45, he, with the learned Dr. F. A. P. Barnard, very successfully conducted a series of experiments in producing sun pictures, antedating the promulgation of the discovery by the distinguished Frenchman, Daguerre, whose name was given to the art.

Had Dr. Leach prosecuted his researches in this direction, he doubtless would have advanced the process beyond the point gained by his famous contemporary. But his love of machinery and the labors connected with its intelligent utilization were more to his liking, and he was selected to purchase the machinery and outfit for the cotton mills erected in Tuscaloosa in 1846, and which were constructed under his personal super-

vision and direction in Philadelphia. To the operation of this enterprise, Dr. Leach devoted the most unremitting attention and his valuable services were continued for many years. The mills were destroyed by fire during the war.

In 1852, Dr. Leach established at Tuscaloosa an iron foundry and plow factory, which was carried on for many years through his able administration, under the firm name of Leach & Avery. The enterprise proved one of great profit, while it was one of the most useful industries in Alabama. It was destroyed by fire in 1859; rebuilt, and during the war, employed in casting cannon for the Confederate Government, and was burned down by the Federals in 1864. It was rebuilt after the war and used as a plow manufactory by Leach, Avery & Co., and later by Leach & Co., in the additional manufacture of sorghum mills, castings, etc. On account of declining health Dr. Leach sold out his interest and accepted a less arduous position with the Tuscaloosa Cotton Mills.

He was a devoted laborer, neglecting nothing that could insure satisfaction, and equally interested in music after his hours of labor. In both relations he exhibited the strongest and most marked characteristics, performing both purely and simply from the love of them. He could do nothing except in the most thorough and satisfactory manner, and his fame as a musician attracted to him many disciples of the art. Among the companions of Dr. Leach at that time was the venerable Langdon C. Garland, then a Professor in the University of Alabama, and now Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, who was never so happy as when listening to, or playing with his musical friend. Although of Northern birth, Dr. Leach was a man of strong Southern feeling and an advocate of the Confederate cause. Two of his sons served with honor with the Alabama troops.

Dr. Leach was of uniform temperament and habitually cheerful. He was a man of great humility; wholly incorruptible and honest. Few men bear so blameless and so honorable a name among their fellows.

He was both an Odd Fellow and a Mason. He died August 6, 1885, and never was a man more regretted by the people among whom he lived. He left to mourn her irreplaceable loss, a devoted widow, who is, however, consoled and comforted in her grief by the knowledge of her husband's stainless earthly career. His six children, three

sons and three daughters, are worthy and highly respected citizens.



**THOMAS B. ALLEN**, son of Samuel B. and Lucy M. (Gray) Allen, was born in Hale County, Ala., June 28, 1850. He received his education at private schools, and at Greene Springs Academy, Hale County, Ala., under the principalship of Prof. Henry Tutwiler. Mr. Allen had the misfortune to lose his mother on the eve of going to college. This rendered him without a parent, his father having died some years before. Although under age he was permitted by the Legislature to take charge of his father's estate, which he successfully managed for five years. He continued the occupation of farming until about eight years ago, when he became interested with Mayor W. C. Jemison, as Allen & Jemison, and subsequently the Allen & Jemison Warehouse Company. Mr. Allen has been very active in this business while superintending his large real estate interests in Tuscaloosa and Hale Counties. The immediate male progenitors of Mr. Allen were natives of Prince Edward County, Va. His mother was born in Hale County, Ala. His father was a leading cotton and commission merchant of Mobile until his death. It was in this city that he located after leaving his Virginia home.

The Allen & Jemison Company, of which Mr. Allen is the senior member, conducts the largest business in builders' hardware, building materials, wood and coal in Tuscaloosa. A number of modern appliances, including a planer will be introduced. This firm has a large storage warehouse for cotton.

Mr. Allen is a practical farmer and a business man of rare sagacity. He enjoys the highest esteem of his neighbors and is a kind and affable gentleman.



**WILEY A. HAGLER**, the son of William Hagler and Elizabeth (Mullins) Hagler, was born March 8, 1848, in Wilkes County, N. C. His education was received at such schools in his native State as the times afforded. He came to Tuscaloosa County in 1837, and engaged in farming, a pursuit which he has since followed very successfully.

The family from which Mr. Hagler is descended was of Swiss origin, and were among the earliest settlers in North Carolina. His paternal grandfather served in the Colonial Army under Washington and was present at Braddock's defeat.

Mr. Hagler married Miss Hazy Ann Lee, of Tuscaloosa County, the daughter of Isaac Lee, one of the first settlers, and has six children, who are all grown and settled in life. One of his sons, Edward L., is the largest individual landowner in Tuscaloosa County.

The family of Mrs. Hagler were early settlers on Flint River, in Madison County, near Huntsville, but removed many years ago to the vicinity of Northport. Her father owned large tracts of land here, and raised a large and interesting family of children.

In Wiley A. Hagler is clearly typified the Southern planter of the old *regime*, kind, hospitable and noble, who lives at his ease and comfort amid the scenes of his young manhood, respected by all who know him.



**GEORGE A. SEARCY**, son of Dr. Reuben Searcy, was born in Tuscaloosa, Ala., September 27, 1851; began business as a bookseller and stationer in 1870, and continued in this line until 1881, at which time he engaged in the wholesale grocery business. This has proved a profitable and largely increasing business, and is still continued under the firm name of George A. Searcy & Co. He was elected treasurer of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company January 15, 1887; president of the Merchants' National Bank February 9, 1887; treasurer of the Tuscaloosa Northern Railway Company March 20, 1887; and treasurer of Gray Stone Land Company June 10, 1887.



**WILLIAM GILBERT COCHRANE**, son of William Cochrane, a native of New York, and a lawyer by profession, was born in Tuscaloosa March 29, 1848. His mother was Miss S. S. Louisa Perkins, daughter of Major Harden Perkins, a native of Tennessee and one of the early settlers in Tuscaloosa. His father began the practice of the law in New York City, but by reason of failing health removed to Tuscaloosa, and became associated with the gallant General Cabb,

of Mexican War fame, with whom he resumed his professional career.

William Gilbert Cochrane received his early education at preparatory schools, and entered the University of Alabama, where he was still a student when Croxton's raiders invaded the city of Tuscaloosa and burned the buildings of that institution. As a member of the Corps of Cadets, he, in May, 1865, assisted in repelling the raiders. He was subsequently for two years a student at Washington College, Lexington, Va., under the presidency of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Returning to Tuscaloosa, he read law in the office of Hargrove & Fitts, and was admitted to the bar in 1870. He has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. During the period of the "Kl-Klux" excitement he was County Solicitor, and Assistant County Solicitor, and so faithfully and fearlessly did his discharge incumbent duties that he won the gratitude and regard of his fellow-citizens. Perhaps no young man was ever placed in a position more trying, and one demanding the exercise of that calm, cool and inflexible courage, which it is greatly to the credit and honor of Mr. Cochrane that he exhibited.

Mr. Cochrane was a member of the State Legislature during the session of 1878-79, and served with that rare ability which has been characteristic of his public life. He is chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Tuscaloosa County, and is a staunch adherent of his party's platform. He is a liberal advocate of Tuscaloosa's industrial progress; was one of the originators and organizers of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company, and is a director and one of its legal advisers. Mr. Cochrane associated with him in his law practice in October, 1886, Mr. William C. Fitts, his nephew, and a promising young attorney.

Mr. Cochrane married August 12, 1872, Miss Lily E. Taylor, daughter of the late John T. Taylor, of Mobile, one of Alabama's most eminent jurists. One child, John Taylor, named for his illustrious grandfather, has been born to this marriage.

Mr. Cochrane is a member of the Episcopal Church and a Knight Templar. For twelve years he was master of the Blue Lodge, and is a grand junior warden of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Alabama, and the eminent commander of Tuscaloosa Commandery, No. 13, of Knights Templar. He is a fine specimen of physical

manhood, of pleasing and engaging manner, and a graceful dignity. Devoted to his chosen profession, he seems careless of the high legislative and congressional honors his constituents are ready to bestow upon him, and for which he is eminently qualified. The world is before him, and he will win its surest favors through his stern allegiance to duty and to justice.



**WILLIAM C. JEMISON**, Mayor of Tuscaloosa, was born in this city December 2, 1850, and is a son of William H. and Elizabeth (Patrick) Jemison, natives of Alabama, and descendants from Irish ancestry. Wm. H. Jemison, before the war a successful planter, was one of those who at its close found themselves with fortunes destroyed, and as a consequence his sons had their own ways to make in the world, from the bottom round of the ladder.

It being impossible to begin the course of study to which he had looked forward, W. C. Jemison turned his attention to agriculture, but being forced by a combination of adverse circumstances, he left the plantation and accepted the situation of master of St. John's Parochial School near Baltimore. While teaching he studied under private tutors, and after a time entered the law class of the University of Alabama, where he was graduated in 1874. He practiced his profession until the spring of 1887, when he left the bar to assume the presidency of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company, a position he now fills.

In 1879 Mr. Jemison was elected to the office of Mayor of the city of Tuscaloosa, which position he has since held, having been elected and re-elected five successive times. He, like all self-made men, being a man of enterprise and public spirit, the city quickly caught the contagion of his untiring energy, and under his administration has made many and striking improvements.

Mr. Jemison is a man of undoubted executive ability; in his private business he has been successful, and in conducting the affairs of the city, as well as of the large corporation of which he is the leading officer, he has pursued a straightforward, conservative course that has been attended with the happiest results.

More than any other man of his section of country, Mr. Jemison deserves the credit of inaugurat-

ing and conducting the series of improvements and developments that have marked the recent history of the city of Tuscaloosa and brought it into prominence. To his efforts was due the holding of the River and Harbor Convention which sat in Tuscaloosa in 1885, and which was the beginning of the work of improvement in the Warrior River (as well as of other Alabama waterways) now being prosecuted by the General Government. He will, perhaps, be longest and most gratefully remembered in his native city as the man to whom that city is indebted for its fine system of graded public schools.

To him also, in the greater part, is due the organization of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company, a powerful corporation whose object and intention is to develop the wonderful mineral and timber resources of the adjoining region; to establish barge communication with Mobile, New Orleans and the entire Gulf coast, and to make of Tuscaloosa the great manufacturing center which nature has fitted it to be, thus giving it that high rank among commercial centers which he wisely foresaw and has since earnestly striven to have it attain.

Mr. Jemison was married at Ocean Springs, Miss., February 24, 1879, to Miss Eliska Leftwich, daughter of J. G. W. Leftwich, at one time a wealthy planter of that place. She died August 14, 1882, leaving two children, a daughter and a son.



**HARVEY H. CRIBBS**, the son of Daniel and Amy (La Vergy) Cribbs, was born in Tuscaloosa, June 17, 1832. He received his early education at the best schools of the day, embarked in business as clerk in a store in Tuscaloosa at the age of fourteen, and continued in the same occupation until his twenty-eighth year, when he was elected Sheriff of Tuscaloosa County by a larger vote than had ever previously been cast in the county. This position he resigned in the spring of 1862, to assist in the organization of Lumsden's Battery, of which he was elected first lieutenant. He saw very active service, and achieved distinction for courage and soldierly qualities. In 1864 he resigned his commission, to take the post of scout by detail, serving under Lieutenant Wright, of the Second Alabama Cavalry, and in this relation performed important and valuable service. He

had the misfortune to be captured on the eve of the surrender, near Charleston, S. C., and was for some time confined in that city. Restored to liberty, he returned home and secured a clerkship, first in Tuscaloosa, and a month later in a wholesale grocery in Mobile, and subsequently purchasing the business afterward conducted by the firm of Cribbs, Davidson & Co. He continued a thriving merchant of Mobile for twelve years, when he sold out his interest and returned to Tuscaloosa, where he has since been engaged in business as a broker and insurance agent. In 1870 he married Miss Carrie Roper, who has had seven children. He is a member of the Episcopal Church and is a Mason.

In addition to his brokerage and insurance business, Mr. Cribbs manages a large and valuable estate near Tuscaloosa. His lands contain deposits of iron, coal and several varieties of kaolin and fire-brick clay. Mr. Cribbs is a man of rare business experience, and a cultivated and highly respected citizen.



**DANIEL CRIBBS**, the son of Peter Cribbs and Christina (Williams) Cribbs, was born May 8, 1800, at Greensboro, Westmoreland County, Pa., and came to Tuscaloosa in 1828. He removed from Pennsylvania in 1806, with his parents, to New Philadelphia, Ohio, and from there returned to Pennsylvania and lived two years in Pittsburgh. In 1823 he came to Alabama and resided in Greene County until 1828, when, as has been above noted, he first settled in Tuscaloosa County, two miles from the city. His early education was sadly neglected by reason of the lack of schools near his birthplace, an obstacle encountered elsewhere in his youth. He established the first stoneware manufactory in the State in Tuscaloosa, and conducted it successfully until the outbreak of the civil war.

Mr. Cribbs was the Sheriff of Tuscaloosa County from 1842 to 1845. He was in those early times engaged in the steamboat business and lost heavily by the explosion of the "Tuscaloosa" in 1845. In 1850 "he caught the gold fever" and went to California, from which he returned with lots of cash, which he invested in slaves to cultivate his farm near Tuscaloosa. He married, in 1828, Miss Amy La Vergy, of Greene County, Ala., and has

had nine children, six of three of whom are living, one in Texas and two in Tuscaloosa.

Mr. Cribbs is in his eighty-eighth year, still hale and hearty, and delights to speak of his boyhood days. The majority of those he knew when he came to Tuscaloosa have passed away, and he has lived through many changes and many wars. In 1813, while living at New Philadelphia, Ohio, at the time of Hull's surrender, Governor Meigs, of Ohio, then on a visit to his father, desired to send a message to Detroit, and the mission of extreme peril was undertaken and accomplished, much to the satisfaction of the Governor, by the adventurous boy, Daniel Cribbs.

Mr. Cribbs remains as a link in the chain of the "Old South" which binds it to the new, and bears upon him the impress of the days when hospitality was as boundless as the forests, and when honor and chivalry were united in the hearts of all true men.



**JAMES WOODS CASTLEMAN.** The "boom" which have swept over Northern Alabama have been instrumental in bringing into notice and prominence many useful and enterprising men, and men capable of successfully founding such institutions and inaugurating such systems as would the more surely secure the most permanent and prosperous results. Of such is the subject of this sketch, James Woods Castleman, the son of R. B. Castleman and Annie (Woods) Castleman, born at Nashville, Tenn., November 24, 1818. The family of his progenitors were of German extraction. His grandparents were natives of the Shenandoah Valley, in Virginia. His paternal grandfather was married in the old log fort, the first structure built at Nashville, and the wedding was the first ever solemnized at that place. An interest in the first steamboat that plied the Cumberland River was owned by his maternal grandfather. His father was mayor of Nashville for several years, and a member of the Tennessee Legislature for several terms. His maternal grandfather was the largest iron factor in the South, and the head of the firm of Woods, Yeatman & Co., who owned two iron furnaces and rolling mills in the Cumberland district, which were burned by the Federals after the evacuation of Fort Donelson. With this firm James Woods Castleman became in his early years associated,

but selected Alabama as a more inviting field for future operations. Mr. Castleman was educated in the best schools of Nashville and St. Louis.

He married Miss Ellie Harding, of Shelbyville, Tenn., and has two children, Ellie and James Woods. Mr. Castleman was instrumental in perfecting the organization of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company, and was elected its secretary, an office which he has well and wisely filled. He had, prior to his present association as secretary of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company, been manager of the Briarfield Coal and Iron Company's furnace property, and had charge of the blast furnace. He was subsequently placed in position as Auditor of this County, but having acquired large interests in the Tuscaloosa property, he removed to this place. He has been a prime mover in every direction which promised success, and Tuscaloosa is fortunate in having in its midst a man so capable of, and zealous in, advancing its material interests.



**EDMUND RUSH KING,** son of Michael A. and Annie S. (Bealle) King, was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., June 16, 1855. His father was among the prominent citizens of the county, Ala., and represented the district embracing that county in the State Legislature. Edmund Rush was put to school in Tuscaloosa County, to which his father had removed, and attended the University of Virginia, and subsequently the University of Alabama. He followed agricultural pursuits for three years. He was elected City Marshal of Tuscaloosa in 1881, and has since filled that office in a highly commendable manner.

Mr. King married Miss A. Mollie Foster, daughter of the Rev. John C. Foster, of Tuscaloosa, and has five children: Tosca, Velma, Georgia, Annie, John Foster and Robert M.

The maternal grandfather of Mr. King, John S. Bealle, was a Baltimorean, and one of the earliest settlers in Tuscaloosa County.

As City Marshal, Mr. King has been peculiarly efficient, and has demonstrated that strict and unswerving devotion to duty which has ever been a ruling characteristic of the worthy family from which he sprang. In the zenith of his manhood, this faithful officer gives promise of the future occupancy by him of higher positions, to which he

will doubtless be called, as a more suitable recognition of his eminent qualifications. In person, Mr. King is the embodiment of grace and manly dignity, and in manner and conversation exhibits strong evidences of parental training and a good education. No young man in Tuscaloosa is more highly or more justly respected than Edmund R. King, who is destined to retain the confidence and esteem of all who know him, through his inherent honesty of purpose and sterling integrity of character.



**JOHN ROBIE KENNEDY**, the son of John S. Kennedy and Mary E. Kennedy, was born in Florence, Lauderdale County, Ala., June 9, 1848. His parents moved to Tuscaloosa, Ala., in the year 1862. Here he entered the University of Alabama, and continued a cadet there until shortly before the buildings of the University were burned by the Federals.

In 1869 he entered the Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tenn., and was graduated in the Law Department in 1870. In 1871 he married Miss Jodie McLester, the daughter of R. C. and Mary T. McLester, of Tuscaloosa, Mr. McLester during his lifetime being one of the most prominent and prosperous merchants of his county.

Mr. Kennedy did not long pursue his practice of law, preferring the more active life of farming and other interests he has engaged in. He is secretary and treasurer of the Tuscaloosa Land and Loan Company, also of the Tuscaloosa Building and Loan Association, and upon the organization of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company was elected one of its directors.

He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is a member of the Knights of Honor and the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.



**ISAAC OLIVER**, the son of Isaac Oliver and Julia Oliver, was born at Pleasant Ridge, Greene County, Ala., March 22, 1861, and is of English and Scotch extraction. His father came from Virginia to Alabama, settling in Eutaw, about 1840. Here Julia Murphy became Mrs. Oliver, and here had been her home before her marriage. Her son, Isaac, the subject of this sketch, was put

to school at an early age, and received instruction, after preliminary training in private schools, at Archibald Institute in Greene County, Ala., graduating from the academic, and subsequently from the law department of the University of Alabama, with the degree of LL.B. He was admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of Alabama in 1884, and practiced his profession for three years at Houston, Texas. After this, he traveled for recreation in California. Mr. Oliver has recently returned to his native State, and recommenced his law practice, making commercial law—in which, while in Texas he had excellent experience, as deputy clerk of Brown County, as through his position he had access to the records of deeds, conveyances, probate minutes, etc.—a specialty at Tuscaloosa. Mr. Oliver, although, as a practicing attorney, new to Tuscaloosa, has rapidly won public confidence and secured a position at once commendable, and indicative of superior qualifications, considered in the light of the prestige which has for so many years been shed upon its bench and bar. The father of this young attorney was for several years the sheriff of Greene County, and is happily remembered for his efficient service in that relation, as well as for his uniform courtesy and kindness, conspicuously evidenced in all his acts. Of his gifted son, Alabama will yet be proud as he is fitted to represent her, and will, in the near future, doubtless, be called to champion her interests in legislative council.

Mr. Oliver's literary prominence has recently been suitably recognized in his election as secretary of the Alabama Historical Society, a position for which he is eminently qualified and upon which he will reflect distinguished honor.



**HENRY BACON FOSTER**, son of Joshua Hill Foster and Frances C. (Bacon) Foster, was born near Tuscaloosa May 9, 1863. The ancestors of Mr. Foster were English, and among the earliest settlers in Tuscaloosa County. His father, the Rev. Joshua Hill Foster, is Professor of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy in the University of Alabama. The excellent educational advantages of Tuscaloosa were eagerly embraced by Henry B. Foster, and he was graduated in 1882 from the academic department of the University of Alabama, with the degree of A.M., and in 1884 from the law department, with the degree of LL.B.

He began the practice of his profession in 1884. In the interval between 1882 and 1884 he taught in a public school at Gadsden, Ala. He received the nomination by the Democratic party for the State Legislature in 1886, but was defeated by eleven votes. He was, at the time of his nomination, but twenty-three years old, and the high compliment thus paid him by his party augurs well for his political future. Mr. Foster inherits, in a remarkable degree, the literary abilities of his father, and has exhibited in his legal practice the surest evidences of culture and proficiency. He is associated with the celebrated jurists, the Hon. John M. Martin, ex-Congressman from this district, and Capt. A. B. McEachin, one of the great lights of the Tuscaloosa bar, under the firm name of McEachin, Martin & Foster. As the resident partner, Mr. Foster conducts the Tuscaloosa business of the firm, Messrs. Martin and McEachin having their office and residences in Birmingham. Mr. Foster is the Solicitor for Tuscaloosa County, and discharges the incumbent duties in a manner generally acceptable. He is the captain of the noted "Warrior Guards," which derive peculiar distinction from having been the company which the gallant Capt. (afterward General) R. E. Rodes led to the field in 1861. Captain Foster gives ample promise of reaching the acme of his profession and of making a record that shall grace the history of the period in which he lived.

**JOHN CALDWELL CALHOUN**, the son of James M. Calhoun, of Dallas County, Ala., and Susan Pickens, of distinguished South Carolina parentage and connections, was born at the parental home-stead near Richmond and Carlenville, Ala., December 4, 1850. The father of the subject of this sketch was a nephew of the distinguished statesman and Vice-president, John Caldwell Calhoun, of South Carolina, and his mother was a sister of Governor F. W. Pickens, daughter of Governor Andrew Pickens, and granddaughter of General Andrew Pickens, of South Carolina.

After the usual preliminary training in vogue at that day, young Calhoun was prepared for college by Professor T. J. Dill, now of Howard College, Birmingham, Ala., and entered Washington College (since Washington and Lee University), under the presidency of Gen. Robert E. Lee,

From this institution he was graduated with the degrees of C. E. and B. S., in June, 1872, and M. A. in June, 1873, and was appointed a resident master, a position he thought proper to decline. He taught with Frank H. Alfriend in Cape Fear Academy, Wilmington, N. C., subsequently succeeding to the principalship, which he held for two years. In 1876 he attended a course of instruction in Heidelberg University, Germany, and spent some time in Paris. On his return in 1877 to Alabama, he was elected professor of Greek in the University of Alabama, the chair which he still holds and creditably fills. Professor Calhoun is well adapted to his profession, having been thoroughly inducted into the best systems of teaching that obtain in this country and in Europe. He has taught mathematics, Latin and Spanish. He was married July 11, 1878, to Miss Mary R. Graham, of Selma, Ala.

Professor Calhoun is a member of the Presbyterian Church and a deacon, and has taken much interest in the Young Men's Christian Association and Sunday-school work. A plain, unostentatious gentleman, Professor Calhoun commands the highest respect, and, as a professor, the affection of his pupils and the approbation of their custodians.

**WALLACE B. EDMUNDSON** was born near Nashville, Tenn., March 2, 1850. His father was John K. Edmundson and his mother Matilda G. Wilson. He was educated in Nashville and at Franklin College, Tenn. Conducted a farm until the age of twenty-seven, when he embarked in the cotton business, and continued in that line until 1886 in Tuscaloosa, to which place he removed in 1878. In 1887 he engaged in the real-estate business as a necessary measure to manage his large property in and around Tuscaloosa. Mr. Edmundson has become rapidly identified with leading interests and was one of the incorporators of the electric light system, the ice refrigerating process, and various other movements directed to the development of the rising fortunes of Tuscaloosa. Mr. Edmundson is vigilant and enterprising, and exhibits the most unmistakable evidences of business capacity in the directions in which he is interested. He belongs to the advancing men of the period, and will make his mark on the pages of Tuscaloosa's history in the years to come.



He is a gentleman of honor and integrity, and enjoys the respect of all who know him.

Mr. Edmundson married Miss Tennie Venable, of Tuscaloosa, on January 13, 1879, and has two children.



**CHARLES C. SEED**, the son of Dr. Frederick C. Seed and Gertrude (Lazen) Seed, was born at Louisville, Ky., January, 30, 1836. His ancestors were English and German, who settled in Kentucky at an early period in the history of that State. His father was educated at the noted University of Heidelberg, Germany, and received the degree of LL.D. from that institution. His his mother was educated at a Catholic seminary in Maryland. The literary disposition of his father was put to profit during the financial crisis of 1833, when he taught as the professor of languages in a school of which he was the principal. The son derived his early education in the public schools of Louisville, and has since perfected himself in various kinds of knowledge. The loss of his parents, when he was but thirteen years of age, put him upon his own resources, which he was in various ways successfully utilized. He left Louisville when he was seventeen, and, for several years, served as clerk in a grocery store. At the age of twenty he began business on his own account as an agent in the produce line, handling large consignments from New Orleans, St. Louis, Peoria, and other cities, with headquarters at Memphis, Tenn. At the beginning of the civil war he was the possessor of a considerable fortune, which he had secured entirely from his own efforts.

In 1861 he married Miss Mattie C. White, daughter of Charles White, of Camden, Ark., of the well-known South Carolina family of that name. The original entry of the lands of the White family, made in 1765, is still in their possession, and four generations lie buried in the district where they had lived.

Mr. Seed enlisted in the Shelby Grays, but saw no active service, giving his attention to his extensive business interests, which he had the misfortune to lose, as a consequence of the war. In 1862 he removed to Tuscaloosa, and became a member of the firm of Kirkman, Hays & Co., engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods,

principally for the Confederate Government. During the invasion of Tuscaloosa by Croton's raiders in 1865, the mill was burned and destroyed, as was a large quantity of cotton stored in an adjacent warehouse. After this he operated as a cotton buyer for two years, and, subsequently, took charge of numerous shipments of cotton, aggregating about 3,200 bales, at Liverpool, England. While in England he imported the larger portion of the machinery for the mills at Cottondale, about seven miles east of Tuscaloosa. Mr. Seed was largely interested in these mills, which were conducted under the firm name of Bangh, Kennedy & Co., and which were thus continued up to 1876. Owing to the panic, which began in 1873 and continued to 1876, and which was peculiarly disastrous to all enterprises, particularly manufactures, Mr. Seed lost his entire investment, which had cost him about \$225,000.

He retired from this connection without a penny and began life anew, but with strong hope and undiminished energy. He was determined to succeed, and accepted a position as traveling salesman for several New York houses, on a salary. He afterward embarked in the cotton-bale tie business, which he built up to large proportion. For the past six years, having abandoned the tie business, by reason of the annoyance of threatened suits for infringement of patent, by the American Cotton Tie Supply Company, he has been engaged in buying and selling cotton, for export and for mills, and in real estate ventures since the "booms."

He has by his undaunted and unwearied energy and splendid business abilities been once more lifted into a position of success. Mr. Seed has two sons: Charles C. jr., associated with his father in business, and W. D., a hardware merchant of Tuscaloosa and a distinguished graduate of the University of Alabama.

Mr. Seed has had truly a remarkable career, eventful, and filled with alternating good and evil fortune, but he has always preserved the strictest honesty and the most unblemished reputation. No man in Tuscaloosa is more highly esteemed than he, and no man more deserving of the ultimate triumph over multitudinous and afflictive disasters. He has gained that for which he has since his boyhood so ardently and so persistently toiled, and the evening of his days will be passed in ease and comfort, rewards that wait upon true diligence and upright purpose.

**EDWARD N. C. SNOW.** The Snow family of Tuscaloosa, Ala., is descended from Dr. Peter Snow, of Fitchburg, Mass., and Elizabeth Adams.

William Snow was born in England in 1624, and came to America in 1637, being one of the first settlers of Bridgewater, Mass. The American family is a large one, and is distributed over the greater part of the United States. Many of them have been physicians, others clergymen, lawyers and merchants. Elizabeth Adams, the consort of Dr. Peter Snow, was a first cousin of John Quincy Adams, and a niece of John Adams, both Presidents of the United States. The Adams family is one of the oldest of the English families in America. Henry Adams, who came from Braintree, England, and settled at Braintree (now Quincy, Mass.) in the early part of the seventeenth century, traced his family back, through the peerage of England, to about the year 1200; the connections of this family are the Alden and Bass families of New England. Charles and Henry Adams and Z. B. Snow settled in Tuscaloosa County about the year 1821. Charles Adams was a physician by education, but practiced his profession very little. The three brothers became interested together in merchandising. Z. B. Snow died about the year 1840. Charles soon after retired from business, and Henry A. continued it until his death in 1865. He lived and died loving the State and city of his choice, and was identified with Tuscaloosa in every enterprise of any moment occurring in its history during his long residence. Charles died in 1885.

E. N. C. Snow, the son of Henry A. Snow and Abby Hazard, was born in Tuscaloosa in 1845. He served in the Confederate Army a short time, having been discharged by reason of severe illness. He took the degree of A. B. in the University of Alabama in 1865, after which he served four years as clerk for R. & J. McLester. He began business as a dry goods merchant in 1870, which he continued with fair success until 1887, when he sold it to accept the position of cashier of the Merchants National Bank of Tuscaloosa.

Mr. Snow was married in 1872 to Miss Carrie T. McLester, of Tuscaloosa.

The celebrity which attaches to this family has nowhere been more conspicuously evidenced than through the Alabama branch, to which E. N. C. Snow belongs. These people have exerted an influence and demonstrated a principle that will survive as long as the name, which is one to be proud

of, as one that has never known dishonor, but has reflected the fame of its escutcheon wherever it is borne. Tuscaloosa is justly proud of this grand old family, and honor will belong to it as long as it remains so true and noble as it has ever been—fulfilling its mission in honesty, truth, justice and morality.



**JOHN SNOW,** only son and youngest child of Dr. Charles and Virginia (Penn) Snow, natives, respectively, of Massachusetts and Virginia, was born May 24, 1843, on his father's farm, about one mile north of Tuscaloosa, where his early youth was spent. He went to school until about eighteen years old, when the war broke out and he enlisted in Lumsden's Battery, with which he remained about four years, or until the surrender. Though much broken in health he began merchandising in a small way, and he has been in the mercantile business since. He first sold groceries, then kept a general store, but having a fondness for the hardware trade, he eventually converted his business into this line, and for many years his house has done most of the business in that line in West Alabama. There have been several changes in the firm, but at present it is known as John T. Snow's Hardware Company, of which he is president. They deal largely in machinery of all kinds, and have done the people a good service by introducing improved agricultural implements. His firm is noted for its fair dealing, and has always enjoyed the confidence of its customers to the fullest extent.

He was married August 28, 1868, to Norma, daughter of Dr. S. J. Leach, and has had born to him four children: Lizzie E., Virginia C., Charles Henry Boylston, and John Adams. All are living except Charles, who was accidentally killed by machinery on October 17, 1884.

Since the surrender he has lived in Tuscaloosa, except during the summers, which he has usually spent on his farm "Hurricane," on Hurricane River, six miles east of Tuscaloosa. It is a beautiful place, with about 500 acres attached, and he has recently made it his permanent home.

Mr. Snow is a member of the Episcopal Church, and was a vestryman and treasurer many years. He is inclined to a literary taste, and has one of the largest libraries in the place, and though he has always been deeply immersed in business, is

never so happy as when he can steal a half hour to spend with a favorite book. He is an enthusiastic Mason, and has, at different times, been presiding officer of the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery.



**WILLIAM E. MAGEE**, the son of Whiting Magee and Elizabeth (Bass) Magee, was born in Lawrence County, Miss., December 23, 1855. He received a good training in the schools of his native State, and adopted photography as a profession in 1879. He came to Tuscaloosa in 1884, and has since won an enviable reputation as an artist. He has succeeded in making a large number of very handsome views of Tuscaloosa and vicinity, which are considered great artistic triumphs. In 1880 Mr. Magee was married to Miss Laura E. Butler, and has two children. Mr. Magee is a reputable citizen and thoroughly in earnest in his profession, which he is destined to more thoroughly adorn, while keeping pace with advances in photography.



**BERNHARD FRIEDMAN**. American history involves the consideration of many nations and many peoples, who have found in the freedom of the Republic a proper exercise of the talents committed to them; and to none of them can be ascribed more fortitude and more facility in securing great ends than the German element of its population.

Bernhard Friedman, the son of Simon and Rosa Friedman, was born in Hungary, and, coming to America in 1836, settled in the State of Mississippi and subsequently removed to Georgia. The date of his advent in Tuscaloosa was 1866. His early education was received in Hungary. His American history begins with his first entrance into the mercantile business. The purchase of the cotton mill at Cottdale, near Tuscaloosa, represented his power to engineer and manage successfully great industrial enterprises, which has since been amply demonstrated and which has placed him in the front rank of the many prime movers in forwarding the natural interests of Northern Alabama. Not alone has he shown his ability in the conduct of great manufacturing enterprises, but has exhibited that conservative and cautious management of mercantile affairs

which clearly indicates his financial power and integrity.

Upon the organization of the Tuscaloosa Coal, Iron and Land Company, in January, 1887, he was elected its vice-president. He sold to this company 13,000 acres of his vast landed possessions in this section. Mr. Friedman has contributed in large measure to the varied industrial enterprises of Tuscaloosa, and has projected a large iron furnace, now rapidly nearing completion, and which will materially assist the progressive tendencies of his remarkable section.

Mr. Friedman married Miss Linka Loveman, of Dalton, Ga., and has three children. He is yet in the prime of life and will worthily bear the enviable distinction of having largely assisted in securing Tuscaloosa's great industrial future.



**WILLIAM H. WILDS**. The subject of this sketch was born at Sparta, Ga. His father was W. W. Wilds, and his mother Sarah E. Farmer. He received scholastic training in Tuscaloosa. At the outbreak of hostilities between the States, in 1861, he enlisted in the Twentieth Alabama Regiment, and served until wounded in June, 1864, in the engagement at Smyrna Church, near Marietta, Ga., where he lost his right forearm. This disabled him for future military service, and he returned to Tuscaloosa and taught school for seven years succeeding. After this he was appointed Tax Collector, a position which he very satisfactorily filled for ten years. July 1, 1885, he was appointed postmaster of Tuscaloosa, and is the present incumbent.

Mr. Wilds thoroughly enjoys the respect and esteem of his townsmen, and is a faithful and zealous officer. Duty is his watchword, and he ever heeds it. Mr. Wilds was married in 1870 to Miss Fannie E. Hamner, of Tuscaloosa, and is the father of seven children. He is a member of the Baptist Church.



**REV. JAMES H. STRINGFELLOW**, Rector of Christ Church, Tuscaloosa, was born in Alexandria, Va., December 11, 1850. He is the eldest son of Rev. H. Stringfellow, D.D., rector of St. John's Church, Montgomery, Ala. He was prepared for college in the public schools of Indian-

apolis, Ind., and is an *alumnus* of the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., and of Berkeley Divinity School, Middletown, Conn. He was ordained deacon in St. John's Church, Montgomery, Ala., May 12, 1872, by Rt. Rev. R. H. Wilmer, D. D., Bishop of Alabama, and Priest in Trinity Church, Columbia, S. C., December 15, 1874, by Rt. Rev. W. B. W. Howe, D. D. In his early ministry he served as assistant minister in St. John's Church, Montgomery, Ala., Trinity Church, New Orleans, La., and Trinity Church, Columbia, S. C., and subsequently as rector of Meade Memorial Church, Manchester, Va., and Church of Our Saviour, Baltimore, Md., from which he was called to his present charge.

In 1879, Mr. Springfellow married Lula Brookenborough, daughter of P. J. and Lucy W. Haskins, of Powhatan County, Va., by whom he has had four children, named Mary Muir, Horace, Lucy Haskins and Ethel Grey, respectively. Both on his paternal and maternal side he is of English-Scotch descent, while his wife is descended from the good old English stock that has made Virginia famous through the Greys, the Meades, Brookenboroughs, Haskins, and many others, noted in the military and civil life of the Old Dominion, among whom was the great lawyer and jurist, Watkins Leigh, who was her mother's double first cousin.



**REUBEN SEARCY**, son of Thomas and Ann Martin Searcy, was born at Chapel Hill, N. C., December 29, 1895.

Mr. Searcy moved to near Madison, that State, and there received such education as the country afforded. In 1826 he came to Tuscaloosa, his brother-in-law and wife having preceded him. His father's family failed to follow him as expected, and he decided to remain anyway. He at once applied for and procured employment on

a steamboat on the Warrior River, first as a clerk, and subsequently as an engineer. About that time he began the study of medicine under Dr. James Guild, the most prominent physician of Tuscaloosa. So reduced was he in financial circumstances that he was, as he has been heard to relate, driven to the necessity of picking up from the street stray pieces of cloth with which to mend his wearing apparel. After teaching school a short time, he raised a small amount of money, sufficient to enable him to take a winter course of lectures at the Lexington (Ky.) Medical College. He subsequently, after finishing his course of lectures, returned to Tuscaloosa, and again taught school—continuing his medical studies. The following winter he attended another course of lectures and received his diploma. Immediately thereafter he settled at Carthage, Ala., where he built up a successful practice. After paying up his small indebtedness he returned to Tuscaloosa, and formed a partnership with his old preceptor, Dr. Guild. His practice soon became very extensive in this and adjoining counties. The partnership was mutually dissolved.

For nearly thirty years he was president of the Board of Trustees for the Insane Asylum. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church for upward of fifty years, and during his long life filled many places of trust and responsibility. He was married in October 1831 to Miss Eline S. Nore. She died in 1836, leaving an infant daughter, who survived but a few months.

The Doctor's second wife was Miss M. A. Fitch, and they lived together as man and wife for nearly half a century. To them were born three sons and two daughters. One of his sons died from wounds received at the battle of Murfreesboro.

Dr. Searcy was a most kind and affectionate husband, father and grandfather. He died at Tuscaloosa March 10, 1887, regretted by all who knew him.



## XIV.

# GREENSBORO.

BY WM. E. W. YURBY.

In the beginning of the year 1816, the first settlements were made in the vicinity of Greensboro by some half dozen or more families from Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina. Of the number may be mentioned M. Kinnard, his two sons-in-law, McConico and Corzine; T. A. Kinnard, Mr. Davis and Mr. Bennett. A large family of Russells also resided in the neighborhood at that time, and for several years the country in a radius of four or five miles was known as the "Russell Settlement."

These hardy pioneers, upon their arrival, found nothing here except an unbroken forest, which they at once began to clear away, and to build rude cabins, which they furnished in primitive simplicity. Their bedsteads were made by boring holes in the logs of the houses, into which pieces of wood were driven and boards laid upon them; a three-legged stool for each member of the family and a high bench for a table constituted the household furniture.

The country around Greensboro, in these early times, is said to have been indescribably beautiful. The primeval forests, consisting of hickory, oak, chestnut and pine, were unbroken. Game of all kinds was very plentiful. Large number of deer were frequently killed by the settlers only a short distance from the cabins. The low places to be seen around the town of to-day were then extensive reed-brakes, into which cattle frequently went never to come out alive, on account of the boggy nature of the soil.

The year 1817 brought new-comers into the "Russell Settlement." Of the number Capt. James Yeates, Louis Stephens, Benjamin Baldwin, Frederick Peck, William Lovell and others. They erected houses near the present site of the Southern University, and gave the place the name of Troy, under which name it soon became a thriving

little village. Most of the inhabitants cultivated the soil for a livelihood, and were contented and happy.

The first United States mail ever received in Troy was brought from Cahaba on horseback, by S. G. Briggs, and opened in the store of Frederick Peck, the first Postmaster, on the 3d day of September, 1818. This mail had been carried to Cahaba on a barge coming from Blakely.

The first house built in Greensboro proper was in the year 1818—a one-room log structure—by John Nelson. It was located on the southeast corner of the square on which Dr. Thomas R. Ward's residence now stands. In this hut Mr. Nelson kept a small stock of powder, shot, whiskey, tobacco, etc.; but he soon tired of merchandising, and in 1819 sold out, and settled upon forty acres of land on the plantation now known as "Midway," and engaged at farming.

He died in 1858 or 1859, leaving a fortune of some \$250,000, all of which he had accumulated by tilling the soil.

The second house built in the town was in 1819, by Silas Baggett, who used it as a wheelwright shop. This building was situated on the present Presbyterian Church lot.

In 1819 Alabama was admitted into the Union, and Troy being situated upon the sixteenth section, which is by an Act of Congress reserved to every State for the benefit of public schools, was broken up, and the inhabitants moved to the present site of Greensboro.

In 1820, James Yeates erected a frame building on the east corner of the lot on which Governor Searcy's residence now stands, and used it as a boot and shoe shop.

Samuel G. Briggs located in the town the same year and opened a hotel on the lot now owned by Professor Peterson. Just across the street

from him was a tailor's shop, kept by one Clark. The number of stores in Greensboro at the beginning of 1820 had increased to five. Malone & Lake kept one where D. J. Castleman is now doing business; Blanton & McAlpine had a grocery on a part of the present hotel lot; William Lovell also kept a grocery in a building on the east corner of the Dorman Block; Frederick Peck did business in a house where Ward & Son now keep; and J. A. Wemyss kept a stock of goods in a building situated where the hotel now stands. Absalom Alston had a hotel on the lot known as the "Jackson stable" lot; Miles Johnson also kept one in a frame house located on the lot on which Dr. Peterson's residence is now situated; and still another was kept by Edward Clements in a building where the court-house now stands.

In 1820 or 1822, Ezekiel Pickens opened the first law office in Greensboro, in a house where Mrs. S. W. Dugger now resides. The second was soon afterward opened by W. C. Chapman, near where J. W. McCrary's store is located.

In December, 1823, "An Act to incorporate the Town of Greensborough, in the County of Greene," was passed by the Legislature of Alabama. Among the first ordinances passed under this charter was one prohibiting horse-racing—which had become the favorite amusement of the inhabitants—within the corporate limits. The main street of the town, at present presenting such an active, busy appearance, was used as a race-course. It is said that half of the citizens belonged to the jockey club, and great was their sorrow when this ordinance went into effect. The jockeys made another race track about two miles west of the present court-house, near the plantation known as the "Jenkins place," now owned by J. W. McCrary, and kept up their favorite sport for many years.

In these early times the mode of visiting distant points was on horseback or by stage-coach. The merchants frequently rode horses to New York, where they purchased their stocks of goods, which they had shipped by water to Mobile, thence to Cahaba, from which place the merchandise was hauled to Greensboro in wagons.

But to return to the government of the town: The citizens seemed soon to have permitted their charter to lapse from non-use, and on January 21, 1822, an Act was passed "To revive, repeal in part and amend an Act to incorporate the town of Greensboro in the County of Greene, approved December 21, 1823."

By this Act the following taxes only, could be assessed and levied:

1. Not exceeding one-fourth of one percent, on real property.

2. A poll-tax of \$1 on each white male over twenty-one years old.

3. Not exceeding \$1 each on all four-wheeled pleasure carriages.

4. On all retailers of liquors, goods and merchandise, not exceeding \$10 per annum.

From this it will be seen that the income of the town was small, but the expenditures were equally so. The officers received no salaries. The Intendant was allowed a small fee for the trial of criminal offenses, and the Constable also, but rarely was a case reported to the Intendant. Cases for breaches of the peace, if noted at all, came up before the Justices of the Peace. For breaches of by-laws, the limit of fines was \$10, with right of appeal if over \$2.

The limits of the town were the quarter section. An Act was passed on January 12, 1823, extending the limits to embrace the residence and lot of John Morrast—now occupied by Thomas R. Roulhac. The object was to relieve Dr. Morrast from liability to work on roads outside of the town.

On January 27, 1845, an Act was passed "to alter and amend the several Acts in incorporating the town of Greensboro." It enlarged the powers of the Intendant and Constable somewhat.

On February 12, 1850, another Act to amend was passed, authorizing the erection of a jail, or calaboose, for the detention of *shavers*.

Sections four, five and six of the Act of January 25, 1856, incorporating the Southern University forbids the sale of liquors in Greensboro, except by druggists.

It was not until 1858 that the limits of the town were extended beyond the original quarter section and the Morrast lot. There under the provisions of the general statutes, sections 1220 to 1225, inclusive, a petition was filed in the Probate Court of Greene County for an extension, so as to embrace in all the northeast, the southeast, the southwest quarters of section seventeen, and the southwest quarter of section sixteen. The question was submitted to the people. The vote stood sixty for and forty-two against the extension. The extension took effect in April, 1858. In 1859 the charter was further amended, so as to authorize the imprisonment of white persons, etc., and the Intendant made eligible by the people instead of the

Council, as heretofore. The office of Marshal was also created.

Originally, the jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace was confined to his own beat; but prior to 1830, by Act of the Legislature, the Justices for Greensboro Beat could issue process to any part of the county, returnable at Greensboro. Later, by Act of December, 1836, any Justice in the county might issue process returnable to any place in the county he might think proper.

In 1841 or 1843 an Act was passed allowing real estate and slaves levied upon by the Sheriff or Constable on the east side of the river to be sold at Greensboro instead of at the court-house in Eutaw. The charter was again amended, in some particulars, in 1870 and in 1884-85. The charter of the Southern University was also amended by the Legislature of 1884-85, so as to prohibit even druggists, or anyone else, from selling or giving away spirituous, vinous or malt liquors in Greensboro or within five miles of the corporate limits of the town. It is a fact worthy of historical note that Greensboro has, since that time, enjoyed a *prohibition law which does prohibit*.

In the early times, the village was divided into three imaginary wards. From the eastern end of Main street (by the court-house), extending to the street east of the present Corwin House, was called the "White settlement." Thence to the street at Searff's corner, (Tuscaloosa street) was the "Black settlement." Thence to the western line, near Boardman's, was "Dogsboro." The wet, swampy hollow in front of Colonel Tunstall's, was then much deeper than now.

In the "White settlement" was a frame, painted white, two-story hotel, where now stands the court-house. Opposite, was a fine-looking white frame house, with a portico, the residence of Dr. Hunter. Farther on, on either side of the street, were buildings variously occupied—two dry goods stores (in one of which was kept the post-office), a tinner's office, a tailor shop, a lawyer's office, a printing office and two dwellings.

In the "Black settlement," on the upper block, were four or five dry goods houses, two liquor saloons—then called "doggeres"—two lawyers' offices and three dwellings. On Powers' corner was a one-story double log cabin, kept as a hotel, its swinging sign a "stag." Searff's cabinet shop and residence stood on the western corner of this block, opposite which was a red frame house, a hotel, kept in 1830 by Maj. A. L. Descourt, a

French refugee, who had served under Napoleon, and was at the battle of Waterloo; farther up was a store and a tailor's shop.

In "Dogsboro," the village blacksmith's shop (Coleman W. Garrett, proprietor) stood near the west corner of the present Methodist Church, about as far back from the street as the church now stands. On the corner, was a two-story frame store which was used, at the times of the races, as an *open* gambling house, filled with Faro tables and bystanders. Subsequently, for a short while, it was occupied by Levin Gayse as a dry goods store. Below this, with the exception of a cabinet shop (that now occupied by Wesley Jones) and the law office of Ezekiel Pickens, which now forms a portion of Mrs. Dugger's house, having been added to and converted into a dwelling by her father, Dr. Greene B. Williams, there were only dwellings, and not many of them.

The road from Erie, the county seat, made no square turn at N. B. Jones' gate, as now, but continued at an angle in the rear of Mr. Benner's house, near the present location of the Pasteur residence, and across Boardman's front yard, entering Main street not very far east of his house. The now Al. Stollenwerck lot extended to the then road, and a private dwelling, the "Red House," so called, stood very near the road, so that looking down Main street, it seemed to block it. Beyond Boardman's was the home of Mrs. Aske. Farther on, as far as Dr. Wm. Jones' plantation, back of Judge Hobson's lot, all was forest, with a thick undergrowth. In the exact center of Main street, at the intersection of Main and Tuscaloosa streets, was a public well, covered by a square shelter with a four-sided roof; shading it was a large, thrifty, beautifully shaped oak, quite an ornament to that portion of the town. At one time, in after years, a small market house was erected at the entrance of Tuscaloosa street, in its center, but it did not remain long. In 1843, the Town Council had this well filled up and the tree removed. So great was the indignation of the public at the removal of this old landmark and ornament, that John Smith, then a member of the Council and prominent in procuring its destruction, was hung in effigy over the spot.

The financial crisis of 1825 was felt in Alabama, and from 1826 to 1828 were many bankruptcies and much business for the lawyers, who then prospered. This over, came a dull time—till the crisis of 1837, when the whole Union nearly became bankrupt, and the effects of which continued

to 1842 and 1843, at which latter date Greene County had about recovered from it. During this period the lawyers, clerks of court, sheriffs, and all judicial officers, flourished.

There are a number of scattered graves in Greensboro, of which but few of the present population have any knowledge. In the corner of the woods in the rear of D. F. McCrary's, are many—the dead of Troy, as the first settlement was called, were buried there. Two graves, now so obliterated as not to be recognizable, were near the door, by the side of the smoke-house of the residence of John Erwin, on "Strawberry Hill." There is one in the middle of the lot in the rear of L. J. Lawson's garden, and one outside the northwest corner of the same lot. So in many other places. The McAlpine graves are yet visible.

The burials made at the Stokes cemetery were on private ground. When the question came up for the purchase of land for a public graveyard, this was, of course, under consideration. The land was poor and uneven, unfit for cultivation, and of little value. The owners, knowing the interest the public and the relatives and friends of those buried there felt in the matter, asked an exorbitant price for the land, which engendered bad feelings, and the result was that the present site was bought.

The fall of 1833 was very sickly. Congestion and fevers carried off a great number, and among the rest some five or six very promising young men, whose loss was mentioned and mourned for years afterward.

The fall of 1836 was also a sickly one, and many worthy people died. The young men were kind, and most willingly devoted themselves to the care of the sick, watching and nursing by day and by night. The country was new, and, like all new countries, was subject to malarial diseases; but there were some other causes at Greensboro. The swamps and reed-brakes extended to the very streets of the town. The character of the diseases is now entirely changed from that of the early days.

Up to 1832, the school lands (16th section) were rented out. On January 13, 1832, they were sold at auction, John M. Bates, Patrick May and Hugh McCann being the commissioners.

The plat (which shows the location of the roads at that time), with the names of the purchasers, is recorded in Book E, page 511, Greene County.

After the sale, the lands were cultivated by the owners, or rented out. Some of the lots—that, for instance, on which now stands D. F. McCrary's house, and others about that street, rented at \$12 per acre per year for growing cotton. The crops were very fine.

On the lot in the rear of Wood & Son's store stood, in 1830, and after, a gin house and serew. The merchants bought cotton in the seed and had it ginned, and the small planters brought in their crops to be ginned for toll. The merchants also bought much cotton in bales. The hauling to Erie, the then shipping point, gave employment to several professional white teamsters. The mule teams of these wagons, as well as the teams of the neighboring planters, were decorated with bells, high up over the harness, bright and glistening, which, besides setting off the beauty of the teams, made the streets quite musical and lively by their jingle.

In 1830 there stood on the vacant lot just west of the present Dorman building, a wall-like erection of plank, supported by braces behind (say 30 feet long by 25 feet high) like the side of a building, for the purpose of ball-play—the game of "fives," which, at an earlier day, seems to have been an amusement of the men of the town during the dull business season of the summers.

In February, 1854, the Planters' Insurance Company was incorporated. Books for subscription to the capital stock were opened March 17, 1854, and stock to the amount of \$130,000 subscribed. The company did a general insurance business, and also a banking business. It was of great convenience to the citizens, and proved very profitable to the stockholders. At the breaking out of the war, in 1861, all but \$50,000 of the capital was returned to the stockholders, this amount being retained to keep alive the charter and business was abandoned till better times. The war lasted so long, and its termination was so uncertain, that the company sold its real estate and personal effects and closed out the whole concern, paying to the stockholders the capital and surplus in full. This was done in February, 1865. Had they waited until after the surrender, in April, the company would probably have again opened its books for subscription, increased its capital, and begun business once more. But it has never been revived.

On January 30, 1867, the Legislature passed an Act creating Hale County. The first election for



county officials was held in March of the same year, and resulted in the election of Alfred H. Hutchinson as Probate Judge; J. E. Griggs as Sheriff; James A. Tallman as Circuit Clerk (Mr. Tallman failing to qualify for the office, Volney Boardman was appointed by the Governor to fill the position, which he has occupied ever since—21 years); Ed Nutting, Tax Assessor; Dan H. Britton, Tax Collector; T. F. Lewis, R. B. Allen, Burrell Johnson and A. S. Jeffries, Commissioners; P. T. Wright, Justice of the Peace; and Benj. E. Dorman, Constable.

At this election the matter of selecting a county seat was also submitted to the people of the county. Greensboro, Bucksport and Five-Mile Church were candidates. The vote stood as follows: For Greensboro, 570; for Bucksport, 280; for Five-Mile Church, 124. Greensboro, as will be seen, received 100 majority of all the votes cast, and the court-house was located here.

It would be well to state in this connection that pending the decision of the location of the county seat, the citizens of Greensboro promised that in the event that town should be selected as the place, and the public buildings located in the corporate limits thereof, they would furnish and donate to said county a lot and court-house thereon, for the use of said Hale County, so long as Greensboro remained the county seat, and all public buildings connected therewith should also be placed in the corporate limits of said town.

In accordance with this agreement, the Intendant and Council of Greensboro, on the 13th day of December, 1867, purchased from the Alabama Baptist State Convention the middle building of the present court-house, then known as "Salem Baptist Church," for the sum of \$8,000. The deed to this property is signed by J. L. M. Curry and Charles Manly, for the Baptists, and witnessed by James D. Spiller and U. P. Walker.

On the 5th day of April, 1868, the "Intendant and Council of the town of Greensboro" conveyed the property to Hale County, on the following conditions: "The use and right of property to the premises conveyed shall be and remain in the county of Hale so long as Greensboro shall remain the county seat; but if at any time or in any event the said Greensboro should cease to be the county seat of said county, and the purposes for which the deed is given should fail, then all right, title and interest in and to the said land and buildings conveyed shall revert to be vested in and belong

to the said town of Greensboro, which shall then have the right to enter upon and take possession thereof."

This document is signed by Amasa M. Dorman as Mayor, who was one of the most useful and public-spirited citizens Greensboro ever had. He was a native of New Haven, Conn., and came to this place in 1833. In 1840 he engaged in the grocery business, and was very successful; in 1852 he had accumulated sufficient capital to erect the fine brick buildings on Main street, known as the "Dorman Block." He continued in the mercantile business for many years, and became quite wealthy, but the late civil war swept much of his fortune away. In 1853 he was again elected Mayor of the town and served continuously for twelve years. During his administration he labored earnestly to advance the best interests of Greensboro, and to his untiring efforts is due, in a large measure, the enviable reputation the town sustains, at home and abroad, for being one of the prettiest in the State. Mr. Dorman died March 20, 1885, lamented by all who knew him well.

#### BENCH AND BAR.

Among the most prominent men who have figured at the bar of Greensboro, and who have left the imprints of their lives upon the history of the State and county, may be mentioned John Erwin, Wm. M. Murphy, John Gayle, Israel Pickens, Jas. D. Webb, Robert B. Waller, Augustus Benner, and Henry Watson. A brief history of the lives of the gentlemen mentioned will prove of interest, so we give it:

JOHN ERWIN was born in Pendleton County, Va., in 1800. His school advantages were very limited, but by hard study and constant application to his books, he managed to acquire a knowledge of law sufficient to enable him to gain admittance to the bar. He came to Greensboro in 1827, and opened an office. He rose rapidly in his profession, and in 1831 was elected Senator from Greene County, and was chosen as president of the Senate. In 1836-37 he was a member of the House of Representatives, and again in 1842, the latter year being elected Speaker of the House. He was twice a candidate for Congress, but was defeated, first in 1851 by Mr. Payne, and again in 1851 by Wm. R. Smith. At the time of his death, December 10, 1860, he was very wealthy, and ranked with the most eminent lawyers in the State. His only son, Hon.

George Erwin, who represented Hale County in the Legislature in 1884-85, now resides in Greensboro.

WILLIAM M. MURPHY was born in North Carolina in 1806, and came to this section when but fifteen years of age. He read law at Tuscaloosa, and opened an office at Erin in 1828, then the county seat of Greene. He afterward resided in Greensboro, and represented Greene County in the Legislature in 1849, and in the State Senate in 1849-51. He was a successful practitioner, a brilliant speaker and an able representative. He died in Selma, Ala., in 1855.

JOHN GAYLE was at one time a resident of Greensboro. He was born in South Carolina in 1792, but came to Alabama when quite a young man. He represented Monroe County in the Legislature in 1822-23. In the latter year he was elected by the General Assembly to the Supreme bench, in place of Judge Webb, deceased, which position he held for five years, and then resigned. In 1829-30 he represented Greene County in the Legislature, and in 1831 he was elected Governor, and served two terms. At the expiration of his second term as Governor he settled in Mobile, and practiced law until elected as Congressman in 1847. In 1849 he was appointed Federal District Judge, *vice* Judge Crawford, which office he held until his death, in 1858. His daughter, Mrs. James W. Locke, now resides in Greensboro.

ISRAEL PICKENS was born in North Carolina in 1780, and came to Alabama in 1817, and settled at St. Stephen's. He soon afterward moved to Greene County, and located near Greensboro. In 1821 he was elected Governor, and again in 1823. In 1826 he was appointed by Governor Murphy to fill the vacancy in the Federal Senate occasioned by the death of Dr. Chambers, a position he held for only a short while, on account of his health. Hoping to be benefited, he went to Cuba in 1827, but died there a few months after his arrival. His remains were brought to Alabama, and interred near his home, three miles south of Greensboro.

JAMES D. WEBB was a North Carolinian by birth. He was born in Lincoln County in 1818, but came to Alabama soon afterward with his parents. He opened a law office in Greensboro in 1838, and made a most enviable reputation as a practitioner. He represented Greene County in the lower house of the Legislature in 1843 and 1851. He was a gallant Confederate soldier, and

was mortally wounded at Chattanooga, Tenn., on the 2d of July, 1863, and died on the 9th of the same month. His widow, Mrs. J. S. Webb, is now living at Forkland, Ala.

R. B. WALLER. One among the most polished gentlemen and eminent lawyers that ever graced the Greensboro bar, was Robert B. Waller, a Virginian by birth. He moved to this place in 1832, and practiced his profession with marked success for many years. He represented Greene County in the Legislature in 1866-67, and was the author of the bill creating Hale County. Mr. Waller spent about twenty-five years in collecting a cabinet of minerals, which is one of the finest to be found in the United States. This cabinet is now in possession of his children in Greensboro. He died in 1877, leaving a bright and honored name as a heritage to his children.

AUGUSTUS BENNERS was a modest, retiring man, but an able lawyer. He was born in New Berne, N. C., in 1818, and came to Greensboro when but twenty-two years of age. He represented the county in the Legislature in 1853, and was twice afterward honored with the same position. He enjoyed the utmost confidence and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. He died in Greensboro in 1885, leaving a name without spot or blemish.

HENRY WATSON is a native of Connecticut. He came to Alabama in 1833, and settled at Erie, then the county site of Greene, where he taught school for some months, after which he located in Greensboro and associated himself in the practice of law with Col. John Erwin, a copartnership which existed for a number of years. He was a hard student, an untiring worker, and gave the business of his office the strictest attention. He accumulated a considerable fortune during his practice of about twenty years in Greensboro. As a speaker he was not considered brilliant, but as an *office* lawyer he did not have a peer in the State.

The war between the States breaking out in 1861, and Mr. Watson, being a Northern man (though his sympathies were deeply allied with the Southern cause), found it unpleasant to reside in Greensboro, and moved, in consequence, to Massachusetts; but the people there manifested toward him a spirit of intolerance because of his sympathy with the South, so he took his family to the old world, spending about four years in Germany and France. After the conflict at arms had

ceased, he returned to the United States with his family, and settled at Northampton, Mass., where he has since resided.

**THE PRESENT BAR.**—The Bar of Greensboro to-day is composed of the following able gentlemen: Augustus A. Coleman, Thomas R. Roulhae, Charles E. Waller, Pascal A. Tutwiler, Alfred H. Benners, Phares Coleman, and Alfred M. Tunstall. The present Governor of Alabama, Thomas Seay, was for many years an eminent practitioner at the Hale County Bar. Phares Coleman, Esq., is now private secretary to the Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama, but keeps up his practice in the Hale County courts.

#### CHURCHES

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL, SOUTH.**—The earliest records of this church were lost, as may be seen from the following copied from the proceedings of the Quarterly Conference held April 25, 1835: "A. B. Sawyer, Jno. DuBois and S. G. Field were appointed a committee to search for and arrange the records of the church, and have them recorded." If these gentlemen found the records, they are nowhere recorded in the books now in the possession of the church.

It is known however, that as early as the year 1822, there was a Methodist church in Greensboro. The edifice stood where the colored Methodists now have their brick church. Rev. Mr. Hawkins was one among the first Methodist ministers to preach in the town.

Some time between the years 1822 and 1833, Greensboro was made a station. The records before us, beginning with 1833, show that the Rev. Mr. Hearn was presiding elder of the district, and Rev. Robert L. Kenon, pastor. The stewards were: Robert Dickens and Franklin Shaw.

Again there is another lapse in the minutes until 1835, at which time Rev. E. V. LeVert was presiding elder, and Rev. S. B. Sawyer, pastor.

Nothing of interest is recorded until the meeting of the Quarterly Conference, March 11, 1837. At this Conference a committee was appointed, consisting of Robert Dickens, Thomas M. Johnson and Andrew Walker, to take under consideration the necessity and expediency of building a parsonage for the station. This committee reported at the next meeting of the Conference, held June 10, 1837, recommending that a parson-

age be purchased as soon as possible, and asked the Conference to allow them to open a subscription for the purpose of buying said parsonage, the subscriptions to be paid in on January 1, 1838. The report was received, and the committee were urged to press the matter. Pending the purchase of a building, Dr. Wm. Jones offered the church the use of the house just east of the pasture lot, for a parsonage, which was accepted and used as such until the church, a number of years afterward, bought the Randolph lot south of Andrew Johnson's residence.

At this same meeting, June 10, 1837, Thos. M. Johnson and Joel Reynolds were appointed stewards in place of Stephen G. Field, removed, and Greene B. Williams, deceased.

Another matter of interest in connection with this meeting is that the stewards were appointed a building committee to "build a new Methodist church in the town of Greensboro, Ala., and it is recommended that the house be built at once."

It was not until March 16, 1839, that a committee to *superintend* the building of the new church was appointed. It consisted of Dr. Wm. Jones, Dr. Thos. Cottrell, Thos. M. Johnson, John M. Bates and Andrew Walker. The contractor was Robert Dickens. From the minutes of the Conference held April 4, 1840, the following is taken: "The new Methodist Episcopal church [*i. e.*, the one now in use.—*Ed.*] in this place, being so far finished as to admit the congregation, was, on yesterday, dedicated to God by E. V. LeVert. His text: 1 Tim., i., 15: 'This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.'"

At the time of its dedication the church had a membership of one hundred and sixteen whites; the Sunday-school consisted of two superintendents, nine teachers and sixty scholars.

The church seems not to have been in a prosperous condition in 1846, as will be seen from the following, copied from the records of the Quarterly Conference held Feb. 2, 1846: "In view of the indebtedness and expenses of this station, be it *Resolved*, That it be returned to the Circuit; *Provided*, That first the matter be brought before whole Society on next Sabbath, and that if they will come forward and pay all arrearages and promise to sustain the Station, it shall remain as such." The congregation complied with the above provision, and the church was not put back on the circuit.

In March, 1869, the lot on which the present parsonage is situated was purchased with the money derived from the sale of the Randolph property, a short time previous. The parsonage was not built until 1875.

One of the most successful revival meetings in the history of the church was held in the spring of 1886, at which time about seventy persons joined the Methodist Church, and many united themselves with the other denominations of the town.

The Methodist Church owns property to the amount of \$100,000 in Greensboro. The present membership of the church is three hundred. The Sunday-school has an enrollment of three hundred and seven officers, teachers and pupils.

The following is almost a complete list of the presiding elders and pastors who have served this station:

*Presiding Elders*—Rev. Mr. Hearn, 1833; E. V. LeVert, 1835-36; Francis H. Jones, 1838; E. V. LeVert, 1839-41; Charles McLeod, 1842-45; Edmund Pearson, 1846-48; P. P. Neely, 1849; Greenberry Garrett, 1850-51; T. J. Kager, 1852-55; I. W. Starr, 1856; J. J. Hutchinson, 1857-58; Edward Wadsworth, 1860; I. W. Starr, 1861; C. C. Callaway, 1862-65; Abram Adams, 1866; J. L. Cotton, 1867-68; A. H. Mitchell, 1871-79; S. H. Cox, 1880; H. Uppihart, 1881-84; J. Bancroft, 1884-86; T. E. Mangum, 1886 to present time.

*Ministers*—Robert L. Kenon, 1833; S. B. Sawyer, 1835; E. H. Jones, 1836; Claibourne Pirtle, 1837; E. V. LeVert and C. Shannon, A. P., 1838; James A. Boatright, 1839-40; W. W. Bell, 1841; Charles W. Dorman, 1843; Thomas Capers, 1845; C. C. Gillespie, 1846; T. P. Shelman, 1848; C. D. Oliver, 1849-50; A. H. Powell, 1851-52; J. J. Hutchinson, 1853; C. C. Callaway, 1854-55; Edward Wadsworth, 1856-57; William Shepard, 1858-59; T. T. Ramsey, 1860-61; I. A. Heard, 1862; R. K. Hargrove, 1863; T. T. Ramsey, 1864-65; T. O. Summers, 1866; J. C. Wells, 1866; T. C. Weir, 1867-68; John S. Moore, 1868 to 1871; A. S. Andrews, 1872 to 1875; O. R. Blue, 1875; H. Uppihart, 1876; J. Lewis, Jr., 1877 to 1880; F. M. Paterson, 1881 to 1884; A. S. Andrews, 1885; W. P. Dickinson, 1886 to present.

*Presbylerians*.—So far as can now be ascertained, the first sermon ever preached in Greensboro by a Presbyterial minister was by a Mr. Hunter, some time prior to the year 1822.

In that year, when this country was an almost

unbroken forest, Rev. James Hillhouse, of South Carolina, came to this place and delivered his first sermon in a small house used as a tavern. The next year (1823) he organized a church of twenty members. On the first roll are the names Norris, Knox, Hall, Hunter, Hillhouse, Darragh, Bell and Barron. Except during the period from 1830-32 Mr. Hillhouse served the church from its organization till his death in 1855. Such was the growth of the church under his ministry that the congregation was able to offer a salary in 1836 of \$2,000.

In 1837 Rev. T. S. Witherspoon, related to the signer of the "Declaration of Independence," became the pastor of the church, and continued to hold that position until 1863. Under his ministry the church was greatly blessed, one hundred and nine having been added to its membership.

The following ministers subsequently served the church either as stated supplies or as regular pastors, viz.:

Rev. D. L. Hatch, spring of 1843; Rev. R. C. Yale, 1843 and 1844; Rev. R. H. Chapman, 1845 to 1850; Rev. J. C. Mitchell, 1850 to 1859; Rev. F. H. Bowman, 1859 and 1860; the church was vacant, 1861 to 1862; Rev. J. M. P. Otis, D.D., 1862 to 1867; Rev. D. D. Sanderson, 1868 to 1871; vacant, 1871 and 1872; Rev. W. J. Frierson, 1872 and 1873; Rev. T. W. White, 1874 to 1879; Rev. J. J. Anderson, 1880 and 1881; Rev. W. C. Clark, May, 1881, to present (1888).

During the present pastorate there have been nearly a hundred additions, a parsonage has been built and the church has made gradual progress. It reported to the last spring meeting of Presbytery one hundred and five members. This church has numbered among its members some of Greensboro's most honored and prominent men. Looking over the roll we find such names as Witherspoon, Kerr, Locke, Lowry, May, Strudwick and Webb. The number of persons brought into this church, since its organization, has been about six hundred. This church has furnished seven or eight ministers, and several ministers' wives. There have been associated with this church, as pastors, five ministers: Witherspoon, Chapman, Mitchell, Otis and Clark; and as stated supplies, nine: Hillhouse, Murphy, Hatch, Yale, Bowman, Sanderson, Frierson, White and Anderson. There have been nineteen elders and fourteen deacons. There are now three elders and seven deacons. Three houses of worship have been erected—in 1823, 1841 and 1859, respectively.

**EPISCOPAL.**—The first service by a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, so far as can now be ascertained, was held in Greensboro, March 14, 1830. At that time a congregation was duly organized, and the original compact is preserved, signed by the following persons: R. E. Meade, R. W. Withers, Wm. T. Bolling, T. B. Randolph, J. B. Stickney, Jno. F. Abbott, Ryland Randolph, T. S. Washington, John Morrast, John Malone and D. M. Witherspoon. These parties elected the following vestrymen: Dr. Richard E. Meade, Dr. R. Inge, Dr. R. C. Randolph, Frank Inge, Esq., Dr. R. W. Withers, Wm. Murphy, Esq., J. B. Stickney, Esq., Col. Saul Pickens and J. Bell, Esq. At a meeting of this vestry, August 22, 1831, it was resolved to open a contract for the erection of a church building, but this plan was not carried out, and the attempt to organize a parish at this time seems to have failed.

At a meeting of citizens, held December 24, 1833, certain parties were appointed vestrymen, and St. Paul's, Greensboro, was selected as the name of the parish. About 1840 this parish was duly incorporated.

From the minutes of the vestry, it appears that in 1834 the Rev. C. S. Ives was connected with the parish, but how long this connection existed is not now known. The Rev. J. B. Goodman took charge of the parish in 1837, and was succeeded in 1842 by Rev. Julian E. Sawyer. The next rector was Rev. S. Patterson, and he was succeeded by Rev. J. S. Marbury, who took charge in 1845, and continued his work till 1850. He resigned the parish on account of ill-health, and died in Greensboro, and was buried in the churchyard September 1, 1851. The next rector was Rev. J. M. Bannister, D.D., who remained in the parish from 1851 to 1860. The present rector, Rev. R. H. Cobbs, D.D., took charge September 1, 1861.

The church building was erected in 1840; a rector's chancel was added in 1855; and the building was enlarged and much improved in 1873.

The first recorded baptism in this parish bears date of January 14, 1838.

Confirmation was administered for the first time on Good Friday, April 13, 1838, by Rt. Rev. Dr. Kemper, Missionary Bishop of Missouri.

In 1840 Bishop Polk visited this parish, and in May, 1844, Rev. Dr. Cobbs was elected the first Bishop of Alabama, by a convention sitting in this church.

**BAPTIST.**—The Baptist denomination was probably the earliest, and certainly at one time the most important, of the Christian denominations of Greensboro and vicinity. In 1830 their church was a large frame building, without laths or plaster, with wooden shutters, without glass, and with benches, and stood in the neighborhood of what is known as the Williamson place, at the forks of the Marion and Newbern roads. The corner was not then a right angle as now, and the church stood on the south side of the main road, and east of the present Newbern road. Near the head of the swampy hollow in the rear of the Williamson place was the "pool" for baptism—a square reservoir with steps descending into it—without a roof. In this neighborhood, east of the pool, in after days, was established a Baptist school or college, with a corps of professors and a large number of pupils, and was known as the Manual Labor School. The pupils were required to do a certain amount of labor in the field or elsewhere, for which they were allowed a small sum per hour. It proved a failure, and the buildings were afterward sold at auction. These buildings were a row of one-story frame houses of two rooms each, with shutters at the windows. They were six or more in number. In 1842, Peter McIntyre, for the consideration of \$2,700, sold to the Baptists the lot on which the court-house now stands, and by deed of October 25, 1842, conveyed the same to Daniel P. Bestor, Wiley L. Croom, John May, Jesse Shivers and Harris Tinker, as trustees in trust, that they permit the same to be used for a place of worship by the Baptist denomination of Christians in said town and vicinity, with provision that they might, when duly required by said Baptist denomination, convey the same to such person or persons for such uses, and upon such trusts, as the said Baptist denomination should order and direct.

The Baptists proceeded at once to build, and what is now the central part of the court-house building was erected. John Crosland was the contractor and builder.

This church, for many years, exercised great social and political influence in this section. By reason of violent quarrels between the members, and the death and removal of many of its most influential men, the church went out of existence. Dr. Thos. R. Ward is now the only Baptist left in Greensboro, of what was once the most popular and prosperous denomination in the vicinity.

## SCHOOLS.

THE SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY is located at Greensboro. It was established by the Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and designed to be an institution of high grade and general character for the promotion of literature, science, morality and religion within the limits of said Conference.

The University was incorporated January, 1856. Rev. Robert Paine, Rev. James O. Andrew, Rev. Edward Wadsworth, Rev. Jefferson Hamilton, Rev. Thomas O. Summers, Rev. Archelus H. Mitchell, Rev. Thomas J. Koger, Rev. Christopher C. Callaway, Rev. Joseph J. Hutchinson, Rev. Joshua T. Heard, Rev. Philip P. Neely, Rev. Lucius Q. C. DeYampert, Rev. Henry W. Hilliard, Rev. Thomas Y. Ramsey, John Erwin, Gideon E. Nelson, Robert A. Baker, John W. Walton, Thomas M. Johnston, Gaston Drake, Thomas W. Webb, Augustus A. Coleman and Duke W. Goodman are named in the Act of Incorporation as "Trustees."

The first regular meeting of the Trustees was held in Greensboro, on the 17th of March, 1856. Rev. Bishop Paine was elected president and Hon. John Erwin vice-president of the Board. Steps were taken promptly to carry out the provisions of the charter. On the 11th of June, 1857, the corner-stone was laid; on the 3d of October, 1859, the halls of the University were opened for the admission of students. From that time until the present, except during the session of 1864-65, its halls have remained open and the institution has been meeting the ends of its establishment.

The following composed the first faculty: Rev. W. M. Wightman, D.D., LL.D., Chancellor and Professor of Biblical Literature; Rev. Edward Wadsworth, A.M., D.D., Professor of Moral Physiology; Oscar F. Casey, A.M., Professor of Ancient Languages; Rev. J. C. Wills, A.M., Professor of Mathematics; N. T. Lupton, A.M., Professor of Chemistry; Rev. J. A. Reubelt, A.M., Professor of Modern Languages and Hebrew; J. A. Gatch, A.M., Adjunct Professor of Mathematics.

The Rev. C. C. Callaway had been appointed Financial and Endowment Agent.

During his agency the excellent building, which now stands, was erected, and the University commenced operations with a productive endowment of more than \$238,000. It suffered, however, in common with the whole South, from the civil

war. The endowment was lost, patronage was limited, and the institution soon became financially embarrassed. Succeeding Rev. C. C. Callaway, Rev. R. K. Hargrove, Rev. J. T. Heard, Rev. Jefferson Hamilton were endowment agents. The hand of a kind Providence was guiding the University through those dark and stormy periods. Its history is a record of heroic struggles, of discouraging failures, of renewed efforts, of final triumph.

In 1866, Dr. Wightman was called to the office and work of bishop. He retained his connection with the University until July, 1867. From that time until 1871 there was no president, one of the faculty acting as chairman. In July, 1871, the following faculty was elected: Rev. A. S. Andrews, A.M., D.D., Chancellor and Professor of Moral Philosophy; O. F. Casey, A.M., Professor of Ancient Languages; Rev. John S. Moore, A.M., Professor of Mathematics; Rev. T. O. Summers, A.M., M.D., Professor of Chemistry. Subsequently, Rev. D. M. Rush, A.M., and Rev. R. T. Nabors, A.M., were added to the faculty.

The administration of Dr. Andrews was successful, the enrollment during 1872-73 being larger than during any previous session.

He organized the College of Medicine, which continued in operation during three sessions, and graduated five students Doctors of Medicine. His connection with the institution ended in 1874. In July, 1875, Rev. L. M. Smith was elected Chancellor. He associated with himself; Rev. I. E. Hopkins, A.M., M.D., Professor of Chemistry; Rev. J. Lewis, A.M., D.D., Professor of English Literature and History; O. F. Casey, A.M., Professor of Ancient Languages; Rev. J. S. Moore, A.M., Professor of Mathematics; C. A. Grote, A.M., Professor of Modern Languages; Charles Lane, A.B., Principal of Preparatory Department.

Professors Casey and Lane remained only during the session of 1875-76, and were succeeded, respectively, by C. M. Verdel and A. W. Smith.

Rev. W. I. Powers was endowment agent. He labored zealously and faithfully, and with some measure of success, but did not procure any permanent endowment.

The labors of Dr. Smith ended with his death in July, 1879. At the ensuing commencement, Rev. J. Lewis was elected Chancellor. His co-laborers were Rev. J. S. Moore, A.M., D.D., Professor of Mathematics; C. M. Verdel, A.M., Professor of

Natural Science; C. A. Grote, A.M., Professor of Modern Languages; Rev. F. M. Peterson, A.M., B.D., Professor of Ancient Languages; W. P. Stott, B.P., Principal of the Preparatory School.

Dr. Lewis resigned his position and retired from the school in December, 1881. No president was elected at the ensuing commencement. The fortunes of the school seemed to be waning and the outlook discouraging, but at this juncture measures were taken looking to its rehabilitation.

The charter was so amended as to constitute the institution the joint property of the Alabama and North Alabama Conferences. In July, 1883, Rev. A. S. Andrews was again elected president, the whole Church became interested, and the University entered upon a career of prosperity unequalled in its history, and, it may be added, unexampled patronage has increased each year, there being at present 210 matriculates. The present Faculty are Rev. A. S. Andrews, A. M., D. D., President and Professor of Moral Philosophy C. A. Grote, A. M., Professor of Natural Science and Modern Languages; Rev. F. M. Peterson, A. M., B. D., Professor of Ancient Languages; Rev. J. A. Moore, A. M., Professor of Mathematics; Rev. J. F. Sturdivant, A. M., Professor of English Literature and History; Rev. W. H. Giesler, A. B., Principal of Preparatory Department; L. P. Giddens, Tutor in Mathematics; E. L. Brown, Tutor in Ancient Languages.

The endowment agent is Rev. J. O. Andrew, who has just entered upon his work, succeeding Rev. W. C. McCoy, D.D.

Dr. McCoy was elected agent in 1884. He was successful not only in securing a considerable amount of productive endowment, which has been safely invested, but also in materially improving and enhancing the value of the University buildings. The present agent has a work full of encouragement. The friends of the University take just pride in the high character made and sustained by the institution. Graduates, numbering 117, have taken position in school and in Church, in the Senate chamber, and at the head of government. The present Governor of Alabama, Hon. Thomas Seay, is an alumnus of the Southern University. The University to-day ranks with the first colleges in the Southern Church, and with the first colleges in the State. It was never before on so permanent a basis, its sphere of usefulness never so large, and the outlook for the future was never more hopeful.

REV. LUTHER M. SMITH, D. D., Chancellor of Southern University 1875 to 1879, was born in Oglethorpe County, Ga., September 10, 1826, and died in Birmingham, Ala., July 4, 1879.

In 1844 he entered Emory College, Oxford, Ga., and was graduated therefrom with the highest distinction in 1848. In the year 1849 he was married to Miss Mary Eliza Greenwood, step-daughter of Bishop James O. Andrew. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and began the practice with flattering prospects. However, by the influence of Dr. Pierce, afterward bishop, he was induced to connect himself with the faculty of Emory College, where he remained for twenty years, filling various positions, successively, with great efficiency and honor. In 1851 he was licensed to preach. In 1859 he lost his estimable wife—a sudden and terrible blow from which he never entirely recovered. In 1861, on account of the war, it became necessary to discontinue the exercises of the College. In 1865, Professor Smith led to the altar Miss Callie B. Lane, daughter of Professor George Lane. At the close of the war, chiefly through the entreaties of Professor Smith, Emory College was reopened, and, upon the resignation of Dr. Thomas in 1867, he was elected its president, which position he held until 1871.

During his administration the College became very popular and its patronage steadily increased. In October, 1875, he became Chancellor of the Southern University.

The institution was deeply in debt—a fact not known to Dr. Smith, when he accepted the position—the patronage small, the trustees disheartened. Under his administration the debt was almost cancelled, the curriculum enlarged, and public confidence in the perpetuity of the institution re-established.

He was a man of superior intellect, of fervid imagination, of inflexible will. His learning and culture were extensive and free from pedantry. He was cast in the heroic mould and seemed unsusceptible of fear.

As a minister he was able, eloquent and fearless; as a teacher he was competent and efficient.

REV. JOSTAR LEWIS, JR., D. D., Chancellor of the Southern University from 1879 to 1881, was a native of Georgia. He was graduated at Emory College in 1859, bearing off the first honors of a class composed of some of the best minds that have ever been trained in that Institution. After leaving school, he began studying law, but the opening of

the war in 1861 called him to the service of his country, and he volunteered in the first company that went from his town to Virginia, and served as a private soldier to the end of the struggle. His fellow-soldiers of the Sixth Georgia Regiment loved and honored him as a Christian gentleman.

Peace returning, he accepted and obeyed a long-felt call to the gospel ministry, and was admitted on trial by the Georgia Conference in 1866. From that time he was annually appointed professor in Emory College until the session of 1871, when he was stationed at Athens, and served the first church in 1872, 1873 and 1874. In 1875 he was stationed at Eatonton. Finishing his year's work in that town, he located and removed to Alabama, where he became a member of the Alabama Conference and a professor in the Southern University at Greensboro, and afterward president of that Institution. In 1882 he was transferred to the North Georgia Conference, and served the latter half of the year on the Rome station. He was stationed in LaGrange in 1883 and 1884. He died at the home of his mother, in Sparta, Ga., February 13, 1885.

During Dr. Lewis' residence in Greensboro he served the Methodist Church as pastor for four years. His sermons were always of the highest order, and his pulpit became a power for good in the community. He was greatly beloved by all with whom he came in contact, because of his many virtues. The writer of these lines was a pupil of his at the Southern University, and feels honored that he has this opportunity of saying that Dr. Lewis was one of the most intellectual, as well as one of the sweetest, gentlest, most saintly men he ever knew. The influence of his consecrated, Christian life is still felt in Greensboro, and his memory is revered.

**FEMALE ACADEMY.**—For some years the Greensboro Female Academy was abandoned, but in October, 1881, its doors were again opened to the public, and since that time it has received a liberal patronage, not only from the citizens of the town, but from abroad.

Its president, Rev. W. C. Clark, pastor of the Greensboro Presbyterian Church, is a gentleman in every way qualified to fill the responsible position he occupies, and has given universal satisfaction in the management of the school.

He has associated with him as teachers Mrs. Mary H. Happel, Misses Margaret and Kate S. Boardman, Mrs. Pierce and Miss Bertha Campbell,

Additions will be made to the present Academy buildings in the near future, and it is only a question of a short time when Greensboro can point with as much pride to her female schools as she does to the Southern University, located in her midst.

#### RAILROADS

It was not until the fall of 1870 that the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile Railroad (then known as the Selma, Marion & Memphis) was completed to Greensboro, giving the town railroad connection with the outside world. For twelve years this station was the terminus of the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile Railroad, but in 1882 it was completed to Akron Junction, on the Alabama Great Southern, putting Greensboro in direct communication with the west and northwest. This has proved of vast benefit to the town and surrounding country.

The Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile intersects the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, and the Mobile & Birmingham Railroads at Marion Junction. It is at present under the management of the Western Railway of Alabama, and trains are run every day from Greensboro to Montgomery, Ala.—thence to Atlanta, Ga., without change of cars.

The Chicago and Gulf Railroad—a line to run from Chicago to the Gulf of Mexico—has been surveyed, and passes through Greensboro near the Southern University. This road will open up a vast territory of fine timbered and agricultural lands hitherto of but little value, and will prove of incalculable benefit to the town and county. The prospects for building the road are at present very bright.

#### NEWSPAPERS

Early in 1825 Thomas Eastin began the publication of a small, four-page paper in Greensboro, entitled *The Green County Patriot*, which he printed continuously for a number of years.

In October, 1834, Daniel F. Brown started the publication of *The Green County Sentinel*. Brown soon sold it to Thomas DeWolf, who had possession of it for some time, and then sold out to one McCormie, who, in a year or two disposed of the paper to John B. Rittenhouse. Rittenhouse soon sold the property to Charles Briggs. Some one of the *Sentinel's* owners changed its name to *The Alabama Beacon*, under which title Col. John G. Harvey purchased it in 1863, and has since that time published it in Greensboro under the same



name. *The Beacon* has always been Democratic in politics, and has rendered efficient aid to this party in both State and county affairs. Colonel Harvey, the editor, is a gentleman of ability, and has made for himself a name and reputation as a journalist of which his posterity may well be proud.

It will be seen that the *Beacon*, including its existence under the name of *The Greene County Sentinel* has been published continually for fifty-four years, making it one of the oldest papers in the State. It has been in Colonel Harvey's charge for forty-five years past.

In November, 1876, William C. Garrett began the publication of *The Southern Watchman* in Greensboro, which he edited for several years, and then sold the property to Alex. H. Williams, under whose management it remained until his death in November, 1885. The paper was then purchased by Wm. E. W. Yerby, the present editor and proprietor. Mr. Yerby changed the name of the paper from *The Southern Watchman* to *The Greensboro Watchman*, under which title it is now published. The *Watchman*, labors earnestly for the upbuilding of this section and for the success of the Democratic party.

At no time during the past sixty-three years has Greensboro been without a newspaper.

#### GREENSBORO OF TO-DAY.

As may be seen, Greensboro, including its existence under the name of Troy, is now seventy-one years old.

It consists of eighteen general merchandise stores, five confectioneries, one hotel, two saddlery and harness manufactories, one millinery establishment, one tinshop, one livery stable, numerous wood and smith shops, one dentist's office, one photograph gallery, one Masonic and Odd Fellow hall, one bank, one watchmaker's and jeweler's shop, seven law offices, one restaurant, one female academy, one public and one private school, the Methodist college—Southern University, three doctors' offices, the court-house and jail; one Methodist, one Presbyterian and one Episcopal church; also two colored Methodist, one Baptist and one Presbyterian church; and two printing-offices, publishing the *Alabama Beacon* and the *Greensboro Watchman*. The town is laid off in beautiful squares. The main street, on which all of the business houses, the court-house

and many fine residences are situated, runs east and west about one mile and a half, and is lined on both sides with young water-oaks, which add much to the appearance of the street.

The corporate limits of Greensboro embrace the west half of northwest quarter of southwest quarter, and west half of southeast quarter of section sixteen, township twenty, range five east; also east half and southwest quarter of section seventeen, township twenty, range five east; and north half of northwest quarter, northwest quarter of northeast quarter of section twenty, township twenty, range five east. Its present population is about two thousand.

The surrounding country is composed of very fine agricultural lands. Indeed, Bishop Keener, who has traveled over the greater portion of the globe, asserted a few years ago that in all of his journeyings he had never seen a section better adapted to farming than this portion of Alabama.

A few miles south and west of the town begin the famous black or prairie lands, which will produce crops of corn, cotton, oats, grasses, etc., equal to those of any State in the Union, when properly cultivated. Before the war these lands, sold readily at thirty to forty dollars per acre, but can now be bought for a much less sum.

North and east of the town the soil is what is termed "sandy" and "hill-lands." Good crops are uniformly grown on these farms—in some instances, as fine as those produced in the cat-brake region.

The health of Greensboro and surrounding country will compare favorably with that of any portion of Alabama, while the social, religious and educational advantages of the place are unsurpassed. It is truly a patriotic town. Its homes are stamped with old-time comfort and hospitality. It is, too, a picturesque place, with wide, undulating streets, canopied with rich foliage, and spacious yards filled with beautiful trees and flowers. It is a place to which its citizens return, after trying the experiment of residing elsewhere, contented to remain.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The author is greatly indebted to Mr. Henry Watson, Dr. John H. Parish, Mr. Samuel G. Briggs, Rev. W. C. Clark, Prof. F. M. Peterson, Mr. S. W. Chadwick and Rev. Dr. R. H. Cobbs, for much of the data contained in the foregoing history of Greensboro.

**AUGUSTUS A. COLEMAN**, prominent Attorney and Counselor-at-law, was born in South Carolina. His father, James B. Coleman, also a native of South Carolina, was a physician by profession, although, in Dallas County, this State, where he lived many years, he was known best as an extensive cotton planter. While on a visit to Louisville, Ky., he died suddenly in that city.

A. A. Coleman, an only son, was schooled, primarily, at Summerfield, this State, and graduated subsequently from Yale College. He read law at Cahaba with Charles G. Edwards, and was admitted to the bar in Dallas County, where he began the practice of his chosen profession. From Dallas he removed to Sumter County, and was practicing law at Livingston when the then Governor, A. B. Moore, appointed him Judge of the Seventh Judicial District. Coleman was then but twenty-seven years of age. He was subsequently twice elected to the Circuit Judgeship, and held that office, in all, nine years. He came to Greensboro in 1867 and is here, at this writing, the recognized "Nestor of the Bar."

Judge Coleman was a conspicuous member of the Secession Convention of 1861. It was he that drew and presented to that memorable assembly, the resolution of withdrawal from the Federal Union by separate State action, asserting the doctrine of State sovereignty and the right and duty of each State to judge for itself whether or not the Federal compact had been broken. [The question whether each State should act alone in withdrawing from the Federal Union, or whether or not there should be a co-operation of several or all the Southern States, was of deepest moment to the people.] This fact, not having hitherto been given publication, coupled with the further fact that the Honorable W. L. Yancey was chairman of the Ordinance Committee, it may occur to the casual reader that the preceding statement lacks authority; but when it is remembered that Judge Coleman was then, as he is now, recognized as one of the most accomplished scholars in the State; was noted for his impartial fairmindedness upon all questions coming before him, and that he was, in consequence thereof, the accepted representative of all parties from his district to the Secession Convention, and that he was a member of Yancey's committee, the probabilities are not wanting, even if it were not an ascertainable truth entitled to a place in history.

The Judge represented Hale County in the Leg-

islature, session of 1884, and as chairman of the Committee on Convict System, drew, presented and had passed the present highly popular convict law of the State.

When war between the States was no longer a matter of high-sounding rhetoric and fascinating theory, but had resolved itself into a real tragedy, where the lurid lights from actual fields of carnage illumined the half of a continent like Greek fire the play-house stage, Judge Coleman was presiding over his Circuit Court. Feeling that he could better serve his country as a soldier than as an officer of peace, he tendered his resignation as Judge and proceeded to organize a regiment for the army. His regiment was known as the Fortieth Alabama, and he commanded it twelve months. In the meantime, Governor Shorter having declined his resignation from the Judiciary, the people of his circuit were without recourse or remedy at law. He therefore resumed his seat on the bench and continued to hold court until the close of the war. It may be remarked, however, that the fact of his having left the bench to fight the enemy went no further toward recommending him to the "military successors" for a continuation in office than did the further fact of his refusal to draw, and allowing to remain in the treasury for the benefit of her soldiery, several years of his salary *in viâ prius* control; for no sooner had the victorious army taken charge of affairs than Coleman was notified that his "time was out."

The matter of payment of his salary justly due him for years of judicial service, amounting to thousands of dollars, after the close of the war, became a question before the State Supreme Court, and that august body held that "on account of his disloyalty, A. A. Coleman was disqualified for office," and gravely decided that "*he had served the rebel State of Alabama, and must look to the said rebel State for his pay!*"

The Judge was probably the first man ejected from office in this State by military authority; and it should be written that the great State of Alabama has never re-imbursed him in the amount of his salary appropriated to her use in the waging of war.

Of the original founders of the Southern University, Judge Coleman and Dr. A. H. Mitchell are, at this writing (March, 1888), the only survivors within the State. Always inter-



*Yours truly*

*W. A. Coleman*



ested in the advancement of education, the University has, from its inception, never ceased to be an object of the Judge's affection; and it is to him as much as to any other one man, that this great institution of learning is indebted for its success.

Judge Coleman was married in Sumter County, this State, to the accomplished daughter of John C. Phares, a successful planter and merchant; and of the three sons born to them, one is a merchant, another a physician, and the third a lawyer.

The subject of this sketch is a Freemason, an Odd Fellow, and a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a profound scholar, a polished gentleman, a superior lawyer, a graceful orator, an entertaining conversationalist, and, above all, a man in whom there is no guile, and a citizen of Greensboro against whose character and good name there never has been a mark. Such is Augustus A. Coleman, and such does the biographer delight to portray him in this volume.



**JAMES M. HOBSON**, Probate Judge of Hale County, was born in Rockingham County, N. C., April 29, 1849. His parents, Samuel A. and Ann (Morehead) Hobson, natives of the "North State," were married in Rockingham County, and from there removed to Davy County in 1849, where the senior Mr. Hobson died in 1863, at the age of sixty years, and where Mrs. Hobson yet resides. Mrs. Hobson is a sister of Gov. Jno. M. Morehead, of North Carolina, and a cousin of the two gentlemen bearing that name who have filled the gubernatorial chair in Kentucky. Mr. Hobson was a farmer in his lifetime and reared his sons to that honorable vocation.

James M. Hobson was educated at the University of North Carolina; read law under Chief-Justice Pearson, of the Supreme Court of that State, and was admitted to the bar in 1867. Immediately after his admission to the bar, he came to Alabama, and at Greensboro, hung out his shingle. In 1871, Governor Lindsay appointed him to the Probate Judgeship for the unexpired term of a late incumbent of that office; but at the ensuing election, he was forced to give way for a Republican. However, the successful candidate died before the end of the term, and Governor Houston

named Hobson for the office. In 1880, he succeeded himself by election, as he did again in 1886; thus, when his present term ends (in 1892), he will have held the office altogether about eighteen years. In 1876, he represented the county in the Legislature.

Judge Hobson entered the army from Guilford County, N. C., in 1861, as a private of Company E, Second North Carolina State Troops, and served to the close of the war. This command formed a part of the Army of Virginia (Jackson's Corps), and participated in all the historic battles fought by that indomitable hero. Hobson was thrice wounded; at Malvern Hill, Chancellorville and Spotsylvania, and at the last-named place fell into the hands of the enemy and was held to the close of hostilities—about fourteen months. He was a first lieutenant at the time of his capture, and was in immediate line of promotion.

In 1867, at Richmond Hill, Yadkin County, N. C., he married the daughter of Chief-Justice Pearson, and now has four sons and three daughters. Samuel A., the eldest son, is a law student, and Richmond P. is at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

Judge Hobson is identified with the Episcopal Church, an affiliated Mason, Knight of the Golden Rule, Prelate in K. of P., member of the A. O. U. W., and an active worker in the Democratic party.



**THOMAS R. ROULHAC**, Attorney-at-law, Greensboro, was born at Raleigh, N. C., on the 8th day of November, 1846. The Roulhacs are of French origin and first came to America in the person of Capt. Joseph Grégoire Roulhac, an officer under Marquis de La Fayette. After the declaration of peace, Captain Roulhac returned to France, married, brought his wife to America, and settled in Eastern North Carolina, in the practice of law. The Roulhacs were of the first settlers of that part of the "North State," and the old residence of that time, known as the Roulhac House, erected in the last century, constructed of brick imported from England, still stands in a good state of preservation.

Joseph B. G. Roulhac, a man of considerable wealth, member of the State Convention of North Carolina in 1833, president of the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad (the first railroad in that State),

and a leading merchant, married a Miss Rutlin, daughter of Chief-Justice Thomas Rutlin, of North Carolina, distinguished as having filled that position thirty-five consecutive years. He died at Raleigh in 1854 at the age of sixty-eight years. Of his four sons, the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth.

From Dr. Wilson's school in North Carolina, Thomas R. entered the military school at Hillsboro, N. C., and from that institution, when but fourteen-and-a-half years of age, was ordered by the State Government to the duty of drill master. He was but little past fifteen years of age when he was made adjutant of the Twenty-ninth North Carolina Infantry. Upon the re-organization of that regiment he returned to the military school for a short time, when he again entered the services as a private in Ramseur's Artillery. After the battle of Gettysburg, where he participated with McLaw's Division, he was commissioned a lieutenant in the Forty-ninth North Carolina Infantry. With this regiment he took part in the battles of General Lee's Army up to Five Forks, where he commanded a company of sharpshooters and where he was captured by the enemy and held until August 1, 1865. At the close of the war he returned to North Carolina and read law with his grandfather, Judge Rutlin, and in June, 1867, was admitted to practice in the lower courts. The year following he received his second license, which admitted him to the bar of all the courts of the State. In 1868 he sailed from New York to California, and there located in Merced County, where he practiced law for three years. In December, 1870, he came to Greensboro, expecting to return to California, but here he met a daughter of Col. Allen C. Jones, which probably had something to do with the change that came over his purposes, for we find that he married her and settled down at once in the practice of law. He soon formed a copartnership with Robert H. Smith, of Mobile (one of Alabama's most distinguished lawyers), and as a member of this firm, had charge of its business at the office in Greensboro up to the death of the senior member, which occurred in 1878 or 1879.

Mr. Roddhae is recognized as one of the coming young men of the State. He is an active Democratic worker and was a prominent candidate for Congress before the nominating convention of 1886. He has been unanimously elected Mayor of Greensboro, is a member of the Knights of

Pythias, an ardent advocate of the public school system, an accomplished scholar, and a speaker of rare force and eloquence.

He was married December 29, 1870, and has had born to him three sons and two daughters.



**CHARLES E. WALLER**, Attorney-at-law, Greensboro, son of the late Robert B. Waller, a native of Virginia, was born at Greensboro, February 22, 1819. The senior Waller came to Alabama in 1832; settled at Greensboro, where he practiced law the rest of his life, and died in 1877, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Charles E. Waller was educated at the Southern University, from which institution he was graduated in 1838. He studied law under his father, and was admitted to the bar in 1850, since which time he has been in the practice in this and adjoining counties. He has been ten years Assistant Solicitor of the county—four years under J. N. Suttle and six years under P. H. Pitts. He was a member of the lower house of the Legislature, session of 1878-9, and again in 1880-1. In the session of 1878, he was of the Committee on Corporations, and was a member of the Judiciary Committee in the session of 1880-1. He declined re-nomination in 1882, preferring to devote his time to his profession.

Mr. Waller is treasurer and superintendent of the Diocesan Missions, superintendent of the Episcopal Sunday-school, member of the Masonic fraternity, Master Workman in the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and Chancellor in the Order of the Knights of Pythias.

He was married in Dallas County, June 24, 1823, to Miss Kate Ellerbe, daughter of A. W. Ellerbe, a retired lawyer, who lost his life at the battle of Selma. Mr. Ellerbe and his five sons were in the Confederate Army. One of the sons was killed and another died from the effect of an amputation of a leg. Mr. Ellerbe was one of the leading men of Dallas County, a profound lawyer and a man of the highest moral character.

By this union Mr. Waller has had born to him three sons and two daughters.

He is an active worker in the Democratic party at all times, and is at present a member of the county executive committee. He was president of the convention that nominated Mr. Davidson,





Yours truly  
Francis W. Peterson.



present member of Congress. He was too young to participate at any great length in the late war between the States; however, he saw about six weeks' actual service, and commanded a company of State militia about one year.



**PHARES COLEMAN**, son of Hon. A. A. Coleman, was born in this city March 31, 1865. He was graduated as A. B. from the Southern University at the age of eighteen years, and subsequently received the degree of A. M. from the State University. At both these institutions of learning young Coleman took first rank; and in the law department of the latter, from which he was graduated at the age of twenty years, he won the gold medal of his class.

Leaving college he at once entered the practice of law, in partnership with his father, at Greensboro. At this writing (1888), while retaining his practice at Greensboro, he is occupying the position of Secretary to the State Supreme Court.

Mr. Coleman is captain of the Greensboro Guards, president of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a consistent member of the Methodist-Episcopal Church.



**FRANCIS MARION PETERSON, M.D.**, prominent Physician and Surgeon, Greensboro, was born in Pickens County, this State, August 29, 1821.

His father, James Peterson (an extensive planter), native of South Carolina, came to Alabama in 1819, and lived many years near Pickensville. In the earlier history of the State he represented his county two or three times in the Legislature. His wife was, before marriage, a Miss Cox, also a native of South Carolina. They reared a family of four sons and three daughters, and in 1850 removed to the State of Mississippi, where the senior Mr. Peterson died in 1854, at the age of fifty-two years. Mrs. Peterson survived him two years, and died at the age of fifty-two. Of their four sons the subject of this sketch is the only one that adopted a professional life. He received his primary education at the High Schools of Alabama and Mississippi; began the study of medicine at home when about twenty years of age, and pur-

sued it subsequently at Columbus, that State. Prior to going to Columbus in the study of medicine, he had taught in the High Schools of Alabama from the time he was eighteen years of age to twenty-one. It was during the last years of his teaching, probably, that he began the study of medicine. At Columbus he read medicine with Dr. Linecum, and in 1845 attended lectures in the University of Pennsylvania. Twenty-three years later, in response to his indomitable thirst for knowledge, he took a course at the University of New York, and received a diploma from that institution in 1868. April 9, 1846, he came to Greensboro, and established himself in the practice of medicine, and since that date has made this place his home. It is of record that between the date of his attendance at the University of Pennsylvania and his graduation at New York, he received a diploma from a Western college; the character, however, of this institution not being up to what he considered the standard, he decided upon a course at the University of New York. While at the University of Pennsylvania he attended the Blockley Alms-House.

Dr. Peterson is a member, in high standing, of the State and County Medical Societies, and was Professor of Materia Medica and Obstetrics at the Southern University, Greensboro, until the medical department of that institution was abandoned. In 1886 he was president of the State Medical Association, and at Anniston delivered the annual address. He is now senior counselor of the State Medical Association, and president of the Greensboro Board of Health.

The Doctor is devoted to his profession, and is one of the closest readers and students of his age in the State.

To the literature of the profession he has contributed many valuable papers, among which may be noted: "Criticism on Draper's Theory of the Production of Butter from Clover," a general treatment of evolution; "New Theory of the Production of Puerperal Eclampsia," read at Selma; "Advances in Gynecology, and Sims' Drainage Tube for Treatment of Ovariotomy;" "Monograph on Diphtheria," a large pamphlet of 80 pages, read at Montgomery, session of 1881; "Dysentery in Alabama," read at Greenville, session of 1885; and a number of other papers on the science of medicine, the treatment of diseases, etc. In addition to his published matter, Dr. Peterson occasionally lectures before various

bodies, scientific, and, otherwise, elucidating the most advanced theories of his profession.

The Doctor was married in 1846, at Greensboro, to Miss Amanda Shivers, who died in 1858, leaving three sons, the eldest of whom, Dr. James J., a graduate of the University of New York, died at the age of thirty years. He was a young man of extraordinary promise, graduating with the first honors of his class and taking the first prize. A second son, Rev. John A. Peterson, a graduate of the Southern University, is now in charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Evergreen, Ala. A third son, Prof. Francis M. Peterson, Chair of Ancient Languages Southern University, is also a licensed preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Doctor Peterson's second marriage, also at Greensboro, occurred in June, 1861, to a daughter of Alexander Sledge, Esq. To this union have been born three daughters, the eldest of whom is now the wife of Dr. H. T. Ingo, of Mobile. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Doctor says "his sons took to preaching as naturally as a duck takes to the water."

He has never been in politics, his highest ambition having been to be a good doctor, and in this, according to the testimony of those who have known him longest and best, and of the members of his profession throughout the State, he has been eminently successful.

His person was well proportioned, erect and commanding, and he had a natural dignity, which completed the physical man. With these superior qualifications he never failed to command the attention of the House. When called to preside temporarily, as he often was, Mr. Young displayed his superior skill in the forms of proceeding, and left the impression on the majority, which all must have shared, that whatever was gained for his opponents by party tactics and for party objects, was dispelled by him, when filling the chair, by administrative force.

In 1841, when Governor Bagby convened a special session of the Legislature, an unfriendly attack was made on Mr. Webster, the Secretary of State, as hostile to the institutions of the South. Mr. Young took the floor in defense of that eminent statesman. His speech was a beautiful specimen of parliamentary eloquence, and was much admired by the public.

In 1843 Mr. Young was again the Whig candidate for Congress, but was defeated by Mr. Payne, and soon thereafter removed to Marengo County, where he sought happiness in the society of his large family connection, and in the planting interests in which he was concerned. His wife was Martha L. M. Strudwick. He died in Marengo County, in 1852. He was a gifted and talented gentleman, and, if he had been with the political majority, his laudable ambition would undoubtedly have been fully gratified.

**ELISHA YOUNG** was born in 1796. The writer knows little of his early history, but he was a professor in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill, and came from Virginia to Alabama in 1824.

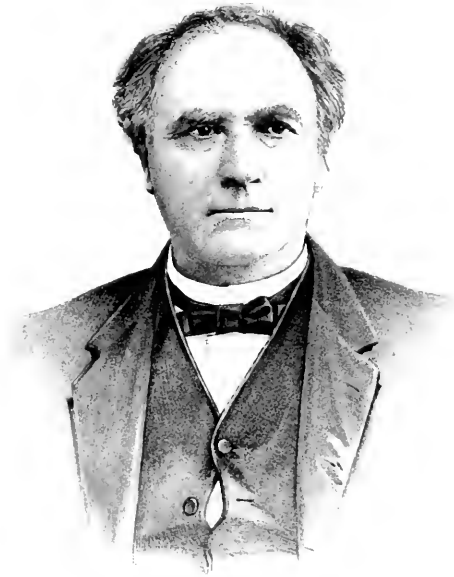
He was the Whig candidate for Congress in the Tuscaloosa district in 1837.

In 1840, Mr. Young was elected to the Legislature, and was among the most prominent members of the House. He was thoroughly versed in classical literature, and in this respect far in advance of his fellow-members. His diction was pure, and his arguments were often adorned by apt quotations from the standard authors of antiquity and from the traditions of mythology. His voice was soft, pleasant and highly cultured, and his delivery most pleasing to his listeners.

**ELISHA YOUNG, M. D.**, son of the late Elisha Young, lawyer, planter and politician, was born in Hale County, Ala., April 2, 1837, and was educated at Greene Springs. He began the study of medicine at Denopolis, in 1857, with Drs. Ashe and Ruffin, and was graduated from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia in 1859. He began practice in Washington County, Miss., whence he came into Hale County at the end of about one year thereafter. Here he was married, February 23, 1861, to Miss Anna Eliza Tutwiler, second daughter of Prof. Henry Tutwiler, the distinguished educator of Greene Springs.

The Doctor first established himself near Newbern, this county. In 1862, he entered the army at Fort Morgan as surgeon, and remained in that position until the capture of the Fort. After re-





*A. S. Andrews*

lease from the enemy's prison he was assigned to hospital duty at Mobile, where he remained about six months. After leaving the service he moved to Greensboro, where he has since enjoyed a lucrative practice in his profession.

He is a member of the State and County Medical Societies, and is recognized as a physician of the first rank. His wife died at Greensboro, August 22, 1887. The children born to them were eight, of whom are living four daughters and two sons. The family belong to the Presbyterian Church, and the Doctor is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**RICHARD INGE, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon, Greensboro, was born in Greene County, this State, January 18, 1851. He was educated at the Southern University; studied medicine at, and was graduated from the University of Virginia, July, 1870; also was graduated in medicine from the University of New York in February, 1871. March, 1873, he began the practice of medicine at Greensboro, the time between his graduation and the date of his locating at Greensboro having been spent in the New York City Hospital. He devotes his time to the practice and is regarded as one of the brightest and most successful young men in the profession. He is a member of the State and County Medical Societies; is an industrious student, and fully abreast with the most advanced theories of the science of medicine.

The Inge family came from North Carolina to Alabama away back in the early history of the State. Dr. Inge is a son of Wm. B. Inge, a planter during his lifetime. Wm. B. Inge married an Alabama lady, reared four sons and two daughters, and died at Greensboro in January, 1873, at the age of fifty-five years. Two of his sons are doctors and the other a lawyer. His eldest son, the Hon. Wm. B. Inge, is the present State Senator from this district.

Dr. Richard Inge was married at Mobile in November, 1879, to Miss Caroline Herndon, daughter of the late Col. Thomas H. Herndon, a distinguished member of the United States House of Representatives.

Dr. Inge is a prominent Mason, member of the Knights of Pythias, and member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

**THOMAS R. WARD, M.D.**, a successful Practitioner of Medicine and Surgery, Greensboro, is a native of Chatham County, N. C., son of Edward H. and Cintha Ward, also of North Carolina, and was born in 1826. His father came to Alabama, with his family, in 1833, and settled in Perry County. The senior Ward was a planter by occupation, and removed into Greene County in 1853, where he died in 1868, at the age of sixty-eight years. His widow survived him about nine years. They reared two sons and three daughters, the subject of this sketch being the youngest of the sons and the only one now living. He received his primary education in Perry County, at Oak Grove, and began the study of medicine in 1850, with Dr. F. M. Peterson, of Greensboro. He afterward attended a regular course in Charleston Medical College, South Carolina, and was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College as M. D. in 1853. The same year he commenced the practice of his profession in Greensboro, where he has remained, and where he is known as one of the leading physicians. He was married in this town in 1858, to Miss Bettie Burton, daughter of the late Col. John H. Burton, a planter, and has had born to him two sons and a daughter. His eldest son, Dr. E. B. Ward, is one of the prominent physicians of Selma; his youngest, T. R. Ward, Jr., is a successful merchant of Greensboro.

Dr. Ward is a member of the Baptist Church, also an active member of the Masonic fraternity and of the State and County Medical Associations.



**REV. ALLEN S. ANDREWS, D. D., LL. D.**, President of the Southern University, Greensboro, was born in Randolph County, N. C., Aug. 18, 1824. His father was Hezekiah Andrews, a native of North Carolina and of English descent, and his mother's family name was Fuller, lined descendants from the celebrated Captain Fuller, of Green's Army in the Revolutionary War.

The senior Andrews was a farmer, and was for many years high sheriff of his county. He died of apoplexy in North Carolina in 1863, at the age of seventy-two years.

Dr. Andrews was graduated from Trinity College, Randolph County, N. C., as Bachelor of Arts in 1854, and in 1857, Centenary College, Louisiana,

conferred upon him the degree of A. M. At the age of eighteen years he began teaching school; in 1845 he was licensed to preach; in 1850 he was elected to a professorship in Greensboro Female College, North Carolina. His first engagement in Alabama was at Glenville, where for two years he had charge of the Glenville Collegiate Institute. From there he went to Mobile as pastor of St. Francis Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and at the end of two years was transferred to Eufaula. From Eufaula he was sent to Dayton, where he was preaching at the outbreak of the late war. He served three years as chaplain in the army, and was at the close of the war elected president of the Female Institute, Columbus, Miss. He held this position two years and returned to Mobile.

Dr. Andrews came to Greensboro, Ala., first, in 1871, as president of the Southern University; held that position four years, and resigned to accept the pastorate of Court Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Montgomery. The nine years preceding his coming to the presidency of the Southern University (1882), were spent by him at Montgomery, Opelika and Selma—four years in Montgomery, four years in Opelika, and one in Selma. While in Opelika, the Methodist Episcopal people, under his supervision, and mainly through his efforts, erected a new and elegant church edifice. Since coming to Greensboro, the University has claimed and received, approximately, his entire attention.

Intellectually, Dr. Andrews is a man of superior cast, and as an educator he has but few, if any, equals in the South. As president of the University he has made that institution one of the most popular and successful in Alabama. He is a man of profound learning, a powerful and effective preacher, a ready debater, and a pungent, forcible writer.

The *Alabama Christian Advocate* was established in 1881, with publication office in Birmingham, and with Dr. Andrews, then located at Opelika, as its first editor. During that year he represented the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at the Ecumenical Conference, London, England.

In 1850, at Trinity, N. C., Dr. Andrews was married to Miss Margaret C. Leach. She became the mother of two children, and, in 1855, died at Glenville, in this State. Their son, Julian L., a bright and promising youth, died at the age of

sixteen years, in Mobile, Ala. The daughter, Lizzie M., married the Rev. R. T. Nabors, now deceased.

Mr. Nabors was one of the most brilliant young men of his day. He was born in Shelby County, Ala., on the 13th day of July, 1850, and died at the Vanderbilt University, April 1, 1884. A beautiful biographical sketch of him, written by Dr. Andrews, is published in a volume of his sermons and lectures, by the Southern Methodist Publishing House, Nashville, Tenn. A second edition of the work is now in course of preparation.

While in Mobile (1861) the Doctor was married to Miss Virginia F. Hudson, daughter of Llewellyn Hudson, Esq., and of the five children born to them we make the following mention: Willie F., was graduated from the State University as B. E. in 1883, and from the Southern University in 1886 received the degree of A. M. He is now a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the North Alabama Conference; Allen L., A. M., also a preacher in the North Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was graduated at the Southern University in 1887; Lila L., Leigh R. and John H. comprise the home members of the family. Doctor Andrews received the degree of D. D. from the Southern University in 1870, and the degree of LL. D., in 1888, from the Southern University and from the A. and M. College at Auburn, Ala.



**JOHN C. HARVEY**, Editor and Proprietor of the *Alabama Beacon*, was born in Beaufort, County, N. C., March 15, 1807.

His father, John Harvey, also a native of North Carolina, was a farmer, and died in that State at a ripe old age.

Colonel Harvey, the subject of this sketch, was educated at West Point Academy, from which institution he graduated in July, 1831, as second lieutenant in the regular army of the United States. He was in the army one year and eight months, ten months of the time in Northeastern Maine, near the Province of New Brunswick. His wife's health became such that it necessitated his coming South on furlough, and finally led to his resignation from the army. After about two years residence in Eastern North Carolina he came to Alabama, and in June, 1835, settled at



He was married at Greensboro, December 22, 1887, to Miss Sadie E. Lawson, daughter of Louis Lawson, late a merchant at Greensboro.

Professor Sturdivant is a member of the Historical Society of the State of Alabama, and a life member of Monteagle Sunday-school Assembly and Southern School—the Southern Chautauqua.

He is an ardent student, and is devoted to the ministry and the promotion of education.



**WILLIAM NEWTON KNIGHT**, present member of the State Legislature from Hale County, is a native of Russell County, this State, where he was born February 18, 1819. His father, Ephraim Knight, Esq., came to Alabama from Laurens District, S. C., in 1839, and resides now (March, 1888) at Uniontown, Perry County, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Knight, the subject's mother, and to whom the senior Mr. Knight was married in South Carolina, was a Miss Medley, of one of the oldest families of the old "South State." She died in 1883, having lived sixty-six years. They reared three sons, all planters, as was the father when in active life, and all honored and honorable men.

William N. Knight, familiarly known as Captain Knight (a title fully earned, as will be seen further on), was the first-born son of this family. The common schools of the neighborhood supplied the source of his early education, while an inquiring mind, a well-balanced head and a retentive memory, served well their purposes in after life.

Early in 1861 he entered the army as orderly-sergeant of Company C, Thirty-sixth Alabama Regiment, served to the close of the war, and returned with the well-merited rank of captain. His next promotion occurred at Chattanooga, after the retreat of the Tennessee Army from Tullahoma; and at Dalton, Ga., early in 1863, his worth as a soldier was further recognized by making him captain of his company.

From first to last he saw and, in fact, participated in a score or more of battles. He was at Manassas, Hoover's Gap, Rockyface Mountain, Resaca, New Hope Church, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, Chickamanga, the Atlanta campaign, Jonesboro and Spanish Fort, to say nothing of the minor engagements not dignified in history as battles.

Leaving the army, he returned to Greensboro, and here on December 27, 1865, married Miss Eva Happel, daughter of Philip Happel, Esq., and has now a family of three children.

Captain Knight's first civil office was that of Sheriff of the county, to which he was elected in 1877. He has been twice County Commissioner, and, in 1886, as elected to the State Legislature, where, as member of several important committees, he proved one of the most useful factors.

Though at all times an active worker in the Democratic party, Captain Knight is more the farmer than the politician, and his large agricultural interests receive his personal attention. His appointment by Governor Seay as the State's representative to the Farmers' National Congress which met in Chicago in November, 1887, is conclusive as to his rank as an agriculturalist.

Captain Knight is truly a modern broad-gauge man. In him public enterprise at all times finds a friend and substantial supporter. He believes in the upbuilding of Central Alabama by united effort upon the part of the people, and heartily advocates the encouragement of immigration. Recognizing the fact that Northern Alabama is to become the great manufacturing center of the South, he believes with equally as much reason that Central Alabama must be the home of the higher order of agriculturalists, and to this end he is straining his efforts.



**CHARLES A. GROTE, A.M.**, of the Chair of Modern Languages, Southern University, and the present County Superintendent of Hale, was born in Fredericksburg, Texas, May 29, 1851. His father was the Rev. Charles A. Grote, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was a native of Germany. He came to America in 1845, and settled at Galveston, Texas. He was at that time a Lutheran, but subsequently joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and was admitted into the Texas Conference in 1848. In 1870 he became a member of the Texas and Louisiana German Mission Conference, and was a member of that body to the time of his death, which occurred November 18, 1887. He was sixty-eight years of age. While in New Orleans, he had charge of Craps Street Church for three years.





Yrs truly  
Wm. H. Knight.



During the late war, he was presiding elder in Texas, and held that office for seven years. In Galveston he married Miss Rene, by whom he had born to him six children, four sons and two daughters.

Charles A. Grote was graduated from the Southern University as A. M., in 1875. He afterward continued the study of French in the city of New Orleans, and in 1887 took a special course of chemistry in Harvard College. He began teaching in his native place when seventeen years of age, and in 1876 was a professor in Soule University, Texas. In August of that year he came to Greensboro as Professor of Modern Languages. In 1881 he was appointed County Superintendent, and has held that office ever since. He was married at Greensboro in 1879, to Miss Flossie G., daughter of Rev. L. M. Smith, D. D., who was once president of the Southern University.

**WILLIAM D. LEE**, member of the State Board of Inspectors of Convicts, is a native of Perry County, Ala., where he was born August 18, 1833. His father, David Lee, was a native of North Carolina, as was his mother, whose maiden name was Holmes. The senior Lee came to Perry County in 1818, and remained one year, when he returned to North Carolina, got married, and brought his bride to Alabama. Here he became one of the largest planters in the country, and accumulated, before the war, an extensive fortune. He died December 31, 1863, at the age of sixty-four years.

William D. Lee was graduated from Howard College in 1852, and spent two years subsequently at the University of Virginia, where he read law. He was admitted to the bar in Perry County in 1855, and was in the practice of law at Marion, Ala., when the war broke out. In 1862 he entered the service of the Confederacy as a private in the Eighth Alabama Cavalry, and served to the close of the War. After the final surrender he returned to Perry County, and settled on the old homestead, where he was engaged at planting until 1869. In that year he came to Greensboro, where he has still retained his interest in farming. Though always an active Democratic worker he has at no time sought office for himself. Without solicitation on his part, but at the instance of his friends, Governor O'Neal appointed him to his

present position March 1, 1883, and re-appointed him at the end of two years for the succeeding four years. His term will expire in March, 1889. Mr. Lee was married at Greensboro, in July, 1860, to Miss Imogen Holston, the accomplished daughter of Matthew Holston, one of Hale County's most substantial planters.

**V. GAYLE SNEDECOR**, Register in Chancery, Greensboro, was born in Greene County, this State December 6, 1821. His father, the late Isaac C. Suedecor, was a lawyer by profession, and was twelve years Clerk of the County Court of Greene County. He was a native of Kentucky, and of Holland-Dutch descent. He married, in Montgomery County, Ky., a Miss Sarah C. Chambers, a native of Virginia, and removed to Alabama in 1822. He spent the rest of his life in Greene County, and died in the year 1857, at the age of fifty-seven years. His only child is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch.

V. Gayle Suedecor was educated at the common schools and at Cumberland College, Kentucky. He began life clerking in county offices and for several years occupied different positions in various county offices and mercantile establishments. He was appointed Tax Assessor of Greene County in 1852, and in 1855 he published a map of that county, which so familiarized him with the lands thereof that he was afterward elected by the people to the office of Assessor and held it twelve consecutive years. In 1867, the county of Hale was formed out of a part of Greene, and in 1870 Mr. Suedecor published a map of the new county. He was, in that year, appointed Register in Chancery for Hale County, and has since been continuously kept in that position.

He was married at Forkland, Greene County, May 1, 1849, to Miss Ann George, daughter of Solomon George. She died in 1866, leaving four sons. Again at Forkland, April 16, 1867, he married Miss Louise Harris, daughter of Hamlin Harris, Esq., farmer and educator. By this marriage he has one daughter.

Probably one of the most important accomplishments of Mr. Suedecor's life was the drafting of the revenue laws adopted by the State in 1865. This important legislation forms a part of the history of the State, and reflects great credit upon its author.

**VOLNEY BOARDMAN**, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hale County, was born in Franklin County, Ohio. He came to Alabama in 1832, since which time he has been a resident of Greensboro. He was educated in Ohio, and there learned the trade of watchmaker and jeweler. He established the first jewelry store at this place, and followed that business up to 1861.

He was married in 1840 to Miss Margaret Locke, who died in 1844, leaving two children. His second marriage was in 1846, to Miss Harriet E. Harrison, of Tuscaloosa County. She died in 1876, having born to him seven children—six daughters and one son.

He was first appointed Clerk of this county under the military government in 1867, and since that time has been continuously kept in that office by election.

He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the Masonic fraternity.



**HENRY TUTWILER, A. M., LL. D.**, one of the most learned and eminent educators of the South, was born at Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Va., November 16, 1807, and died at his home, the site of his noted School for Boys, Greene Springs, Hale County, Ala., on the 22d of September, 1884. The first twenty-three years of his life were spent in his native State. Between the ages of twelve and fourteen, he was a pupil of Dr. Daniel Baker, the distinguished Presbyterian minister and revivalist, together with his life-time friend, Gessner Harrison, for many years Professor of Ancient Languages at the University of Virginia. These young men entered that University during its first term, in 1825.

Henry Tutwiler and Gessner Harrison were the first graduates of the University of Virginia, in 1829, Mr. Tutwiler being the first A. M. of that institution. After attending law lectures there, and teaching in Charlottesville nearly two years, he was chosen Professor of Ancient Languages in the new University of Alabama, and came to Tuscaloosa in the spring of 1831, to aid in its organization. He resigned this position in 1837, and, for the next two years, was Professor of Mathematics in an Industrial College, begun at that time near Marion, Ala.

While in Tuscaloosa, he united with the Methodist Church, of which he was a most exemplary

and devoted member for fifty years. Yet, so catholic was his spirit always, and so earnest was his belief that the broad principles of Christianity are the only essentials of a truly religious life, that many of his best friends did not know to what branch of Christ's Church he belonged, and different denominations claimed him at times.

Christmas Eve, 1835, witnessed his marriage in Tuscaloosa to Miss Julia Ashe, second daughter of Pauli Pascal and Elizabeth Strudwick Ashe, from which happy union ten children survive out of eleven born to them. Mrs. Tutwiler died April 6, 1882.

In 1840, by recommendation of Bishop Robert Paine, then President of La Grange College, in North Alabama, Professor Tutwiler was selected to fill there the chairs of Mathematics and Chemistry. In this faculty he was associated with Dr. Carlos G. Smith and Rev. R. H. Rivers. The former was afterward with Dr. Tutwiler in his famous Greene Springs School, and married Miss Martha Ashe, a sister of Mrs. Tutwiler, being subsequently President of our State University, and President of the Alabama Normal College for Girls, at Livingston. Mr. Rivers, in his life of Bishop Paine, says of Professor Tutwiler, at this period: "He was a profound and rich linguist, a thorough mathematician, and a superior chemist. He was learned without pedantry, pious without bigotry, a gentleman without a blemish, a character without a flaw."

After seven years' service at La Grange, Professor Tutwiler resigned, and bought the property of Greene Springs, then in Greene County, Ala.—a famous watering place previously, because of its fine chalybeate springs. Here, in the fall of 1847, he established his well-known classical, scientific and practical High School for Boys.

In this entirely private institution, managed according to his personal views of the best mental, moral and physical training for young men, he continued his peerless labors as an advanced educator.

This was his final life-work, lasting thirty-seven years, up to June, preceding his death, in 1884, the school having been discontinued only two years of that time—1877 to 1879.

No teacher was ever more generally beloved than he, or more sincerely venerated in the after years of his numerous students. Indeed, few men have lived who possessed minds of such broad scope as his, and such rare and versatile acquire-



*H. Tutwiler*



ments as a linguist, a scientist, a profound scholar in every department of knowledge.

In his school, Prof. Tutwiler ruled by moral suasion and personal influence alone. No rod, no form of corporal punishment, was ever used there. So soon as he found a boy incurably bad and obstinate, he quietly and kindly sent him home, or advised his parents, when the term ended, not to send him back. His large patronage enabled him to do this independently. He could readily fill their places. His long experience proved that these methods suffice for the strictest discipline in a boarding school like his. Frequently he was offered professorships and presidencies in various institutions, notably the presidency of the University of Alabama, but to all these he preferred his independent work at Greene Springs.

The degree of LL.D., was conferred upon him by several colleges. In 1853 he was appointed, by President Pierce, on the Board of Examiners for West Point. In 1882 he delivered the Alumni Address at the University of Virginia—fifty-three years after graduation—giving valuable reminiscences of its early history.

Deeply versed as he was in the sciences and classical lore, he always made astronomy a favorite study and pastime; and few scientists have more fully mastered its mysterious and sublime truths. His profound knowledge of the stars was clearly evinced, when, on the evening of May 12, 1866, he became one of the first discoverers—if not, indeed, the very first—of the "New Star," as it is now described in text-books on astronomy.

This interesting discovery by Professor Tutwiler was at once communicated to Prof. Joseph Henry of the Smithsonian Institute, Prof. Stephen Alexander of Princeton, and other Northern scientists, and it soon became known that this "New Star" had been seen the same night by an observer in a Northern State, and by two in Europe. It was then a mere question of a few hours whether it was first seen by Professor Tutwiler or by one of its three other discoverers.

Though to Professor Tutwiler, and through him to Alabama, belongs the credit of being one of the first discoverers of this great phenomenon of the heavens, he never received in the permanent records, controlled by Northern scientists, proper recognition for this interesting discovery. This omission probably arose from feelings that remained, even in the pure fields of science, immediately after the close of our civil war.

In personal appearance, Professor Tutwiler was slightly above medium height, and possessed of a remarkably pleasing presence and address. Few men have had such an iron constitution as his. Intimate friends often remarked a striking resemblance in his shaggy eyebrows and full, overhanging brow, and in the general contour of his features, to Massachusetts' distinguished son—Daniel Webster.

Vast as was the good done by Professor Tutwiler, proud as Alabama may well be of his record in his long and useful life, the world can never know his many and constant acts of quiet and unostentatious benevolence. All the grand work which the Good Father allotted him to do, he did in the pure spirit of Gospel truth.

A life-long friend in Philadelphia, whose father was professor in the University of Virginia while Professor Tutwiler was a student, wrote of him at his death: "So passes away a man as perfect in his generation as it is permitted to man to be. In all my experience, I can not recall his superior in all that exalts humanity—the mind and the heart both great, inspiring admiration and love in all who were brought near him."



**WILLIAM E. W. YERBY**, Editor and Proprietor of the Greensboro *Watchman*, and author of the history of Greensboro published in this volume, may be safely written as one of the coming young men of the State. He was born at Greensboro on October 10, 1862, and is a son of Prof. Miles H. Yerby, who for thirty years was a teacher in the schools of this place. He received his first instructions under the tutelage of his father, and subsequently took a primary course at the Southern University. He was only fourteen years of age when he entered the office of the paper he now owns and edits, for the purpose of learning to be a printer. From office boy, or "devil," he steadily worked his way up to proprietor and editor.

Mr. Yerby is a careful, painstaking and interesting writer. His paper is one of the most popular of the State provincial press, and his history of Greensboro, as published in this volume, is one of the most thorough and readable chapters in the book. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and an official member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

## XV.

### MONTGOMERY.

BY THOMAS H. CLARK.

The earliest white settlers on the spot where the city of Montgomery now stands, found on the high river bank west of the place two earthen mounds of a kind common throughout the South-west. One of these mounds was ninety feet square and twenty-five feet high, and when razed to the ground, in 1833, a quantity of human bones, primitive pottery, arrow-heads and trinkets were discovered buried underneath. Mounds similar to these have been found in various sections of Alabama, and it has been conjectured that the ancient race that left such imposing remains in the Valleys of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers dwelt here also, and left at Montgomery these traces of their mode of life.

The historian of Alabama, Albert James Pickett, was of the opinion, in which he is supported by the authority of many leading American ethnologists, that the Indians themselves built the mounds in this State. He cites some instances in which mounds like those in question were thrown up by Indians years after the country had been peopled by the whites. He thus, in some degree, lends countenance to the hypothesis, that the Indians and mound-builders were, if not the same race, as so many specialists on this subject now believe, then closely allied. The profound obscurity that has rested on the life of prehistoric man on this continent, is being gradually dispelled, and it is likely that science will, in no great while, have something definite to say upon the relations of these two races during the prehistoric epoch.

It is more to be regretted that an obscurity almost as deep rests upon the early history of the Indian tribes proper in Alabama. De Soto made his famous march through this State in 1540, and it remains an unsettled problem whether or not the natives whose fields he pillaged and whose persons he led captives were of the same tribes

with those the English and French found here at the beginning of the eighteenth century. Pickett thinks the later Indian occupants, the Muscogees or Creeks, came in after De Soto reached the Mississippi, that, in fact, his presence there drove the Muscogees to take refuge in the territory he had but lately abandoned. General Woodward, in his reminiscences of this tribe, gives it as a tradition, and states his own belief, that the Muscogees were living in Alabama when De Soto first came; that he found them here and left them here.

We reach the first entirely trustworthy ground in the history of Montgomery in the story of the discovery by English traders of the Indian village of Chummanugga Chatte, or High Red Bluff, or Hostile Bluff, which stood on the river bank near the mounds already referred to. The precise date of the appearance of the English trader at Hostile Bluff is uncertain, but his coming made the town known to the merchants of the extreme southwestern border, and then it became a question of time only when its advantages as a trading point would become more generally recognized.

The French, it is true, had held dominion here before the English came in. They had founded Fort Toulouse, in 1714, at the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, and plainly meant to hold the territory for the French crown. But as colonizers they were overmatched by the English. That old French Governor in America who assured the Indians that the French King would preserve their hunting grounds while the English would destroy them touched the secret of the one race's failure and the other's success in the great colonization schemes with which both sides alike pushed over the New Continent. When the first English traders penetrated the wilds of Alabama, the French were busy setting up forts at all convenient points between Louisiana and the



Canadas. Their aim seems to have been to crowd the English to the seaboard and then out of the country, just as Grant proposed after the capture of Vicksburg to assault Mobile, and by ascending the Alabama River still further divide and weaken the Confederacy. The building of Fort Toulouse was in aid, apparently, of such a general design against the English. The English trader, however, destroyed all hope of making this policy successful. His pack and pack-horse were more potent colonizers than many forts. He went everywhere. Penetrating to the uttermost bounds of the French settlements, he traded under the mouths of the guns in their forts. At his heels marched the advance guard of an army that carried axes and not bayonets as symbols of conquests. A great hemming-in process of another kind was inaugurated.

The Indians saw their hunting-grounds giving way to little patches here and there, where corn and potatoes were planted. By the time the Revolutionary War began, English traders and settlers had scattered all over the Mississippi Territory. Their numbers are not known, of course, but there is a suggestive tradition to the effect that the Tories, during the Revolutionary War, were accustomed to use Hostile Bluff, near Montgomery, as a drill-ground for such settlers as remained loyal to the British crown. Peace was declared, and the settlement of the Southwestern region proceeded more rapidly than ever, until the year 1813. Pickett states that as early as 1785 several white traders had established themselves at Eunchate, or Hostile Bluff. Abram Mordecai, a shrewd Israelite from Pennsylvania, settled in the same year on Lime Creek, in what is now Montgomery County. Near him dwelt "Milly," a white woman with an Indian husband, and in the prairies south of Milly's lived William Gregory, a white man with an Indian wife. Gregory was a cattle-king of that early time, and counted his cattle by the thousands.

The first white man to settle at Montgomery and build a home was Arthur Moore. He set up a cabin on the river bank, south of the ferry. He was visited here in 1814 by Thomas S. Woodward, a young Georgian with Indian blood in him, who was fond of roaming and fighting. While Woodward was on this visit he killed two deer, as he relates in his "Reminiscences," in a pond near where the Episcopal Church now stands. The cabin of Arthur Moore has long since disappeared,

the very ground upon which it stood having been carried away by the river.

When Arthur Moore lived here in 1813, Alabama was a part of the Mississippi Territory, and between the Territory and Georgia lay the Creek Nation. The Creeks occupied all of what is now the middle eastern part of the State, including among others the counties of Randolph, Chambers, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Lee, Macon, Bullock and Russell. The continual gradual encroachments of the whites upon the western borders had excited great alarm among the Creeks, and the bloody massacre at Fort Mims, in 1813, was the earliest blow struck by the natives for the expulsion of the dreaded whites. The massacre carried terror into the Southwestern settlements and stayed for awhile the movement among immigrants. Jackson hastened down with his Tennesseans; the Creek country was overrun; several bloody battles were fought; the Indians were badly beaten and finally subdued. In 1817 Mississippi was admitted as a State, and in March of the same year, a Territorial Government for Alabama was established. The security offered by the new Government incited immigration afresh, and 1817 marks the beginning of a tide of population so great that it astonished a race of immigrants even.

#### ALABAMA IN 1817.

*Niles Register* of April 5, 1817, says: "The sudden and very numerous immigrations into the Alabama country threaten many with absolute starvation unless they are shortly relieved by supplies from other parts." Again in the issue of July 26th: "In consequence of the great immigration provisions have been very high—corn \$5 per bushel, and flour \$20 per barrel." A few years later he had to say of Alabama that "There is probably no portion of the world of similar extent which can exhibit such an astonishingly rapid increase of population produced by the voluntary immigration of enterprising individuals."

The immigrants came in by thousands overland from the Carolinas and Georgia, and many hundreds came from New York by water to Mobile. Speculation and the multiplying schemes of a speculative period were the order of the day. The land was supposed to have a great and inexhaustible fertility. "The Alabama lowlands," said *Niles*, "will produce for an almost indefinite term of years in constant cultivation one hundred bushels to the acre." He assures his readers that

he has heard this statement so often, and on such good authority, that there can be no question of its truth.

Alabama was on a "boom" at this time, and town lots, corner lots and river bottoms were at the basis of many imaginary fortunes. Three million dollars' worth of public lands were sold at one sale in Huntsville; 284 lots in the town of Florence brought \$226,411, and one lot brought \$3,500. In May, 1819, when the State Government sold some lands that had been granted by the General Government, to provide a fund for public buildings at Cahaba, 101 lots brought \$96,000, and one lot brought the handsome sum of \$5,025. Bottom lands were in great demand, and brought from \$40 to \$50 per acre. A fraction of 170 acres, a part of the Big Bend, just opposite Montgomery, was sold for \$70 per acre. The high land on the "Ten Mile Bluff," opposite the Big Bend, and which was early reputed to be a fine site for a town, sold in part for \$50 per acre, and purchasers were readily found for all the sections. The mad hunger for land gave rise to various plans for swindling the Government, and it was reported at the time that a favorite scheme of the speculators was to have irresponsible parties attend the sales, bid enormous amounts for land, and then disappear altogether, leaving the would-be owners to secure the land at private sale and on their own terms. At one of the Cahaba land sales, forty men put up \$1,000 each, and agreed not to bid over two dollars per acre. Two valuable townships were bid off, when the Register ordered the sale stopped. The speculators then sold their purchases, clearing \$1,980 each, by the transaction.

ANDREW DEXTER.—Among those infected with the land fever of 1817 was Andrew Dexter, a member of the distinguished Dexter family of Massachusetts, and a lawyer by profession. He attended the sale of public lands at Milledgeville, Ga., in this year, and purchased one section, namely, section seven, township sixteen, range eighteen, less one quarter lying east of the Indian town already several times referred to as Hostile Bluff. It is not known what information Dexter possessed upon the desirableness of Hostile Bluff as a trading point, but it may not be supposed that a Yankee lawyer was buying in the dark. Dexter had probably talked with some one of the numerous traders or hunters who had traversed the region lying along the Alabama River.

The Indian town was on the road from Milledgeville, to Fort Claiborne. It was near the head of navigation on the Alabama and the best natural site for a trading-post for many miles along the river. It is probable that any one acquainted with the central region of the State would know of the attractions of this high bluff and the higher hills above as a place for building a town.

Dexter came on immediately to examine his purchase and made his first stop at Line Creek, and put up there with Jesse Evans, the most famous fist fighter for his size in the territory. Dexter found several merchants already located here to catch the trade at the crossing of two great roads. These were Meigs and Mitchell, James Powers, Major Flanagan, Arterberry and Denton and J. G. Klineck.

#### THE FOUNDING OF NEW PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. Klineck in a letter written to the *Montgomery Mail*, and published in that paper November 24, 1858, tells of Dexter's visit and the outcome of it. Dexter it seems, while stopping with Jesse Evans, made an arrangement with Klineck by which the latter should remove his stock of goods to the site of the projected town, and join Dexter in inducing other traders to locate there also. The customary inducement was offered. Each trader who came was to have a lot as a present from the founder of the place. The town was laid off at first on a plan by which what is now Columbus street should be the leading thoroughfare. Fearing that the location was dangerously low, Mr. Dexter moved his town southward to the more elevated site directly west of the present State capitol. The place was baptized "New Philadelphia." Five trading concerns were established at once, namely: Messrs. Klineck, Carpenter & Harris, Falconer, Goldthwaite and Eades. The founder showed his confidence in the future of the place by setting apart a square to be used as a site for the capitol when the seat of government should be removed to New Philadelphia. The advantages of the place must have been considered great even at this early period, for in the next year (1818), the Alabama Company, consisting of a number of Georgians, bought a large tract in the section adjoining New Philadelphia on the west, and laid out the town of "East Alabama." In the same year still another town, "Alabama," was founded in a section still further west on what is now known as the Chappell place.

This last named town was the real and dangerous rival of New Philadelphia or "Yankee Town," as New Philadelphia was coming to be called on account of the number of New Englanders who had settled there.

The Commissioners who were appointed in 1818 to select a temporary seat of justice for the county, passed Fort Jackson (former county seat) by, Augusta, also East Alabama and New Philadelphia, to choose Alabama. This was done in spite of the fact that the residents of New Philadelphia had entered into a bond to pay \$20,000 to build a court-house if their town should be selected. Mr. Klinek more than hints that "politics" were at the bottom of the decision.

In the letter of Mr. Klinek, already referred to, there is a trace of the embittered relations between the good people of New Philadelphia and Alabama Town. He there attempts to enumerate the inhabitants in each place. In Alabama Town he finds Capt. John Gause and family, William Gause and family, James Gause and family, old lady Gause, and her daughter Eliza (who that fall married Willburn), Major Peacock and family, Mr. Ashley and family, Mr. Jones and family, a Mr. Perry, Judge Bibb, Major Johnson (mail contractor), Edmondson (Clerk of the Court), and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Moulton—an entire military and civic population—no merchant or trader in town.

"Such as I can now name," he adds, "of the inhabitants in Montgomery (now called) are Dexter, Loftin, first justice in town; James Vickers, innkeeper; Stone (son of Judge Stone, and son-in-law of Esquire Loftin); Eades, merchant; Drs. Gullett & Co.; J. C. Farley, merchant; Carpenter, merchant; John Falconer, merchant and first postmaster; Dr. Morrow; J. Goldthwaite, merchant; John Hewett, Widow Hewett and family; Mr. Larkin, innkeeper and farmer; Henry Farley, brother of J. C. Farley; A. M. Reynolds and family; Mr. Baker; John Belaw, carpenter; R. Moseley, and a number of other families of the same name on the hill; Nimrod Benson, Esq; Sims, attorney, and a dense population."

It would seem that at this early day, the colonel's voice was a potent one in our politics, that the entire military and civic population of the one place, though without a merchant or trader in their midst, outweighed in influence the dense population of the shopkeepers in the other. The colonel secured the court-house for Alabama Town.

On December 3, 1819, the Legislature passed

an Act consolidating New Philadelphia and East Alabama, providing substantially, that all that tract of land, situate on the east bank of the Alabama River, of the following description, namely: Fraction number twelve, township sixteen, range seventeen, southeast and southwest quarters of section number seven, township sixteen, range eighteen, including all that part of the river lying opposite to said fraction, within sixty yards of its margin in the county of Montgomery, is hereby incorporated, and shall be called and known by the name of the town of Montgomery.

With consolidation came a change of name. Contrary to the received opinion, Mr. Klinek states that the town was named after the county. The weight of authority seems to be that the county was named after Major Lemuel Montgomery, who was killed at the battle of the Horseshoe, in 1814, and that the town was named after Gen. Richard Montgomery, who fell at Quebec early in the Revolutionary War. This statement of the origin of the names was made by Jonathan Battelle in 1821, in the first issue of the first newspaper published in Montgomery, and Battelle was followed by Pickett in his history. It may seem odd that the citizens of a small frontier town should single out for honor a Revolutionary soldier who had been killed more than forty years before. The reverence for the heroes of the Revolution was then at its height, it is true, but this fact alone would hardly explain the choice in this instance. There is a circumstance that removes the difficulty. In 1818 the Legislature of New York adopted a resolution looking to the removal of the body of General Montgomery from Quebec to that State. In July of that year his body was removed to New York City. Congress soon afterward made an appropriation to erect a monument over Montgomery's new grave. These incidents were fresh in the public mind, and the Legislature merely reflected a prevailing sentiment when they called the united villages "Montgomery," after the young Irishman who had been killed beneath the bluffs of a Canadian city.

Montgomery was incorporated December 3, 1819. Eleven days later, on December 14, Alabama was admitted into the Union. The wild character of the State when admitted, in spite of additions in population, is shown by the fact that a few days later, on December 16, the Legislature passed an Act for the encouragement of the killing and destroying of wolves and panthers. The

bounties paid under this Act were three dollars for any wolf or panther, not exceeding six months old, and five dollars for one over six months of age. The aggregate disbursements under this law were so large that they threatened disaster to the young Commonwealth, one county having used all its State taxes in paying for wolves and panthers. The Legislature made haste to repeal the Act at its next session.

#### SEAT OF JUSTICE.

At this same session, on December 16, 1820, Montgomery was made the temporary seat of justice for the county. One year from that time, December 17, 1821, Commissioners were appointed to select a permanent location for the court-house of the county, and they selected Montgomery. The new town had distanced all her rivals. Henceforth relieved from all apprehension by reason of the competition of the places in immediate proximity, the town measured itself against Cahaba, Tuscaloosa and others of the more promising villages of the Central Alabama of this time.

Immigrants continued to pour into the State from every quarter of the Union, and Montgomery shared in this increase. The bulk of the new population, however, came from the South, as is shown indirectly, by the composition of the Legislature of 1820. According to Niles, one native Alabamian, one Pennsylvanian, two Marylanders, two Tennesseans, seven North Carolinians, eight Georgians, thirteen South Carolinians, and eighteen Virginians. If it be true that the composite races have established their institutions upon a more enduring basis than others, Alabama may be considered fortunate in the character of her early settlers. When it is considered how much of what was finely typical and best in the older States of the Union, in manners and laws alike, found congenial soil in Alabama, Alabamians may be permitted to refer their admiration of their State to striking and sufficient causes. Alabama has been conspicuous among the Southern members of the Union for a spirit of conservatism, joined to impulses, toward orderly progress, a spirit that is the natural outcome of the varied stream of immigration that early poured into the State.

#### THE FIRST NEWSPAPER

In 1820 the town had grown so much that there was a demand for a newspaper, and, on Jan-

uary 6, 1821, in response to this demand, Jonathan Battelle, a young man from Boston, Mass., published the first number of the *Montgomery Republican*. Fortunately for the chronicler, the file of this paper from its earliest issue to May 20, 1824, has been preserved. In these early numbers of the *Republican*, we have mirrored, with more or less fidelity, the business, the pleasures, the manners and customs of Montgomery's founders. They themselves are all gone, and in this file of old papers, if anywhere, must be found the story of their every-day life.

In his prospectus Mr. Battelle gives a description of the place where his paper is to be published, and, as the first sketch of Montgomery ever published, it possesses unusual interest.

"Montgomery," he says, "formerly called Hostile Bluff, lately East Alabama and New Philadelphia (the former established by a company in Georgia, and the latter by A. Dexter, Esq., both having been incorporated into one town by the Legislature of 1819), is situate in the healthy, fertile and thickly-settled county of the same name, of which it is the seat of justice (intended to perpetuate two distinguished martyrs to the cause of the Republic), directly opposite the eastern point of that highly-cultivated, extensive and fertile tract of land known by the name of 'Big Bend.' It adjoins the fraction on which the town of Alabama stands, and bordering on the celebrated river of that name, to which it is navigable at all seasons, from the Gulf of Mexico, for steamboats of a large class; distant about two hundred miles from Milledgeville, a similar distance from the seaports of Mobile and Blakely, about fifty-five miles above Cahaba, the seat of government, and about twelve miles below the junction of the Coosa and Tallapoosa. It is the point at which the Atlantic mails reach their first stopping place in the State, and from whence *Naves* may be distributed through the country with great facilities. Montgomery, from its high and airy situation, the purity of the waters flowing from its several springs, and the elevation of the banks along the river on both sides, which exclude stagnant water, is considered peculiarly healthy; indeed, many resort to that section during the summer months on that account. It contains many romantic as well as level sites for building, and, for an infant establishment, it may be called a pleasant, flourishing town."

In the next issue of the *Republican* "A Vis-

itor," had a communication describing the town in which the following occurs: "From the top of the bluff, which in some places is one hundred feet above low water mark, the land rises gradually until it terminates in high and romantic hills, the prospect from which is beautiful and sublime—a meandering river, verdant meadows, well cultivated farms, rude forests and lofty mountains. Its present population is about 600, collected from almost every State in the Union. There are many respectable mercantile establishments, and barges carrying from five hundred to one thousand barrels are constantly plying between this and Mobile. When the contemplated improvements in the navigation of the Coosa shall have been effected, and the fine country in the vicinity become thickly populated, events neither distant or uncertain, Montgomery will probably increase and flourish beyond almost any town on the Alabama." That "A Visitor" was really a visitor is attested by his being deceived, as so many strangers in Montgomery are, by the Antauga hills, and mistaking them for "lofty mountains." The editor added, by way of endorsement of this stranger's description of Montgomery, "that the town enjoys local and public advantages, such (in our estimation) as render its future growth and importance no longer problematical."

In his prospectus, as has been seen, Mr. Battelle had boasted of Montgomery as a place whence news might be distributed through the country with "great facilities." The commentary on this boast was a statement made elsewhere in the same issue that the publication of his paper had been postponed for several weeks owing to a delay in the transportation of his printer's outfit. This outfit had been shipped from Savannah to Mobile, but the vessel bearing it put back to Savannah on account of stress of weather, and the press, type and paper were hauled overland from Savannah to Montgomery, a distance of 350 miles. In distributing his paper he complained that the mail for Cahaba left Montgomery on Sunday at two o'clock, proceeded to Alabama Town, a distance of three quarters of a mile, where it remained until Tuesday. On its return it met with some, if not similar, detention. But this was not the worst, the great Atlantic and Southwestern mails between Georgia and Alabama were out-traveled without a change of horses by travelers, both in carriages and on horseback. It was two days on its way

between the Creek Agency and Fort Mitchell, a distance of sixty miles. On a part of the route through the Creek Nation the mail was carried in an open wagon, and a part of the way on horseback. The consequence was, the newspapers were frequently detained for weeks, and in some instances months, and at last arrived so wet and mutilated that it was difficult to read them. In the news column of the first issue appeared this bit of intelligence: "We regret to learn that the horses and carriage belonging to Mr. Caffrey (one of the mail contractors), on their way hither, were lost last week at Ichecannah Creek, between Fort Hawkins and the Creek Agency—the mail was taken over in safety on a log." Nearly all the editorial matter of this date was devoted to discussing imperfect mail facilities, but the editor had the satisfaction before he finished writing them of chronicling an improvement. The postoffice at Alabama Town was discontinued, and with the removal of the postoffice to Montgomery, disappeared the last vestige of rivalry between the two places.

In the way of pure news this initial number of the *Republican* contained accounts of a fire, and an accident by which a negro was thrown from a horse and killed, the announcement of a horse-race and another of a ball. The fire totally consumed the house and its contents. The editor recommends the passage of an ordinance against gunpowder, and expresses a hope that the town would soon have a bell belonging to some public building, with which to sound fire alarms. The horse-race was to be a mile heat, for one thousand dollars, to be run by Black John and Quaker Girl, on Saturday, the 13th inst., about three miles from town, on or near the road leading to Cahaba. The ball, a Jackson ball, was to be on the succeeding Monday, January 5th, and was to be given "in commemoration of the glorious victory at New Orleans, on the 8th of January, 1815, which shed so much lustre on the arms of our country."

But it is to the advertisements rather than to the news items that the reader of to-day will turn in these old papers. In the first number we have the announcement of the result of the election for members of the town council, when Messrs. William Graham, N. E. Benson, John Edmondson, James Faries, James Humphreys, H. W. Henry, and George Wilkinson, were elected members of the council. And, on the day following, N. E.

Benson was elected Intendant, and Charles Shon re-elected Clerk of the Council.

The retiring Intendant, William Graham, has affixed his name to two ordinances that appear, one, extending licenses granted merchants and retailers of spirituous liquors, and the other, providing for raising a committee to examine the landing and make report of what would be the probable expense of making a good and sufficient landing. A number of merchants offer their goods for sale and describe them. MacNamara, Bell and Hanrick had just received, per barge Triton, bagging, twine and herring, which would be sold low for cash or cotton. Christopher A. Parkin had just received whisky, gin, cognac brandy, sugar and molasses per barrel, best green coffee, cheese, soap and candles by the box, a lot of domestic goods, consisting of gingham, stripes, checks, denims, shirting, sheeting, an assortment of fine and coarse shoes, cotton bagging, bale rope, Swedes iron, German steel, powder, shot and lead; also a light Jersey wagon with harness for two horses, all to be sold low or exchanged for cotton.

Mr. E. D. Washburn offered for sale six barrels of sugar, five of gin, four of whisky, four of rum, one bag of coffee, 755 pounds of iron, one and one-half dozen sifters, an elegant horse and gig, several town lots in Montgomery and two shares in the town of Selma.

Messrs. George Wilkinson & Co., who had a store near the landing, offered a general assortment of goods, among which were broadcloths, cassimeres, negro clothes, flannel, calicoes, cambric, muslins, silks, sugar, five bags of coffee, forty barrels of whisky, four barrels of gin, tobacco, cigars, crockery and glass-ware.

Graham and Lewis had just received from New York a general assortment of sugar, tea, coffee, rum, wine, tobacco, shoes, boots, powder, lead and shot, bagging and dry goods. These were offered for cash or for cotton.

J. S. Walker had several thousand acres of Alabama lands, with the prices affixed, ranging from \$70 down to 82. There had been but one installment paid on these lands to the Government, and Mr. Walker urged on the public the advantage a buyer would have from "the relief anticipated from the Acts of the present session of Congress." The high prices paid for lands, it appears, had borne fruit, and Congress was overwhelmed with petitions for relief bills.

The editor of the *Republican* himself announced

that he would give immediate employment to a compositor and pressman, and that he desired an apprentice in his office of unquestionable morals. He would also do job printing of every kind; he was daily expecting a consignment of Murray's Readers and Grammars, Walker's Dictionaries, Testaments, Bibles, Adams's Geography, Daboll's Arithmetic, Webster's Spelling Books, New England Primers, Watts' Psalms and Hymns, and Song and Dream Books. A handsome light four-wheeled carriage, with plated harness complete, could be had on terms to be learned on application at the office. One double-barrel and one single-barrel fowling piece would be exchanged for shingles, plank and scantling; a good draft-horse, also pleasant under the saddle, would be exchanged for bricks or lumber.

Our ancestors loved their patent medicines. A large consignment of these, none of which were genuine unless they bore the signature "T. W. Conway," were hourly expected to arrive by the boat Patriot. In the medical profession Dr. C. Billingslea, having purchased the possession lately occupied by Dr. Andrew, tendered his services to the citizens in various branches of the medical profession. In the law, A. A. McWhorter had removed his office to a small new building on Court Square, south of the market house. John D. Bibb had resumed the practice of the law and would attend the courts of Montgomery and Autauga. He would be found at home three miles above the town of Montgomery, except when abroad. Mr. S. Dennis and Mr. J. P. Lewis, respectively, offered their services as tailors. They would make clothes for gentlemen in the newest fashion on the shortest notice. Clement Freeny was then proprietor of the Montgomery Hotel. His place was in the western part of the town. Private rooms with fire-places could be furnished to those who wanted them. His bar was supplied with the best liquors; his stables were commodious. J. P. Nall and G. W. B. Towns kept the Globe Tavern, and set as good a table "as the country affords." They kept the most genuine liquors and a stable well furnished with provender.

There was one "for rent" in the paper. Fleming Freeman offered to rent two stores opposite the Montgomery Hotel.

Such was the Montgomery of the first week in January, 1821, so far as the facts can be collected from the first issue of the *Montgomery Republican*.

The *Republican* of February 17, summarized the growth of the town up to that date. "There were then in that portion of Montgomery, formerly known as New Philadelphia, of frame buildings, building or already finished, ten two-story structures and fourteen one-story structures; of log-houses, nine "tolerable," and of inferior log-houses eighteen. In that part of the place formerly known as East Alabama, there were eighteen one-story frame buildings, and seven two-story buildings; six tolerable log-houses and five inferior ones, making a total in the town of eighty-seven dwelling houses and stores. "Besides which," adds the *Republican*, "we are about to begin preparations for erecting a place of public worship, an academy, a court house and a jail.

"We have," it continues, "at present ten stores of assorted merchandise, three public houses, four or five practicing lawyers, two or three regular bred physicians, one teacher, several carpenters, two master brick-layers, one cabinet maker, one saddle and harness maker, two smith's shops, one watchmaker and silversmith, one tinner's shop, and one shoemaker. When we reflect how short a period has elapsed since this was an inhospitable wilderness, and, how, recently, was heard the savage yell, we may exclaim, in the language of surprise, that astonishing changes have taken place at 'Hostile Bluff' in the short space of two years."

A glance through others of the early numbers of the *Republican*, will show more clearly what was the life of the citizens of Montgomery at that time. In the main the editor's own language can be used, and with better effect than any possible paraphrase.

February 24, 1821.—The Circuit Court closed its term the Saturday preceding, having disposed of 100 causes, leaving a number on the docket that were not reached. "Citizen" writes a communication accusing the town Council of rottenness in the management of the town's finances. "An Observer" writes to say that the Coosa River must be opened up to navigation in order to assure the commercial supremacy of Montgomery. A tax ordinance appears, in which a tax of one-half per centum is levied on the real estate of the town, a poll tax of one dollar, fifty cents for every dog more than one kept by any family, and a license fee, of four dollars per year, is imposed for merchandising, or keeping a hotel. Charles Rodgers advertises a dancing school in this issue.

March 3, 1821.—Jonathan Mayhew opened a school, charging five dollars for twelve weeks' tuition in the common branches and ten dollars for tuition in the higher branches. A boat arrived from West Point, in East Tennessee, loaded with flour. This boat came down the Tennessee to the Hiwassee, thence sixty-five miles to the entrance of the Ocoa; up the Ocoa some distance, when it was transported into the head waters of the Coosa; thence down to the Alabama and to Montgomery, a distance of one thousand miles in all. This trade had been profitably carried on for two years past.

June 2, 1821.—The town was visited by a party of Creek Indians, headed by Captain McKintosh. They brought a drove of fine looking cattle, and sold fresh beef in the market house for several days. They had been accustomed for some time to sell the citizens poultry, eggs, bacon and wild game. Fish, and especially shad, received by boat from Mobile, were common.

July 4, 1821.—A grand ball was given at Montgomery Hall, in honor of Independence Day. Cannons were fired at intervals during the day. Mr. Henry Goldthwaite delivered the oration.

August 26, 1821.—The Rev. Mr. Mellord conducted divine service in the court-house, the town being without any church.

October 22, 1821.—The *Harriet*, the first steamboat to ascend the Alabama, arrived at Montgomery. She was greeted by a crowd of citizens. On the next day the *Harriet* took an excursion party up the river, making six miles an hour. A company was projected to put on a line of steamboats between Montgomery and Mobile and Blakely.

April 26, 1822.—An immense rainfall caused the Tallapoosa and Alabama to rise higher than any of the white settlers had ever known to be the case before in these streams. The frequent inundation of our river lands for the last two years has changed very much the public estimation of their value. When the Alabama lands were first offered for sale there was a general rage for river lands, so much so that purchasers seemed to lose sight of everything in the great fertility of the soil, and if they could raise but one-fourth of the purchase money they were satisfied. Things are very different generally now. Lands in the Big Bend, immediately opposite this place, which which were sold at upward of seventy-two dollars an acre, if now offered for cash would not bring five dollars an acre.

May 10, 1822.—Arrived on the 25th ult.,

a flat bottomed boat with flour. The wheat of which this flour is made was raised in Washington County, in the State of Virginia. The mill which manufactured the flour is on the Holston River, in the State of Tennessee, within two miles of the Virginia line. The owner started with ninety barrels of flour, and descended the Holston 300 miles, then, entering the Tennessee, descended that river about 150 miles; then, arriving at the Hiwassee, he ascended that river forty miles, until he reached the entrance of the Oka, then ascended that river 10 miles to Hiltbrand's landing, where the flour was landed and carried by land twelve miles to O'Dear's landing, on the Conasauga, where this flat was built and freighted with the flour to this place. The owner left the Virginia line February 20th, and reached Montgomery April 25th.

June 7, 1822.—The mercantile business done here very far exceeds that of any town of the same magnitude we have ever known. The amount of goods landed and sold is almost incredible, and it is with difficulty the merchants, during the whole year, keep supplies adequate to the demand.

July 26, 1822.—We are glad to hear a nine o'clock bell rung for some evenings past. Mr. Bostick, the proprietor of the Globe Tavern, has, we understand, kindly offered to continue to have it rung till a town bell is provided. We doubt not the same will be done at the hotel at the western part of the town.

August 23, 1822.—There is a loud and general complaint of the people in the upper part of the town against the Town Council, that the wells are not put in order. The pump in the upper one is useless and should be taken out. A common curb and windlass, with buckets, would answer in place of a pump, and greatly accommodate the inhabitants. Equal justice—in some parts of the streets there are good wells.

The other night a wagoner plunged his horses and himself into one of our gutters; and a fellow returning late from a three days' meeting came near breaking his neck. One of our Market street loungers lately met a hair-breadth escape in the eminently deep, dirty gutter, in gallanting a nymph home from a party. There is no telling what accidents may happen in the dark, if our ways are not mended.

September 20, 1822.—Some attempts have lately been made to put this town to rights, but things were not bettered by the nocturnal labors of these

reformers. It requires no stretch of art to put rubbish before a shop door; to take down a ginger-bread maker's sign; to take the wheels from a lady's carriage and put them on a silver-smith's shop, and make noise enough to disturb the slumbers of the sick by beating stirrups for triangles and blowing conch shells for French horns.

October 18, 1822.—Divine service will be performed at the court-house in this place by the Rev. Mr. Graves, on Sunday next, between the hours of three and four o'clock in the afternoon.

We are pleased to hear that there will be a public ball in this town on Wednesday, the 30th inst. The managers are Mr. F. Brown, Doctor Hoxey and H. Goldthwaite, Esq. This elegant amusement, which tends so much to refine and to polish the manners and to soften the asperities of life, we hope will not be discontinued during the winter.

October 25, 1822.—On Tuesday evening last, while passing from the printing office to his dwelling (the night being unusually dark) the editor of this paper fell over some logs which were thrown into one of the gullies to prevent the earth from washing away, and fractured his arm. It is to be hoped that this will be deemed a sufficient apology for the dearth of original matter in this week's paper. We sincerely trust that the Town Council will use every exertion to make their "crooked paths straight."

November 8, 1822.—The recent transactions in this village are such as would disgrace even Algiers. We allude more particularly to the shameful and barbarous deeds committed on the nights of the 30th of October and the 6th of November. This is the third, if not the fourth, attempt at homicide in this place within a few months. We have too many among us who have left the older and better regulated States to escape the penitentiary and the gallows.

December 20, 1822.—The Tragedy of Julius Caesar was brought forward on Tuesday evening last, in a style which did great credit to the Thespian Society of this town. Mr. Benjamin Fitzpatrick appeared as Julius Caesar, Mr. G. W. B. Towns as Octavius and Mr. Henry Goldthwaite as Mark Anthony.

January 20, 1823.—Notice is hereby given that all persons, who shall hereafter cut down trees for firewood or rails, on town lots belonging to the subscriber [A. Dexter] will be prosecuted. The public is welcome to all wood lying on the ground



liable to decay, provided the same shall be removed within three months. About eight acres of land in and adjoining what was formerly a pond, may be tenced by any person, free from rent, he clearing up the same and fencing it with rails previously furnished him.

February 15, 1823.—It is pleasing to our citizens to see that the new board have commenced their labors by preparing the streets. Not less than twenty planks have been sawed in the last fortnight. Query: If forty be sawed in one month, how many months will be necessary to furnish a sufficient quantity to form a sewer three-quarters of a mile in length?

February 21, 1823.—The great natal day of the Father of our Country was ushered in by the discharge of cannon and acclamations of joy. As the weather is fine a numerous assembly of fashion and beauty is expected at the ball this evening to finish the gladsome festival.

April 21, 1823.—The Circuit Court for this county closed on Friday night, after a tedious and laborious session of nearly two weeks. About 250 cases were tried, or otherwise disposed of. There was but one trial that excited general interest, which was that of Harvey for slave stealing. This, by the law of our State, is a capital offense. Harvey was acquitted. Wilson and Lane, who were confined in Gaol on a charge of passing counterfeit money (a capital offense also), broke prison before the sitting of the Court.

July 7, 1823.—We are requested to inform our readers that there will be an Indian ball play at sub-agency (Captain Walker's stand) on the 16th inst., to commence at 10 o'clock of that day. There will be a large collection of the red brethren from ten or twelve towns.

December 6, 1823.—The Montgomery races will commence on Thursday next, and continue three days. A new race-course is preparing near the village. The gentlemen of the turf meet at the court-house this day to form a jockey club. It is probable that a jockey club ball will be given during next year's race for the gratification of the ladies.

February 21, 1824.—At a certain place in Alabama the Fourth of July last was advertised to be celebrated. Each man to come with his partner; the ladies that wore stockings were to dance Congoes, those that wore shoes only were to dance reels, and those that came bare-footed were to dance jigs.

April 3, 1824.—Montgomery's growth is sure, whether the Tennessee and the Coosa are ever united by a canal or not. It already engrosses the commerce of the greater part of the large and fertile county of the same name, as well as that of a part of Pike on the one side, and Autauga on the other, and is at present one of the most flourishing towns in the State. When the Indian title to the fine lands lying between the Coosa and Chattahoochee shall have been extinguished, an event as certain as that the tide of population, of civilization, and of empire is rolling westward, Montgomery will become the centre of trade for an extensive, prolific and healthy country, abounding in every variety of produce that can be raised in any part of the Union. We would observe, too, that Montgomery is situated within ten miles of the centre of our State, if regard be had to its ultimate limits, and that it is without dispute by far the most eligible place for the seat of government.

April 17, 1824.—*Resolved, by the Intendant and Council of the Town of Montgomery.* That a committee of three persons be appointed by the Intendant, whose duty it shall be to contract with some person or persons to dig a ditch or drain for the purpose of draining the water from the pond near the center of the town, on the north side of Market and east side of Court street, in a northerly direction, and also to remove and destroy all the perishing trees, timber and wood in said pond and within fifty yards of the edge of it.

The file of the *Republican* fails us with the completion of the third volume, on May 8, 1824. The first number of the next volume preserved bears date October 7, 1825, and the name had then been changed to the *Alabama Journal*, the term *Republican* having lost its Democratic significance.

#### LAFAYETTES VISIT

In the meantime, Montgomery had enjoyed the memorable pleasure of a visit from LaFayette, who was making a triumphant tour of the Union, the guest at various times of every one of the States. Great preparations were made to give "the American's friend" a reception befitting his rank and fame. An escort of three hundred men proceeded from Montgomery, as a central point, to the banks of the Chattahoochee, in Russell County. They were accompanied by large numbers of Indians, who were as curious as the

whites to see LaFayette, and as anxious to do him honor. LaFayette arrived at the river on the morning of the 31st of March, and the Georgians who accompanied him here, relinquished their charge to fifty stalwart Indians, naked and wearing their war paint. Arrived on the Alabama bank of the river, LaFayette was welcomed by the Alabama escort as the guest of their State. After witnessing an Indian game of ball play, the procession started on the route to Montgomery, reaching their destination on the morning of April 3.

On Capitol Hill, or Goat Hill, as it was then called, was assembled the largest crowd that had ever been seen in Montgomery. Governor Pickens and all the dignitaries of the State were there to honor the illustrious visitor. Some hundred yards east of the hill there was a heavy sand flat, and in this flat LaFayette with his attendants left their carriages, formed in a line, and marched up the hill to the air "Hail to the Chief." The Governor greeted the visitor impressively, if quietly. He was so overcome with his emotions, that he was scarcely able to utter a word. Col. Arthur Hayne came to the aid of the Governor, and behaved with such knightly grace and courtesy, that Gen. Thos. Woodward, who was an eye-witness, gives it as his opinion, that if the Earl of Chesterfield happened there in that company, he would have felt as I did the first time I saw a fine carpet on the floor, and was asked to walk in: "I declined, saying, "I reckon I have got in the wrong place." The home of John Edmondson, on Commerce street, a few doors below where the First National Bank building now stands, had been engaged and fitted up especially for LaFayette's use, and he was conducted there after the reception on the hill. During his stay the citizens largely gave over business, and devoted themselves to showing in every possible way their reverence and affection for the Revolutionary hero. Several survivors of the Revolutionary War were present, and together with LaFayette they recounted their experiences in that historic struggle. On the night of April 1th, the citizens gave a grand ball to further honor their visitor. The ball, which was one of unparalleled brilliancy in the village, came off in the second story of the brick building now standing on the southwest corner of Commerce and Tallapoosa streets. At twelve o'clock, LaFayette bade the citizens farewell, and left by way of the river for Cahaba, at that time the capital of the State.

In his annual message to the Legislature, Governor Pickens commended the generosity and public spirit of the gentlemen who went to meet LaFayette at the Georgia line and escort him to Montgomery. These gentlemen had done this service for the sake of the courtesy in it, but this was not always the case during the visit. The total cost to the State, as shown by the treasurer's report, was 815,715.18. In the account, John Barleycorn was conspicuous enough to scandalize the present generation.

#### THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

LaFayette was hardly well out of the country before the young towns in Alabama were called on to determine a matter of deep concern to several of them—namely, where should the seat of government be located? Cahaba had proved a failure. The freshets of 1820 and 1821 had overspread a great part of the place, and in the spring of 1822 nearly the whole town was under the water. The State House itself was threatened. The population which, in 1821, was one thousand, had dwindled down to less than two hundred. Public sentiment demanded that a change should be made. It was said by a wag of the time that if the pale ghosts of the Yankees and Tennesseans, whose bones were then mouldering in the mud of Cahaba, could appear in the State House at the opening of the session, the destiny of the place would be decided without debate. Selma, Greensboro, Montevallo, Wilson's Hill, Tuscaloosa and Montgomery were the places prominently mentioned, but the contest at once narrowed down to a struggle between Tuscaloosa, favored by North Alabama, and Montgomery, backed by the southern sections of the State. The papers were full of argument and debate, and the editor of the Montgomery paper in particular was earnest in making a display of the resources and advantages of his own town and enforcing the wisdom of locating the capital here. It was the geographical centre, it was on the great stage line from the North to New Orleans, it was healthy, it was prosperous. As for Tuscaloosa he was saved much trouble. If she had any claims they existed in some sonnet and in sonnets only.

Tuscaloosa captured the prize by a vote of 33 to 26. Dexter's dream of having the capital at Montgomery was not yet to be realized. The disappointment of the citizens in not securing the location of the State capital here was not the most

serious trial of the year 1825. The summer season of that year had been the most unhealthy of the town's history, and this fact doubtless had something to do with the good fortune of Tuscaloosa. The summers of 1825 and 1826 were remembered as periods of horror in the life of Montgomery. A fever, the origin of which was unknown, raged with great violence, more than decimating the population of the place. Immigration ceased altogether, and the outlook was gloomy enough. The year 1827 went by, however, without a recurrence of the epidemic, and the *Journal* of December 7th was able to say that "during the last season our town has been remarkably healthy, scarcely a case of fever during the whole summer. The county, generally heretofore so sickly, has this year presented a healthy, industrious and vigorous population. The destroying angel appears to have departed, and the returning of our visiting brethren, the daily coming in of cotton, the rolling of wagons under their heavy weights, give Montgomery an air of busy importance and indicate its future greatness."

During the next decade or until the year 1837, nothing happened to retard the steady growth of Montgomery. In February, 1836, the ground was broken for a railroad from Montgomery to the Chattahoochee, and in the next year, December 23, 1837, a charter was granted to the place as a city, and in January, 1838, the first election occurred under the charter.

#### WHAT MANNER OF PEOPLE THEY WERE.

There is a wide contrast between the Montgomery of those early years and the Montgomery of to-day.

Undoubtedly Montgomery at this time was a rough town. In this it was like scores of other frontier settlements in the Southwest. The place had been peopled in the first instance, it is true, by an unusually good class of settlers. The extravagant expectations excited by fanciful accounts of the productiveness of Alabama lands had induced many people to hazard their fortunes in the Territory who would otherwise have remained at home. Montgomery was settled, too, when the country was passing through one of its periodical paper-money crazes, when values were greatly inflated and speculation was rife. This craze had spent itself when New Philadelphia and East Alabama were consolidated. The dreams of wealth suddenly to be acquired were then dispelled, and

Montgomery and its destiny were committed to that mixed class, half working, half idling, half good, half vicious, that from the first have made homes of new towns in America. Even so late as September, 1828, the New York *Christian Advocate*, in setting out the facts that proved the need of missionary work in certain quarters in the South, stated among others that a half-built church had stood for years in Montgomery, and concluded its indictment thus: "Why a place containing 1,200 inhabitants should be left so destitute is a question which presents itself with awful force to the Christian community. Five or six only are professors of religion. We are not certain, therefore, that there is even one real Christian in the whole town. As to the Bible, it is seldom seen except in courts of justice, and even then it seems it is used with the same spirit as the ancient sorcerers used their philters when they wished to charm the object of their attention, for its truths and sanctions are unknown and unheeded."

A reply was made to this in the *Journal*. The population, the *Journal* said, was probably not so great as stated, and it consisted mainly of a people from the North, whose residence hitherto had not been of a permanent character. It was acknowledged with regret that the statement with regard to the Church and the number of professing Christians was but little short of the truth. It was difficult, however, the reply ran, to find an apology for the rest of the communication, for it was not only untrue in relation to Montgomery, but a libel on the character of the people of the South and West. In the next succeeding issue a correspondent was at some pains to disprove the charge that the Bible was used to conjure with in Courts of Law, but has nothing to urge against the truth of the other charges.

The town needed some missionary work certainly, as what town does not, and it must not be inferred because the citizens had built a court-house and a jail ten years since, and had not yet built a church, that they were entirely given over to iniquity. If this population had its defects it had good qualities also. There were many horse-racing, cock-fighting and whisky-drinking people here and the bowie-knife gleamed more frequently and the pistol shot rang out more often than was comfortable for the citizens who loved law and order. At the same time there was a marked hospitality of spirit, much real and formal courtesy and a devotion to public

affairs. Every new community calls the hospitable spirit into play. All the members of such a community are early brought to feel a dependence. The neighbor must be asked for some assistance or the neighbor himself, it may be, needs help of some kind. Then, too, the stranger is making constant demands upon the kindness of the settlers, and in caring for him, they are imbuing themselves still more deeply with the temper that regards others.

On the side of their public interests, the citizens of the Montgomery of this early time are not less interesting. The town was granted its charter, and Alabama was admitted into the Union, in the year that the slave question and its related issues came prominently to the front in politics. In 1819 Missouri applied for admission as a State, and the "misery question," as it was called by some, was debated with a clamor everywhere in the Union. That the citizens of Montgomery profited so well by the opportunity for discussion, is the grief of the chronicler of to-day. When he looks at old newspapers for material to be used in depicting the daily life of these people, he finds long, tedious and angry discussions upon the power of Congress to exclude slavery from the Territories, or to make the abolition of slavery in a Territory a condition precedent to admission into the Union. Public opinion was already gathering itself into the two great opposing volumes that were to meet finally in the horror of civil war. The history of Montgomery, to be complete, would have to include in its narrative the animated political contests that are here only hinted at. It would show how the larger issues of the National campaigns controlled the narrower issues in the State elections, and how again both of these gave shape to municipal contests. In such a history we should be able to discover the gradual growth and expansion of the splendid civic spirit that prompted the people of Montgomery to illustrate, with the full measure of their devotion, the cause they had so often contended for, in the arena of public discussion.

The mind, quickened into activity by debates on affairs, found its interests extended and extending into other fields. We have seen how the various anniversaries were celebrated—the anniversary of Jackson's victory at New Orleans, Washington's birthday and the Fourth of July. The court-house in those days stood where the present

city fountain is. Here the inhabitants assembled for celebrations of every kind, and also to deliberate upon the conduct of local affairs. In 1821, the Franklin Literary Society was organized. On July 10, 1823, a meeting was called to discuss the ways and means of building a church. On May 23, 1829, a like meeting debated the building of a theatre, and in July of this year another meeting was called to establish a bank. In September, 1828, a public demonstration was made, and the National Government was denounced for interference in Creek affairs. On the 20th of October, in the same year, a banquet was tendered by the citizens to Colonel Brearly for his services in removing the Indians from the State.

This ability to combine, and the spirit that prompted combinations, extended to matters of quite other sorts than such as have been mentioned. When the first steamboat, the *Harriet*, arrived, in October, 1821, an agitation was promptly begun for the formation of a company, whose object should be the establishment of a line of steamboats to ply between Montgomery and Blakely. So, also, when the streets reached that state of bad repair, where the resources of the infant municipality were unequal to their proper care, some public-spirited citizens contributed money and labor, for use in filling the gullies in the streets and the sinks in the sidewalks.

This watchful guard upon the welfare of the place, ran into an excess now and then, and an occasional offender against the prevailing standard of decorum in speech or conduct, paid the penalty, and that was, to be soured in some one of the three or four ponds in the village, and afterward to be ridden on a rail. On one occasion, a stranger, suspected of passing counterfeit money, was publicly whipped with a lash, under the direction of a committee of citizens, and ordered to leave the country.

The curse of Montgomery at this time was gambling and gamblers. The *Republican* is filled with complaints against the gamblers and their pernicious and destructive influence upon the morals of the community. "Philanthropos," writing in the issue of January 20, 1821, called on the authorities to enforce the law against those men in their midst, "a portion of the dregs of creation"—men who had fled the law in other States. Gamblers have little to do, however, when they are fleecing one another. On December 15, 1821, the Governor approved a bill "au-

thorizing a lottery for the benefit of building an academy in the town of Montgomery." Gambling, evidently, had a congenial soil in which to grow and flourish. To open a lottery was a common method, at this time, to further the construction of a school-house or a Masonic lodge.

When we read the advertisements in the *Alabama Journal* of April, 1834, a little more than ten years after the first issue of the *Republican*, its predecessor, we begin to tread ground that will seem familiar to many of the citizens of to-day. The number for April 15th contains an announcement of the Coosawda Academy, with John A. Elmore as president of the Board. T. B. Maddox & Co. offered drugs; John Gindrat & Co., dry goods; McGehee & Gilmer, groceries; Pond & Converse, hardware; William Sayre, dry goods and groceries, and Charles T. Pollard representing the Augusta Insurance & Banking Company offered to insure buildings and merchandise against fire, and to take risks upon cotton shipped to Mobile. These names put us fairly in touch with the Montgomery of that year (1834). The life of Mr. Charles T. Pollard alone covered nearly the entire period of our local history, he having lived here for nearly sixty years of his life. His energy gave Montgomery her first railroad, and with a railroad she rapidly took the lead among all the cities of the State except Mobile.

A charter was granted in January, 1832, to the Montgomery Railroad Company, and a preliminary survey to West Point, Ga., was ordered. The company was re-organized January 15, 1834, and obtained a new charter at that time. It was not till February, 1836, that ground was broken. In the meantime causes were at work that still further delayed the completion of this enterprise. In July, 1832, a branch of the State Bank of Alabama was established in Montgomery. The opening of the new bank was but one feature of a movement then spreading all over the country, a movement destined to produce one of the most violent financial convulsions of our history. Money was plenty and prices ruled high in the cheap money of the day. Town lots, farms and negroes brought unheard of prices, and prices continued to grow bigger and bigger, and fortunes grander and grander, until the whirlwind of disaster in 1837 swept these paper-built castles out of existence. The financial crash put an end to railroad building, and it was June, 1840, before any portion of the road at Montgomery was thrown open to the

public, and then only twelve miles of it could be used.

#### THE MOONEY WAR

The speculative mania that preceded the panic of 1837 gave an impetus to gambling, and for several years "the gentry" had virtual control of the town. Their headquarters were at the Montgomery Exchange, just south of where Fleming's restaurant is at present. Here were occasionally enacted scenes of the wildest disorder. Gambling and drinking were varied by loud quarrels and frequent fights in which pistols and bowie knives were freely used. The heroes of these bravies were finally put down, and the gang broken up, by Col. John H. Thorington, at the head of a volunteer organization of citizens. In 1836 a large number of these rowdies drifted away into Texas to aid in fighting the Texas battle for independence.

The vigor with which Colonel Thorington suppressed the lawless element in the place established his reputation in the county, and, as might have been expected, he became a target for the abuse of the worse classes. It was opposition to him, as tradition has it, that precipitated the famous "Mooney war." In August, 1837, at the Montgomery Hall, Kenyon Mooney and his father indulged in some free and boisterous criticism of Colonel Thorington. This was done, it was thought by some, to provoke a difficulty with the Bells, a family who were friends and supporters of Colonel Thorington. The Mooneys got the difficulty they wanted.

The result was the elder Bell was mortally wounded. "Kin" Mooney was shot in the arm and his father, the elder Mooney, was disembowelled at one stroke with a bowie knife in the hands of Bushrod Bell, Jr. "Kin" Mooney was captured and lodged in jail. In December, 1838, the jail was raided by his friends and Kin was released. Repeated efforts were made to re-capture him and without success. In 1840, Deputy Sheriff Raiford proceeded with a posse to Carter's Hill and surrounded Mooney's house. The occupants, however, made such a warlike demonstration that the sheriff prudently drew off his forces and sent back to town for a cannon to be used in bombarding the Mooney stronghold. The party that went out with the piece of artillery were waylaid by some of Mooney's friends. The outlaws routed the Sheriff's posse and Mooney escaped.

In December, 1839, the grand jury of the county presented as a grievance the fact that Mooney was still allowed to go at large, and they described him then as roaming the country, principally infesting the neighborhood of his former residence, and in company generally with divers lawless associates, committing almost every species of atrocity, from a simple assault to the most wanton and unprovoked murder. He was never recaptured and he finally left the State.

Montgomery's charter as a city was granted in 1837, and it is significant of the lawless character of the place at that time, that this charter contained a clause requiring the Mayor and Alderman, before entering upon the duties of their offices, in addition to the oath prescribed for civil officers of the State, to make and subscribe an affidavit, that they would endeavor to prevent and punish all tumultuous and riotous assemblies, assaults and batteries, game-keeping, gaming houses, and all other public offenses.

The year 1840 witnessed an attempt to remove the court-house. By an Act approved Jan. 30, 1840, the sheriff of Montgomery County was required to take the vote of the people at the next August election on the subject of the removal of the court-house to the center of said county. The court-house, under this Act, if a removal was decided upon, was to be located at the center or within two miles of the center of the county. This proved to be in a swamp, and this fact probably explains the small interest the question of removal excited in the city. In the *Alabama Journal* of 1840, I have been unable to find a single reference to the subject, all discussion of the question having given place to an abundance of log-cabin and hard cider literature. The attempt to change the county seat failed, and Montgomery pushed steadily along the road of progress and prosperity.

In 1843 an agitation was begun for the removal of the capital from Tuscaloosa. Tuscaloosa had never been very popular as the capital, because it was too far west, away from the centre of population, and inaccessible from any direction, except over very bad roads. Wetumpka, LaFayette, Selma, Montgomery, and a number of other places, were mentioned as proper places for the location of the capital in the event of removal. The people of Wetumpka were especially active. This place was at this time a threatening rival to Montgomery. It was at the head of navigation on the river, and

it was doing a large and growing trade with the upland country beyond, for a hundred miles or more. The penitentiary had been established just the year before and located at Wetumpka. This much accomplished, Wetumpka was prepared to take a higher flight, and claimed the capital also. The agitation proceeded, gaining in volume, and on January 24, 1845, the Legislature, under the lead and mainly under the influence of the friends of Wetumpka, decided to submit the question of removal to the people of the State. The Constitutional amendment, providing for a change of the seat of government was voted on, in August, 1845, and adopted by a majority of 6,478, the vote standing 33,798 for removal, and 27,320 against. To incorporate this amendment in the Constitution it was necessary that it be ratified by the Legislature. Montgomery had been up and doing to capture the prize for herself. She sent a strong delegation to Tuscaloosa, with Judge Benajah S. Bibb at its head. Bowdon, of Talladega, who had been prominent throughout the agitation for removal, was there working with might and main for Wetumpka.

The places voted for were: Tuscaloosa, Wetumpka, Mobile, Montgomery, Statesville, Selma, Marion and Huntsville. Tuscaloosa led in the balloting from the first because of the rivalry between Wetumpka and Montgomery. On the first ballot out of a total of 127, Tuscaloosa received 39, Wetumpka 28 and Montgomery 33. On the fifth ballot Tuscaloosa had 38, Wetumpka 33, and Montgomery 27. On the tenth ballot Tuscaloosa had 41, Wetumpka 33, Montgomery 46. Evidently if Tuscaloosa was to be beaten the two central towns would have to combine their strength. This was done on the sixteenth ballot, and the vote stood: Tuscaloosa 39, Wetumpka 9, Mobile 3, Selma 11 and Montgomery 68. Montgomery had carried off the prize. The dream of Andrew Dexter was to be realized. New Philadelphia was to be the capital of Alabama, and Goat Hill, so long reserved for that purpose, was to be adorned by the capital.

The news of the result was received with great rejoicing in Montgomery. There was a grand procession by day and bonfires and other illuminations at night to celebrate the event.

The seat of government, however, was to remain at Tuscaloosa until a State-house, equal in every respect to the one then occupied, should be erected at Montgomery, the land and the building to be a present to the State. The city rose to the oc-

casian. Work was begun June 9, 1846, the cornerstone was laid on July 4th, of that year, and in November, 1847, it was completed, the building itself approved by the proper authorities and the keys delivered, as required by law, to the Secretary of State.

The archives of the State, packed in boxes and weighing 26,704 pounds, were hauled from Tuscaloosa to Montgomery in a train of thirteen wagons. The cost of the removal, \$1,325, was defrayed by the Montgomery Building Committee, it having been stipulated that the State should be put to no expense whatever by the removal.

The Legislature met in the new building on the 6th day of December, 1847, "and the novelty of the occasion," says Garrett, "together with greater facilities for reaching the seat of government brought together an immense concourse of people—more visitors than I ever saw, before or since, at a meeting of the Legislature. The hotels were crowded to inconvenience; private boarding-houses were increased in number and thronged, and every avenue to the capitol, presented, at all hours of the day, a stirring multitude. Candidates for the various offices were as thick as blackbirds in a fresh-plowed field in the spring." The citizens felt their good fortune. Real estate advanced; new hotels were erected and additional railroads were projected. In 1849 the rising hopes of the place were overcast by an unexpected calamity. The new capitol, the pride and boast of the citizens was laid in ashes and the agitation for another removal was at once renewed. Tuscaloosa, in particular, calling loudly for a restoration to her old place. The better sense of the people asserted itself. The misfortune was treated as a public one, and an appropriation of \$50,000 was made to rebuild the capitol. It was rebuilt on the same spot and with the same dimensions, except that the walls were made a few feet higher than in the burned structure. The capitol of to-day is, in design, substantially the same building as that erected in 1850.

In 1850 the population of Montgomery was 8,728. Of these, 6,511 were whites and 2,217 negroes; a proportion of almost three whites to one negro. What the population was in 1840, the census does not show, but it does show how many negroes there were in the place at that time. There were 2,179. The increase in population, between 1840 and 1850, had been of the best kind. In the next decade, that between 1850 and 1860, there was a great change. In this time, the Mont-

gomery and Wetumpka plank road was begun (1850); the Montgomery & West Point Road was opened to West Point (1851); the Bank of Montgomery was established under the Free-banking Act (1852); the court-house was moved from the square and the present handsome building erected (1852); the large artesian well was bored (1853); \$500,000 was voted by the city in aid of the Montgomery & Mobile Railroad (1853); the city was first lighted with gas (1854); and \$300,000 was voted in aid of the South & North Alabama Railroad (1860). In these years, however, Montgomery was several times visited by yellow fever, her white population was much reduced, and again and again was the cry raised to have the seat of government changed once more, and to a place where the lives of the State officials and the members of the Legislature would not be imperiled. That the fever ceased its ravages in the winter season and permitted the Legislature to go and come in safety, was the saving cause in the capital being retained where it was.

There was a noteworthy change in the character of the population between 1850 and 1860, but there was a more potent cause than yellow fever to produce the change. The frightful scourge of slavery, worse than the dreaded fever in its consequences, was slowly sapping the energies of the South, and its blight was plainly seen on Montgomery. In 1860 the population of Montgomery was only 115 more than in 1850, numbering in all, in 1860, 8,843. Of these 4,341 were whites—a decrease in white population of 2,170 in the ten years; 4,502 were negroes—an increase in negro population during the ten years of 2,285. The proportion, that in 1850 had been three to one in favor of the whites, had changed for the worse, and there were now but one negroes than whites in the place. These figures tell their own story. The city, like the State, was being Africanized. Industrial death was creeping over the place.

What was lacking to the capital, during these years, in excitement of material growth was supplied by the warmth of political discussion.

As the war issues began to define themselves, and the sections became more and more plainly arrayed against each other, Montgomery became the theatre of many bitter contests between the Whigs and the Democrats. The Whigs were battling for life, and their opponents were sustained by the tide of passionate anger and apprehension.

aroused by the growing ascendancy of Republicanism at the North. There could be but one result to the local conflicts at the South. In Montgomery, the Whigs, under the leadership first of Hilliard, then of Watts and Judge, struggled on, but all in vain. Hilliard, who was a partisan with one hand only—the hand that received—scented danger, and made terms with the Democrats at his earliest convenience, leaving the contest to be carried on by others.

The greatest debates Montgomery has ever listened to were heard in those days. Estelle Hall was commonly the scene of these oratorical encounters. Here it was that Yancey gave final shape to the style and the logic that was later to carry him to the forefront among those who expounded and defended the cause of "Southern Rights" before the civilized world. Here it was that he forged the bolt with which, in 1860, he shattered the Charleston Convention, and so indirectly precipitated the Civil War.

The war came on, and Montgomery, like the South generally, made ready for it with some of that gayety of spirit that marked the famous military parade of 1870.

To adequately treat "Montgomery in the War" would require a separate sketch. Such a sketch should include an account of the assembling here of the Provisional Congress and the establishment of the Provisional Government. It should picture all the incidents of life in a small capital, where the streets were crowded with citizens and strangers, all alike aglow with the ardor of imminent conflict in arms. It should show how speculation and conjecture passed into certainty, when out of the Winter building on Court Square flashed Secretary Walker's order to Beauregard at Charleston to fire on Fort Sumter. Then would be heard the tramp of the volunteers, as they mustered here, now as infantry, now as cavalry, and now as artillerymen hurrying to the scene of war. Some of these will defend the coast, others will join the army of the Tennessee, and yet others will face and beat back the enemy from the soil of Virginia. Then follows the period of suspense when the citizens began to awake to the grave character of the contest before them, that, in fact, they were engaged in a desperate and bloody war; a period of varying hopes and fears of alternating joy and dismay as the news came from the front, bringing the intelligence of victory only to be followed by disaster. Such a sketch, too,

would tell how the heroism of man on the field was matched by the devotion of woman at home; how indefatigable she was in making clothing and gathering food for the soldiers' needs, how tenderly she waited upon and watched over the sick, how she bore up under the sad stories told by the lists of killed and wounded in every battle, how patiently she wrought on, and how earnestly she prayed for the success of the Southern arms.

Then it would be told how, despite manly valor and womanly devotion, the end came. The end came for Montgomery three days after the surrender of Lee's army at Appomattox. Wilson's cavalry reached Montgomery on the 12th of April, 1865. Of this period and of the ten years immediately following the close of the hostilities there is less need even than in the case of the war itself to attempt detailed treatment. The carpetbagger is a picturesque figure—birds of prey usually are—but any discussion of him and his rule at the South, might, perhaps, lead the most judicious into a betrayal of too strong a bias for decency and law and order.

In spite of misgovernment and the uncertainty and unrest incident to the violent changes wrought by the war, Montgomery had not only held her own, but was steadily increasing in wealth and population. In 1870 the population numbered 10,588, showing a much larger increase for the decade than was shown for the period between 1850 and 1860. A sounder industrial condition was already at work, with a myriad of influences, to build up and restore the waste places of the South.

From 1870 to 1880 the town made even more rapid progress in every direction. The city government was during the greater part of this time wisely and economically administered, the schools were well patronized, much building, both of store houses and dwellings, was accomplished, and the commerce of the place was largely added to. In 1880 the population had mounted to 16,713, showing an increase of over 6,000 since 1870. The same rate of increase, 57 per cent., would make the population in 1890, 26,383, and it is probable that, owing to the large additions to the population by immigration, this estimate will be under rather than over, the figures of the next census.

This sketch may be concluded properly with a statement of the present condition, and the outlook for the immediate future of Montgomery, but it will not be amiss to collect here, first,



some facts in the history of the place that the course of the narrative up to this point has made it seem proper to ignore.

#### CHURCHES.

We have seen the difficulty this young community had in its early years in adopting any religious observances, and the long time that elapsed before a church was built. Religious services were held generally in the court-house, and sometimes in private houses. The movements, begun in 1823, terminated in 1825 in the erection of a small church to be used by all the denominations represented in the place at that time. It was so used until 1832, when it was relinquished to the Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This church had been organized September 15, 1829. A new building was dedicated in 1835 on the same spot where the first church stood, and where the present edifice was erected. This last was dedicated by Bishop George F. Pierce on March 3, 1856. The Herron Street Methodist Church was organized in 1859, and their structure dedicated March 20, 1863.

The Baptist Church was organized November 29, 1829. This first was a feeble effort, and the Church was reorganized in 1832, when a house of worship was erected. The present First Church was dedicated in 1854; the Adams Street Baptist Church in October, 1864.

The Presbyterians first organized as a congregation in 1824, and as a church in November, 1829. The present church edifice was dedicated February 21, 1847.

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church was organized January 9, 1834, and their building was dedicated December 9, 1855. The Church of the Holy Comforter, on Root street, was dedicated in 1887.

The Methodist Protestant Church, on the corner of Bibb and Moulton streets, was dedicated October 30, 1842. St. Peter's Catholic Church was founded April 25, 1834, and dedicated anew in 1854. Kahl Montgomery was founded June 3, 1849. A Universalist Church was established in June, 1834. All the leading religious denominations now worship in handsome structures, and several of them each have a membership exceeding five hundred in number. From being a frontier village where non-observance of the rites of religion was a reproach, Montgomery has grown to be, in some sort, a city of churches. It should be added,

too, that the colored people of the Methodist and Baptist denominations have several handsome structures and their organizations are in a flourishing condition.

#### SCHOOLS AND NEWSPAPERS.

During the earlier years of its history Montgomery had many noteworthy private schools, but in common with most other Southern cities waited upon the extinction of slavery for the establishment of a free public school system. This last, founded in late years, has been carried forward under successive city administrations to a high degree of efficiency. The total expenses for the year ending April 30, 1887, were \$22,729.52. For the same year there was a total enrollment of teachers, 34; of pupils, 1,752; and the average attendance was 1,845.

The one crying need of Montgomery's school system is a public library, and it may well be doubted whether there is another city in the Union of the size and importance of this without that crowning ornament to its schools and to the municipality itself.

It is to the newspapers of a city, if we are to credit the splendid compliments so often lavished upon the fourth estate, that we must look for the highest and best manifestations of the life of a community. The columns of the *Republican* have given us a glimpse of Montgomery as it was in its early years. In the intervening period scores of newspapers have been founded, existed their short span, and died of competition or neglect.

The *Platters' Gazette* was the first rival of the *Republican*. It was founded in 1828, and, under its changed title of *Advertiser*, assumed in 1833, it has weathered all storms, and holds now a commanding position among the dailies of the State.

The decade immediately preceding the war was prolific of journalistic ventures. The *State Register* saw the light in 1850, the *Times* in 1852, the *Mail* in 1854, the *Messenger* in 1856 (being merged, in 1858, into the *Confederation*), and the *Daily Post* in 1860. Just prior to these, we have the *Metropolitan*, started in 1847, and the *Atlas* in 1849.

The editors of those days rarely pursued journalism alone as a profession. They commonly joined their newspaper work with the law or the ministry, or a land agency. The press was then, more than it is now, perhaps, the training school of the young wits and young professional men about

town. That the careers of some of these were eventfully picturesque, goes without saying. Thus Moseley Baker, a lawyer, at one time editor of the *Journal*, became involved in some questionable transaction, by which the State Bank was defrauded of a sum of money amounting to many thousands of dollars. Baker was arrested, and thrown into prison, but succeeded in making his escape, and went to Texas. In Texas he became a distinguished and wealthy lawyer. He was prominent in the Texan War for Independence; was promoted for gallantry at San Jacinto; became a brigadier-general; and was subsequently elected to the Congress of this new empire in the Southwest. His life in Texas had always been invested with more or less of mystery, and this mystery was to be dramatically dispelled. He rose one day in the Texan Congress, and told the members the story of his shame in his old home. He had achieved his ambition, he said, and was then able and ready to pay in full the debt he owed the State of Alabama. He thereupon resigned his position, and put himself in communication with the authorities of the State Bank at Tuscaloosa, offering to pay what he owed, with interest. Mr. Joel White, now of Montgomery, then of Tuscaloosa, and a director in the State Bank, proceeded to Houston, as the representative of the Bank, and collected every dollar of Baker's debt, in gold.

The best known editor in Montgomery during the *anti-slavery* period was probably Johnson J. Hooper, of the *Mail*. Hooper was the author of "Simon Suggs," and the *Mail*, founded by him in 1854, was distinguished throughout the time he edited it by the wit and humor that made the fame of his book.

The *Daily Advertiser* and the *Daily Dispatch* (1885) more than maintain at the present time the traditions of the press of Montgomery. Their superiority to the best of their predecessors is but an index to the signal improvements in every field of journalism during the last twenty years. A number of excellent weeklies, like the *Alabama Baptist* and the *Agriculturist*, still further broaden the sphere of the newspapers' usefulness at the capital. The colored population have an organ for their race in the  *Herald*.

#### DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

LaFayette visited Montgomery, as already related, in 1825, and we have seen the nature of the

reception given him. The next distinguished visitor was the Duke of Saxe-Weimer, the patron of Goethe and Schiller. Washington Irving came in 1832, on his return from his expedition in John Jacob Astor's interest to the Pacific Coast. John C. Calhoun stopped in Montgomery for some hours on April 19, 1841; returning in a few days from Mississippi he delivered a political address to a mass meeting of the citizens. Several of the ex-Presidents, while on their Southern tours, made stops in Montgomery. Van Buren was here April 3, 1842, Polk in 1849, and Fillmore on April 15, 1851. Henry Clay came up by way of Mobile in March, 1844, accompanied by Mrs. Octavia Le Vert, the authoress. He made one of his stirring public speeches to an immense concourse of people. Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, who is still alive in Turin, Italy, was in Montgomery in 1852. Stephen A. Douglas came South in the campaign of 1860, and included Montgomery among the other cities visited by him. War was imminent, however, and he here spoke to dull ears.

The two most memorable visits to the place, with the possible exception of LaFayette's, were those of Mr. Jefferson Davis in April, 1886, and of President Cleveland in October, 1887. The receptions given Mr. Davis and Mr. Cleveland, respectively, had much of fine historic color for an eye anxious to watch the progress of social and political sentiment at the South. Mr. Davis had an enthusiastic welcome from a people who considered that his days were well nigh spent, but that in his prime he had stood up before the world and had been blasted in the service of a cause once unspeakably dear to them all. Mr. Cleveland, as the first President of the United States who had ever visited Montgomery during his incumbency of that office, as the first President elected through the aid of the South since Buchanan, as the representative of a restored Union, and himself an exemplar of so many of the finest qualities of American citizenship, had a reception befitting his great station, and one alike honorable to him and to the community whose guest he was. The city that had given Yancey to the cause of "Southern Rights," that had itself been the seat of the provisional government of the Confederate States, had now within its gates and was spending a generous courtesy upon a President who, above all things else, stood for an indissoluble and non-sectional union, a man who in his official capacity





Yours, very respectfully  
F. H. Watts Sr

directed all his cares, his hopes and aspirations, to the future of our common country. President Cleveland's visit may be said to mark an epoch in our local history. Not that his visit had any wide-reaching influence, but because of the proof the visit offered, with its holiday accompaniments, that Montgomery was facing toward the morning, that she had taken her place in the ranks of that greater army, the army of industry, before whose arms slavery had gone down.

#### THE FUTURE.

Montgomery will celebrate its Centennial in 1917, and doubtless will celebrate it with all the pomp and circumstance befitting the event. What is there of promise in our town of to-day that the Centennial of 1917 shall illustrate a progress in every direction of sound municipal development?

Our population still consists of a disproportionately large number of the colored race, but it is of good omen for the future that the negroes are building themselves homes in larger number every year. Then, too, many of them manifest a passion for educational advantages, and, by a growing attention to work, to saving, and to conduct, are aiding instead of impeding the progress of the place. On the purely industrial and economical side the record of the current decade is the most remarkable in the history of the place.

Already there are six railroads in operation that run into Montgomery: the Louisville & Nashville, the Western of Alabama, the Montgomery & Eufaula, the Montgomery & Florida, the Mobile & Montgomery, and the road leading to Selma. There are projected, and under survey at present, the Midland, another route southeast to the Chattahoochee and the Montgomery & Maplesville, to connect this place with the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, in Chilton County.

The merchants are fully alive to the advantages of river competition, and have organized and had in operation, since 1886, a line of steamers between Montgomery and Mobile. The merchant can now get through bills of lading on this line, *via* Mobile, to New York and Liverpool.

The volume of Montgomery's trade now amounts annually to nearly \$50,000,000, made up largely of the business done by wholesale dry-goods and grocery merchants and the handling of the cotton crop. The annual receipts of cotton are never less than 100,000 bales, and in one year they amounted to 140,000 bales. But cotton and dry goods and gro-

ceries Montgomery has always had, and the heads she likes best to tell over just now are the new manufacturing enterprises that promise so solid a foundation for commercial growth and greatness. More than \$2,000,000 are now invested in factories of various kinds, among them the following: One cotton-mill, three cotton-seed oil mills, one oil refinery, one cracker factory, two grist-mills, five wood-working establishments, six carriage and wagon factories, six brick and tile works, one boiler works, three foundries and machine shops, one candy factory, two ice factories, one soap factory, one fertilizer factory, two railroad-car shops, one cigar factory, one furniture factory, one paper-box factory, one sausage factory, one vinegar factory, one alcohol distillery, four cotton-gineries and one iron furnace—in all, forty-seven manufacturing establishments.

The desirableness of Montgomery as a residence city has been quite generally acknowledged during late years. There has been but one epidemic of yellow fever since the war, and that was in 1873. At the present time the city's death rate is one of the lowest in the Union, and there is reason to believe that the record in this respect will be maintained. The capital feature in the sanitary advantages of the place, is the new water works system, the capacity of which is 5,000,000 gallons daily, and the water itself the purest kind raised from artesian wells. The city is now engaged in supplementing this admirable system by putting in the Waring system of sewerage. The last General Assembly granted the corporation the right to issue bonds to the amount of \$250,000, the proceeds of which are to be expended in putting down this perfected system of drainage.

In addition to these improvements there have been others made, and there are now in operation a fine electric light plant and fifteen miles of electric street railway.

It is the pledge of her homes, her churches, her schools, her commerce, her manufactories and the character of her citizens that the Montgomery of to-day gives to the Montgomery of 1917 that our city will then be worthy of the best traditions of her past.



THOMAS HILL WATTS, distinguished Attorney and Counselor-at-law, son of John H. and Prudence (Hill) Watts, natives, respectively, of Ean-

quier County, Va., and Clarke County, Ga., was born in Butler County, this State, January 3, 1819.

The Watts family came into the province of Virginia from Wales, and the Hills came from "merry old England."

Thomas Watts, the grandfather of the gentleman whose name forms the caption of this sketch, was a soldier under John Marshall (afterward the renowned Chief-Justice of the United States Supreme Court) in the Revolutionary War, and held the rank of a non-commissioned officer. In 1797 he removed into Georgia and settled in Greene County, where he spent the rest of his life. His widow became the wife of Governor Rabun of that State.

In 1818, John Hughes Watts, who married Prudence Hill, daughter of Thomas Hill, of Clarke County, Ga., moved into Butler County, Ala., the latter place being a wild, unsettled country and the home of the Creek Indians. Of his children, Thomas Hill Watts was the eldest.

In a small, one-story log school-house, with paneled floor, receiving light and air through the unthinked recesses of the building, and presided over by Mr. Burwell Rogers, who called the boys "to books" *à la voce*, and literally spared not the rod with which he ruled them from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, the subject of this sketch began the arduous undertaking of mastering the English alphabet.

Who has forgotten the magnitude of this task? And who does not remember the stern, relentless visage of the master, whose keen eye detected the slightest infraction of his iron-clad rules, and who punished stupidity as crime? How long ago this seems, and yet how short a time it really has been! What mighty things have transpired since then, and through what stirring scenes have we passed!

And with many of the most important events of this wonderful period the life of Thomas Hill Watts is identified. Though yet in the prime of a mature and well-preserved manhood, he is familiarly known in the pages of our common country's history, and while it is the province of this work to give but the briefest outline of his career, the future chronicler of his noble deeds will find abundance of theme for encomium and panegyric.

At the age of sixteen years his father sent him to Airy Mount Academy, Dallas County, where he fitted himself for college.

The senior Mr. Watts was not a wealthy man,

and, having a large family of children, did not feel justified in conferring upon any one of his sons an University education, as he was not able to do so unto all of them. This objection, however, was readily overcome as to his eldest; for upon his father's agreeing to defray the expenses of his schooling, young Watts agreed to and did relinquish his every further claim to his parent's bounty. This arrangement enabled him to enter the University of Virginia, from which institution he was graduated in 1840. During the year following his graduation he was admitted to the bar in Butler County, and there practiced law until 1847. In January of that year, he removed from Greenville to Montgomery, and here he has since made his home.

Prior to the late war Governor Watts was an extensive planter and slave-owner, although at the same time he was giving his very best energies to the practice of the law.

His public life began in 1840, when he took an active part in the presidential campaign, supporting Harrison as against Van Buren. In 1842, 1844, and 1845, he represented Butler County in the Legislature; in 1849 he represented Montgomery in the Lower House; and in 1853 he was Senator from Montgomery and Autauga. In 1848 he was the General Taylor presidential elector for the State-at-large, and in 1856, the "Know Nothing" candidate for Congress, and was defeated by a small majority. In 1860 he was a prominent supporter of Bell and Everett.

Opposed from principle to the idea of secession, he labored assiduously to prevent the arrival of such an emergency. But the election of Lincoln upon a platform purely sectional, satisfied him that there was no further ground for hope of a compromise of the great disturbing question, and he at once announced himself as with his State in her withdrawal from the Federal Union.

Thos. H. Watts and Wm. L. Yancey represented Montgomery County in the Convention of January 7, 1861, and Mr. Watts was made chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Through all the deliberations of that important body he played a conspicuous part.

In the summer following the formation of the Provisional Confederate Government, Mr. Watts raised the Seventeenth Alabama Regiment of Infantry, and became its colonel. While in command of this regiment at Corinth, Miss., Mr. Davis selected him as the Attorney-General for

the Confederate Government, an honor wholly unsolicited upon his part. However, he at once resigned his command, and proceeded to Richmond, where he took the oath of office on 9th of April, 1862.

In August, 1863, he was elected, against his expressed wishes, to the Governorship of Alabama, and filled that position from December, 1863, to the spring of 1865, the most momentous and trying period through which the State has ever passed.

The war swept away Governor Watts' fortune, and drove him temporarily under cover of bankruptcy, but he despaired not, neither did he complain. Possessed of a strong and vigorous constitution, mentally the peer of the foremost of his contemporaries, full of unadulterated energy, he proceeded to re-construct his affairs, and, it is pleasing to note, success rewarded his efforts. Applying himself persistently to his profession, at no time a speculator, and appropriating his vast energies at all times to legitimate uses, he has paid off his indebtedness, principal and interest, over one hundred thousand dollars, and about three-fourths of this vast sum represents liabilities incurred by him for other people.

Kind-hearted and generous; of spotless integrity, and with an exalted sense of honor—his noble character has made him respected and beloved, and has gained him a lasting place in the hearts of his fellow-citizens. And yet these very characteristics probably disclose the key to his past financial embarrassments.

Governor Watts has occupied the leading position at the Alabama Bar for many years, and both as advocate and lawyer he has few equals and no superiors. His practice is largely in the Supreme Court, where he is identified with nearly every important case occurring before that august body. Thoroughly proficient in every department of his profession, he is not excelled by any lawyer in the country. His speech on the constitutionality of the electoral law before the United States Court, December, 1878, was pronounced a masterpiece of exhaustless reasoning, and for thorough knowledge of the subject far surpassed any speech made in Congress on that question.

Earnest and forcible, terse and vigorous in the use of language; possessed of strong natural sense, and a deep sympathy with human nature—he wields an immense influence over men at all times. He is a polished orator and a finished scholar; and

his mind is one vast storehouse of useful knowledge, upon which he can draw at pleasure.

Since his advent into public life he has taken an active and prominent part in every question of importance, State, municipal and national, that has been brought before the people. With one single exception, he has never sought an office. Away back in the '40s he came to the Legislature from Butler County at his own request. Since then he has adhered to the principle that "the office should seek the man."

Yet in the prime of manhood, Governor Watts bids fair to remain many years a useful citizen of a country that honors itself by honoring him.

He has been twice married; first, to Miss Eliza B. Allen January 10, 1842. She died August 31, 1873, leaving six children. His second wife, to whom he was married in September, 1875, was the widow of the late J. F. Jackson. She died February 3, 1887.



**SAMUEL F. RICE**, distinguished Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born in Union District, S. C., June 2, 1816. His father, William Rice, also a native of South Carolina, was upward of twenty years the Judge of Ordinary in Union District; his mother's maiden name was Herndon. The Rices probably came to America from Wales; the Herndons from England, and both families have played conspicuous parts at various times and places in the United States.

Samuel F. Rice was the third in a family of four sons, and, with one exception (the oldest son who resides on the old homestead in South Carolina), is the only one living. There were also four daughters in the family, and of these there is but one living. She is the widow of the late William H. Gist, once Governor of South Carolina.

Mr. Rice was graduated from Columbia (S. C.) College in 1833; read law with William C. Preston, who afterward became distinguished as United States Senator, and was admitted to the bar in June, 1837. After spending a year at Winnsboro, he came to this State and located at Talladega, in the practice of law, and remained there until 1852, when he removed to Montgomery. During the last four years of his stay at Talladega, he was in partnership with the distinguished John T. Morgan. In 1840-41, he represented

Tallegee County in the Legislature, and in the latter named year was made State Printer. Another writer has said that he was made State Printer because of his connection with the *Watchtower*, a Democratic paper established by him at Talladega. He was beaten for Congress in 1845 by General McConnell. In 1848 he was one of the General Taylor electors from his district. When the Southern Rights party was formed in 1851, he united with it, ran again for Congress upon the platform of that party and was defeated by Alexander White. In 1859 he represented Montgomery County in the Legislature, and in 1861 represented Montgomery and Autauga Counties in the Senate. In 1875 he was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and in 1876-77 he was again in the Legislature.

We have thus hastened over the life of one of Alabama's most distinguished citizens. Judge Rice is probably known personally to more men than any other one man in the State. In the halls of the Legislature he always ranked among the leaders, and as a debater he probably never met his superior. Another writer has said of him "that his record is peculiar, abounding in lights and shadows to a romantic extent," and that it may be summed up as follows: "A college graduate, a good lawyer, an efficient editor, a legislator, State Printer, Democrat, Taylor man, Southern Rights man, Know-Nothing, twice a candidate for Congress, a Judge of the Supreme Court, a Secessionist in 1861, and a Republican in 1870." A part of this summing up, at least, is true, but that Judge Rice was ever a Republican is not accepted by his present biographer. That he differed with many men high in authority in the State of Alabama as to the best policy to be pursued in the days of Reconstruction is well known, but that he ever went further than to advocate a peaceable submission to the inevitable is doubtful.

Judge Rice took his seat upon the Supreme Court bench of the State in 1855, but resigned it in 1859, to re-sume the practice of law.

It was related of him that for ten or twelve years before the war, he tried his hand at planting, but finding that it required his professional earnings to support his negroes, he gave it up.

He is one of the hardest working men in the profession to which he is devoted, and that he is one of the most successful lawyers of the State is universally admitted.

[As a matter of information it may be stated

that his decisions while upon the Supreme bench, may be found in volumes 26 to 34, inclusive.—Ed.]

The Judge was married in South Carolina, in 1835, to Miss Pearson, a native of the little village where he first began the practice of law. Mrs. Rice died in 1869, leaving one child, now Mrs. Glaze.

In 1872, the Judge led to the altar in Montgomery, Miss Fitzgibbons, of Autauga County, and by this marriage has had born to him one son and one daughter. The Judge was brought up in the Methodist Episcopal Church, but whether he is a member of that or any other denomination at this writing, the writer is not advised.



**JEFFERSON M. FALKNER**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, is a native of Randolph County, this State, and a son of Jefferson Falkner, a retired attorney and now a minister of the gospel, in charge of the Baptist Church at Mountain Creek, Chilton County, this State.

The Rev. Mr. Falkner retired from the practice of law in 1877, and has since that time given his attention to the ministry. He came from Georgia to Alabama more than forty-five years ago. His wife *nee* Miss Breed, a descendant of the family that gave name to Breed's Hill, Mass., was born in Georgia, and there Mr. Falkner married her. The Falkners came originally from Wales and settled in Maryland. The Breeds were from England.

Of the two sons born to this family, the subject of this sketch was the youngest. He was educated at LaFayette, in Chambers County, and at Mercer University, Penfield, Ga. He left Mercer University in the spring of 1861 to enter the army as a private in a company commanded by his father. At the end of about thirteen months, he was made second lieutenant of the company; was promoted to first lieutenant in the summer of 1863, and commissioned captain in 1864. He left the army with Johnson's final surrender in North Carolina.

Captain Falkner was in all the battles of the Army of Tennessee, and accompanied the redoubtable Joe Wheeler in his active campaigns.

After the cessation of hostilities, Captain Falkner came to Montgomery, where he was engaged at milling and planting until 1867. In August of this year he began reading law with his father at Montgomery; was admitted to the bar in February,



1868, and has since devoted his time to the practice.

In 1874, associated with his father, he established the *Southern Plantation*, an agricultural paper, and conducted it successfully through the ensuing four years. This paper was afterward absorbed by the *Southern Agriculturalist*. The *Plantation* was established as the organ of the Patrons of Husbandry and, as such, wielded a great influence throughout the country.

Captain Falkner has at no time in life been a politician, but as a Democratic worker, in the interests of his friends, he has at times been quite conspicuous. Prior to the ousting of the Radicals from power, he made the race on the Democratic ticket for representative to the Legislature. It is not necessary to say that he was defeated.

In June, 1885, he was elected City Attorney, and held the office two terms. He has also been Alderman of Montgomery two terms, which appears to constitute the sum of his office holding. In December, 1885, he formed a partnership with Col. Thomas G. Jones, and the law firm of Jones & Falkner is now one of the most prominent and successful in the State.

Captain Falkner was married at Mountain Creek, Chilton County, July 19, 1887, to Miss Lizzie Cameron, daughter of Andrew Cameron, Esq.

As a matter of history, we recur to Captain Falkner's war record. His company entered the service July 25, 1861, and was known afterward as the Chambers' Cavalry, Eighth Confederate Cavalry Regiment, which consisted of six Alabama and four Mississippi companies, and the senior Falkner was made lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, which position he held until after the battle of Murfreesboro, when, owing to ill-health, he resigned. Colonel Falkner afterward, under a commission from Governor Watts, organized a battalion of troops for the State service.



**EDMUND PENDLETON MORRISSETT**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born in Monroe County, this State, January 31, 1837.

His father, the late Hon. John Morrissett, lawyer, planter and legislator, was a native of Tennessee, and his mother, *nee* Frances Gaines, was born in Culpeper County, Va.

The Morrissetts came originally from France, settling first near Williamsburg, Va., and the Gaines family were among the earlier colonists from Wales. The senior Mr. Morrissett was a soldier in the War of 1812, and at its close settled at St. Stephens, the territorial capital of Alabama, where he married a relative of his old commander, Gen. E. P. Gaines. In 1821 he located in Monroe County, then one of the most populous counties in the State, and the home of some of Alabama's most noted men. Bagby, Dillett, Murphy, Parsons, Cooper, and others equally prominent in the affairs of the State then and afterward, were from Monroe, and the truth of history justifies the statement that Mr. Morrissett was the peer of any of them. He represented that county in the lower house of the Legislature, sessions of 1829, 1832, 1833, 1842, 1843, and 1844; and in the Senate, sessions of 1845, 1847, 1849, and 1851. The records and brevier reports of the proceedings of the General Assembly during those years show that Monroe had no idle representative of her interests; and more, that she was sending there a man capable of holding his own with the strongest of his adversaries; a man that had the courage of his convictions upon all questions; a man that made himself heard and felt.

Mr. Morrissett was educated for the law; gave the profession some attention, and divided the rest of his time between politics and his large agricultural interests.

A biographical sketch of the Hon. John Morrissett in the "Public Men in Alabama," by Garrett, has among many others in that sketch, the error, that his marriage with Miss Gaines "brought him fortune and influence." Miss Gaines, though a lovely and accomplished young woman, was of limited fortune, and whatever fortune and influence that were afterward attained by Mr. Morrissett, was due to his patient industry and economy, cheerfully aided by his noble wife. In Garrett's book occurs, also, an unnecessary allusion to an almost forgotten controversy between Mr. Morrissett and Governor Bagby, which the descendants of both parties doubtless regret, and would have buried with the past. Garrett was an intense admirer and partisan of Governor Bagby, and after dragging into the sketch of Hon. John Morrissett, a defense of Governor Bagby, did great injustice to Mr. Morrissett in the account he gave of that matter. Mr. Morrissett, in an open letter to the public, published in pamphlet form in

October, 1836, states the causes which impelled him to such a course. It was a time of great political interest. Mr. Morrissett and Mr. Bagby were prominent men. A question of veracity had arisen between them in regard to some political matters attracting public attention. Mr. Morrissett published a minute statement of the grounds of the controversy. In support of the charges made against Mr. Bagby, he cites in proof the records of the courts, and vouches as witnesses some of the foremost citizens of the State. Garrett, in the sketch alluded to, seeks to create the impression that the difference between Mr. Morrissett and Mr. Bagby naturally resulted from a congenital dissimilarity that prevented mutual appreciation. In his pamphlet Mr. Morrissett states that for nearly twenty years—since 1818—they had been friends, he often voting for Bagby and Bagby for him, though generally differing politically. Mr. Morrissett never aspired to soar among the stars, when dealing with the business affairs of men. While he was capable of discerning and honoring high intellectual endowments, and appreciating noble and sensitive natures, he never hesitated, when it came in his way, to ruthlessly tear off the mask of hypocrisy and falsehood, regardless of whom the wearer might be. In the same sketch the author, who had, perhaps himself, not escaped, at some time, the "grasp" of this "vigilant adversary," takes occasion to determine that Mr. Morrissett was sometimes on the extreme. He cites as an instance of this, the course of Mr. Morrissett in advocating in the Legislature a bill to regulate the sampling of cotton in Mobile, which was afterward adopted, and has long been on the statute books of Alabama. The sampling of cotton had been intrusted chiefly to negroes and a low class of foreigners; the rapacity of these samplers became so reckless that it aroused the indignation of the planters of the State, who demanded some restriction or limitation as to the quantity of cotton to be taken from a bale in sampling it. Mr. Morrissett championed the bill, and as he did not use sugar-coated words in describing the existing practice of sampling cotton, a crowd of these people with those who shared with them the fruits of their calling, sought to insult him afterward in Mobile. No commission merchants or other gentlemen took part in the "hostile demonstration," so far as could be ascertained. The Hon. John Morrissett, was simple in dress, and candid and fearless in speech. He was devoted to his friends,

but like Wolsey, "he was lofty and sour to them that loved him not."

He occupied a prominent and honorable position among the distinguished men who early settled in Alabama. To his biography, as the father of the subject of this sketch, is devoted space for the correction of certain errors in a book that may hereafter be referred to by the historian of the early settlement of the State.

Edmund P. Morrissett possesses many of the traits of his father, perhaps somewhat mellowed by the less rugged and *suaviter in modo* qualities of his maternal ancestry. Descended from the sturdy pioneer stock that resolutely wrought out fortune by subduing the forests, Edmund P. inherited a robust constitution and vigorous intellect. Early left, by the death of his father, to the instruction and guidance of a cultivated mother, proud of her lineage, he was taught to esteem integrity and manly virtues beyond riches. Graduating at the State University, at Tuscaloosa, in the class of 1856, he was admitted to the practice of the law before the bar of the Supreme Court of his State, in 1859. He entered the army soon after the commencement of hostilities between the States, as a private in the Cavalry company commanded by Capt. Robert W. Smith, of Mobile, and which was afterward united with the Third Alabama Cavalry Regiment. Remaining with the army till the close of the war, he surrendered with Gen. Joseph E. Johnson at Greensboro, N. C., and repaired to his old home-stead in Monroe County, where he remained only long enough to rent out his lands, and then moved to Montgomery, to engage in the practice of the law.

Devoting himself to his profession and to his farming interests, he has taken but little part in politics, except in 1874, when he entered actively into the canvass that resulted in the election of Governor Houston, as well as the restoration of the Democratic party to power and the final overthrow of the carpet-bag rule in the State; and afterwards in 1884, when he was a candidate for the office of Attorney General of the State, when he was defeated by the Hon. Thomas N. McClellan.

In 1872 Mr. Morrissett married, in Montgomery, Miss Katie Hutcheson, the accomplished daughter of the late John D. Hutcheson, and a granddaughter of Judge B. S. Bibb, of this city. He now ranks among the foremost lawyers of the Montgomery bar.

**HENRY C. SEMPLE.** Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born January 14, 1822, at Williamsburg, Va., and is a son of James and Joanna (McKenzie) Semple, natives, respectively, of New Kent and Chesterfield Counties, that State.

The grandfather of our subject was a Scotchman, and came to America in 1750. He was a minister of the Church of England, and was rector of St. Peter's, New Kent County, Va. He was one of the few ministers of the Church of England (in Virginia) who were Whigs during the Revolution.

James Semple, the father of our subject, was a Judge of the General Court of Virginia, and professor of law at William and Mary College. He had practiced law, presided on the bench in Virginia, or served as professor of law from 1796 up to 1834, at which time he died at Williamsburg, Va., at the age of about seventy-seven years.

Henry C. Semple was educated at William and Mary College, Virginia; graduated from the law school of Harvard University in September, 1845, and began the practice of his profession at Montgomery, Ala., in 1846. He is said to be the oldest practitioner, now living, of those who were at the Montgomery bar in 1846.

His first association in the practice was with George C. Ball, which lasted but a short time. In 1856 he became associated with Judge George Goldthwaite, the firm name being Goldthwaite & Semple; subsequently Judge Rice was added to the firm. In 1870 this firm was dissolved. In 1868, October, he formed a copartnership with Judge R. C. Brickell, of Huntsville, and William A. Gunter, the style of the firm being Brickell, Semple & Gunter.

In 1861 Mr. Semple entered the army as aide-de-camp on General Bragg's staff. He remained with that General until March, 1862, when he was placed in charge of a command known as Semple's Battery, with which he went into the campaign of Kentucky under General Bragg, and participated in every general action from Perryville to Missionary Ridge. While captain of Semple's Battery he had at times command of the artillery of Cleburne's Division and of Hill's and Breckinridge's Corps. In 1864 he was promoted to major and transferred to the command of the artillery of the District of the Gulf, at Mobile, and surrendered to General Canby May 12, 1865, at Meridian, Miss., with Dick Taylor's army. At the close

of the war he returned to Montgomery, and resumed the practice of law, to which he has since devoted his time.

Mr. Semple is a director of the Merchants and Planters National Bank and of the Western Railroad of Alabama. He is a member of the National Democratic Committee, and was a member of the Convention of 1867 that framed the Constitution of 1868. Disapproving of that Constitution, he withdrew from the Convention. He was a member of the Board of Aldermen that effected the payment of the city debt in 1875.

Mr. Semple was married in November, 1848, to Miss Emily V., daughter of Lorenzo and Eliza (Scott) James, of Clarke County, Ala. Of the seven living children born to this union we make the following mention: McKenzie is at the present writing Assistant District Attorney of the city of New York; Henry is a Jesuit priest, and is a Professor at Spring Hill College, Mobile, Ala.; Mary C. is a nun at the Convent of Visitation, at Mobile; Barrington is engaged in the practice of law at Birmingham, Ala.; Lorenzo is an ensign in the United States navy; Irene and Emily are still under the parental roof.

Mr. Semple and family are all devoted members of the Catholic Church.



**DANIEL SHIPMAN TROY,** prominent Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, President of the Alabama Fertilizer Company, President of the Dispatch Publishing Company, and Director in the Elyton Land Company, was born October 9, 1832. He read law with his brother-in-law, Wm. Hunter, at Cahaba, and in 1851, at the age of nineteen years, was admitted to practice in the *visi prius* courts. He was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court in 1854. He lived at Cahaba until 1860, and from there came to Montgomery. In January, 1861, he joined the Montgomery "True Blues," as a private, in an expedition against Fort Baranous, Pensacola. After this he recruited a company known as the "Gilmer Greys," and went out as its captain. The "Blues" were mustered into and became a part of the Hilliard Legion early in 1862. In the fall of 1862 Captain Troy was promoted to major, and in 1863 the Infantry of this Legion was reorganized into the Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth Alabama Regiments, and he was made lieutenant-colonel of

the Sixtieth. He took part in Longstreet's attack upon Knoxville, siege of Cumberland Gap, battle at Mead's Station, Drury's Bluff and Bermuda Hundred. He was wounded at Drury's Bluff, and on the 25th of March, 1865, near Petersburg, he was shot entirely through the left lung, and left upon the battle-field for dead. He fell into the hands of the enemy, where he remained to the close of the war. Some time after the cessation of hostilities, he resumed the practice of law, at which he has been remarkably successful, both as a lawyer and in the accumulation of wealth. He is now at the head of the law firm of Troy, Tompkins & London. He was a member of the State Senate from 1878 to 1886; was an active Democratic worker during the period of Reconstruction, but is now entirely out of politics.

Colonel Troy is a scholarly man with a decidedly literary turn of mind, which finds vent through several of the most popular periodicals and newspapers of the day. He writes with equal facility upon law, politics and science.

He is a member of the Catholic Church, to which religion he was converted while in the Federal Hospital.



**THOMAS GOODE JONES**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, distinguished as Speaker of the House of Representatives, and colonel of the Second Regiment Alabama State Troops. His father was the late Colonel Samuel G. Jones, and his mother was, before marriage, Martha W. Goode, the former being a native of Brunswick and the latter of Mecklenburg County, Va.

The Joneses are traced back to the Colonial days of North Carolina and Virginia, and the Goode family came originally from England. The senior Jones was an eminent civil engineer, a graduate of Williams College, Massachusetts, where he took one of the honors in the class of 1837, and was one of the pioneers in railroad building in the South. He came to Georgia in 1839, and was engineer in charge of location of the roads of the old Monroe Railroad & Banking Company, one of the first roads in Georgia. The thriving town of Jonesboro, Ga., was named in his honor. In 1849 he came to Montgomery as chief engineer of the Montgomery & West Point Railway. He was one of the projectors of and a chief spirit in the building of the Alabama & Florida Road to Pensa-

cola, and the railroad from Montgomery to Selma. He removed to Tennessee in 1877, and died at Sewanee, October 4, 1886, in the seventy-second year of his age, universally respected for his high character and piety.

Col. Thos. G. Jones, whose name is placed at the head of this sketch, is the eldest of the four sons born to his parents. Of these four sons, two are lawyers, one a civil engineer, and one a locomotive engineer.

Colonel Jones was born in Macon, Ga., November 26, 1844, and came with his parents to Montgomery in 1850, and here has since made his home. At the outbreak of the war he was a cadet at the Virginia Military Institute, and was ordered to Richmond as drill-master of volunteers.

In 1862 he served in Jackson's celebrated Valley campaign, and at its conclusion enlisted in a company of "Partisan Rangers." General Jackson, who, as a professor at the Institute, had known young Jones as a cadet, gave him a recommendation for appointment in the regular army. Upon this, and the request of Gov. Thos. H. Watts, then Attorney-General, at Richmond, Brigadier-General Jno. B. Gordon appointed young Jones his aide-de-camp. He served on General Gordon's staff during the remainder of the war, being twice promoted and several times wounded.

For "gallant conduct at Bristoe" he was commended in orders, and personally thanked by Gen. Robert E. Lee. The same officer sent his "thanks to the brave young Alabamian" for his services at Hare's Hill, where in the presence of General Lee, young Jones volunteered to cross the space between the works of the two armies, which was plowed by a terrific fire of cannon and small arms, to bear Gordon's order for the withdrawal of his troops from the positions they had captured.

He was in the last action at Appomattox, and bore one of the flags of truce sent into the enemy's lines just before the surrender.

During Ex-President Davis' visit to Montgomery, in 1886, to lay the corner stone of the Confederate Monument, Colonel Jones, at the request of the Memorial Association, delivered a lecture at McDonald's Opera House, on "The Last Days of the Army of Northern Virginia." General Gordon in introducing Colonel Jones to the audience, spoke of his career as a soldier, as follows:

"Rarely, if ever, have I had a greater pleasure than the one assigned to me this evening. It is my privilege to introduce to you one who was



Yours truly,  
Thos. G. Jones



assigned to my staff when a beardless boy; who was with me in whatever trials I experienced myself during the war; who never failed to discharge his duty, not only willingly but gladly, whatever might be the promised cost. I think I may truthfully say, without one particle of exaggeration, that if the bare facts connected with his services in the Confederate Army were written out, it would furnish as thrilling a romance as one ever read. Let me relate to you one or two instances which I recall at this moment: On one occasion I directed him as a staff-officer to carry an order several miles, through an unbroken forest to another portion of the army, from which we had been detached. The sun was just setting. At night-fall he still found himself in the forest and in the midst of the Federal pickets; but by the instrumentality of his cool bearing—genius I am pleased to term it, and I think I am doing justice to him in saying so—the captive became the captor, and marched to my tent nine Federal soldiers. As to how he did it, I had his simple story at the time. I have often related it, and I have never found a listener who did not say that it was without parallel in the history of personal heroism. Chilly night came on and he induced those Federals to kindle a blaze and to stack their arms. No sooner was it done than he possessed himself of their guns, and ordered them to march to the Camp.

On another occasion, during the fearful attack on Hare's Hill, near the close of the war at Petersburg, it became necessary for an order to be carried to the troops who were in front, and across the most deadly portion of that field, where it had been utterly impossible to move large bodies of men. So fearful was this fire, that I hesitated to designate any one of my staff for the service; and I asked if there was one who would volunteer to carry the order. No sooner had I uttered the words than this boy, not yet out of his teens, sprang to his feet with the words: 'General, I will carry your order.' He carried it, but left his track in his blood in doing so. I know that this audience does not need to be told, that such a career in one so young gives promise of a great and useful future. It is your young and brilliant fellow citizen, whom I introduce to you, Col. Thos. G. Jones."

At the close of the war he returned home, and engaged in planting, and at the same time read law in the office of the late John A. Elmore, and afterward, under the direction of his near neigh-

bor and friend, the late Chief-Justice A. J. Walker. He was admitted to the bar in 1866, and the same year married Miss Georgena Bird, of Montgomery, who, with their seven children, constitute his household. His planting operations resulted disastrously, and he surrendered everything to creditors, not even reserving a homestead, and devoted a large share of his professional earnings afterward to paying these debts.

In 1868 he was one of the editors of the *Daily Picayune*, a Democratic paper published in Montgomery, and evinced much ability as a writer.

In 1869 he was one of the Democratic nominees for Alderman of the city, but was defeated with the rest of the ticket.

His oration at Montgomery on "Memorial Day," 1864, was a classical production, full of thought and beauty, and at once brought him prominently before the country. The press throughout the Union published extracts from it, pronouncing them high types of Southern oratory and feeling. The earnest and thoughtful words of the young Confederate, who "would not wrong the cause by arguing its right," and yet hoped that "something higher and nobler would rise from the graves of all our heroic dead than a sectional vendetta between the North and the South," created a profound impression, and were not the least among the happy causes which combined in 1874 to check the further tide of vindictiveness against the Southern people.

He was one of Governor Houston's military staff in 1874, but resigned in 1876 to accept the captaincy of the Montgomery Greys. He resigned command of the Greys in 1880 to accept the colonelcy of the Second Regiment of State troops, which office he still holds. This regiment is one of the best in the country, and in morals, discipline and manly deportment is excelled by none. On several occasions portions of it have been ordered out, under his command, to suppress lawlessness, and each time peace was restored without bloodshed or bitterness. The triumphs of moral power, rather than that of mere physical force, were due not more to the splendid body of men under him than to the firm and humane hand which guided them.

Of his conduct as commander of the State troops at Birmingham on the night of December 4, 1883, the then Governor, in a general order, said: "Colonel Jones, the commanding officer, was charged with a grave responsibility and a large

discretion, under circumstances of the greatest difficulty, and to his courage, temper, prudence and skill is mainly due the repression of a dangerous revolt against the laws and dignity of the State."

In 1875, when the affairs of the city of Montgomery were in a deplorable condition, and required almost Herculean efforts to set matters to rights, he was one of the Democratic nominees for Alderman, and was elected. During four successive administrations he took a laborious and prominent part in shaping and executing the various measures and policies which aided in restoring its prosperity. The reports written by him on the numerous important matters arising during this period of the city's history would make an ordinary printed volume, and add greatly to his reputation as a writer and thinker. While in the City Council he published a paper on "Quarantine Law" which was extensively copied in medical and legal periodicals, and is now quoted as authority on such subjects. He resigned from the Council after nine years' service.

In 1880 he resigned the office of reporter of the Supreme Court which he had long filled with credit to himself, and satisfaction to the bench and bar, to give his entire attention to the practice of his profession, in which he had gradually but surely attained high rank.

In 1881, he was nominated and elected in a most flattering manner to a seat in the General Assembly. He took a prominent and useful part in the session of 1881-85 and soon became one of the acknowledged leaders of the House. His services were highly appreciated by his constituents, and he was renominated by practically a unanimous vote at the Democratic primaries and convention in the spring of 1886, and elected in August following.

He is the author of the "Code of Legal Ethics," recently adopted by the Alabama State Bar Association, which has already attracted wide attention, and won many encomiums from the profession in this and other States. Of his lecture at McDonald's Opera House, on "The Last Days of the Army of Northern Virginia," ex-President Davis, who was an interested listener, said it was, "not only a faithful and valuable history of the closing struggles of that illustrious army, but a production of rare literary merit."

He was Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, session of 1886-87, and by his

prompt, intelligent and impartial rulings, won for himself the unstinted respect and affection of all parties.

[The publishers are indebted to the deservedly popular metropolitan journal, the *Montgomery Advertiser* for many of the foregoing facts.]

Of irreproachable integrity and stainless character in all the relations of life; hospitable, generous and public-spirited; tolerant of opposition, yet tenacious of his own convictions; of an open nature, pleasing address, and a great kindness of heart, he has long enjoyed, in full measure, the confidence and good will of his fellow-men.



**EDWARD ALFRED GRAHAM**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, and Senator from the Twenty-eighth District, was born at Wetumpka, this State, October 18, 1852. His father, the late Malcolm D. Graham, was a member of Congress, Confederate States of America, from Texas, and was Attorney-General of that State from 1859 to 1861. He returned to Alabama in 1866, and spent the rest of his life at Montgomery, where he died in October, 1878, at the age of fifty-two years.

Senator Graham was educated at Henderson, Tex., Montgomery, Ala., and Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va. He began the study of law in 1872, in the office of his father and Judge Thomas M. Arrington, and was admitted to the bar in June, 1873. In March, 1877, he was appointed by Governor Houston, clerk of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, and in 1880, was elected to fill that office, but at the end of one year, he resigned for the purpose of devoting himself to the practice of law. He was first elected to the House of Representatives from this county in 1882, served one term, and in 1886 was elected to the Senate. He has served Montgomery twice as Recorder, and discharged the duties of that office in a highly satisfactory manner. He has always taken a great interest in public education, and was for a long time a member of the City School Board. He distinguished himself as the captain of the famous Montgomery Greys, and commanded that company at the troubles at McGehee's Switch, Opelika and Birmingham. At the latter place his cool determination and soldierly bearing contributed much to the prevention of bloodshed.







Henry C. Tompkins

Senator Graham is an active Democratic worker, member of the order of the Knights of Pythias, in which organization he is Past Grand Chancellor and at present one of the representatives from Alabama to the Supreme Lodge.

He was married December, 1876, at Eufaula, to Miss S. C. Thornton, daughter of the late Dr. William H. Thornton of that place.



**LLEWELLYN ADOLPHUS SHAVER**, Attorney-at-law and County Superintendent of Education, Montgomery, was born at Bowling Green, Ky., January 18, 1844, and is the son of the Rev. O. H. Shaver, of the Methodist Protestant Church, who died in this city October, 1858.

The Rev. Mr. Shaver came to this State in 1847, and will be remembered as for many years the popular minister of the Methodist Protestant Church of this city. His wife's maiden name was Taylor, of the prominent Kentucky family of that name.

L. A. Shaver was educated at Montgomery primarily, and graduated at Lynchburg, Va., in 1861, with the degree of A. B. In February, 1863, he enlisted as a private in Company F, Sixtieth Alabama Infantry, and served two years and four months. December 14, 1863, at Bean's Station, he was, for gallantry in action, promoted to sergeant-major, and later on, was advanced to the rank of acting-adjutant of the regiment. He was one of the men under arms who surrendered with General Lee at Appomattox. After the war he read law in the office of Watts & Troy, was admitted to the bar in 1868, and has since given his attention to the practice. In 1879 he was elected chairman of the Democratic County Committee, a position he has since continuously filled. He was appointed County Superintendent in 1880, and at this writing has been eight years in that office. He was a presidential elector from the second district in 1884, and, with Colonel Herbert, canvassed the district in the interest of the Democratic nominee.

In 1867 Captain Shaver published a history of the Sixtieth Alabama Regiment, General Gracy's Brigade, the first edition of which has long been exhausted, and the second one, we are informed, is now in course of preparation.

He was married in Montgomery, November 25,

1873, to Miss Clara A. Wilson, daughter of Dr. A. A. Wilson, of that city.



**WILLIAM PARISH CHILTON**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, son of the late Chief-Justice W. P. Chilton (whose biography will be found in another part of this book), was born at Talladega, September 27, 1838, and was educated at Howard College and the State University. He read law in the office of his father at Tuskegee, and was admitted to the bar October 11, 1858. In 1861 he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the State, since which time he has given his attention to the law, having in the meantime served one year as Solicitor of the Ninth District.

Though physically disabled to a very large extent, the result of having jumped from a third-story window of the State University building at the time of its conflagration some years since, he offered his services to his State at the beginning of the late war. He was at once assigned to special duty by order of Governor Shorter, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

He is a profound scholar, a good lawyer, an able speaker, and one of the most facile and charming writers in the South. The Colonel has been more than once prominently spoken of in high circles in connection with the governorship of the State, and while these pages will not reach the eye of the public until after the successor to the present incumbent of the gubernatorial chair shall have been named, it is not at all improbable that the future historian, in chronicling the life of Colonel Chilton, will speak of him as having held the highest office within the gift of the people of the State.



**HENRY C. TOMPKINS**, distinguished Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, is a native of Essex County, Va., where he was born September 14, 1815. His father, Joseph Temple Tompkins, was a planter and coal operator in Virginia for many years, and there died in 1863, at the age of seventy-two years. His mother's family name was Ford, and she was born at Fredericksburg, Va.

The Tompkinses came to America from England, though it is understood they are of Celtic origin.

Three brothers of them came over prior to the Revolution, one of them settling in New York, from whom Daniel D. Tompkins, Vice-President of the United States under Monroe, sprang, and the other two going into Virginia. So far as is known the Tompkins family in America, and it is quite numerous, springs from the three pioneers mentioned. One of the brothers subsequently moved to South Carolina. The subject of this sketch is a descendant of the Virginia branch.

H. C. Tompkins was educated at the Virginia academies, and was pursuing his studies when his State seceded from the Federal Union. In 1862 he enlisted as a private in the Fourth Virginia Cavalry, and with this command served two years under General Stuart. Being then transferred to infantry he was commissioned lieutenant, and was acting adjutant of the regiment to the close of the war. Having been captured at Sailor's Creek, April 6, 1865, he witnessed the dawn of peace from Johnson's Island. He participated in many hotly-contested engagements, and at Brandy Station, June 9, 1863, fell into the hands of the enemy. He was released in July following, too late for the Gettysburg fight.

At the close of the war, he returned to Virginia, and the following year came to Alabama, where he taught school until January, 1869. Having devoted his spare hours to the study of law in the meantime, he was admitted to the bar at Union Springs, in February, 1869, and at once embarked in the practice.

Colonel Tompkins was yet at Union Springs in June, 1878, when nominated by the Democratic Convention for the office of Attorney-General. His election followed, as of course, and, being twice re-elected, he held the office until December, 1884.

As chairman of the Democratic County Committee, from 1874 to 1877, inclusive, Colonel Tompkins saw the downfall of the Radical party in his county, a result largely augmented by his excellent management and direction of the forces at his command. Indeed, it is conceded that the executive ability brought into the campaign committee by Colonel Tompkins gave the Democratic party confidence, and united them, as never before, in the effort that was so grandly crowned with success. He was elected chairman of the State Committee in February, 1886, and has held that position up to this time.

Colonel Tompkins first became identified with

the State Troops in 1855, and in 1877 he was elected lieutenant-colonel of the Second Regiment. He was continued in that rank for some years, when business affairs compelled his declination of further acceptance of the office.

As a lawyer Colonel Tompkins is the recognized peer of any man in the State. He is a forcible and logical speaker, a ready debater, and a man of extraordinary executive ability. He was one of the organizers of, and is now a director in, the Commercial Fire Insurance Company, of Montgomery; is president of the Alabama Bar Association, and the attorney of several of the great corporations of the State.

He represented the State at large as delegate to the National Convention that nominated Cleveland, and stumped the State in support of his election.

He is a member of the American Legion of Honor, of the Knights of Pythias, a Knight Templar, and has been twice Grand Master of the Masons of the State (1879-81).

He was married at Union Springs, April, 1869, to a daughter of Hon. M. A. Baldwin, distinguished as having held the office of Attorney-General of the State for eighteen consecutive years. Colonel and Mrs. Tompkins have two children, a son and daughter.



**DAVID T. BLAKEY.** Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born in Montgomery County, August 12, 1833.

His father was Dr. Boling A. Blakey, a native of the State of Georgia. Dr. Blakey came into Alabama in 1818, settled first at Mount Meigs, this County, and removed into Montgomery in 1835. Here he was many years associated with Dr. Silas Ames. In 1841 he moved to Macon County, this State, and there died in 1873.

The Blakey family came originally from England, settling first in Virginia; thence into Georgia, where they formed a part of the Broad River colony.

David T. Blakey was graduated from the University of Georgia in 1851 as A. B., and soon afterward, at Tuskegee, began reading law in the office of the late Judge Chilton. Though admitted to the bar, it appears that he was planting at the outbreak of the late war. Early in 1861, he

enlisted as a private in the Third Alabama Infantry, and in September of that year was promoted to ordnance officer under General Withers. In this capacity he was at Mobile a few months, when by permission he raised a company of volunteer cavalry, and became its captain. It was known as Company E, First Alabama Cavalry. Colonel Blakey was with this regiment to the close of the war. His first promotion took place in August, 1862, when he was made major of the regiment; in October following he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel, and in March, 1863, was made colonel of the regiment.

In the latter part of the war, and during the North Carolina campaign, he commanded the brigade to which his regiment was attached, and surrendered the brigade at Charlotte in May, 1865. As the captain of Company E, he participated in the battle of Shiloh; was major at Perryville, and lieutenant colonel at Murfreesboro. At Chickamauga and Knoxville he commanded the regiment, and at the battle of Bentonville he commanded the brigade. At Dandridge, East Tennessee, he received his first and only wound, a gunshot through the body.

Of the many gallant soldiers whose records go to make up Alabama's history in the war between the States, there is no one more deserving than Colonel Blakey. Entering the army as a private, he rose rapidly, as has been seen, to captain, major, lieutenant-colonel and brigade commander, and the distinguished battles in which he participated are conclusive that his promotions were based upon merit.

Immediately after the close of the war he again engaged in planting. In 1867 he began the practice of law in Montgomery, to which he has since devoted his entire time.

He was married at Union Springs in December, 1866, to Miss Mary S. Mabson, daughter of the late Dr. William S. Mabson, of that place. Of the children born to Colonel Blakey and wife, Boling A., A. B. and M. S. are in mechanical business; William M. is a student at the State University, and David T., Jr., attends school in Montgomery.



**JAMES T. HOLTZCLAW** was born December 17, 1833, at McDonough, Ga., though his father at the time was a citizen of Alabama. The senior

Mr. Holtzclaw was a planter and died in 1867, his widow still survives at the advanced age of eighty-seven, and resides at Salem, Ala.

James T. Holtzclaw received an academic education at the East Alabama Institute; came to Montgomery in December, 1853; studied law with W. L. Yancey, and was admitted to the bar before the Supreme Court of Alabama in January, 1856.

During the late war, in which Mr. Holtzclaw took an active part, he made a record as a brave and courageous soldier, and one that he may well be proud of. In 1860 he was first a lieutenant of State troops, and in 1861 he volunteered with his company (the Montgomery True Blues) and was at the capture of the Pensacola Navy Yard. In August of the same year he was appointed by President Davis, as major of the Eighteenth Alabama Infantry, and in December following was promoted to lieutenant-colonel. April 6, 1862, he was shot through the lung and, though his wound was considered mortal, he was back at his post within ninety days. After the battle of Shiloh he was commissioned colonel of his regiment, and in June, 1864, was commissioned brigadier-general, in which capacity he served until the close of the war.

Another writer says of him: "In the spring of 1863, he was recommended for promotion by General Beauregard and Buckner, and by the Governor and Legislature of the State; again by Generals Bragg, Hardee, Hill and Stewart; and by Gen. J. E. Johnson, when he took command of the Army of Tennessee.

Colonel Holtzclaw was prominently engaged in some of the most important battles, among which may be mentioned: Shiloh, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Nashville, Spanish Fort, at which latter place he took command of a division, consisting of his own and Ector's Texas Brigade, which, with Gibson's Brigade and Patton's artillery, formed the garrison at this fort. Here, for twenty days, 2,500 Confederates held 25,000 Federal troops at bay.

After the war, General Holtzclaw returned to Montgomery; resumed the practice of law and continued it to the present time. His practice has steadily increased and it has now assumed extensive proportions. He was chairman of the Democratic County Committee from the time of Reconstruction up to the time the Democrats got control of the State and county.

He was a delegate from the second district to the Convention that nominated Seymour and Blair in 1868, and was an elector for Tilden and Hendricks in 1876. He has always taken an active part in politics, and held himself subject to the orders of the County and State Committees in all elections.

General Holtzclaw was married in April, 1856, to Mary, daughter of John A. and Lucy (White) Cowles, of Montgomery, Ala., and has had born to him two children: Carrie W., now wife of John A. Kirkpatrick, a prominent attorney-at-law, Opelika, Ala., and James T., Jr.

General Holtzclaw is a Knight Templar Mason, and is Past Grand Commander of the Order.



**JAMES S. PINCKARD**, Attorney-at-law, was born at Forsyth, Ga., August 4, 1859, and his parents were James S. and Martha W. (Herbert) Pinckard.

The senior Mr. Pinckard was a prominent lawyer forty years at Forsyth, and died at his home in 1879. His ancestors were among the pioneers of Monroe County, Ga., and his grandfather was foreman of the first grand jury called in his district.

James S. Pinckard was educated at Forsyth, studied law, and in 1882, was admitted to the bar. He began the practice at his native place, and from there soon afterward, came to Montgomery. Here, at the end of two years, he formed a partnership with Mr. B. K. Collier, under the style and firm name of Collier & Pinckard, for the general practice of law in all of its various branches.

This firm, though composed of young men, is one of the best known, and is deservedly one of the most popular in Central Alabama. They have an extensive commercial *debit* both within and without the State, and a valuable and remunerative correspondence with financial concerns and parties in London, Glasgow and Dundee, Scotland. Through this latter channel they have been the means of bringing much foreign capital into Alabama, which, being loaned at low rates and on long time, has had a tendency to materially lighten the burden of the debtor class throughout the cotton belt.

Messrs. Collier and Pinckard probably own the most complete set of title abstracts in the State—that of Montgomery County.

**WILLIAM GILMER HUTCHESON** was born in Montgomery, September 21, 1857. His father was the late John D. Hutcheson, a South Carolina gentleman, who came to Alabama in 1846, and spent the rest of his life in Montgomery, dying in 1865 at the age of forty-eight years. He was the most prominent dry-goods merchant in this city; was noted for his intelligence and integrity, and distinguished for his personal good looks. His wife was the daughter of the late Judge B. S. Bibb.

The subject of this sketch is the survivor of three sons. He received his primary education at the schools of Montgomery, and, subsequently, graduated from the Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Va. He afterward attended the law department of Vanderbilt University, which institution conferred upon him the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1879.

Mr. Hutcheson was admitted to the bar before the Supreme Court of Alabama in June, 1879, and has since given his time and talents to his profession. He formed a partnership for the practice of law with L. A. Shaver, Esq., in 1881, and the firm is recognized throughout the State as one of the best at the Capital City.

Mr. Hutcheson was married at Nashville, Tenn., October 3, 1881, to Miss Kate Baxter, daughter of Edmund Baxter, Esq., a prominent lawyer of that city, and there has been born to them three children.



**ALEXANDER TROY**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, Secretary and Treasurer of the Alabama State Bar Association, was born in Bladen County, N. C., March 14, 1853, and is a son of Alexander J. Troy, a prominent citizen and planter of Columbus County, that State.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the common schools of North Carolina, and at the Commercial College in Montgomery. He came first to this city in 1870, but returned again to his native State two years later. In 1874, in the office of Colonel D. S. Troy, Montgomery, he began the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1875. Since coming to the bar young Troy has devoted himself assiduously to the requirements of his profession, and at this writing he is regarded as one of the most promising young men in the State. He began the practice in partner-





Very truly  
A. A. Wiley



ship with George F. Moore, Esq., then and now a prominent member of the Montgomery Bar. He continued a member of this firm until January, 1880, when he, with Colonels Troy and Tompkins, formed a partnership, the style of the firm being Troy & Tompkins. In January, 1885, Mr. A. T. London, being taken into the firm, the style and firm name became Troy, Tompkins & London, which was changed on the first day of January, 1888, when Colonel Troy retired from the practice, and the style of the firm became Tompkins, London & Troy, and, undoubtedly, stands well at the head of the profession in the State. In January, 1879, when the State Bar Association was organized, Mr. Troy was selected for the position he has since held, Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. Troy was married in this city December 26, 1876, to Miss Alice B. Watts, daughter of ex-Governor Thomas H. Watts, and they have added unto them two children.



**ARIOSTO A. WILEY**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, son of J. McCaleb and Cornelia A. (Appling) Wiley, was born at Clayton, Barbour County, this State, November 6, 1848, and graduated from Emory and Henry College, Virginia, in class of 1871. Having been admitted to the bar, he in 1872 located in the city of Montgomery, and engaged in the practice of the law. Shortly after coming to Montgomery, he was admitted to practice before the State Supreme Court, and formed a partnership with the Hon. Samuel F. Rice, which association still exists and is recognized as one of the strongest legal firms in the South. In 1877 he was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Mr. Wiley at an early day, after coming to the bar essayed the management and personal direction of many of the most important cases coming before this popular firm. This gave him rare opportunity, and naturally developed the powers of clear analysis, cogent reasoning, and the pleasing and often highly eloquent address which subsequently characterized him as lawyer. The result is that although a young man, we find him in the front rank of his profession at a bar noted for its men of ability.

Col. Wiley was elected to the Legislature for the session of 1884-5 and as chairman of the Commit-

tee on the Revision of Laws, and as a member of the Committee on Commerce and Common Carriers, wielded an immense influence in that body, and was an able, useful and efficient representative. To his energy and watchfulness is due to a large extent the measures authorizing the purchase and embellishment of the capitol grounds. He has been for several years an active member of the city council of Montgomery, and his untiring efforts have contributed very greatly to the improvement of this goodly city. As an evidence of the esteem in which he is held, and the high regard that his people have for him as councilman, a petition was signed by nearly every citizen of his ward, requesting him not to resign when he was elected to the Legislature. He is one of the progressive men who have helped to re-create the capital city of Alabama.

Colonel Wiley's name has been repeatedly mentioned by his friends in connection with a nomination for the United States Congress, but, preferring to give his time to his profession, he has thus far declined to become a candidate. He was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in 1880 and again in 1884. He takes a deep interest in politics, and is a member of the State Executive Committee. At this writing (1888), he is a member of Governor Seay's staff, with the rank of colonel; is a Presidential Elector for his District; and will be a member of the Legislature of 1888-9.

Colonel Wiley is a devoted and faithful friend, and a courageous adversary; possessed of the inseparable concomitants of sincerity of purpose, honesty in intentions, and of firm and decided opinions. His temperament is eminently positive. He is a born polemic, intellectually pugnacious and combative, and he resolutely defends or intrepidly attacks any position he is called on to maintain or assault. His brilliant success is due entirely to this mental characteristic, for whatever success he has achieved is the result of his tireless energy and the zealous advocacy and assertion of his rights. With such mental and moral attributes, of commanding appearance and splendid physique, he bids fair to leave a rich inheritance of fame to his family and friends. The publishers, in consideration of the distinguished esteem in which the Colonel is held in Alabama, take pleasure in illustrating this chapter with his portrait.

In November, 1877, Colonel Wiley married Miss

Mittie A. Noble, the accomplished daughter of B. F. and Mary T. (Cook) Noble, of Montgomery, and has had born to him one child, Noble J.

**TENNENT LOMAX**, Solicitor for the County of Montgomery, was born in the city of Montgomery, April 29, 1858. His father was the late gallant Colonel Lomax, of the Third Alabama Infantry.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the University of Alabama, from which institution he was graduated in the Academic Department in 1878, and from the Law Department one year later. Associated with Captain Ferguson, he at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession at Montgomery, and has since devoted his time and his talents thereto. The Legislature of 1886 elected him to his present position as Solicitor for the County of Montgomery, an office of equal rank and power with the Circuit Solicitorship, the territory being less.

Mr. Lomax is recognized as one of the prominent young Democrats of the State; he is president of the Democratic Central Council of the city of Montgomery, and has been secretary of the Democratic State Executive Committee since 1878. With the exception of about one year, he was continuously, since June 1, 1881, up to the summer of 1887, lieutenant of the famous "Montgomery Blues." His father was captain of this popular company for many years prior, and up to the outbreak of the late war.

**WILLIAM SEWELL THORINGTON**, City Attorney, Montgomery, was born in this city, July 30, 1847. His father, the late Jack Thorington, native of Ireland, came here when a boy and here spent most of his life, dying in August, 1871, at the age of sixty-three years. He was some time a merchant, but afterward entered the law to which he gave his attention thereafter—in partnership with Hon. H. W. Hilliard before the war, and afterward with Hon. W. P. Chilton. In 1863 he entered the army as colonel of the First Battalion of the Hilliard Legion, and in 1864, on Colonel Hilliard's resigning, succeeded to the command of the Legion. He was colonel of the Legion when he left the service by resignation on account of ill-health. Of three sons reared by

him to manhood, Robert D., a merchant, died at Montgomery, in 1879—he was a gallant soldier during the late war, and served on General Graey's staff; Jack, the second son, also served through the war with General Rucker's escort, was Vice-Consul to Aspinwall from 1871 to 1883, and is now in the Land Office at Montgomery; and William S., who was educated at the University of Alabama, left that institution in 1865, served in the army as a member of the Alabama Corps of Cadets, during a portion of 1864 and 1865. After the war he read law with Chief-Justice Chilton, and was admitted to the bar January 24, 1867, under a special Act of the Legislature authorizing his examination, he being then under twenty-one years of age. As a member of the firm of Chilton & Thorington, he embarked at once into the practice. He was in partnership with Mr. Chilton and his father, under the firm name of Chilton & Thorington, until that firm was dissolved at the death of Judge Chilton in 1871, when he became associated with John T. Morgan and Walter L. Bragg. This firm ceased to exist with Captain Bragg's appointment to the presidency of the State Railway Commission. General Morgan had withdrawn before, having been elected to the United States Senate. Colonel Thorington was appointed trustee of the University of Alabama, by Governor Cobb, to fill out the unexpired term of the Hon. H. A. Herbert, and was twice reappointed to that board by Governor O'Neal, and confirmed by the Senate. He was also judge-advocate general on Governor O'Neal's staff, during that gentleman's incumbency of the gubernatorial chair. In 1886, the city council appointed him City Attorney, to fill out an unexpired term, and in 1887 he was elected to that office. In 1884 Colonel Thorington was a strong competitor for nomination before the State Democratic Convention for the office of Attorney-General, and was defeated for the nomination by Mr. McClellan, by a very small vote, notwithstanding there were two other candidates from his county.

He was married at Montgomery, October 24, 1867, to Miss Wilella Chilton, daughter of the late Chief-Justice Chilton. Of this marriage there are nine living children.

**THOMAS HENRY WATTS**, commonly known as Thomas H. Watts, Jr., Attorney-at-law, Mont-

gomery, son of Hon. Thomas Hill Watts, was born in that city, August 3, 1853.

Thomas Henry Watts received his primary education at the private school of George W. Thomas, in the city of Montgomery, where he attended from 1860 to 1869, and in 1869 went to Bellevue High School, Bedford County, Va., the presided over by Hon. James P. Holcomb, where he remained for two years, and was graduated from the University of Alabama, in July, 1871, taking the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and the academic degree of B. S. at the same time. He was admitted to practice in the city court at Montgomery, in July, 1874, and in the State Supreme Court, January, 1875. After practicing law for over one year, he, on January 1, 1876, went into partnership with his distinguished father, and the firm is now familiar throughout the State of Alabama as Watts & Son. Mr. Watts was assistant secretary of the Constitutional Convention of 1855. He was elected Alderman May, 1885, for a term of four years to the City Council of Montgomery, from Ward Three, and is still (1888) serving as such. On the 28th of April, 1886, during the Jefferson Davis celebration, as acting Mayor of Montgomery, he delivered the address welcoming to the city Gen. John B. Gordon.

He was married, December 8, 1875, at Tuscaloosa, to Johness B., the estimable daughter of the late Dr. S. J. Eddins, and has had born to him five children, four sons and a daughter. The eldest son, Thomas Hill Watts, Jr., died in 1880.

Mr. and Mrs. Watts are members of the Baptist Church, and Mr. Watts is past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and is one of the most active Democratic workers in the State.

One fact about Mr. Watts, singular in its nature, is that, although he is now (1888) nearly thirty-five years of age and weighs over two hundred pounds, he has never during his whole life, eaten either "fish, flesh or fowl."



**BUCKNER K. COLLIER.** Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born in Opelika, this State, and is the son of the late Thomas Collier, a native North Carolinian, who died at Opelika, 1883, at the age of seventy-eight years. The subject's mother was, before marriage, Miss Killibrew, a native of Tennessee. She died at Opelika in

1877, at the age of fifty-six years. The Collier's came originally from England; the Killibrews from Scotland.

Of the eight sons born to Thomas and Mrs. Collier, Buckner K. is next to the youngest. He was educated at Decatur, Ga., High School, and the Auburn, Ala., College. At Opelika, in 1855, he began the study of law with the late Hon. William H. Barnes as his preceptor, and was admitted to the bar in 1857. He began the practice immediately after his admission in the city of Opelika, associated with Augustus Barnes, the son of his late preceptor. He came to Montgomery in 1885, and, forming a partnership with Mr. Pinecard, has since devoted his time to the practice, and the firm of Collier & Pinecard are ranked among the leading lawyers of this city.

Mr. Collier has been six years attorney for the Corbin Banking Company of New York, and, as such, has had supervision of their immense financial interests in Alabama. From 1877 up to the time of his coming to Montgomery, he filled the office of Assistant Solicitor for Lee County, which, aside from the chairmanship of the Democratic Executive Committee of that county, appears to be about the only office of a political character he has ever held. He is vice-president of the State Abstract Company of this city, and a director in the First National Bank of Opelika.

Mr. Collier was married at Opelika, in 1881, to Miss Charlotte Isabella Hooper, daughter of the late Col. George W. Hooper, who so gallantly commanded the Third Alabama Regiment during the war.

The firm of Collier & Pinecard number among their clients, some of the leading corporations of Alabama and some of the largest capitalists in Great Britain.



**ALEXANDER TROY LONDON,** Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born at Wilmington, N. C., February 28, 1847. His father, Manger London, was also a native of Wilmington, and his grandfather, came from London, England, and settled in Carolina prior to the Revolutionary War.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Wilmington, and left school to go into the army in May, 1864. He joined the North Carolina Reserves as a private and served about one year, having been almost immediately after going into the com-

mand promoted to regimental adjutant; when he left the service he was acting in the capacity of adjutant-general of the brigade. He read law in the office of his father, and was admitted to the bar at Wilmington, in June 1869. He there practiced up to about 1880, and after "roughing it" for nearly four years in South Carolina, and ridding himself of the dyspepsia, came to Montgomery, and again entered the practice of law. In January, 1885, he formed a partnership with his uncle, D. S. Troy and Col. H. C. Tompkins, and is now of the firm of Troy, Tompkins & London, one of the most distinguished law firms in the State.

He is a close student, a safe lawyer, and is regarded by the profession at large as one of the most promising young men in Montgomery.



**LESTER C. SMITH.** Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born in this city, March 26, 1850, and is a son of William H. Smith, now Montgomery's City Treasurer. He was educated primarily at Montgomery; graduated from Emory and Henry (Va.) College; read law in the office of Judge David Clopton; began the practice in January, 1879. The present firm of Thorington & Smith has existed since 1885. Mr. Smith served as member of House of Representatives from this county during the session of 1886-7. He is devoted to the practice of law. He married Miss Annie Jackson, of this city.



**JOHN FREDERICK WHITFIELD.** Attorney-at-law, and General Agent of the L. & N. R. R. Co., at Montgomery, was born at Hayneville, Lowndes County, Ala., March 16, 1837, and his parents were Geo. B. and Sarah (Varner) Whitfield, natives, respectively, of the States of North Carolina and Virginia.

The senior Mr. Whitfield was a farmer by occupation. He died at Hayneville when John F. was but three years old, and his widow survived him only four years.

John F. at an early age entered a newspaper office at Griffin, Ga., and there learned the printer's trade. He was afterwards foreman of the *Advertiser* office in Montgomery, and in 1859, in

company with other gentlemen, organized the *Montgomery Daily Mail*, and became one of its editors. In 1861, he joined the Montgomery True Blues, and as orderly sergeant, was with them at Pensacola, and later on, as a part of the Third Alabama Infantry, in the Army of Virginia. Just before the battle of Seven Pines, he was promoted to the rank of captain, which commission he soon afterward resigned and returning to Montgomery, raised a company for the First Alabama Infantry, and as captain of Company K, with that regiment joined Bragg's army. After the battle of Corinth, he was sent to Island No. 10, where he was afterward taken prisoner and carried to Johnson's Island. At the end of six months he was exchanged, and, at Port Hudson commanded a company of artillery, under General Gardner. He was captured again at Port Hudson, and as prisoner of war, was taken to New Orleans, and later on to Johnson's Island, where he was retained until the latter part of 1864, when he was paroled and sent through the lines. He never was exchanged, and reached Montgomery as the war closed.

Here, he again entered the office of the *Mail*, beginning as type-setter, was soon made foreman, and, later on, purchased a half-interest in the plant. The paper was then enlarged, and he was connected with it until 1870. Giving up newspaper business he turned his attention to railroading, first with the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad, and later with the L. & N., in his present position. He read law in 1878; was admitted to the bar, and is now a member of the State Bar Association.

He was married in this city in 1861.



**JOHN GINDRAT WINTER.** Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, is a graduate of Columbia College Law Institute, class of 1868. He was admitted to the bar in New York, came to Montgomery, and at once (1868) began the practice of law. In 1870 he was appointed County Solicitor to fill out the unexpired term of a preceding incumbent, and held the office two years. He is now actively engaged at the law, and is enjoying a lucrative practice.

Mr. Winter was born in this city March 21, 1846, and is the son of Joseph S. and Mary E. (Gindratt) Winter.

From the State University, in 1862, he entered the army as a private in the Tuscaloosa Cadets, and remained in the service until the close of the war. His first promotion was from the ranks to a third sergeant, and took place soon after the organization of the company. He was next made color-bearer of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, and, later on, commissioned second lieutenant in the line. At Columbia, Tenn., he was promoted to adjutant of the regiment, with which rank he left the service after the final surrender. His regiment formed a part of Forrest's command, and, later on, was attached to Hood, and with both of those distinguished fighters he participated in all the engagements of his regiment. At the close of the war he entered the Columbia (New York) College, Law Department, and, as has been seen, was graduated in 1868.

For about six years after the war he was the commanding officer of the Governor's Guard, who have since adopted the name of the Montgomery True Blues in honor of, and as a revival of the old and famous *anti-bellum* military organization of that name.

Captain Winter was married January 29, 1867, at Tuskegee, Ala., to Miss Sallie V. Calhoun, daughter of the late James L. Calhoun, and has had born to him two daughters.

The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church, and Captain Winter is a Knight Templar Mason. He is an active Democratic worker, though at no time an office seeker.



**HORACE STRINGFELLOW, Jr.**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, son of the Rev. Horace Stringfellow, D.D., of St. John's Episcopal Church, this city, was born in Indianapolis, Ind., September 12, 1860. Dr. Stringfellow is a native of Virginia, and came to Montgomery in 1870.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Howard College, the Episcopal High School at Alexandria, and the University of Virginia. After an experience of about five years as clerk in the wholesale dry goods house of LeGrand & Co., he, in 1881, entered the law department of the University of Virginia, took a summer course, returned to Montgomery, and, with Clopton, Herbert & Chambers, began the study of law. In

June, 1883, he was graduated by the law department of the State University of Alabama, as L. B., and with the maximum rank of 100. He was the first student of that institution to attain that rank, and whether any other graduate has since reached the maximum, the writer is not informed. He began the practice of law in October, 1883, at Montgomery, and, in 1884, formed a partnership with M. P. LeGrand, Jr. In 1885 the strength of the firm was augmented by the addition of Scott Sayre. The style of the firm is now Sayre, Stringfellow & LeGrand, and it numbers among its many patrons several of the large corporations of Alabama.

Mr. Stringfellow is of the Central Council of the Alabama State Bar Association, and is the author and compiler of an Indexed Digest to the Alabama Supreme Court Reports (published 1888), covering about 100 volumes.



**JOSEPH M. WHITE**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, son of Robert and Mary White, natives of the State of Georgia, and of Irish descent, was born on the 20th day of April, 1846. The senior Mr. White came to Alabama about 1830, and lived and died in Barbour County, where he was an extensive planter.

J. M. White, at the age of sixteen years, enlisted in the service of the Confederacy as a private in the Jeff. Davis Legion, and, with Stuart's Cavalry, served in the Armies of Virginia and North Carolina to the close of the war. He was wounded at Bentonville, and in 1865 returned to Barbour County, read law, and at Clayton was admitted to the bar in 1869. He began the practice at Clayton, and was there until 1885, when he removed to Montgomery, where he became a member of the firm of Roquemore, White & Long, now one of the leading law firms of the capital city.

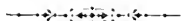
Mr. Roquemore has his office in Decatur, Mr. Long at Enfauila, while Mr. White looks after the interests of the firm, and conducts the business at headquarters.

Mr. White represented the County of Barbour in the Legislature in 1889 and 1891, and as a member of the Ways and Means and other important committees, rendered much valuable service. He was a delegate to the Chicago Convention that nominated Mr. Cleveland in 1884, and subse-

quently labored hard for the success of the ticket, though he was originally a Bayard man.

Mr. White was married in Barbour County in 1839, to Miss Cowart.

Mrs. White died in the summer of 1887, leaving two children, a son and daughter.



**THOMAS HARVEY CLARK**, Attorney-at-law, Montgomery, was born at Pine Level, Montgomery County, this State, November 16, 1857, and was educated at the common schools, Howard College, and Harvard University. He studied law at the University of Virginia, and subsequently at Montgomery, and was admitted to the bar at the latter place in 1880.

From the time of his coming to the bar up to 1886 he practiced at the capital with commendable application and success. In February, 1886, he took editorial charge of the *Selma Times*, where he at once proved himself a writer of far more than ordinary ability. In December following, he returned to Montgomery and accepted a place on the staff of the *Advertiser*. July, 1887, he gave up newspaper work and resumed the practice of law, to which he is now devoting only a portion of his time. He was appointed Recording Secretary to Governor Seay in 1887, and the duties of this office require most of his attention. He was Assistant Secretary of the State Senate, sessions of 1882-3, 1884-5, and 1886-7.

Mr. Clark is the author of the history of Montgomery as found in this volume, and the publishers take pleasure in recommending it to their many readers as the most thoroughly reliable work ever published on the subject. Though not voluminous, it covers the material points and presents all salient matter in such a concise and succinct form as only the adept at condensation can accomplish.

Mr. Clark is but at the threshold of a life fraught with brilliant promise and rare possibilities.



**THOMAS SEAY**, Governor of Alabama, was born in Greene County, this State, in 1846. His parents, Reuben and Ann Seay, were natives of Georgia, and descended from English and Irish

ancestry, respectively. The senior Mr. Seay was a planter by occupation; died at Greensboro January 12, 1872, at the age of sixty-five years, and Mrs. Seay died March 9, 1883, at the age of sixty-nine. They reared seven children, Thomas being their only son. He received his primary education at the common schools of this State, and was graduated in 1867 from the Southern University with the degree of A. M. Immediately after leaving college he began the study of the law with the Hon. A. A. Coleman at Greensboro, and was admitted to the bar in February, 1869. He entered at once into the practice, and, readily, took high rank in the profession, and to it gave almost his entire time until he was called to the gubernatorial chair. He was defeated (1874) for the Senate, but at the ensuing election he succeeded by a handsome majority, and he retained his seat for ten successive years, finally retiring from that body as its president. He was a delegate to the National Convention that nominated Hancock, and in 1884 presided over the State Convention held at Montgomery.

It will be seen that he stepped at once from the presidency of the Senate to the governorship of the State.

It is not the province of the biographer to eulogize current public men in a work of this kind, no matter how deserving they may be, nor how great the temptation therefor. This fact is, undoubtedly, at once obvious to every intelligent reader. Therefore we are limited, in this brief sketch, to a bare presentation of literal truths, which, when stated in the present instance, can lead up to but one conclusion, and that is, that of the many brilliant young men of a State prolific in their production, there is none to whom is more universally accorded the palm of superior merit than to Thomas Seay. He has virtually made his own way in the world; and while the possessor of a handsome fortune, it is the result of his individual effort and industry. Always devoted to his profession, never failing in his duty to a client, ever wide awake to the great interests of the Democratic party, vigilant alike in all things, he has deserved success, earned recognition, and realized fully upon both. Though, but a youth at the outbreak of the war, he participated in the struggle, and was as gallant a young soldier as Alabama sent to the front.

Thomas Seay was married July 12, 1875, to Miss Snaw, who died February 15, 1879, leaving



*Thos. Seay*





two little children named, respectively, Fannie and Reuben. March, 1881, in the city of New Orleans, Miss Clara De Lesdernier, of that city, became Mrs. Thomas Seay, and the four children that have been born to them are Frank, Annie, Annie, and Howard. The Governor is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

As a compliment to the high merit of the Governor, and that the world may know just how the popular young Executive of the great State of Alabama looks, the publishers preface this chapter with a handsome portrait of him.



**GEORGE W. STONE.** Chief-Justice of the State of Alabama, was born in Bedford County, Va., October 11, 1811.

The Stone family came to America some time in the eighteenth century, probably in the person of Micajah Stone, who was grandfather to the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. Judge Stone's father, also named Micajah, was a native of Virginia; there married Sarah Leftwich, and came to Tennessee in 1818, where he lived all the rest of his life, dying in Lincoln County in October, 1827, at the age of fifty-two years. His widow survived him ten years, and died at the same place at the age of fifty-four years. They reared a family of seven sons and three daughters, of whom there are now living but two of the former and one of the latter.

George W. Stone was but six years of age when the family migrated to Tennessee. At the common schools of Lincoln County he acquired a fair English education, and when about twenty-one years of age, in the office of James Fulton, at Fayetteville, began the study of law. He was admitted to practice at the age of twenty-two, and at once came to Alabama and opened an office at Talladega. There, in 1840, he formed a partnership with the late W. P. Chilton, who afterward became Chief-Justice of the State Supreme Court. This partnership existed two years, when Mr. Stone was appointed Judge of the Circuit Court to fill out an unexpired term of the then late incumbent. At the ensuing election, he was chosen by the people to succeed himself upon the bench, but he resigned the office before the expiration of his term. Removing from there to Lowndes County, he practiced law seven years,

two years of the time in partnership with the late Thomas J. Judge, distinguished as one of the Associate Justices of the Supreme Court. In 1856, Judge Stone was elected to the Supreme Court bench, and removed immediately to Montgomery. He held the Judgeship until the winter of 1866-7, when he retired at the request of the Reconstruction party. For ten years thereafter he devoted himself to the practice of law, associated in the meantime with the Messrs. Clopton & Clanton, whose names are familiar in the history of the legal profession of Alabama.

In 1876, his late partner, Justice Judge, having been removed by death to the courts of a higher tribunal, Judge Stone was again appointed to the Supreme Court bench, and, in October, 1884, was made the Chief-Justice.

In all, Justice Stone has served on the Supreme bench for twenty-seven years. His present term will expire in 1892.

He was married in Lincoln County, Tenn., in 1834, to a Miss Gillispie, who died at Talladega, in 1848. His second marriage was in Lowndes County in September, 1849, to a Miss Moore, who died January, 1862. The present Mrs. Stone's maiden name was Harrison. Her first husband's name was Wright. She and the Judge were married February, 1866.

Justice Stone is rather a self-made man. The little inheritance that fell to him from his father's estate, was exhausted while he was pursuing his studies. His opinions since his advent upon the Supreme bench will aggregate fourteen volumes of the Alabama Reports, and they are regarded both within and without the State, as the highest exponents of the law. They are found in forty-two different volumes, or about one-third of the entire Alabama Reports.



**DAVID CLOPTON.** Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Alabama, is a native of Putnam County, Ga. His father was Dr. Alford Clopton, a native of Virginia, and descended from English ancestors, and his mother was, before marriage, Sarah Kendrick, a native of Georgia. His parents were married in Georgia, and Dr. Clopton there practiced medicine many years. He came to Alabama in 1813, lived two years at Tuskegee, and then removed to Mont-

gomery. He abandoned the practice of medicine when about thirty years of age, and thereafter gave his attention to planting. He died in February, 1870, at Montgomery, in the eighty-third year of his age.

At Macon, Ga., Judge Clopton was fitted for college, and he was graduated from Randolph-Macon in 1840, with the first honors of his class. After leaving college he read law at Macon, under A. H. Chappel, and was there subsequently admitted to the bar. He was twenty-one years of age when he began the practice of law at Griffin, Ga., and from there, at the end of eighteen months, moved to Tuskegee, where he was living at the outbreak of the war. He represented his district in the United States Congress in 1859-60, and was a seceding member in 1861. In the spring of the latter year he enlisted as a private in the Twelfth Alabama Infantry. In the fall of 1861 the people of his district, without any solicitation upon his part—without his knowledge, in fact—elected him Representative to the regular Confederate Congress, of which body he remained a member to the end of the Confederacy. He returned to Tuskegee, resumed the practice of law, and in the fall of 1866 moved to Montgomery, where he formed a partnership with George W. Stone (the present Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court), and Gen. James H. Clanton, under the style and firm name of Stone, Clopton & Clanton. General Clanton having been killed in 1869 at Knoxville, Tenn., the firm became Stone & Clopton. This firm existed until Stone was appointed by Governor Houston (1876) to the Associate Judgeship of the Supreme Court. After that Judge Clopton formed a partnership with H. L. Herbert and William L. Chambers, which partnership lasted four years. Mr. Herbert's desire to remain in Congress led to its dissolution, and Mr. Chambers entered the banking business. In October, 1884, Governor O'Neal appointed Judge Clopton to the Supreme Court bench, where he is at this writing.

Judge Clopton was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Sheffield, also of the Sheffield Coal and Iron Company, and is a director in each of these great corporations.

In 1858 he was elected to the lower house of the Legislature, and was the Speaker of the ensuing session. He refused a second term, preferring to devote himself to the practice of law.

Judge Clopton has been thrice married. First, to Miss Martha E. Ligon, sister of Governor

Ligon. She died in November, 1867. The Judge's second marriage occurred at Columbus, Ga., in 1871, when he led to the altar Mrs. Mary F. Chambers. She died in February, 1885; and November 29, 1887, the Judge's third marriage took place at Huntsville, Ala. The present Mrs. Clopton was the brilliant and accomplished widow of the late distinguished Clement C. Clay.

The Judge is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and has been for nearly twenty years superintendent of the Sabbath-school.



**SOLOMON PALMER** was born in Blount County, Ala., August 23, 1839. His father, Solomon Palmer, Sr., of South Carolina, was born in 1787, and came to Alabama in 1819. He settled in Blount County, and there spent the rest of his life, dying in 1867 at the age of eighty-one years. Of the six sons reared by him to manhood, Solomon was the youngest.

In 1861, Solomon Palmer, the subject of this sketch, was graduated from the State University, and at once entered the Southern army as a second lieutenant of Company K, Nineteenth Alabama Infantry, and served to the close of the war. His first promotion took place immediately after the battle of Shiloh, when he was advanced from second lieutenant to the rank of captain. At Chickamauga he was promoted to major, and afterward commanded the regiment through several important engagements.

At the close of the war he returned to Blount County, and the same year was sent to the lower house of the Legislature. After teaching school in Blount some three or four years, he began the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1870. In 1874 he removed to Guntersville, and there continued the practice until 1884, when he was called by the voice of the people to preside over the educational interests of the State. His successful management of this important branch of the State Government produced the very natural result of his re-election for the ensuing term. He is, therefore, at this writing, well advanced in his second incumbency, and as the office is not one to be hawked around to the highest political bidder, but is rather one requiring peculiar fitness and adaptation, the people in their

wisdom would be justified should they see fit to retain him for even an indefinite period. It is not necessary in this connection, nor in this publication, to discuss this proposition, and the suggestions are here merely thrown in as a compliment due to the man who has conducted the educational interests of the State for the past four years with such signal ability. The question of the succession to this office will have been settled before these pages reach the eyes of the public.

In 1882, Major Palmer purchased the *Guntersville Democrat*, and presided over its editorial columns up to some time in 1888, when he disposed of it to the present capable and accomplished management.

Major Palmer has always taken an active interest in politics, and whether he has for himself been asking the support of that party, or has been aiding his friends in their laudable ambition in that direction, his services have been equally as freely given. In Blount County, he was many years chairman of the Democratic Central Committee; also in Marshall, after he became a citizen of that county, he presided with the same devotion and interest over the committee that forms one of the stones in the great foundation that supports the grand superstructure—the mighty Democratic party of the Nation.

He is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and represented that body as the lay delegate of the North Alabama Conference to the General Conference held at Atlanta in 1878—the highest honor the Church confers upon any lay member.

Major Palmer was married, in Cherokee County, Ala., in 1867, to Miss Virginia A. Law, and he and his wife are the parents of seven daughters and one son. The Major is a member of the Legion of Honor and of the Grand Lodge of Masons.



**CHARLES CARTER LANGDON**, Secretary of State, is a native of Connecticut, where he was born August 5, 1805.

Charles C. Langdon was educated at the common schools of Connecticut, attending thereof during winters only, as he spent his time during the rest of the year upon his father's farm. At the age of sixteen years, he began teaching school and taught several winters. He came to Alabama

in 1825, locating first at Marion, where he was in mercantile business for a period of ten years. In the fall of 1834 he removed to Mobile and was there for three years engaged in the commission business. In 1838 he purchased the *Mobile Advertiser*, of which he was editor up to 1853, and with which he was more or less identified until 1861. It was then the leading Whig paper of the State, and the conduct of its editorial columns placed Mr. Langdon high up in the counsels of that party. He directed its editorial pages during the famous campaign of 1860 and made the paper the strong opponent to secession. At the outbreak of the war he engaged in agriculture, and established a nursery for fruits and flowers near the city of Mobile.

While a resident of Perry County, Mr. Langdon appeared first before the public as the Union candidate for the Legislature as against nullification, and was defeated by a very few votes. In 1838 he was a Whig candidate for the Legislature from Mobile County and was defeated; in 1839 he was elected, and succeeded himself in 1840. At the end of the latter session he declined further official preferment, as his business interests were such as to claim his whole attention.

In 1848 he was elected Mayor of Mobile and held the office for six successive years. In 1855-6, and in 1862 he was in the Legislature from Mobile. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1865, also of 1875. He was in the Legislature again in 1881-2-3, and was Chairman of the Committee on Education in 1881, and of the Committee on Common Carriers in 1883.

He was a prominent candidate for Governor in 1872, but was beaten by Mr. Herndon, and again in 1878, when he was beaten by Mr. Cobb. He was elected to Congress the first year after the war, but was not allowed to take his seat, for he remembered that while he opposed secession from principle, and heartily, too, that after the State withdrew from the Union, he gave the Southern cause his earnest support.

In 1885 Governor O'Neal appointed him Secretary of State to fill out the unexpired term of the Hon. Ellis Phelan. This appointment was to him a complete surprise, as he in no manner had indicated the desire for that position or for any other under that administration. His conduct of this office led to the very natural result of his election thereto in the fall of 1886.

Such is a brief outline of Mr. Langdon's politi-

cal career. A fair and impartial history of his public acts would make a volume of interesting reading, and show that he has been, as he is now, one of Alabama's noblest and best citizens.

He was married in Southington, Conn., in 1829, to Eliza Moore, a native of that town, and an old schoolmate of his. Their fathers had been firm friends and had served in the State Legislature together. Mrs. Langdon died in 1884, at Mobile, after a married life of fifty-five years. The five children born to them are all dead, the two daughters dying quite young. The oldest son, Henry Clay, died in 1856, at the age of twenty-two years. Charles C. Jr., died in 1867, at the age of twenty-seven years, from an illness resulting from exposure while in the Confederate Army, where he was a gallant soldier during the entire war.

The Langdons came originally from England, and were among the early New England colonists. Capt. Giles Langdon, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

They are a long-lived people. Secretary Langdon's father lived to be eighty-five years of age, one of his brothers to seventy-four years, and another to eighty six years.



**HENRY R. SHORTER**, President of the Railroad Commission of the State of Alabama, was born at Monticello, Ga., Feb. 28, 1833. His father, Dr. Reuben C. Shorter, a native of Culpeper County, Va., was graduated in early life from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, and practiced medicine twenty-five or thirty years in Georgia. He settled at Eufaula, (then Irwinton), in the fall of 1836, removing thither from Jasper County, Ga. He was an accomplished scholar and gentleman of the old school, a strict disciplinarian, a popular physician and a man of much influence in the community. He served several terms in the Georgia Legislature, and was distinguished as a useful legislator. After coming to Alabama he devoted his time to cotton planting, and the rearing and training of his children. How well he succeeded in the last mentioned, but most important subdivision of his life's efforts, may be partially gathered from the printed pages of our State's history, and the vol-

umes of biography chronicling the lives of her noblest sons. He died July 14, 1853, at the age of sixty-six years. His wife was Mary Gill, a native of Hancock County, Ga. They reared four sons, and the brilliant achievements of each of these noble sions illumine the pages of history and reflect honor upon the State of their adoption. The eldest son, John Gill Shorter, served the people of Alabama as Solicitor (1842), as Senator (1845), Legislator (1851), Judge of the Circuit Court nine years, Commissioner to the Secession Convention of Georgia (1861), member of the Confederate States Congress and as Governor (1861 to 1863). He died May 29, 1872, at the age of fifty-five years. The second son, the late Col. Eli S. Shorter, distinguished lawyer and politician; member of the United States Congress, 1855 to 1859, inclusive; an able defender of Southern rights; indentified with the Southern Confederacy from its inception to its close; commander of a volunteer regiment at the battle of Shiloh, died at Eufaula, Ala., in May, 1875. The third son, Reuben C. Shorter, was also a brilliant lawyer. After marriage he settled in the city of Montgomery and commenced the study of the law, with every prospect of a successful future. He died at the early age of twenty-six.

The subject of this sketch was graduated from Chapel Hill (North Carolina) University in June, 1853; read law with his brother, Eli S. Shorter, at Eufaula, and was admitted to the bar in May, 1854. Associated with his brother under the firm name of Shorter & Brother, he was actively engaged in the practice from that time to the outbreak of the war. Early in 1861, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company A, First Regiment Alabama Volunteer Infantry, and served twelve months. He then joined the army of Northern Virginia as first lieutenant and aide-de-camp on the staff of Brigadier General C. A. Battle. He remained on General Battle's staff to the close of the war; was wounded, May 5, 1864, by a minie-ball flesh cut on the left breast, in the battle of the Wilderness, and left the service with the full rank of major, acting adjutant and inspector-general. At Spotsylvania, on May 12, 1864, Gen. R. E. Rodes tendered him promotion, on the battle-field, on his staff with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, but he was warmly attached to General Battle and preferred a lower rank upon his staff to a more exalted one with some one else. At Cedar Creek, Va., October 19, 1864, General Battle was severely



*Truly  
Yours  
R. S. Senter.*



wounded, and Major Shorter accompanied him home to Alabama.

After the war ended, Major Shorter resumed the practice of law, with what success can readily be gathered from a perusal of this but partial outline of his life. He is a lawyer of acknowledged ability, and while in the practice had a large and lucrative patronage.

In February, 1885, without solicitation upon his part, the Senate elected him president of the Railroad Commission of Alabama, one of the State's most important departments. In this the succeeding Executive consulted the public's best interest by continuing him without interruption. His peculiar fitness for the position he so ably fills is familiar to the intelligent people of the State, and has been acquired by the most patient and devoted study of railroads and their great and growing influence in this rapidly developing country.

In the unprecedented political struggle which preceded the overthrow of rotten carpet-bag and negro rule in Alabama, no one took a more active and effective part that did the subject of this sketch. With what diabolical tenacity those vampires held on to the control of public affairs is now a part of history; with what savage determination they waged their last battle is familiar to all, but is probably no more vividly remembered by any man than by Col. H. R. Shorter.

At the November election, 1874, at Eufaula, while contending for the rights of his State and her people, and protesting against the continuation in power of the most dastardly pack of robbers that ever fastened themselves upon a community, a regular street battle was fought between the Democrats and Radicals, in which he received two pistol shots, one through the left arm, the other shot being squarely over his heart, the ball lodging in a memorandum book in his coat breast-pocket. These shots failed, as if through the intervention of Providence, in their purpose of removing him from the further affairs of this life. However, as that day settled the Radicals in Alabama, and as his life was spared for yet many years of usefulness, there was enough and to spare "to thank God on."

Colonel Shorter has at no time in life been a peace-hunter, though he has always served his party and friends in every political contest. He was the elector from his district on the Greeley ticket, and canvassed the State in its interest. When

Thomas Seay was candidate for Governor, Colonel Shorter canvassed the State with him, under the direction of the executive committee, and struck many hard and telling blows in his behalf. He is a ready debater and pleasing speaker.

May 9, 1851, at Eufaula, Colonel Shorter married Miss Adhe Keitt, daughter of the late Mr. John Keitt, of Orangeburg, S. C., and a cousin of the brilliant Col. Lawrence M. Keitt, who, while commanding his regiment, lost his life at Petersburg. Of this union, one son, Henry R., Jr., now a student at the State University, and three daughters, were born, all of whom are now in life. Colonel Shorter's friends and admirers all over Alabama are confident that future honors are in store for him.



**MALCOLM C. BURKE**, Auditor of State, was born at Tuscaloosa July 14, 1836, and was educated at the University of Alabama. He was teaching school in Tuscaloosa when the war broke out, and, in fact, up to the time of his entering the service of the Confederate Government, which he did in December, 1862, as a first lieutenant of artillery. He was assigned to duty at Fort Morgan, having previously been examined, by the authorized board, for ordnance duty, to which he was commissioned at once. In 1863 he was assigned to the staff of General Cantey as ordnance officer. With Cantey's Brigade he went to Johnson's army in Northern Georgia, and served through that campaign as first lieutenant of ordnance and brigade ordnance officer.

At the close of the war, Major Burke returned to Tuscaloosa County, farmed one year and removed to Marengo County, where he devoted three years to agriculture. In 1872, at Demopolis, he started the *Marengo News*, erecting it upon the plant of an old and defunct paper. He conducted the *News* twelve years, and during the period of Reconstruction, made it what his many patrons declared to be a "red-hot paper." Demopolis being near the center of the black belt, the *News* had ample opportunity in those days to distinguish itself as the opponent of radical rule, for it was in the black belt that Republicanism was most arrogant and oppressive, and the verdict is that Major Burke improved the opportunity to the fullest extent. In 1872 he was appointed Superintendent

of Education of Marengo County; held the office eighteen months and resigned it. From 1881 to 1884 he was Mayor of Demopolis. In the latter year he was elected Auditor of State, and was re-elected in 1886. His connection with the Marengo News ceased upon his election to the Auditorship.

Major Burke was married at Tuscaloosa December 7, 1865, to Miss Annie Inge, a native of that place and a daughter of the late Robert S. Inge. She died April 11, 1887, leaving five children—one daughter and four sons.

Major Burke's administration of the Auditor's office has been of such character as to receive the notice of the leading press of almost every State in the Union. In 1881, the first year of his incumbency, the delinquent tax at the end of the tax year amounted to but \$2,500, and at the end of the tax year for 1885, there was only due his office from the entire State, the sum of \$49,76. This fact was commented upon as being without precedent in the history of any State in the Union. The delinquent, or unpaid tax, due the office, when he took charge of it, aggregated \$30,000, and in 1881 the books show that there was over \$100,000 delinquent, and that the average for twenty years preceding his election, was over \$50,000. When asked as to how this remarkable condition of the State taxes had been brought about, the Auditor replied to the writer "simply by executing the law as found upon the statute books." The laws of the State regulating the collection of tax have been somewhat changed, and at his suggestion, since he came into office. A provision of law which has existed since the adoption of the code of 1876, and to which he attributes the greatest importance, is that of giving the Governor the power to suspend for cause any delinquent tax collector in the State. In the office machinery, improvement is noticeable in many ways. In short, the Auditor's office of the State of Alabama may be referred to as the model of its kind.

All the State taxes charged against collectors for the fiscal years ending, respectively, September 30, 1885, 1886 and 1887, have been paid into the State Treasury or legally settled, not a dollar remaining unaccounted for. There are some small amounts outstanding which are in litigation by suits brought, not against revenue officers, but by revenue officers against corporations for taxes claimed to be due the State from such corporations. When these suits are all settled, there will

be an absolutely clean sheet for all the years of Mr. Burke's administration.



**THOMAS N. McCLELLAN**, Attorney-General of the State of Alabama, native of Limestone County, this State, son of Thomas J. McClellan, who died October 14, 1887, was born February 23, 1853. He was educated at Oak Hill Academy, Tennessee; studied law at Cumberland University, and was graduated from that institution as Bachelor of Laws in June, 1872. In September of that year, associated with his brother, the Hon. R. A. McClellan, he began the practice of his chosen profession at Athens, and readily took rank as one of the most brilliant young men of the North Alabama bar. In 1874, 1875 and 1876 he held the office of Register in Chancery for Limestone County, and in 1880 was elected Senator from the District composed of Limestone and Lauderdale, and served till 1884. In 1884 he was elected Attorney-General, to which high office he succeeded himself in 1886. His conduct of this trust has been of such character as to demonstrate his eminent fitness for the place, and attest the wisdom of the people that elected him.

Though the youngest member of the State Senate, while of that body he was placed at the head of several of its most important committees, and in every case proved himself equal to the tasks imposed upon him. As Attorney-General some of the most important legal questions have come before him, and at this writing (1888) he enjoys the distinction of not having had any of his decisions reversed or overruled.

In the prosecution of *Vicent*, the defaulting State Treasurer, one of the most famous cases in the history of the State, General McClellan took the leading part, and so acquitted himself as to win the applause of law-abiding people throughout the South.



**JAMES L. SHEFFIELD**, native of Huntsville, Ala., son of Nicholas and Mary (Martin) Sheffield, natives, respectively, of Virginia and North Carolina, was born December 5, 1819.

The senior Mr. Sheffield came to Alabama in 1818, and spent the rest of his life at Huntsville, where he died in 1810, at the age of fifty-seven years.



James L. Sheffield was educated at the common schools of Madison County, and in 1837, took up his abode in Marshall County, and has there since made his home. He was Sheriff from 1844 to 1847, inclusive; represented the county in the Legislature in 1852-3-4-5; and was a member of the Secession Convention in 1860, and opposed secession with all his power. However, when the State withdrew from the Union, he went with it and entered into her defense heart and soul. He joined the army early in 1861, as a lieutenant of Company K, Ninth Alabama Infantry; was promoted shortly afterward to captain of his company, and in the fall of the same year, raised the Forty-eighth Alabama Infantry and became its colonel. He led this regiment at Cedar Mountain, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Suffolk, Gettysburg and at Chickamauga, where, as senior colonel, he commanded Law's Brigade. At the last named battle he received such injury from the concussion of a shell, as to compel his retirement from the army sometime afterward, but not until he had commanded the brigade at Fredericksburg, Suffolk and Gettysburg. It is worthy of remark that Colonel Sheffield raised the Forty-eighth Regiment at his own personal expense, paying out therefor, \$57,000 in money. A part of this sum was afterward returned to him by the Government, but, as he had it on deposit in a bank at Richmond, he subsequently lost it entirely.

At the close of the war he returned to Marshall County, and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1865, and a representative to the lower house of the Legislature in 1866-7. In 1886 he represented Marshall, Jackson and DeKalb Counties in the Senate, for which position he was nominated by acclamation and chosen without opposition.

Colonel Sheffield was one of the most bitter opponents of the Fifteenth Constitutional Amendment and, after Reconstruction, he was for a period of two years the only man in Northern Alabama that openly and publicly spoke in behalf of the Democratic party; and, despite the bitter and hostile attitude of the Federal party, he canvassed the counties of North Alabama, and in doing so won for himself the distinction of being one of the most powerful stump speakers in the State. In 1860 he supported Douglas, and made at least a half hundred speeches in his behalf, and, as has already been seen, did everything in his power to save the Democratic party

and the old Constitutional Union. Since September, 1886, he has been connected as clerk with the educational department of the State.

His speech made on Decoration Day, 1886, was pronounced one of the finest efforts of its character ever delivered. In the Senate, when the question of appropriation for the erection of the Confederate monument came up, he took an active stand in its favor, and the success of the movement was undoubtedly largely due to his influence. His address upon that occasion was one of the ablest ever delivered on that subject.

June 27, 1844, he was married at Warrington, Marshall County, to Mary A. Street, and has had born to him eight children, six of whom, two sons and four daughters, are now living.



**JOSEPH DAY BARRON** is a native of Upson County, Ga., where he was born March 19, 1833. His father was the Rev. Hiram Barron, forty years a minister of the Baptist Church. He was a native of Georgia, came to Alabama in lived eleven years in Russell County, and from 1837, 1848 to 1872 in Randolph County, where he died in the last named year at the age of about seventy-two years. His wife was, before marriage, named Pool, and her ancestors fought under General Greene during the Revolutionary War.

Joseph Day Barron was educated at the common schools of Russell County, and in 1856 assumed the editorship of the *Louina Eagle*. Two years later he removed this paper to Wedowee, Randolph County, changed its name to the *Southern Mercury*, and run it up to 1861. He was afterward associated with the *Ashland Times* for about a year; his last newspaper work was with the *Montgomery Advertiser* during the years of 1879, '80, '81, '82, '83.

Most of his time during the late war was given to the milling business, but during the latter part of 1864 he was connected with the Sixth Alabama Cavalry, and remained with it to the close. He represented Clay County in the lower house of the Legislature, session of 1874-5, and again in 1875-6. During both sessions he was at the head of the Committee on Enrolled Bills, on Committee of Public Printing, and Federal Relations.

In 1878 he came into the office of Secretary of State as chief clerk to Maj. William W. Screws, and has continued in that position.

He was married in Randolph County, in 1854, to Miss Rebecca Wood, a native of Georgia, and a daughter of the Rev. Allen Wood, of the Baptist Church.

His continuation in the position which he has filled through so many administrations attests his eminent qualifications for the duties of the office of Secretary of State, for which position his thorough acquaintance with all the details of the office, as well as his close application to business and his well-known honesty and integrity of character, peculiarly fit him. It is quite likely that the people will at no distant day advance him to the head of the department.

It may be proper to add that Mr. Barron is a Democrat of the old school.



**FREDERICK HORTON SMITH**, Treasurer of State, was born in Hancock County, Ga., of Vermont and Virginia ancestry, October 3, 1822. He was taught in boyhood at the primary schools of the period and supplemented his learning in the intercourse of daily business by private study and instruction. At an early age (being an orphan), he familiarized himself with farming and mercantile pursuits, which as a vocation he has continuously followed. He removed to Alabama in 1841, and married in Dallas County in 1851. He has since made Dallas County his home. He has had two sons and two daughters born to him; is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities and of the Grange. He served the Confederacy during the war in a civil capacity, and afterward the county of Dallas (with others) in extricating it from burdensome indebtedness and taxation inflicted upon its taxpayers during the Reconstruction period by unscrupulous aliens and corrupt officials.

Mr. Smith was a representative in the State legislature in 1882-3 and was appointed during that session by Governor O'Neal to the State Treasuryship, and at the expiration of that term, elected by the people to that office for that and the next succeeding term.

Mr. Smith has made a good and efficient officer and retires from the position with the thanks of the people for the excellent manner in which he has conducted the financial affairs of the State.

**REUBEN F. KOLB**, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Alabama, was born in Enfauila, Ala., April 16, 1839, and has resided in Barbour County since the day of his birth, ever active in the promotion of its best interests. At the commencement of the war between the States, he entered the Confederate service by enlisting in the ranks of the Enfauila Rifles, commanded by that intrepid soldier and matchless orator, Capt. Alphens Baker. The second, third and fourth years of that memorable struggle, he commanded Kolb's Battery in the Western Army. His service and that of his gallant command were signalized by bravery and patriotic devotion. He was a courageous, bold and energetic officer, never shrinking from danger, but meeting it with the fortitude of one deeply impressed with the righteousness of his patriotic convictions. When he was finally compelled to sheath his trusted sword, he returned to his native county to restore his lost fortunes, and to assist in elevating Alabama from the *debris* of financial and political desolation to a plane of progress and prosperity. During the dark days of Reconstruction no man was truer to the cause of good government and to party fealty than was Captain Kolb.

His devotion to the Democratic party, and his sacrifices in its behalf, are part of the unwritten political history of Alabama, and familiar to those who were most zealous in securing for the State the blessings of local self-government. His private life has been devoted to his favorite pursuit, progressive agriculture. He has made it a practical study, and his ideas in that direction are broad and comprehensive, and will be of material benefit to the agricultural interests of the State in the administration of his present official duties. Recognizing his capacity, Gov. Thomas Seay appointed him Commissioner of Agriculture, in July last, to fill out the unexpired term of Judge Betts, and again in September, 1887, he was appointed for the full term of two years from that date. In November, 1887, the Farmers' National Congress, in session at Chicago, elected him president of that distinguished body, which was a compliment to the State and a handsome tribute to his capabilities. As Commissioner of Agriculture, he has in his brief service given evidence of the successful results that will accrue to his administration of the trust. The department over which he presides is already an important factor in the State Government, and under his energetic and wise adminis-



R. F. Koll,



tration, it promises to accomplish much good toward the development of the material resources of Alabama and in restoring to agriculture its former prestige.

Captain Kolb is a genial, whole-souled, generous gentleman, and enjoys the esteem of a host of friends in Alabama; and embodying, as he does so many superior traits of character, the publishers take pleasure in embellishing this short and imperfect sketch with his portrait.



**WILLIAM WALLACE SCREWS** has been a citizen of Montgomery since the first day of January, 1858. When a boy eighteen years of age, he entered the office of Watts, Judge & Jackson as a law student. He was born in Barbour County February 25, 1839. The only school advantages he enjoyed were those of the high school of Glenville, the town in which he was reared. He was a Whig in political sentiment, and his first vote was cast for Bell and Everett. He was opposed to secession, but went off with Alabama troops before the State went out of the Union, and was at Pensacola January 11, 1861, when news was received that the ordinance of secession had been adopted by the Convention. With the troops then at Pensacola, under the command of Colonel T. Lomax, he was engaged in the capture of the navy yard and Fort Baranecas. He was afterward, and to the close of the war, in what was known as Hilliard's Legion, and, when thrown into regiments, he was in the Fifty-ninth Alabama Regiment, commanded by Colonel Boling Hall. He was first lieutenant in a company of which John C. Henley was captain. His military service was in Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia, and in many of the memorable engagements of the war, until the surrender at Appomattox in 1865.

Returning to Montgomery, he became one of the editors of the *Advertiser*, his connection beginning with the first issue, July 20, 1865. He has been connected with it without intermission since that time. His services to the State and to the Democratic party have been constant, but always cheerfully rendered. It is safe to say that no man in Alabama has done more to put the State upon the solid footing she now occupies than the subject of this sketch.

He has never sought office, though he was elected Secretary of State in 1878, and was re-

elected in 1880. He declined a third term, although he could have been easily elected, and since then his whole time has been devoted to the *Advertiser*, he being the president of the company and editor-in-chief. Throughout the State he has many devoted friends, who would gladly see him occupy official station, as he has shown that he possesses a vast store of practical knowledge about everything in which the State is interested. He has canvassed the State several times in the interest of the Democratic candidates. No man is more devoted to his friends, and it is a noteworthy fact that at every State Convention he is the warm advocate of some friend who is a candidate for nomination.



**WILLIAM WIRT ALLEN**, United States Marshal for the Middle and Southern Districts of Alabama, comes so near being a native of this State, that it may well claim him. He was born in the city of New York while his mother was on a visit to that city, September 11, 1835. His father, Wade Allen, a South Carolinian, came to the site of Montgomery in 1818; here located, and spent the rest of his life, dying in 1851 at the age of fifty-eight years.

The Allens came originally from England about the middle of the last century, and settled in Virginia, going later to South Carolina. Mrs. Allen's family name was Sayre; she was born in New Jersey, and her people came to Alabama in 1820. Her father was for many years a merchant in New York City. Mrs. Allen is yet living in Montgomery (1888), at the age of eighty-three years. Of the four sons born to her and that grew to manhood, William W., is the eldest, and two of them are dead.

William Wirt Allen was educated primarily at Montgomery and graduated from Princeton, N. J., in 1854. After leaving college he read law, and when twenty-one years of age turned his attention to planting. April, 1861, he was elected first lieutenant of the Montgomery Mounted Rifles, with General Clanton then as captain. The Rifles were that fall merged into the First Alabama Cavalry, with Allen as major and Clanton as colonel.

Soon after the Battle of Shiloh, Major Allen was commissioned colonel of his regiment, and commanded it in the campaign of Kentucky until

after the battle of Perryville, where he was wounded. About that time, Gen. Joe Wheeler having been made chief of cavalry, Colonel Allen succeeded to the command of Wheeler's Brigade, and commanded it up to and including the first day's battle at Mufreesboro. During this engagement he was wounded quite seriously through the hand, and was compelled thereby to lay up until the winter of 1863-4. In the meantime he was commissioned brigadier-general.

He soon afterward reported to Gen. Joseph E. Johnson at Dalton, Ga., and was assigned at once to the command of a brigade. In August, 1864, he took command of a division, composed of six Georgia regiments, six Alabama regiments, to which was added later "the Confederate Brigade," and in the winter of 1864 he was promoted to major-general. He was with Johnson in Georgia, and started with Hood into Tennessee; but left the latter General, just before the battle of Franklin, to pursue Sherman, whom he followed through to the sea. General Allen surrendered with General Johnson in North Carolina, returned to Montgomery and engaged in planting, which he followed up to 1874.

From 1874 to 1875, inclusive, he was in the employ of the New Orleans & Atlantic Short Line Railroad, as Freight and Passenger Agent at New Orleans. In 1881, when the office of City Recorder of Montgomery was established, he became its first incumbent, and continued as such until June, 1885, when he was appointed by the President of the United States to the position in which we now find him, and for which his eminent fitness is universally acknowledged. General Allen was the first president of the organization known as the "Confederate Survivors" of this city County.

He was married in 1857, at Montgomery, by Bishop Cobbs, to Miss Sue Ball, of this city, and has had born to him seven sons and three daughters.

**JOSEPH W. DIMMICK**, Clerk of the United States Circuit and District Courts, Montgomery, was born in Schuyler County, Ill., November 6, 1838, and is the son of Ebenezer Dimmick, a native of New York State, and of English ancestry.

J. W. Dimmick was educated at the common schools of Illinois, and at Rushville Academy, and

was teaching school at the outbreak of the war between the States. May 8, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company G, Sixteenth Illinois Infantry, and served three years and three months. Immediately after the battle of Corinth, he was promoted from the ranks to a second lieutenantcy, and held that position when he left the army. In 1869, President Grant appointed him postmaster at Montgomery, and he held that office four years. In 1875, Justice Woods, of the United States Supreme Court (then of the United States Circuit Court), appointed him Clerk of the United States Circuit Court, a position he has since filled with credit to himself, and to the satisfaction of the people.

Captain Dimmick was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Montgomery; many years a member of its Board of Directors, and is now its vice-president. He is officially connected with the Sheffield Land Company, the Sheffield and Birmingham Coal, Iron & Railroad Company, president of the Montgomery Iron Works, and a director of the Capital City Water Works.

September 7, 1869, Captain Dimmick was married to Miss Annie Savage, a daughter of the late Professor Polk Savage, of this city, and has had born to him three daughters and one son.



**JOHN BRUCE**, Judge of the United States District Court for the Middle and Northern Districts of Alabama, was born in Sterlingshire, Scotland, February 16, 1832, and came with his parents, James and Margaret (Liddell) Bruce, to America in 1840. The family located in Wayne County, Ohio, and there the two old people are buried. Mr. Bruce dying in 1848, at the age of sixty-eight years, and his widow in 1874, at the age of seventy-two.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Franklin College, from which institution he was graduated as A. B. in 1854. From college, he went to Keokuk, Iowa, there read law with Rankin & Miller, the latter now a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and, in 1856, was admitted to the bar at Burlington. Associated with George W. McCreary, afterward Secretary of War, he began the practice of law at Keokuk, and was there at the outbreak of the late war.

As captain of Company A, Nineteenth Iowa





*J. G. Harris*



Volunteer Infantry, John Bruce entered the United States service in 1862. From captain he was soon afterward promoted to major. In 1863, he was made lieutenant-colonel, and in 1864, was commissioned colonel. At the close of the war, "in consideration of distinguished valor and meritorious services," Colonel Bruce was promoted to the rank of brevet brigadier-general. During hostilities, Colonel Bruce participated in the battles of Prairie Grove, Ark., the siege of Vicksburg, Yazoo City, Port Hudson, New Orleans and Banks' expedition to Texas. From Brownsville, Tex., his command returned to New Orleans in 1864, and, as landsmen, took part in the attack on Fort Morgan. He was afterward engaged in the battles around Mobile and at the surrender of Spanish Fort.

Being mustered out of the service in 1865, at Davenport, Iowa, General Bruce returned to Keokuk, and, the following fall, came South for the purpose of entering into the production of cotton. He located in Wilcox County, this State, and was sent from there to the Legislature in 1872 and again in 1874. In 1875 he was appointed by President Grant, and confirmed by the Senate, Judge of the United States District Courts for the Districts of Alabama.

Judge Bruce was married, in Keokuk, Iowa, in 1870, to Anna J. Hamil, daughter of Smith Hamil, an extensive wholesale merchant of that city, and has had born to him five children, two of whom were buried in infancy; the others are William Hamil, Maggie and Martha.

Judge and Mrs. Bruce are members of the Presbyterian Church, of Montgomery, Ala.



**JOHN GIDEON HARRIS.** The subject of this sketch is not only one of the most extensively known, but is also one of the best and purest men in the State. His father was Page Harris, a North Carolinian, who settled in Hale County in 1819, became a planter, and in 1887, died at the extreme old age of ninety-three years.

There were few men more esteemed in the cultivated and intelligent business and social circles of West Alabama than Page Harris, and his death was universally regretted. The Harris family came originally from England and Wales, and settled in Virginia about 1680, and from

there passed into North Carolina, from whence it migrated to Alabama.

Major Harris was educated at Greene Springs, under the celebrated Professor Henry Tutwiler, and after leaving that institution, taught school for about five years. At the age of twenty-three he entered the Cumberland University, at Lebanon, Tenn., and in 1858 was graduated in law. He began the practice immediately after his graduation at Greensboro, in this State. He was quite successful at the bar, especially as an advocate. It is a noteworthy fact that Major Harris made the money with which he was educated, and when he reached his native county, on his return from the law school, he did not possess a dollar. But, illustrative of his thrift and superior business qualities, he still possesses the first fee he earned as an attorney.

He entered the Confederate Army as a private in the Greensboro Light Artillery Guards, State troops, that were sent to Fort Morgan to take and hold possession of that fortress. His company was relieved in April of the same year, and during that summer, he raised a company of volunteers, known as the Planters' Guards, that became a part of the Twentieth Alabama Infantry.

During the winter of 1863, at Dalton, Ga., he was promoted to the rank of major, and thereafter had command of the regiment at various times. This regiment was shut up in Vicksburg during the siege; it had operated with Kirby Smith in Kentucky, participating in the battles of Crab Orchard, Richmond and Perryville. After Vicksburg he joined Bragg's army, and was with that command through all the campaign of Tennessee and Georgia, participating in all those hotly-contested battles. During the latter part of the war he was on detached duty in charge of transportation between Selma and Meridian, and finally surrendered at Gainesville.

After the war he located in Sumter County, and practiced law at Livingston until appointed to his present position in March, 1886.

Major Harris has always taken an active part in politics. He made the race for Congress in 1870 in the Fourth District, and was defeated by the Republican nominee, Charles Hays, by a very much reduced majority. Hays defeated him by only about 850 votes, while at the preceding election the Republican ticket received a majority of at least 16,000. As an evidence of his popularity, it may be mentioned that after declining the

nomination in 1872 the district went over 6,000 Republican. In 1876 he was an alternate elector for the State at large on the Tilden and Hendricks ticket, and in 1880 was an elector on the Hancock ticket from the Sixth Congressional District. In 1884 he was again alternate elector for the State at large.

In 1874 his nomination to the office of Lieutenant-Governor was regarded as an assured fact, but calmly considering the responsibility, and the necessity of leaving home, he wrote a letter to the *Montgomery Advertiser*, declining to have his name presented to the State Convention. This course was a surprise to his many friends, who were enthusiastic in his support and confident in the belief that he would be nominated.

In 1875, by invitation of the State Democratic Executive Committee of Mississippi, Major Harris made a canvass of the State, aiding those people to redeem their country from Radical thralldom. His services were highly appreciated, and the Democracy in Mississippi carried the strong-holds of the enemy, and became the victors in a glorious cause. Thus it will be seen that Major Harris not only aided to a very large extent in vindicating our cause and driving the Republicans from the offices in Alabama in 1874, but his voice was heard in the thickest of the fight in a sister State in 1875.

In 1886 he was appointed by President Cleveland, without any solicitation on his part, Register of the United States Land Office at Montgomery. This is, perhaps, the most important office in the State. Very many difficult legal questions arise that the Register must decide, but the sagacity, conservatism, and legal training of the present incumbent, has enabled him to discharge the difficult duties of his office satisfactorily to all parties concerned.

During his term, the largest amount of business has been transacted since the office was established. When he took charge of it, there was a vast accumulation of unfinished business, and now, for the first time in its history, there is no unfinished business in this office. This fact is a grand tribute to Major Harris' rare executive ability. Owing to his great personal popularity, his appointment gave much satisfaction throughout the State, and his successful administration of the office vindicates the wisdom of the President in selecting him.

In 1885 he was elected Grand Master of the

Grand Lodge of F. and A. Masons, of Alabama, and held this office during the constitutional limit of two years. His administration of the high office was wise, prudent, and full of eminent service to the Craft; and it is hardly possible that any one of the long line of distinguished and worthy grand masters of the State is more highly appreciated, loved and admired than the subject of this sketch. It may also be asserted that the daily walk and conversation of no Mason more beautifully illustrates the grand teachings of that ancient and honorable order than does that of Major Harris.

He was married in Sumter County, in 1861, to Miss Mary J. Brown, daughter of John E. Brown, a large planter of that county, and was on his wedding tour when he joined the army at Mobile. He has only two children: Mary Julia, now Mrs. L. G. Dawson, whose husband is a progressive farmer and merchant in Elmore County, and Annie B., now Mrs. Dr. J. T. Rushin, of Tallahassee, Ala., and her husband is one of the most learned and successful physicians of his age in the State, having graduated and entered the practice at the age of twenty.

Major Harris is a pleasing and forcible writer, and for several years ably edited the *Alabama Baptist*, a religious paper of great influence in this State.

Together with all the members of his family, he is a communicant of the Baptist Church, with which he has long been identified. For many years he has been a zealous and faithful worker in the Master's vineyard, and his course as a Christian has been characterized by an earnest and sweet-toned piety. He has always manifested a lively interest in the religious welfare of young men, and his election, a few days since, as president of the Young Men's Christian Association in Alabama, is a deserved compliment and an appropriate recognition of his faithful labors in that field.

Major Harris has been identified with every movement for the advancement of education in the State, and the negro has been to him an object of much concern in that direction. He has left no stone unturned that would tend to advance that race, believing that the country will be best served by raising them as much as possible out of their ignorance.

He is fearless in the denunciation of wrong, and asks no quarter when vindicating the right.

Major Harris is well known throughout the State for his liberal and conservative views in politics and religion, and while he is fixed and immovable in his matured convictions, he maintains them in a dignified, manly way, showing great courtesy to those differing with him. His manners are unassuming and agreeable. Possessing a fair share of personal magnetism, he secures at once the good will of his associates, which ripens into a warm regard when his estimable social and moral qualities are fully known. He is unselfish and generous, and, like Ben Adhem, he loves his fellow-man, and it is therefore not a source of wonder that he has such a stronghold upon upon the affections of the people of Alabama.

"So his life had flowed.

From its mysterious urn a sacred stream  
In whose calm depth the beautiful and pure  
Alone are mirrored; which, though shapes of ill  
May hover around its surface, glides in light,  
And takes no shadow from them."



**WILLIAM C. JORDAN**, Receiver of the United States Land Office, Montgomery, Ala., native of Talbot County, Ga., was born July 10, 1834. His father, Thomas G. Jordan, of North Carolina, a farmer by occupation, died in 1872, at the age of eighty-five years.

The Jordan family probably came from Ireland, and the Chambliss family, from whom the mother of William C. Jordan was descended, was probably from France. Both of our subject's grandfathers were soldiers in the Colonial Army during the Revolutionary War, and Jordan was a prisoner at Wilmington, N. C., when Cornwallis surrendered. From Virginia the Jordan family removed into North Carolina, and from there their descendants came into Georgia.

William C. Jordan is the youngest of fourteen children. He was educated at Glenville High School, in Barbour (now Russell) County, this State, where he was farming up to the spring of 1862. He served as captain of militia under General Shorter in 1861, and in 1862 entered the army as a private soldier, and with eighteen other men, whom he carried with him, joined Company B of the Fifteenth Alabama Infantry in Virginia. He served with this command to the close of the war, and participated in the battles of Suffolk, Gettysburg, Battle Mountain, Chicka-

manga, Raccoon Mountain, Lookout Valley, Campbell's Station, Knoxville, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Chester Station, Deep Bottom and Hazel Mill, and probably enjoys the distinction of being the one man in a thousand to decline promotion from the ranks.

He was on duty at Mrs. Christian's (granddaughter of General Harrison, ex-President), on the Chickahominy, when his regiment surrendered. Longstreet's army had withdrawn without his notice, and he was left probably the last man on duty in Virginia. He footed it over 560 miles of the way from Chickahominy to his home, leaving Mrs. Christian's on April 3d and arriving at his destination on the 28th.

After the war, he settled down to farming at his old place and devoted his time to it until he was appointed Receiver of the United States Land Office. In 1884, he was sent to the Legislature to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Col. R. H. Powell. Prior to this he had filled several positions in the county, such as assistant tax assessor, collector, deputy sheriff, census-taker (in 1880), etc.

Mr. Jordan was bitterly opposed to secession from the start, but when his State withdrew from the Federal Union, he entered into her defense with heart and soul, and it may be truthfully written that no individual soldier saw more service, nor conducted himself more gallantly than he. He was never a prisoner, never wounded nor put under arrest. He left at home a wife and three children of his own, and three widows, fourteen wards and over one hundred slaves depending wholly upon him. After the war, he settled all the estates of the widows and orphans of whose property he was in charge without the necessity of litigation.

He was married in Barbour (now Bullock) County, February 14, 1856, to Miss Fannie A. Thornton, and has had born to him thirteen children, nine of whom are now living. He has ever been an active worker in the Democratic party, since its re-organization. He is a good Mason and a member of the Baptist Church.



**EDMUND WEBSTER BOOKER**, United States Collector of Internal Revenue for the District of Alabama, was born in Madison County, this State, April 14, 1837. His parents were from Virginia,

and his father represented Madison County in the Legislature, when the capital was at Tuscaloosa.

The family removed from North to South Alabama and settled in Perry County, where the subject of this sketch attended the common schools, acquiring thereat the rudiments of an English education. He entered the State University in 1855, and was there until 1858. For three years preceding the outbreak of the war he was in mercantile business at Uniontown. On the 25th of April, 1861, he enlisted as a private in Company D, Fourth Alabama Infantry, and remained with that command until February, 1863. In the summer of 1863 he enlisted in the Eighth Alabama Cavalry, and with that regiment surrendered at Livingston. While in the service he participated in the battles of Seven Pines, South Mountain, Antietam, Second Manassas, Fredericksburg, and innumerable skirmishes.

At the close of the war he took up his abode in Hale County, and there resided until 1879. In 1875 he was appointed by Governor Houston Tax Collector of that county, which appears to be about the only position of consequence held by him, prior to his appointment to his present position. He was appointed Collector of Revenue by President Cleveland in 1885.

Captain Booker was married in Greene County, in 1863, to Miss Martha F. Knight, and has had born to him twelve children, two of whom are dead. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Captain Booker is a Freemason, a Knight of Pythias and a Knight of Honor.



**EMMET SEIBEL**, Special Agent of the Interior Department of the United States Government, Montgomery.

Major Seibel is a native of Lexington District, S. C., where he was born October 3, 1821. His father was John Temple Seibel, a native of Charleston, and descended from German ancestry. His mother's maiden name was Smith, a native of Virginia and of English descent.

The senior Seibel was a large planter in South Carolina, where he died in 1853, at the age of sixty-three years. Mrs. Seibel died in 1867, at seventy years of age.

The grandfather Seibel, while on a visit to General Hampton, of South Carolina, met there

Miss Sarah Temple, a niece of the celebrated John Temple. He was the agent of the King, sent to America with important papers, which he delivered irregularly to Benjamin Franklin, and which caused his dismissal from the service of the King. He was afterwards reinstated in the King's favor, and sent by him on important missions to Boston. He subsequently married Miss Temple and settled at Granby, where he spent the rest of his life. Miss Temple was the young cousin of the famous Robert Emmet, the own Irish statesman.

The subject of this sketch was the second of four sons, two of whom are now living. He was educated at Columbia (S. C.) College, from which institution he was graduated in 1844. He read law with William Griggs; was admitted to the bar in 1851, and began practice at once at Edgefield, where he was at the outbreak of the war. He joined the army and was major of the Seventh South Carolina Infantry, which regiment formed a part of the First Brigade, First Division, First Corps of the Army of the Potomac, and participated in the first battle of Manassas, as field-officer of that brigade. Soon after Manassas, the colonel and lieutenant colonel of the regiment having left the service, Major Seibel was promoted to the rank of colonel.

Upon the re-organization of the regiment in May, 1862, he left it and accepted a position on the staff of General Haygood, then operating on the coast. In 1864 he accepted a position on the staff of General Butler, where we find him at the close of the war. He participated from first to last in many of the hardest-fought battles during the war. At Travillion, or near Louisa Court House, Va., his command was ambuscaded and over half of it shot down. His sword and belt were carried away by a nimble ball.

At the close of the war he returned to Columbia, and from there to Montgomery in 1865, and has here since resided. He followed planting up to 1875, after which he was railroading, and he was holding a position with the L. & N. R. R. when appointed Special Agent of the Government.

He was married at Montgomery, in 1868, to Miss Ann Goldthwaite, daughter of the late Senator Goldthwaite, and has had born to him four sons and one daughter.

Major Seibel was a gallant soldier; is a good citizen; and the Administration showed its wisdom in his selection for the responsible position he is filling with marked ability.

**PARHAM N. BOOKER**, Chief Deputy of the United States Internal Revenue Collector's office, Montgomery, was born in Madison County, this State, in April, 1832, and his parents were Parham N. and Mary M. (Pool) Booker, natives of Virginia.

The senior Mr. Booker was a planter and hotel man; lived many years at Uniontown, Perry County, and there died in 1861, at the age of sixty-six years.

P. N. Booker, Jr., received his school training at Uniontown, and was there for five years engaged in mercantile business as clerk and proprietor. From Uniontown he removed to Greensboro, and five years later to the State of Mississippi. He was living on the Sunflower River in the latter State, when appointed to his present position.

Being physically unfitted for field duty, he gave his services to the Confederate Government during the late war in a civil department.

As chief deputy of the Revenue Collector's office, Mr. Booker has almost exclusive charge of its management, and that he discharges the duties to the satisfaction of his chief is fully attested by his retention. He is an affable, courteous gentleman, and never fails to make a favorable impression upon all with whom he comes in contact.



**THOMAS MANN ARRINGTON**, Judge of the City Court of Montgomery, was born in North Carolina August 29, 1829; graduated from the University of that State in 1849; admitted to the bar in 1852, and came to Alabama in 1856. He began the practice of law at Tarborough, N. C., immediately after his admission to the bar, and remained there up to the time of his coming to Montgomery. Associated with Hon. Milton J. Saffold, and later with General Holtzelaw, he was in the practice of law up to the outbreak of the war. In April, 1861, he volunteered as a private in the Metropolitan Guards, which became a part of the Third Alabama Infantry, and served with this command about eight months. While absent in Virginia he was elected to the Alabama Legislature, which distinction exempted him, under the law, from army service for the period of two years; but declining this legal privilege, he at once, after the fall of Fort Donelson, helped to raise a company, of which he became captain, and

entered the Thirty-first Alabama Infantry. At the formation of this regiment, in April, 1862, he was elected lieutenant-colonel, with which rank he left the service at the close of the war. Immediately upon its organization, the regiment was ordered to East Tennessee, where it soon after took part in the battle of Tazewell and the investment of Cumberland Gap, and thence went on General Bragg's march to Frankfort. On the return from Kentucky, but before the battle of Murfreesboro, it was ordered to Mississippi.

The brave Colonel Hundley, who commanded the regiment, was wounded in the battle of Port Gibson, and fell into the hands of the enemy. This threw the command upon the lieutenant-colonel, who led the regiment subsequently in many hotly-contested engagements. He commanded it at Baker's Creek and the siege of Vicksburg, and for gallantry was commended by Gen. Stephen D. Lee. He was surrendered at Vicksburg, July, 1863, with the rest of General Pemberton's command, which retired him from active service until after his exchange.

In 1864, again in command of the Thirty-first, he went on Hood's march to Tennessee. His was one of the three regiments of Pettus' brigade that forced the passage of the river at Columbia and captured the enemy's rifle pits, making what Lieut.-Gen. S. D. Lee, pronounced "a most gallant charge" in his official report—and was among the last to leave the trenches at Nashville. Though suffering much from ill-health he participated in every battle in which his command was engaged except that of Missionary Ridge, from which he was detained by protracted sickness. One of the sad consequences of the war to him was the loss of two young brothers—the elder, Samuel, a delicate boy, who had won the golden medal for oratory at the University of Virginia, died from fatigue and exposure in the battle of Tazewell; the other, Archibald, who had left the University of North Carolina, to join the Confederate service, died from a wound received in the charge on Malvern Hill.

At the close of hostilities, Colonel Arrington resumed the practice of law, and in the spring of 1866, was elected Judge of the City Court by the white people of the city and county of Montgomery. [The City Court of Montgomery is of concurrent dignity and jurisdiction with the Circuit Court, and has in addition chancery jurisdiction.—Ed.]

In the fall of 1868 he was removed from office through the intervention of the Reconstruction laws, and he again resumed the practice, associated with the late brilliant Malcolm D. Graham, a partnership that existed for a period of ten years. He was again elected to the City Judgeship in 1880, and re-elected in 1885.

Judge Arrington was married in 1861 to a daughter of the late Judge George Goldthwaite, and has nine children.

The ancestors of the Arringtons came originally from England, settling first in Southampton County, Va., and removing thence to North Carolina in the year 1764, in the person of two brothers—Arthur and Joseph. The former was the great-grandfather of Judge Arrington. John Arrington, the Judge's grandfather, was for many years a member of the North Carolina Legislature, and also a member of the Convention of 1836 that revised the Constitution of that State. The Judge's father, known as Col. Samuel L. Arrington, who moved to Montgomery in 1852, was educated for the law, but on account of ill-health took to agricultural pursuits. He represented Nash, his native county, for ten years in the State Senate, and his brother, Archibald H. Arrington, was twice a member of the United States Congress, and later of the Confederate Congress. He was also a member of the North Carolina Constitutional Convention of 1870. Thomas N. Mann, a half brother of the Colonel, and for whom Judge Arrington was named, was a distinguished lawyer, a member of the Legislature, and was sent by President Monroe as Minister to Central America. On his way out he died at Hampton Roads, Va.

**FRANCIS CORBIN RANDOLPH**, Judge of Probate, Montgomery, was born at Tuscaloosa, Dec. 6, 1841. His father was B. F. Randolph, native of Virginia, whence he removed to Tuscaloosa in 1819. He constructed the second house erected at that place, and removed to Montgomery in 1850. Judge Randolph was educated at Greene Springs and at the University of Virginia, from which latter institution he, on January 9, 1861, entered the Metropolitan Guards as a private soldier, and remained in the service to the close of the war. At the re-organization of the command to which he was attached, in April, 1861, the

Metropolitan Guards were merged into the Third Infantry. He left the Third the following fall, and joined Semple's Battery, in which, in January, 1862, he was made a sergeant. April, 1863, he was promoted to adjutant of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, and a week later was commissioned captain of Company A, remarkable only in the fact that the captain was not personally acquainted with an individual of that company. He commanded Company A for about one year, when he was made major of the regiment, and as such commanded it to the close of the war. At the cessation of hostilities he returned to Montgomery, where he had read law and been admitted to the bar, and entered into the practice of his chosen profession. In August, 1880, he was elected Judge of Probate, and was re-elected in 1886.

Judge Randolph takes an active interest in politics; is now chairman of the Democratic County Central Committee, a member of the State Committee, and is regarded as one of the best political workers in the State.

He was married at Uniontown, Ala., December 6, 1866, to Miss Sallie T. Nicholson, daughter of Robert W. Nicholson, of that place.

The Judge is a prominent Knight of Pythias, Knight of Honor, and a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

**ROBERT BARBER**, United States Commissioner, was born at Utica, N. Y., in 1840, and is a son of Milo G. Barber.

Mr. Barber's great-grandfather was a captain, and commanded a Vermont Company in the Revolutionary War, and his grandfather was a captain in the War of 1812.

The father of our subject was born at Enosburgh, Vt., in 1810, and died at Utica, N. Y., in 1855. His wife was of Irish descent.

Robert Barber was educated at the High School at Utica, N. Y. After leaving school he was engaged in the drug business until 1860, when he enlisted in the Union Army as a private in Company E, Twenty-second New York Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served two years. He re-enlisted as a veteran in the New York Cavalry, and was mustered in as adjutant. He was wounded at the battle of Antietam, and was mustered out of service at Talladega, Ala., in

1865, as assistant adjutant-general of the field forces of Alabama.

Mr. Barber came to Montgomery in 1866, as chief clerk of the Civil Bureau, which position he held until the time of holding the Constitutional Convention in 1867, at which time he was elected secretary of the Convention. In the fall of 1867 he was elected Sheriff of Montgomery County for the term of three years, which is as long a time as one man could hold that office under the law, but he acted the following three years as Deputy Sheriff. He was Clerk of the House of Representatives, session of 1872-3, and was then appointed clerk for the United States Attorney, and was subsequently appointed United States Commissioner. He has held both positions ever since.

Mr. Barber was the organizer of the Grand Army Post, of Montgomery, and is at present its commander. He was married in May, 1866, to Miss Alice B., daughter of Frank P. Hall, of Talladega, Ala. They have two children: Thomas M. and Mary.



**S. HENRY BARTLETT**, Superintendent of Public Schools, Montgomery, was born June 13, 1841, at Petersburg, Va. He is a son of Charles L. and Emma (Morton) Bartlett, natives, respectively, of Connecticut and New York.

The senior Mr. Bartlett traces his ancestry to the Bartletts of the Pilgrim Fathers. He located at Petersburg, about 1837. The mother of our subject was of English descent.

S. H. Bartlett received the best educational advantages that were offered in his earlier days, and at the age of fifteen years, entered Hampden-Sidney College, Prince Edward County, Va., from which institution he was graduated in 1859. He came to Alabama in December of that year; located at Dayton, Marengo County, and began the study of law under Judge Wm. E. Clark. He taught school at Dayton at the same time he was studying law, and continued to teach and study law until the war broke out.

He enlisted in the Confederate Army as a private in Company D, Eleventh Alabama Infantry, under Col. Sydenham Moore, and was in the army of Northern Virginia one and a half years when his health failed. He came home, remained a few months, regained his health, went back to the army,

and in what is known as the Petersburg Battalion, located at Petersburg, Va. He was engaged in the first fight at Petersburg in the fall of 1863, and was promoted to first lieutenant of Company B, Petersburg Battalion, in which capacity he served until the cessation of hostilities.

Immediately after the close of the war he returned to Dayton. He began the practice of law in 1866, and continued it until 1875, at which time an accident befell him which injured his health to such an extent as to necessitate his giving up the practice. In 1876 he resumed teaching at Tuskegee, where he was associated with the Park High School. He held that position five years; went to Scottsville, Ala., as principal of the school of that place, remained one year, resigned and accepted the position as principal of the high school at Columbus, Ga. After four years at the latter place, he came to Montgomery in 1885 for the purpose of organizing the Montgomery High School, of which he was chosen principal before he came here. He acted one year after the school was organized, and was then elected general superintendent of the public schools of Montgomery City. He has under his control five school buildings and about fifteen hundred pupils.

Professor Bartlett was married July 16, 1867, to Miss Julia, a daughter of Col. John H. Prince, a large planter of Marengo County. Of this union six children have been born: Charles H., Belle M., Henry T., Oliver P., Robert L. and John Edmund.

The Professor and family are members of the Presbyterian Church, and he has been an officiating elder over fifteen years. He has always taken an active part in the Sabbath school, and has been superintendent several years.



**EDWARD R. HOLT**, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Montgomery County, native of Augusta, Ga. (son of the late Hon. Wm. W. Holt, who was for nineteen years Judge of the Superior Court of the Middle District of Georgia, a gallant officer in the War of 1812, a distinguished lawyer and politician, and who died in 1864 at the age of 75 years), was born January 25, 1833.

E. R. Holt was educated at Augusta; came to Alabama in 1855, and has since lived in Montgomery. Physically unable to shoulder arms in

behalf of his country during the late war, he was compelled to leave the ranks of a soldier, into which he had so willingly volunteered, and accept service as agent of the commissary until the close of the war. In September, 1881, Governor Cobb appointed him Clerk of the Circuit Court, to fill out the unexpired term of E. A. Graham, and in the fall of 1886 he was elected to the office without opposition. Mr. Holt married in Montgomery County, in 1857, Miss Mary Augusta Bellinger, daughter of the late Dr. Carnot Bellinger, and has had born to him seven children, two of whom are dead. The living are three sons and two daughters.



**WILLIAM P. CHILTON.** The name of William P. Chilton, Sr., is identified with the history of Alabama, from 1834, to the occurrence of his death, in 1871. He contributed much to the prosperity of the State; as he shared also its honor in adversity.

He was born in 1810, in Christian County, Ky. His mother (a Blewsee) was of distinguished family, and his father was a Baptist divine, widely known and of great influence.

William P. Chilton was "the self-made man." His mother died when he was but three years old, and his father soon after; and he was left, with Lysias, a still younger brother, to the care of his sister Jane, who married Rev. Charles Metcalfe. These noble people were to him as father and mother.

He read law with Judge Meggs (of the Supreme Court of Tennessee), and while at Nashville, met, and afterward married, his first wife, Mary C. Morgan, a most accomplished lady, daughter of George Morgan, Esq., of Athens, and a sister of Hon. John T. Morgan, now of the United States Senate.

With a young wife, without money, and without the influence of friends, in 1831, he located at Mardisville, in Talladega County (from which the Indians had not been removed), and there began the practice of law.

Mr. Chilton was associated with Geo. P. Brown, Esq., and the firm, by dint of hard and systematic work, soon acquired a lucrative practice, and with it the respect and confidence of the people.

In 1839, though a Whig in a strongly Democratic county, he was elected to the Legislature,

where he readily took and retained notably high rank. He declined re-election to devote his time to law.

In 1840 he actively supported Harrison for the presidency, and in 1844 worked equally as ardently for Clay. He was recognized as one of the most powerful debaters of his time in the State. In 1845 he ran against Gen. F. McConnell for Congress, but the General's personal popularity, and the large-standing Democratic majority of the district prevailed.

Though a Whig he was elected in 1848, by a Democratic Legislature to the Supreme Court bench, and in 1852 succeeded Judge Collier as Chief-Justice. It was as a judicial officer that Judge Chilton illustrated, in the highest manner, those qualities of purity, honesty and integrity, which were his most prominent characteristics. He was, in the most exalted sense, a model judge.

In 1856 he resigned the office of Chief-Justice to resume the practice of law at Tuskegee.

He was elected in 1859 to the Senate from the Macon District. The political events of that period, State and National, were of the most exciting character. Though Judge Chilton deprecated disunion, he could not submit to dishonor in the Union. He earnestly desired the perpetuation of the Government as the Fathers had bequeathed it; but not in violation of the Constitution. He favored measures having in view the cooperative action of the Southern States, and ultimately the conventional power of all the States of the Union, if necessary, to an honorable and final settlement, by compromise, of the great question at issue. His speech in advocacy of this policy was the greatest of his life. It became the basis of action of several of the Southern States; but, lacking in unanimity, it was not successful.

Judge Chilton resigned his seat in the Senate, and with his sons Thomas G. Chilton, and W. P. Chilton, Jr., in connection with William L. Yancey and his son Benjamin C. Yancey, established the law firm of Chilton & Yancey, with offices at Montgomery and Tuskegee. The two offices were consolidated on the death of Thomas G. Chilton, a lawyer of brilliant promise, in 1860.

After the secession of Alabama, Judge Chilton was unanimously chosen by the State Convention a member of the Provisional Confederate Congress; and was afterward twice elected to the Congress of the Confederacy. Of this body he was one of the most influential members; and, in the absence



of the Speaker was often elected to preside over its deliberations.

In the fall of the Confederacy Judge Chilton, in common with his Southern countrymen, sustained a severe loss in property of every kind.

Undaunted by reverses he resumed, after the war, the practice of law at Montgomery, associating with him Col. Jack Thorington and Col. W. P. Chilton, and engaged in a first-class law practice. Colonel Chilton afterward retiring from the firm, W. S. Thorington and John M. Chilton became members of it.

Judge Chilton contributed much by his conservatism and influence toward restoring the State Government to its former relations in the Union. In a conference of leading gentlemen on the subject of the State's action on the plan of Congressional Reconstruction, he, with Hon. Benjamin Fitzpatrick, favored *action* instead of the policy of *inaction* (or not voting) adopted by the Committee of the Democratic and Conservative party. Had his views prevailed many of the evils endured afterward could have been avoided.

Judge Chilton in person was over six feet in height, well proportioned, erect and of commanding appearance. In character he was as pure as a virgin. He was a devoted husband, a kind and affectionate father. He was an ardent Baptist, and during his life was president of the Baptist State Convention and vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was, at the period of his death, Grand Master of Masons, and High Priest. The degree of LL. D. had been conferred on him by a Tennessee University.

His death resulted from an accident January 20, 1871, and was announced the day following by Gov. P. B. Lindsay, in the following fitting words:

STATE OF ALABAMA.—EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

MONTGOMERY, January 21, 1871.

*Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:*

It is with feelings of sorrow and regret, that I inform you of the death of the Hon. W. P. Chilton, of the city of Montgomery. The event occurred last night about the hour of eleven.

Judge Chilton was one of the best beloved citizens; eminent as a jurist, and the people of Alabama had often honored him with their confidence and esteem. As a member of the Legislature, as a member of Congress, and as Chief Justice of our

Supreme Court, he discharged his duties with devotion and zeal.

In the Halls of Legislation, he was a statesman, and he adorned the Bench by his integrity and learning.

The loss of such a man is a public calamity, and it is fit that the departments of Government of a State he loved so well should pay a tribute to his memory.

ROBERT B. LINDSAY,

Governor of Alabama.

The Legislature, by appropriate resolutions, gave additional testimony of appreciation, and adjourned in respect to his memory.

In 1875 the county of Chilton was named in honor of him, and attests the love and respect of the people for his memory, and worthily contributes to its perpetuation.



**TENNENT LOMAX** was born in Abbeville District, S. C., on the 20th day of September, 1820. His father was Hon. William Lomax, a lawyer of distinction, who served in the Legislature of South Carolina. His mother was a Miss Tennent, a lineal descendant of the celebrated family of Presbyterian preachers of that name, the founders of the famous Lay College in Pennsylvania. He grew to manhood in South Carolina, and was educated at Randolph-Macon College, graduating fourth in a class of which Mr. Justice Clopton, of the Alabama Supreme Court, was valedictorian, and the late Hons. Joseph F. Dowdell and R. H. Powell, of this State, and Bishop H. N. McTyeire, of the Southern Methodist Church, were members. After his graduation he removed to Alabama, and began the study of law in the office of Hon. John A. Calhoun, who was then practicing his profession at Eufaula in this State. Completing his studies, he was admitted to the bar, and practiced law until the breaking out of the Mexican War. Upon the President's call for troops, he raised a company in the county of Barbour, and was made its captain. The command was mustered into the service at Mobile, in 1847, and became a part of the Fifth Battalion, Alabama Infantry Volunteers, commanded by Lieut.-Col. John J. Seibel. The battalion sailed for Vera Cruz, and was in service at that place and also at San Juan, Cordova and Orizaba, being stationed

at the latter place on garrison duty for several months prior to the close of the war.

The subject of this sketch was for a short period of this time Military-Governor of Orizaba. While stationed at the last named place, he, with a select party of companions attempted the ascent of the famous Volcano of Orizaba, a feat in which Humboldt had failed. He, with one of his companions reached the summit, being the first man who had ever climbed that dizzy height and looked down into the extinct crater of Orizaba, an honor which has since been claimed by other persons. This incident is vouched for by the survivors of the battalion, one of whom Col. T. T. Tunstall, who now resides in Baldwin County, Ala., and who was of the party that went with Captain Lomax, having related it to the writer. After the close of the Mexican War, Captain Lomax returned to Eufaula and, in 1849, was married to Miss Sophie Shorter, a member of the distinguished family of that name, so widely known in Alabama. His wife dying soon after his marriage, he removed from Eufaula to Columbus, Ga., and, abandoning the practice of law, he entered journalism, and was, for a number of years, one of the proprietors and the editor of the Columbus *Times and Sentinel*. While editor of this paper, he achieved a wide-spread reputation as an able and brilliant writer, not only in Georgia, but throughout the Southern States, ranking as the peer of Forsyth and other distinguished Southern journalists. While engaged in this profession, he held the position, by election of the Legislature, of State Printer of Georgia. While never a candidate for a political office, he took a conspicuous part in politics, and was president of the Democratic Convention which first nominated the present Senator Joseph E. Brown for Governor. He was at one time tendered the position of Charge d'Affaires of the United States to Belgium, but declined the appointment. In March, 1857 he was married to Mrs. Carrie A. Shorter, *ne* Miss Billingsled, of Georgia, and shortly after his marriage he sold out his paper and removed to Montgomery, Ala. After coming to Alabama he devoted his time to planting until the beginning of the war between the States.

In the great political campaign of 1860, Colonel Lomax was an enthusiastic advocate of the election of Breckenridge and Lane, and by his brilliant pen and his eloquence as an orator, he used his best endeavors toward securing that result, con-

tributing many articles to the newspapers of his party, and taking an active part on the stump, both in Alabama and Georgia. The natural inclination of his life seemed to be toward a military career. While a resident of Columbus he was captain of a military company for several years, and, shortly after his removal to Montgomery, he became captain of the Montgomery True Blues, a position he held until the outbreak of the civil war. Through his influence the Second Volunteer Regiment was organized soon after the Harper's Ferry raid. In 1861, as colonel of this regiment, he was ordered to Pensacola by Governor Moore, to assist the Florida authorities in taking possession of the forts and the navy yard, and Forts Barancas and McRae were surrendered to him by Lieutenant Slemmer of the United States Army, who withdrew, with a mere handful of men, to Fort Pickens, on Santa Rosa Island. Colonel Lomax recognizing the fact, that for the latter fort to remain in the hands of the Federals rendered the other forts useless, and placed the navy yard at the mercy of the Federals, desired, and insisted upon being allowed, to take Fort Pickens, but the Florida authorities refused their assent to such a course. He urged upon the officer in command of the Florida forces the importance of taking Fort Pickens before it was reinforced, and insisted that the fort could easily be taken without a struggle, even if it was not surrendered upon a demonstration of force. But his prayers were unheeded, and instead of prompt action, a council of war composed of militia officers gravely determined that the taking of Pickens was impracticable at that time—it was soon rendered impossible by its reinforcement, and thus were the Federals left in command of the approaches to Pensacola Harbor, and from this "coign of vantage" they battered down the other forts at their leisure and rendered the navy yard—the second best in the Southern States—useless to the Confederate cause. Finding himself thwarted in the main purpose of his mission, and recognizing the futility of his command remaining longer in their state of masterly inactivity, Colonel Lomax wrote to Governor Moore asking their recall, and shortly after its return to Montgomery, the regiment disbanded, the terms of service of the men having expired. In April, 1861, Colonel Lomax was elected lieutenant-colonel of the afterward famous Third Alabama Regiment, and proceeded at once to Virginia. He

soon became colonel by the promotion of Colonel Withers. The regiment was stationed at Norfolk until the spring of 1862, and was perfected in drill and discipline, under his command and instruction, so that when it passed through Richmond on its way to the front it was the subject of universal admiration. Ex-Governor Watts, of Alabama, having declared to the writer that the unstinted praise bestowed upon it made him proud of his State.

Colonel Lomax was commissioned a brigadier-general just before the battle of Seven Pines, but not having been assigned to a brigade, he remained in command of his regiment and led it in that battle. On the 1st day of June, 1862, while at the head of the regiment, leading it to its "baptism of fire," he was instantly killed, his body falling into the hands of the Federal troops, by reason of the necessary withdrawal of the command, so far in advance of the Confederate line had the regiment been thrown by the blunder of some general officer. His remains were subsequently recovered and interred in the cemetery at Montgomery, where his widow has erected a martial shaft to mark his resting place. "No event of that terrible war sent a deeper pang of regret to the public heart," says Mr. Brewer in his "Alabama," "than the death of Tennent Lomax," and his fame is cherished to-day throughout the State, as furnishing one of the brightest pages in the history of the Commonwealth.

General Lomax was six feet four inches in height, as straight as an Indian warrior, and in form and feature was one of the handsomest of men. "His bearing was knightly and his manners polished." He was remarkable for his stern devotion to duty, his patient endurance and manly self-reliance. Unflinching in his principles, he was gentle and courteous to others and had a broad charity for all. Said one of his comrades in the Mexican War: "It is worth the hardships of the service to have secured the friendship of such a man as Tennent Lomax." The nobility of his nature, his gentle kindness and unselfish character are attested by the fact that the survivors of his gallant and famous regiment, without exception, cherish his memory with a devotion that is unparalleled, and this sketch can not be more appropriately closed than by quoting from one of them the following tribute to his beloved leader: "Firm in the advocacy of a cause, and outspoken in the expression of his sentiments, he never for-

got the courtesy due an opponent, nor failed to command the respect to which he was entitled."



**WILLIAM JOSEPH HOLT, M.D.**, was born in Augusta, Ga., January 13, 1829, and died at Montgomery, April 28, 1881.

Dr. Holt imbibed principles of heroic justice from his honored father, Judge William W. Holt, who for nineteen years presided in the Superior Court of Georgia.

Imbued with an earnest desire for knowledge, the subject of this sketch, after an academic course in his native city, entered the University of South Carolina and graduated at Columbia. Choosing a medical career, he studied with the venerable L. A. Dugas, the Nestor of the profession in Georgia.

After graduating in the Medical College of Georgia, Dr. Holt, desiring to have the advantages of every avenue to professional science, went to Europe and studied in the medical schools of Berlin, Vienna and Paris. While in the latter city, and after an arduous course of lectures, he tendered his services to the Czar of Russia, and entered the medical department during the Crimean war. The then Czar, Nicholas, as a token of appreciation for his services, conferred upon him the rank of lieutenant-colonel, knighted him and honored him with several badges and marks of distinction. Returning to his home in 1856, he married early in 1857, the daughter of his medical preceptor, Dr. Dugas, and shortly afterward moved to Alabama, settling in Lowndes County as a planter. He was pursuing that vocation when the troubles of 1860 arose, and with the call to arms he offered his services, and was with the earliest troops that reached Pensacola. From then until the close of hostilities he was constantly on duty, and thousands of Confederate soldiers have showered blessings and benedictions upon his head.

After 1865 he lived in Montgomery; and who in this community did not know, honor and love him? His heart was open as day; his life as pure as snow. He was not only the kind physician—but he was the watchful nurse, and often the pious prayer from his lips wended its way heavenward in behalf of the dying and suffering. He was in deed and in truth the thoughtful friend, the constant attendant and the Christian physi-

cian. More careful of others than himself, his death can be literally called a sacrifice for the good of his fellow mortals. His constant ministrations upon the sick and dying, even when his own failing system gave him warning to desist, at last prostrated him and compelled him to retire from work. After a short respite and temporary rally, he again buckled on his armor, only to fall at last a victim to his high sense of duty and self-sacrificing charity.

Speaking of Dr. Holt, the Montgomery *Advertiser* said:

"Yesterday morning the light went out from as noble a soul as ever graced a human body. The poor and needy will miss him, for he was indeed their friend. Society will miss him, for he was an ornament to any circle. His State and country will miss him, for he ever stood ready to discharge any public duty incumbent on him. The high and lowly will miss him, for he was gentle and kind alike to both.

"Since early manhood he was a consistent communicant of the Episcopal Church. He leaves surviving him a wife and two children, brothers and sisters, and other relatives and friends without number, who will never cease to cherish his name and honor his memory."



**JEROME COCHRAN, M. D.**, State Health Officer, Senior Censor of the State Medical Association and Chairman of the State Board of Medical Examiners, was born at Moscow, Fayette County, Tenn., December 4, 1831. He was eldest of the four sons of Augustine Owen and Frances (Bailey) Cochran, natives, respectively, of Georgia and Tennessee, and descended from Scotland; the Cochrans tracing their ancestry back full six hundred years. Augustine O. Cochran removed from Tennessee to Mississippi when the subject of this sketch was quite young, and there spent most of his life as a planter. He died in Indian Territory, in 1876, while visiting one of his sons.

Jerome Cochran spent his youth upon his father's plantation, in Marshall County, Miss., alternating rugged physical labor with attendance at the old-field schools of his neighborhood—the one developing brawn and the other brain, each to serve him to good purpose in after life.

Meagre as were the opportunities of young Cochran for learning, he there laid the foundation upon which he subsequently reared a superstructure of most grand proportions. Early appreciating the advantages of learning, we find him, while yet in his boyhood, by dint of persistent application to reading and study, far outstripping the wisdom of his whilom preceptor—he of the ferule and birchen rod—and, in fact, approximating excellence in many important studies.

Possessed of a retentive memory and a voracious appetite for learning, he devoured everything that came in his way, and it is pretty generally conceded by those who know him, appropriated and retained it. Mathematics, logic, political economy, metaphysics, theology, biology, general literature, general science, modern languages, history, philosophy, poetry and fiction,—all were fish that came to his net. From nineteen to twenty-five years of age he taught country schools, thereby earning some money, accumulating books and widening his field of study. In 1855 he began reading medicine, and in 1857 graduated from the Botanic College of Medicine at Memphis, delivering the valedictory of his class. After practicing his profession for two years in Mississippi, he placed himself as private student under W. K. Bowling, Professor of Theory and Practice, Medical Department of the University at Nashville, Tenn., obtaining at once the position of resident student in the State Hospital. In 1860 he was put in charge of the hospital as resident physician, and in February, 1861, after having attended two winters and one summer course of lectures, received the regular degree.

Early in 1861 he entered the Confederate hospital at Okolona, Miss., as a contract physician, and was soon thereafter promoted to the full rank of surgeon. He remained in the Confederate service to the close of the war, and in June, 1865, located at Mobile, where he entered readily upon a lucrative practice. In 1868 he was elected Professor of Chemistry in the Medical College of Alabama, and remained with this institution about nine years, occupying, during the last four years of the time, the chair of Public Hygiene and Medical Jurisprudence.

In 1878 he was a member of the Yellow-Fever Commission under the auspices of the United States Marine Hospital service, and in 1879 of the Board of Yellow-Fever Experts. In April of the last-named year he was honored by appoint-

ment to the position he has since so ably filled, at the head of the State Medical Department.

Among the many able addresses delivered by Dr. Cochran before various societies and scientific bodies, and most of which are now in print, we note the following titles: "On the Principles of Organization and the Evolution of Organic Forms"; "Medical Education and the Degradation of the Profession by Medical Colleges"; "The Law of Duty and Its Relations to Success in Life"; Memorial Addresses, etc. And from the long list of scientific papers published by him, and recognized by the profession everywhere as of pronounced merit, we select the following: "The Administration of Chloroform by Deglutition" (1867); "Endemic and Epidemic Diseases of Mobile, their Cause and Prevention" (1871); "History of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1873" (1874); "The White Blood Corpusele, its Physiology and Pathology" (1874); "History of the Small-Pox Epidemic of 1874-75 in the City of Mobile" (1875); "Yellow Fever: in Relation to Its Cause" (1877); "Hermaphroditism" (1878); "What is Puerperal Fever?" (1878); "Sanitary Administration, and the Theory and Practice of Quarantine" (1879).

The Doctor's miscellaneous articles (published) treating upon various subjects are numerous and important. Among them are: "The Health Ordinance of the City of Mobile"; "The Act Establishing Boards of Health in Alabama"; "The Constitution of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama"; "The Annual Reports of the Board of Censors of the Medical Association of Alabama from 1843 to 1888, inclusive"; and "The Zymotic Diseases in their Relation to Public Hygiene."

While we are driven to the necessity of moderation in printing conclusions as to the merits or demerits of living men, it is right that we should pay just tribute where it is unquestionably due, and to this end, we quote the following extract from an address delivered at Eufala in April, 1878, by the distinguished Dr. B. H. Riggs, the orator of the State Medical Association, and endorse it as fully sustained by the facts:

"As Bichat and Hunter were the geniuses of the origin of the new era, which I have attempted to briefly portray to you to-night, and Sims and Sayres are its choicest fruit and greatest modern exemplars, so there sits within the sound of my voice one whom I may appropriately style the

genius of medical organization. Our Medical Association, with its complex machinery already in operation and an adumbration of more, owes its present excellence and pre-eminence largely to the zeal, fidelity and energy of one mind. Patient, far-reaching, tenacious, learned, indefatigable, oftentimes misunderstood and sometimes misrepresented, Dr. Jerome Cochran builded wiser than he knew in creating the plan of the State Association. He deserves to rank as the apostle of organized medical action in the new era. As the British Medical Association has come to the United States for a code of ethics, so have older States in the American Union, and others are still to come, sought inspiration in studying our plan of organization."

Dr. Cochran was married in DeSoto County, Miss., in 1856, to the daughter of the late Jared Collins, of that county. She died in 1879, leaving two sons and one daughter.



**JAMES KIRKMAN JACKSON**, Private Secretary to Governor Seay, Montgomery, Ala., was born at Florence, this State, April 7, 1862, and received his education under a private tutor and at the State Normal College, Florence.

He came into the State service in March, 1883, as clerk of the Alabama Railroad Commission, and remained in that department until called to his present position by the Governor, in January, 1887.

In speaking of his appointment to this highly important office—a place hitherto regarded as one especially adapted to political favorites—the *Montgomery Advertiser* of February 13, 1887, says:

"When Governor Seay came into office last November, he immediately began to cast about for a private secretary. This is a high and responsible office. The incumbent is the confidant of the Governor and must be trustworthy. The duties are confidential and require fidelity. They are onerous and require industry. They are complicated and difficult, and require intelligence. The incumbent must meet and receive at the capital of the State the people of the State, and his address and manners must uphold the dignity of the State. He must also be a Democrat.

"The Governor found Mr. Jackson up to the full measure of every requirement, and appointed

him to this responsible office, never before filled by so young a man. It is only necessary to add that the Governor has found his private secretary all that he hoped, a priceless acquisition."



**DR. JOHN HOWARD BLUE** was born November 6, 1848, at Mobile, Ala., and is a son of Rev. O. R. and Ann E. (Howard) Blue.

The grandfather of our subject was one of the original settlers of Montgomery, and was one of the men who first located this town. The father, Rev. O. R. Blue, is a Methodist minister, and has been actively engaged in ministerial work in Alabama for many years. The mother of our subject was a native of Georgia.

J. H. Blue, the subject of our sketch, began the study of medicine with Dr. J. W. Hunter, of Tuskegee, Ala., in 1868; subsequently entered the Washington University of Baltimore, and was graduated in 1870. He immediately returned to Montgomery and began the practice of his profession, to which he has since devoted his time.

Dr. Blue was married October 24, 1876, to Miss Mary Wood Cook, sister of G. W. and E. T. Cook, grocers of Montgomery. They have five children, viz.: John R., Mary E., Annie K., Harvey Morris, and Ann H.

The Doctor is a member of the Medical Association of Alabama, and also of the Montgomery Medical and Surgical Society.



**THOMAS ALEXANDER MEANS, A.M., M.D.**, was born in Covington, Ga., October 11, 1831; received an academic education in Emory College, Georgia, class of 1851; read medicine for four years under his father; attended his first course of lectures in the Medical College of Georgia, at Augusta, in 1855; second course in the Atlanta Medical College, class of 1856; and immediately set sail for Europe, under the chaperonage of Prof. Willis F. Westmoreland, of Atlanta, to further complete his studies. After three years abroad, attending the medical schools of London, Paris, Dublin, and Edinburgh, he returned home, and settled in Memphis, Tenn., in 1859.

Spurred by the love of country, and the ambition to further enlarge his field of operations, he re-

turned to his native State, was commissioned surgeon in the Confederate States Army July, 1861, and had his initial experience at the first battle of Manassas. He continued in the Army of Northern Virginia until the battle of Gettysburg. After the retreat of Lee's army he was, by order of General Longstreet, left in charge of the wounded of his corps, and the divisions of Hood and Pickett. He remained in the field for one month, and was then transferred, with the wounded under his charge, to Camp Letterman, near Gettysburg, and placed on duty as surgeon of Confederate officers, prisoners of war, remaining three months. When this hospital was broken up he was transferred to Fortress McHenry, near Baltimore, and was held for one month as prisoner of war. He was exchanged shortly afterward, and ordered to hospital duty further south, locating at Columbus, Ga., in charge of the Marshall Hospital, where he remained until the close of hostilities.

In 1867, the Doctor located in Montgomery, where he at once took high rank in his profession. Among the many positions of honor and trust to which he has been called, and in the discharge of which he has acquitted himself with the highest credit, may be mentioned the following: Secretary of the Medical and Surgical Society, Secretary of the Board of Health, City Physician and Registrar of Vital Statistics, Surgeon in charge of City Hospital, President and Secretary of City School Board, President Medical and Surgical Society, one of the consulting physicians to the Montgomery City Infirmary, Superintendent Public Schools, President Young Men's Christian Association, etc., etc.

To the literature of the profession of which he is so distinguished a member he has contributed the following important papers and lectures: The Anatomy of Expression, or the Human Countenance in Health and Disease (lecture); Parisian Hospitals, their more Striking Features and Advantages (letters from Scotland); Total Ablation of the Inferior Maxilla (translation); Spermatorrhoea, Care, Treatment and Cure; Diphtheritis or Diphtheritic Sore Throat; Gelsemium Semper Virens as a Remedy in Gonorrhoea; Renal and Vesical Disorders; On the Influence of Weather in Relation to Disease; Constipation and Costiveness; Ozone, its Definition, Mode of Generation and its Effects upon the Health of Human Beings; the Dry Method in the Treatment of Uterine Diseases (in

preparation); and many others of equal importance, and all attracting the widest attention and most favorable criticism.



**JOHN BROWN GASTON, M.D.**, distinguished Physician and Surgeon, Montgomery, one of the trustees of the Alabama Insane Hospital, and President of the Board of Health of Montgomery County, is a native of Chester, S. C., and was born January 4, 1834.

His father, also named John Brown Gaston, was a prominent physician during his life; and his mother was before marriage Mary B. McFadden, also a native of Chester.

The Gastons came originally from France; the McFaddens from Scotland. When the Huguenots were driven out of France, John Gaston fled into Ireland, and from there came to America in the latter part of the sixteenth century. He settled first in Pennsylvania and removed subsequently to South Carolina. This John Gaston was the grandfather of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch. The senior Dr. Gaston practiced medicine many years in South Carolina, and there died in 1863, at the age of seventy-three years. His widow survived him until 1886, and died in the eighty-second year of her life. They reared six sons to manhood, John B. Gaston, Jr., being third in order of birth. Three of the sons became professional men—one doctor and two lawyers—and the others farmers.

Dr. Gaston received his primary education at the common schools of South Carolina, entered Columbia College, that State, in 1850, and was graduated in December, 1852, as A. B. Leaving college, he entered the office of his brother, Dr. J. McFadden Gaston, and read medicine with him about a year, going thence to the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he was graduated as M. D. in 1855. He returned to his native State, and in York District began the practice of medicine, at which, as he says, he "earned victuals and clothes of an inferior quality." He came to Montgomery in 1857. Here his talents were readily recognized, and he rose rapidly to a front rank in the profession to which he has since devoted his time and talents. His first partnership, after coming to this city, was with the famous Nathan Bozeman,

M. D., now of New York city. After the war, he was associated with the late Dr. W. J. Holt. It is needless to say that Dr. Gaston's association with those two eminent men gave him many advantages that otherwise might have been deferred, if not wanting.

In April, 1861, Dr. Gaston was made surgeon of a Militia Regiment which was assigned to Fort Morgan. In July following he was commissioned surgeon of the Fourteenth Alabama Infantry, and during the summer of 1862 was made senior surgeon of Wilcox's Brigade, which position he filled until the spring of 1864. During the last year of the war he was in charge of the Alabama Division of Howard's Grove Hospital, at Richmond.

Since the war he has occupied the highest rank of his profession, both in Montgomery and in the State at large. He was annual orator of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama in 1869, and its president in 1882. Though he has not contributed largely to the literature of the profession, some of his papers have been of exceptional interest and value. His articles on "Medico-Legal Evidence of Independent Life in a New Born Child" (1876), has placed a very important question on correct physiological grounds, and must have the effect of establishing a uniform ruling in the courts of law in this distinguished subject. It has been accepted by the profession as determining definitely the correct doctrine on this hitherto unsettled question.

Dr. Gaston has never taken an active part in politics. He has, however, felt a deep interest in public affairs, and at times has participated in the discussion of questions prominently before the people of the State. But in view of the splendid results accomplished, he has contributed nothing to the press that can afford him more pride and satisfaction than the incisive articles which, as President of the State Board of Health, he published in 1882, and in which the then existing penal system of Alabama was fearlessly and vigorously attacked. He arraigned the State, and pointed to the sanitary condition of her prisons, the disregard of the comfort, and especially to the mortuary record of her convicts, to show that Alabama had "not been a protector and friend to her dependent children of crime." The evidence on which he "held up the results of penal servitude in Alabama to the reprobation of good men everywhere" was found in the annual reports of the inspectors of the penitentiary; and the con-

clusion at which he arrived was "that more than seven per centum of those who had been sent to penitentiary had died of the unnecessary rigors of prison discipline." "There is a right to punish," wrote the Doctor, "but there is an obligation to protect, and this obligation is nowhere more binding than in regard to the convict. He may have placed himself in the attitude of an enemy to society, but the State should not become his enemy."

These papers produced a profound impression throughout the State, and the interest and investigation which they aroused have resulted in the thorough reformation of the prison discipline of the State. The great reduction of the death rate which he, in the face of much opposition, claimed was practicable, has been accomplished, and the condition of prisons and convicts in Alabama is no longer a reproach to her people.

Dr. Gaston was elected Mayor of Montgomery in 1881, and re-elected without opposition in 1885. As chief magistrate of that growing city he has had no superior in an impartial, faithful, intelligent and successful administration of her affairs. Under his administration the finances of the city have been kept in a most satisfactory condition, order has prevailed, the streets have been beautified and improved, sanitary inspection and street cleaning have been organized and systematized as never before, and almost without expense, so that Montgomery is one of the cleanest and healthiest towns of the country. He has large capacity for work, and, although occupied with an extensive practice, he, when emergency required it, personally superintended the most minute details of his administration.

He is reflective and analytical in the treatment of any subject of investigation, and as a writer and speaker, is clear, concise and energetic.

Dr. Gaston was married in Mecklenburg County, N. C., November 11, 1857, to Miss Sallie J. Torrence, and of the five children born to them, two died in infancy.



**RICHARD FRASER MICHEL, M.D.**, was born February 15, 1827, at Charleston, S. C., and is a son of Dr. William and Eugenie (Fraser) Michel, natives of that city, and of French and Scotch descent, respectively.

The elder Michel was an eminent physician of Charleston, where he practiced many years. Both

he and his wife died in that city; the former in 1870, and the latter in 1836.

R. F. Michel was educated in Charleston; was graduated from the Medical College at that city in March, 1847, and there immediately began the practice of medicine. In 1848 he was elected Professor of Materia Medica of the Charleston Medical Institute, which position he held until 1860. He entered the Confederate Army as a surgeon with General Evans' Brigade, and was in the Virginia Army until very nearly the close of the war. During his services in the army he was actively engaged all the time, and was called upon frequently to perform the most difficult operations. He is regarded as one of the first-class surgeons of the Army of the Potomac. He went into the Confederate Army Christmas Eve, 1860, in Fort Moultrie, Charleston Harbor, and only left at the surrender of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

After the war he located at Montgomery, where he has since devoted himself to the practice. In 1872 he was elected vice-president of the American Medical Association, which position he held one year. In 1869 he was elected president of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, and in November of the same year was elected president of the Medical and Surgical Society of Montgomery. He was appointed Surgeon-General of the State of Alabama (in 1853) on Governor O'Neal's staff; and was the orator of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, at Mobile, in 1876. He was elected Counselor of the Medical Association of the State of South Carolina in 1859 and 1860, and is now the Grand Senior Counselor of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama.

The Doctor has officiated as a member of the Board of Health of Montgomery since 1869, acting part of the time as president of that body. His practice since coming to Montgomery has been very extensive, and he is ranked to-day among the foremost physicians of the South. He was married in February, 1854, to Miss Annie, daughter of William and Susan Rivers, of Charleston, S. C., and has had born to him three children, viz.: Eugene F., deceased; Susan F., wife of F. S. Hammond, of Montgomery; Middleton, who is an expert machinist at Montgomery.

The Doctor and family are communicants of the St. John's Episcopal Church, of which he has been a vestryman for ten years. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias, the



American Legion of Honor, and is president of the Social Medical Club, of Montgomery, of which he has been president sixteen years. Dr. Michel is a man of high social standing, an honorable citizen, and a distinguished physician and surgeon.

Dr. R. F. Michel is the author of the following papers: "Anatomical and Physiological Reflections on some parts of the Eye"—*Richmond and Louisville Medical Journal*, September, 1871; "History of Break-Bone Fever"—*Southern Journal of the Medical Sciences*, February, 1867; "A Monograph on Hemorrhagic Malarial Fever"—*New Orleans Journal of Medicine*, October, 1869; "Purpuraemia"; "Transactions Medical Association of the State of Alabama"; "Analysis of the Life of W. O. Baldwin, M. D."—*Richmond and Louisville Medical Journal*, May, 1869; "Address to the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, 1870"; "Review of the Proceedings of the American Medical Association for 1868"—*New Orleans Medical Journal*, July, 1868; "Dr. Michel's Surgical Cases"—*Richmond Medical Journal*, August, 1869; "Michel on Vesico-Vaginal Fistula"—*New Orleans Journal of Medicine*, April, 1869; "A Lecture on the Life and Writings of Col. Paul H. Hayne, the Poet"; "Epidemic of Yellow Fever in Montgomery, 1873"; "Pathology of Yellow Fever";—*Transactions of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama*, 1874.



**BENJAMIN J. BALDWIN, M. D.**, Physician, Surgeon and Specialist, and founder of the "Morris Eye and Ear Infirmary," at Montgomery, Ala., the largest and most elegantly equipped institution of the kind in the South, is a native of Bullock County, Ala., where he was born November 17, 1856.

His father, Benj. J. Baldwin, Sr., was born in Alabama, and his mother, Martha J. (Barnett) Baldwin, in Georgia.

The senior Baldwin graduated from the law department of the University of Virginia, and subsequently practiced for a short time. He is also well known as an extensive planter in Bullock County, where he spent many years of his life. He now resides at Verbena, Ala., and looks after his planting interests.

After a thorough preliminary training, young Mr. Baldwin entered Randolph-Macon College,

Ashland, Va., from which institution he came to Montgomery, and began the study of his chosen profession in the office of Dr. R. F. Michel.

At the end of one year he entered Bellevue Medical College, New York City, and graduated therefrom as Doctor of Medicine in 1877.

Immediately upon receiving his diploma from Bellevue, Dr. Baldwin was appointed physician to the New York Lunatic Asylum. From the Asylum he was appointed house surgeon of Charity Hospital, New York, a position he filled for about eighteen months with much credit to himself.

In 1878 Doctor Baldwin located at Louisville, Ky., where his abilities were readily recognized by men already high in the profession, and, at the end of one year, formed a partnership with the celebrated Dr. Preston B. Scott, which continued for about two years. In 1881 he abandoned the practice of general medicine, and returned to New York for a special course of instruction in diseases of the eye and ear. Here his progress was so rapid that at the end of two months he received the appointment as resident surgeon of Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, the duties of which position he discharged with excellent skill for a period of one and a half years. After visiting Europe and the great schools and hospitals of London, Paris and Heidelberg, he returned to Montgomery and entered at once upon the practice of his specialties; and in this connection it is our duty to say that his success has been in the highest degree complimentary to his acknowledged accomplishments.

October, 1887, the "Morris Eye and Ear Infirmary" was opened to the public. It is a handsome pressed-brick building, of the now popular Queen-Anne style of architecture, two stories high, with all the modern appointments and conveniences. Doctor Baldwin is a prominent member of the Surgical and Medical Association of this State. In 1887 he was the chosen orator for the former and delivered an address which attracted much attention and favorable comment. The State Medical Association, of which he is Counselor, have named him as their orator for the year 1888. He is editor of the Eye and Ear Department of the Alabama Medical Journal and is the author of several scientific and instructive papers.

The Doctor was married at Montgomery, December 16, 1884, to Miss Hultit, the accomplished daughter of Hon. Josiah Morris.

**DR. JOSEPH MILWARD WILLIAMS** was born six miles southeast of Montgomery, in Montgomery County, Ala., August 7, 1832, and died in Elmore County, this State, October 15, 1882, in his fifty-first year.

At the age of twelve years he attended the high school in the town of Marion, Ala., and at the age of sixteen years, entered the University of Alabama, graduating with high honors; his preceptors declaring him to be the best *belles-lettres* scholar of the class or school.

After completing his literary studies, he entered the office of Drs. Bolling & Baldwin, as a student, in the fall of 1849. After two years' diligent study, he attended lectures in the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1853. Keenly appreciating the value of bed-side instruction, he determined to remain one year longer among the hospitals of Philadelphia, so as to better fit himself for the responsible duties of his profession. On his return to Montgomery in 1854, he formed a partnership with one of his former preceptors, Dr. William O. Baldwin. In 1859, he abandoned practice and went into the drug business with Mr. Stephen Hutchings, of this city. In 1867 he withdrew from the firm of Hutchings & Williams, and resumed the practice. In the autumn of 1869, he formed a second partnership with Dr. Baldwin, and remained until the winter of 1873.

In the summer of 1861, prompted by that love of country which so stimulated all true Southerners at the time, he entered the Confederate Army as surgeon, and was assigned to duty in the Army of Northern Virginia, serving under Gen. B. D. Fry, then colonel of the Thirteenth Alabama Regiment. After eighteen months' service in the field, he was transferred to Mobile, in January, 1863, and placed in charge of hospitals in that city, and so remained until the close of the war.

He married Miss Mary L. Marks, eldest daughter of the late William H. Marks, of this city. Possessed of wealth and extensive family connection, he had little difficulty in securing a large and lucrative practice. His wife and four children survive him.

Dr. Williams was a man of unusual ability, both natural and acquired, and was gifted with a singularly retentive memory. His tastes were literary, and so well did he learn anything he read, he became authority when questions of doubt arose upon matters of history. In fact, his mind was a store-

house of knowledge, and so well arranged as to be at a moment ready for use. Handsome and pleasing in his address, easy and polished in manners, intelligent, with a keen sense of humor and repartee, he drew around him a host of rare companions. Whilst he emphasized the importance of a thorough knowledge of standard works on medicine and surgery, he did not undervalue the benefits to be gained from the numerous periodicals of the day. Hence he kept abreast of the times in the literature of his profession, and in current events. His fondness for polite literature, especially relating of poetry, criticism and philology, naturally led him to select and store upon the shelves of his library the writings of the most classical authors.

Dr. Williams was endowed with those higher social qualities of head and heart, which gave him ready access to cultivated society, and endeared him to a wide circle of friends. In the treatment of his patients he was conscientious, faithful, and attentive, manifesting an interest in their welfare, well calculated to inspire and hold their confidence. Therefore, throughout his professional life, he had the patronage and esteem of both rich and poor, who looked upon him as their trusted physician and counselor. His peculiarities were few. Sometimes he sought seclusion, and, when alone, mused and studied. The asperities of his nature were rubbed down by that self-respect which, at all times, remained with him. As a surgeon he was particularly skilled, having performed many important and difficult operations successfully. As a physician he was thorough and discriminating in the investigation of disease; was never hasty in his decision, but, when his opinion was once formed, it was not readily given up. He had great confidence in the recuperative forces of nature, and less in the potency of drugs, which rendered him popular with the intelligent and progressive of both sexes. He was proud of his profession, and so impressed with its dignity and responsibilities, he exercised great caution in diagnosis, and at the bedside never applied remedies without knowing their effects. He had the highest sense of all the rules of professional courtesy, and a strong abhorrence of quackery and empiricism in whatever shape. His sympathies were on the side of humanity and progress; and, however, men might differ with him in opinion, they never could doubt the honesty of his convictions or integrity of his pur-

pose. With an intense dislike of contention, and an ardent love of harmony, he was too proud to yield his lofty principles to the dictates of expediency, and, if any have cause to remember his inflexibility, all must recognize and accept the manliness of his social as well as professional life. His ethical deportment was honorable, and above airs, or arts, whereby he might promote unmanly ends.

Dr. Williams, early in his professional career, became an active and zealous member of the Medical and Surgical Society of Montgomery, and was elected president and vice-president in 1868-69; was a member of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (then in its infancy), and elected valedictorian in 1870. In 1874 he was chosen Alderman from Ward Six, and served a faithful term of two years. He wrote nothing for the secular or medical press, a fact due, perhaps, to a want of ambition and indifference to notoriety.

Such was the life and brief history of one of the brightest medical lights of this State and city.



**WOOTEN M. WILKERSON, M. D.**, prominent Physician and Surgeon, Montgomery, was born in Perry County, this State, December 3, 1857, and is a son of William W. and Sarah (Moore) Wilkerson, both natives of this State. The subject of this sketch was graduated in classical course from Howard College in 1877, from the Medical Department of the University of Virginia, in 1879 and from the Medical Department of the University of New York in 1880. For a short time prior to his entering the University of Virginia, he taught school and read medicine under his father. He began the practice of his profession in Orrville, Dallas County, from which place, at the end of eighteen months, he returned to New York, spent some time in reviewing his studies, and in giving particular attention to special diseases. In 1882 he located in Montgomery, where he entered at once upon a flattering practice. He is a member of the Medical Association of Alabama, and is one of its Board of Counselors. He has been president one term, of the Medical and Surgical Society of Montgomery County, and is the County Health Officer at this writing.

Dr. Wilkerson was married November 5, 1884, to Miss Williams of Clayton, Ala. Dr. and Mrs. Wilkerson are members of the Baptist Church.

**DR. SAMUEL DIBBLE SEELYE**, born March 11, 1829, at Bethel, Conn., is a son of Frederick and Polly M. (Dibble) Seelye, natives of Connecticut. The senior Mr. Seelye resided many years in New York City.

The subject of this sketch, after completing his academic education, followed mercantile business until 1853 in New York City and Vicksburg, Miss. During the latter year he entered the Medical College of New York, and was graduated from that institution in 1855. He immediately began the practice of medicine in New York City and continued it for two years, when, on account of ill-health, he abandoned the practice for two years. In 1859 he came to Montgomery and resumed the practice of his profession. In 1869 he formed a partnership with Dr. E. A. Semple, which partnership continued until the latter's death, which occurred in 1871, since which time Dr. Seelye has been alone in the practice.

The Doctor was vice-president of the American Medical Association in 1876; has been a censor for ten years in the Medical Association of Alabama; was president of this Association in 1886-7, and has been twice president of the Montgomery County Medical Society.

Dr. Seelye was married in November, 1885, to Miss Amelia J., daughter of William and Elizabeth Bigelow, of New York City. They have one child, a daughter.

The Doctor is a member of, and is officially connected with, the Presbyterian Church. He has for years occupied a prominent position in his profession, both at home and throughout the State.



**JOB SOBIESKI WEATHERLY, M. D.**, is a native of South Carolina, and is descended from a sturdy and highly meritorious Scotch ancestry. He was born July 28, 1828; educated primarily at the high school of his native town, and there for about two years read medicine under Dr. McLeod. Graduating, in 1851, from the Medical Department of the University of New York, he located at Adairsville, Ga., and at once entered upon the practice of his chosen profession. From Adairsville he removed to Palmetto, that State, and in 1857 came to Montgomery. Here he readily took rank among recognized men of skill in the sciences of materia medica and therapeutics.

In response to the call of his country, in 1862 he hurried to the fatal field of Shiloh, where, in charge of the hospital for the sick and wounded soldiers, he toiled for many days earnestly, arduously and skillfully. From there he was appointed Medical Purveyor at Savannah, Ga., a position he was soon after forced by ill-health to abandon. He returned to Montgomery and devoted himself faithfully to the relief of ailing humanity and the elevation of the profession of which he is so conspicuous a member. He is of the State Board of Health, and president of the local Board of Censors; member of the American Medical Association, and was its first president (1871); member of the Montgomery Medical and Surgical Society, and its president for four full terms; an honorary member of the California State Medical Society, and of the Gynecological Society of Boston.

In 1867 he took a leading part in the reorganization of the State Medical Association, now the State Board of Health, of which he is an officer. The Censors (of the State Board), of which he has fifteen years president, were established under his auspices, and, associated with Drs. Gaston and Michel, of this city, their combined influence finally led to the necessary legislation upon the important question of "re-organizing the Board as a State institution, appropriating funds therefor, and regulating the practice of medicine in conformity with their advanced ideas."

In 1868, as a delegate to the annual meeting of the American Medical Association held at Washington, D. C., Drs. Weatherly and Baldwin appeared first as new members. Sectional prejudices were yet rife in our country, and Dr. Weatherly felt that an opportunity was then offered for an exhibition of that conciliatory spirit so much talked of and so meagerly practiced. He presented Dr. Baldwin for president of the Association. It is unnecessary to here recount the stormy scenes which followed; but the fact that the final vote, taken after many ballots and much discussion, was unanimously for Baldwin, as against the united opposition of the Northern and Western members at the beginning of the contest, is highly suggestive of the forensic ability of the subject of our sketch. Such was the impression he made, in fact, that in 1870 the same Association, though he was not present, elected him unanimously to the vice-presidency.

In 1871 the annual meeting was held in San Francisco, where, though *vice*-president, he presided over most of their deliberations, and at the close received the thanks of the Association for "his impartial and judicious conduct in the chair."

Before the State Association at Mobile, in 1871, he delivered his address (now published): "The Elevation of the Profession and How it May be Accomplished," attracting much attention and favorable comment. He further pursued the subject in 1872, at Philadelphia, before the American Association, and the fact that these discussions led to the required legislation upon the question is nowhere doubted.

Dr. Weatherly was the first president of the Rocky Mountain Medical Association, formed by its members for the purpose of perpetuating to the end of their individual lives, the friendships inaugurated at their first meeting at the "Golden Gate."

Among the many valuable papers and addresses contributed by the Doctor to the profession may be mentioned an article on "Glossitis" (1853); on "Puerperal Convulsions," advocating chloroform instead of bleeding (1857); "An Operation for Polypoid Tumor of the Uterus," and "Diabetes and Its Treatment," (*New Orleans Journal of Medicine*); "The Opium Habit"; "Medical Education"; "Woman—Her Rights and Wrongs"; "Hæmorrhagic Malarial Fever" (1875); "Anatomy and Diseases of the Cervix Uteri"; "Syphilis and its Prevention by State Action"; "Quarantine against Yellow Fever" (1878), etc.

September, 1852, Dr. Weatherly married Miss Eliza G., daughter of the late Col. C. B. Taliaferro, and a grand-niece of ex-Governor Gilmer, of Georgia. Of the six children born to this union we make the following memoranda: Charles Taliaferro, graduate of Atlanta Medical College, a promising young physician at Benton, Ala.; James Merriweather, graduate of the Law Department, University of Alabama, and now the gifted young attorney of the Georgia Pacific Railroad, located at Birmingham, where he is recognized as one of the rising young men of the State; Gilmer, a planter near Benton, where he is also interested in mercantile business; Thaddeus, William and George.

The entire family are communicants of the Episcopal Church, wherein the Doctor has been many years a vestryman.

**DR. BENJAMIN RUSH PEARSON** was born August 1, 1819, at Dadeville, Ala., and is a son of James Madison and Elizabeth Ann (Brown) Pearson.

The parents of our subject were natives of Georgia, and on the father's side the family is traced back to William Penn. The great-great-grandfather came to Pennsylvania with Mr. Penn, from whence the great-grandfather moved to South Carolina. The father was a distinguished attorney of Tallapoosa, Ala., and is now one of the wealthiest men of that county. He reared eight sons and two daughters. Of the eight sons, seven were professional men and one was a merchant.

B. R. Pearson attended the private schools of his county until he was eighteen years of age, then entered the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, from which institution he graduated in July, 1841. He had a brother who was graduated in the same class, and who is now practicing medicine in Autauga County, Ala.

Our subject, after his graduation at Lexington, took a course of studies at the Montgomery Commercial College, in 1841. In February, 1842, he went to St. Louis, where he remained but a short time, returning to Montgomery and engaging in the shoe department of the wholesale dry goods house of M. P. LeGrand & Co. He was with this house until 1843, when he engaged in farming, which avocation he followed until 1847. In the last-named year he began teaching school and reading medicine, and in the winters of 1849, 1880 and 1881 attended lectures at the Alabama Medical College, at Mobile.

In 1881 he located at Montgomery, where he began the practice of his profession, and is to-day one of the leading physicians in this city. Having built up a large practice, and being successful in all his undertakings, he has commanded the respect and the recognition of the members of his profession.

He is a member of the Medical and Surgical Society of Montgomery County, and has held the position of both president and vice-president of that body. He was also County Health Officer three years.

Dr. Pearson was married in December, 1843, to Miss Sallie Coleman, daughter of Capt. C. B. Ferrell, of Montgomery, and has had born to him three children: Annie E., Coleman F. and James M.

Dr. Pearson and wife are members of the First Baptist Church.



**DR. LUTHER L. HILL** was born in Montgomery, Jan. 22, 1862. He is a son of Rev. Luther L. Hill and Laura Croom Hill, natives of Alabama. The senior Mr. Hill is a Protestant Methodist minister, and preached in this city for many years.

The subject of this sketch attended the private school of Prof. Geo. W. Thomas, of Montgomery, until 1878, at which time he entered Howard College at Marion, Ala. After a special course of studies he went to New York, and was graduated in the Medical Department of the University of that State in 1881. From February to October, 1881, he attended lectures at the different hospitals of New York City; then went to Philadelphia, where he took a regular course of studies and was graduated from the Jefferson Medical College in 1882. He continued visiting the different hospitals in Philadelphia until January, 1883, and from that time until June, of that year, attended the New York Polyclinic College, where he studied surgery and the diseases of the eye, ear and throat. In July, 1883, he visited Europe, and entered the Medical Department of King's College, of London. He studied surgery under the instructions of Sir Joseph Lister and Dr. John Wood, both distinguished surgeons; remained there until April of the following year, and returned to America, after visiting the principal cities of continental Europe; located in Montgomery in 1884 and began the practice of his profession, making a specialty of surgery.

Dr. Hill has built up a large practice in the few years that he has been in Montgomery, and, to say the least of him, he has as bright and promising a future as any other physician in the State. The knowledge that he has obtained from the various medical institutions, and the results of some of the most difficult operations performed by him in this city, has placed him in the foremost rank of the profession.

In January, 1887, he was elected president of Montgomery Medical and Surgical Institute, and is probably the youngest man that has held that position. In that same year he was appointed by the president of the State Medical Association as delegate to the American Medical Association, which

met at Chicago. He was elected Surgeon of the Montgomery County Hospital for the years 1887-8; has been Surgeon of the Montgomery True Blues (a military company) since 1885, and is at this time a member of the Board of Health for Montgomery County.



**MILTON PAUL LeGRAND**, President of the Commercial Fire Insurance Company, Montgomery, and Vice-President of the Montgomery & Florida Railroad Company, is a native of Wadesboro, N. C., and was born November 10, 1832. His parents, William C. and Jane (Paul) LeGrand, were natives of North Carolina, and descended, respectively, from a Huguenotish and English ancestry. They came to Alabama in 1837, and settled at Tuskegee, where they spent the rest of their lives, Mr. LeGrand dying in 1839 at the age of thirty-nine years, and Mrs. LeGrand in 1842.

The senior LeGrand was an educated gentleman, and, after coming to this State, devoted his time to teaching and farming. His early demise fell with crushing force upon his little family, and, as his widow survived him only three years, it will be seen that his children, one son and four daughters, were doubly orphaned before they had reached that age at which people are expected to be fully equipped for the battle of life. However, we have no records of failure or of unusual hardships to chronicle in the history of the LeGrands. If left without fortune in worldly goods, they were bountifully blest in that which the Prophet tells us is better than gold.

The meagre data at the command of the writer, limits this chapter to a brief *resumé* of the life of the gentleman whose name forms its caption.

Milton P. LeGrand acquired at the schools of Tuskegee a pretty thorough knowledge of the elementary studies, and was fully prepared to enter college. He had also read the text books on medicine and was ready to attend lectures, but instead of so doing, he accepted service with a druggist at Marion, Ala., with the understanding that he should be taught in the mysteries of pharmacy and educated for a physician. It appears, however, that at the end of four years he became satisfied that at least one important branch of his employer's undertaking was lacking in fulfillment. He had learned the drug business—in this he could

be serviceable—but the schooling necessary to a professional M. D. was for some reason neglected. Notwithstanding this default upon the part of his employer, young LeGrand had improved his opportunities; he had devoted himself to study and made up much for his lack of collegiate training; he had waded through the authorized text books of materia medica, and probably knew as much of the theories of physics as many a young scion of Esculapius fresh from the dispensary of sheepskins and hard Latin phrases. So when he returned to Tuskegee for the purpose of embarking in the drug traffic for himself, he was pretty well prepared to make a success of it.

At the end of three or four years he sold out his pharmacy at Tuskegee and removed to Montgomery, where he continued in that business on a little more elaborate scale, until advised by his physicians that his health demanded his immediate retirement.

After a rest of two or three years, Dr. LeGrand (by that title is he known) engaged in the grocery business, subsequently adding dry goods, which soon grew to be the largest concern that has ever flourished in Montgomery; the annual sales, wholesale and retail, aggregating one and a half million dollars. He withdrew from the mercantile business in 1882 with the reputation of having been one of the most successful merchants in the State.

He was one of the organizers of the Montgomery & Florida Railroad Company, and became its president upon the retirement of the late Thomas Joseph, in 1881. At the June election in 1886, the Doctor, finding other business affairs too pressing, declined the further chief executorship of the company, and accepted the vice-presidency.

The Commercial Fire Insurance Co. was organized in 1876, with a capital stock of \$100,000, and with Dr. LeGrand as president. He has, therefore, been at the head of this popular concern from its inception. It was only in the beginning of 1887, however, that he took upon himself the personal direction and management of its affairs. Since that time the business has very materially increased, and while it is not our purpose to reflect in any degree upon the past conduct of this large enterprise, we think we are justified in saying that Dr. LeGrand's great business reputation, when it became known that he was at the helm in person, gave the already flourishing condition of the company fresh impetus.



Yours Very Truly  
M. P. LeGrand





As almost every true man in Alabama lent his aid to the State in the days of her greatest peril, we should not forget the fact that the subject of our sketch gave two years to the service of the Confederacy, retiring only when his physical condition was such as to no longer permit of his remaining. It might be remarked, however, that he remained long enough to find, "when the battle was over," that seventy-five cents constituted the whole sum of his worldly possessions.

Dr. Milton Paul LeGrand was married at Tuskegee in February, 1854, to Miss Louisa Jones, daughter of the late Dr. E. W. Jones, of that place, and has three children, two sons and a daughter. The oldest son, Milton P. LeGrand, Jr., is recognized as one of the rising young lawyers of the Capital City; William Homer is a student at Montgomery, and the daughter, Eloise, an accomplished young lady, is at home.

The modesty of all living subjects of biography would prohibit all conclusions on the part of a writer. Therefore the latter must either incur the displeasure of the man who places him under restraint by cautioning him against eulogium, or else do violence to his own inclinations by confining himself to a mere recital of facts. A wise writer adopts the latter alternative.



**EDWIN B. JOSEPH.** President of the Capital City Insurance Company, was born October 19, 1852, in this city, and is a son of Thomas and Sarah A. (Riley) Joseph.

The mother of our subject was born in New York, and came to Alabama, with her parents, in infancy. The father was born on the Island of Flores, of Portuguese parents. He was a merchant for more than forty years at Montgomery, Ala., and died in 1883. His widow survived him but one year.

E. B. Joseph attended the high schools of Montgomery and of Bellevue, Va., and subsequently entered college at Auburn, Ala., where he completed his studies in 1870. He returned to Montgomery, and was engaged as book-keeper for the wholesale grocery house of Joseph & Allen. He remained with this house several years, and subsequently became book-keeper with the Capital City Insurance Company. In 1875-6-7, he was engaged in the tobacco manufacturing business at

Oxford, N. C. In the latter named year he accepted the position as Secretary of the Capital Insurance Company of Montgomery, with which company he has been connected ever since. He was elected president of that company in 1887, and is holding that office at this writing (1888).

Mr. Joseph is President of the Highland Park Improvement Company, which operates the entire street railroad system, and is also a director of the South and North Division of the South & North Alabama Railroad (now known as the L. & N.). In 1885 he was elected to fill a vacancy as Alderman of the city, and was re-elected at the general election in May, 1887, for the term of four years.

Mr. Joseph was married in August, 1876, to Miss Bessie H., daughter of P. Chancey and Edna (Terry) Smith, of Montgomery. They have four children, viz.: Edwin B., Jr., Chauncey S., Edna and William F.

Mr. Joseph is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the A. O. U. W. He is largely interested in the development and upbuilding of Northern Alabama. He is a director in the Decatur Land Company, and is a stockholder and director in several of Northern Alabama's enterprises.



**WILLIAM LEA CHAMBERS,** President First National Bank of Montgomery, Vice-President Montgomery Land and Improvement Company, member of the board of directors Bank of Sheffield, Treasurer Sheffield Land and Improvement Company, and President of the Montgomery Board of Education, was born at Columbus, Ga., March 4, 1852. His parents, William H. and Annie L. (Flewellen) Chambers, natives of Georgia, and, as their names unmistakably indicate, of Scotch and Welsh ancestry—the former in direct line from the same stock as were Sir Robert and Sir William Chambers, of Edinburgh, and the latter from the Llewellyns, a name in Wales familiar to history of Church and State, and as old as the Celtic race. These families were among the pioneers of the American colonies, and probably settled first in the South, as we find the names of Chambers and Flewellen in the early records of Georgia and other South Atlantic States. James M. Chambers and Abner H. Flewellen, the two immediate grandfathers to the subject of this sketch, were natives also of Georgia, and are distinguished in

political, social and religious history. The late Hon. William H. Chambers, William L.'s father, established the *Columbus (Ga.) Spec.* and edited it several years prior to his coming to Alabama. He settled at Eufaula in 18—, and was subsequently for several years joint proprietor and editor of the *Eufaula Times*. He was a lawyer of marked distinction; prominent in the Grange movement of which organization he was many years grand master, and at the time of his death, which occurred July 5, 1881, was professor of agriculture in the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn. He represented Barbour and Russell Counties in several sessions of the General Assembly, and much important legislation of the State bears the impress of his superior direction.

The subject of this sketch acquired the rudiments of an education at the old field schools of his neighborhood, and at the age of sixteen years entered Emory College, Oxford, Ga. After leaving Emory he taught school in Russell County (Ala.) about two years, and came to Montgomery in July, 1873. Here he read law in the office of the Hon. David Clopton; was admitted to the bar, and, associated with his preceptor and the Hon. Geo. W. Stone, practiced successfully about nine years.

Though readily adapting himself to the requirements of the legal profession, in which, indeed, he early took honorable rank, it is clear that his true genius was to be developed in the world of finance.

Quitting the law, he accepted the position of cashier of the First National Bank, an institution then already noted for its monetary strength, its liberal, yet conservative policy, and the high character of its management. It is no reflection upon his predecessors, to say that, in this responsible capacity Mr. Chambers fully met the most sanguine expectations of his friends, and that under his administration the bank matured the splendid reputation it continues to enjoy. From cashier he became president, and it is in this position he now (1887) directs the affairs of this popular concern.

Mr. Chambers was the leading spirit in the organization of the Montgomery Land and Improvement Company (of which he is vice-president), an industrial enterprise which has accomplished more in the one year of its existence toward the development, improvement and upbuilding of

Montgomery than the combined efforts at such in her preceding history.

Broad in his views, liberal in his dealings, public spirited at all times, Wm. L. Chambers is truly a modern, present-day man—a man with the full courage of his convictions; believing in the future of Alabama, her brilliant promises, and in the continuation of the prosperity and growth of her cities, manufactories, and other great industries. In the earlier days of Birmingham he laid money upon the promises of that city; when Sheffield was in embryo he took stock in her banking houses and land companies; and at Montgomery, every legitimate enterprise, going to the advancement of the city, has found in him a substantial supporter.

While ever ready to advance the interests of friends whose ambitions run to politics and the emoluments of office, he has himself at no time been an aspirant to position in the public service—State or National. On the contrary, he has repeatedly declined honorable stations of trust and profit, preferring to serve the people, as he has, in quite different ways.

He is most actively interested in the educational institutions of the city, and gives to them much of his time. He was first elected member of Montgomery's School Board in 1885, a position he has continued since to honor. At this writing (October, 1887), he is serving his tenth year as president of the Board—a fact needing no comment upon the part of his biographer.

November 4, 1873, at the city of Montgomery, Mr. Chambers was married to Miss Laura L., the handsome and accomplished daughter of that distinguished jurist, the Hon. David Clopton, now Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and to this union has been born four children: Annie L., David Clopton, William Henry and Louise.

Mr. and Mrs. Chambers are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which they both became associated while yet quite young, and Mr. Chambers is a patron of the Young Men's Christian Association, of which he is trustee.



**JOHN MCGEHEE WYLY**, General Contracting Freight Agent of the E. T. V. & G. R'y was born at Jacksonville, Ala., July 7, 1837.

His father, the late Benjamin Cleveland Wyly, was a native of Georgia, and his mother, who before marriage was Ann Maria McGeehe—at the time of marriage an orphan living with her uncle, William McGeehe—was born in North Carolina.

The senior Mr. Wyly came into Calhoun County in 1832 and lived there until his death in 1885. He there married the daughter of John McGeehe, originally from Milton, N. C. He was one of the wealthiest planters in that county; an honorable, upright citizen; a consistent Christian gentleman, and as such held in the highest esteem of the many good people who knew him.

John McGeehe was an only son. He was educated at the Kentucky Military Institute, Frankfort, Ky., and after graduating, studied law at Jacksonville, Ala., never designing to adopt the profession. In 1857 he turned his attention to planting, and followed it successfully until the outbreak of the war. Early in 1861 he enlisted as a private soldier in Company G, Tenth Alabama Regiment, and at the end of one year was promoted to first lieutenant, and assigned to the staff of General John H. Forney, as aide-de-camp. He remained with General Forney to the close of the war, acting as major,—adjutant-general's department,—on the staff of Major-General John H. Forney, then in the Trans-Mississippi Department in 1864.

The reverses of the war dissipated the large fortune once at his command, and when he again resumed planting upon the old homestead, it was under adverse circumstances, indeed. After a two-years' struggle he gave up modern cotton raising and turned his attention to railroading.

At the end of two years apprenticeship as traveling freight agent of the Selma, Rome & Dalton Railroad, that company advanced him to the position of general agent, the important duties of which highly responsible position he filled for about two years, acquitting himself with much credit, and resigning to accept the general southern freight agency of the Piedmont Air Line.

In 1876, he returned to his old company, (the Selma, Rome & Dalton Railroad, now a part of the E. T. V. & G.) in his present capacity.

As a railroad man, Mr. Wyly occupies an enviable position in the merited esteem of that exacting and discriminating fraternity, and among business men throughout the South, with the most prominent of whom his duties constantly throw him, he is regarded with highest of favor.

At Jacksonville, Ala., October 31, 1858, Mr. Wyly led to the altar, Miss Amelia C., the accomplished daughter of the late Jacob Forney, and of the six children born to them, two, George M. and Nora C., each died at the age of sixteen. We make the following brief memoranda of the remaining four:

Annie M. (Mrs. David F. Lowe, of Montgomery); Benjamin F., general agent of the Georgia Pacific Railroad, (married Miss Ella Peck, of Atlanta); Henry Forney, student at the State University, and Sadie S., student Normal School, Jacksonville, Ala.

The family are members of the Episcopal Church, and Mr. Wyly is identified with the Masonic fraternity.



**IGNATIUS POLLAK**, Wholesale and Retail Dry Goods Merchant, Montgomery, was born March 22, 1846, in Austria, and was educated in Vienna. He received an academic education; came to America in 1866, and located at Milwaukee, Wis. He was engaged there for two years in the manufacture of cloaks.

In 1868 he came South, and started, with little capital, at Montgomery in the business known as the "Dollar Store," the first of the kind in the South. From the beginning, he favored the employment of ladies, and was the first man that introduced the employment of ladies as clerks in his store. His business increased very rapidly, and it now has no equal south of Baltimore, not excepting New Orleans. Its annual sales amount to about \$1,000,000.

Mr. Pollak has always identified himself with the interest of this city and State. The city is, in a measure, due to his enterprise and energy for some of its most important improvements. At his own expense, and at actual loss, he started the electric light plant of Montgomery, never asking any aid from the people of the city. The improvements of the Exchange Hotel are largely due to his energy. He put up the buildings for the soap works, the corner of Dexter Avenue and Perry Street, and there has not been a sound enterprise started in Montgomery, during his residence here, that has not received his encouragement and assistance.

In the development of North Alabama, he is one of the most active workers; he was one of the

originators of the building of Sheffield; is president of the Hoene Consolidated Coal and Iron Company, which Company has three mines (Warrior, Jefferson and Brake) in successful operation. He is largely interested in the development of the North Alabama Improvement Company, and the Improvement and Immigration Company; the latter company owns nearly 200,000 acres in coal, iron and agricultural lands, and is the only company of its kind in the State that has regular established immigration bureaus all through Europe.

Mr. Pollak has been several times tendered political offices, but declined them, preferring to devote his time to his business, and to the development and advancement of his State and city. He takes an active interest in behalf of education. He is a warm supporter of Prof. Felix Adler, the leader of ethical culture in this country, and in whose society he is an active worker. He is a member of the Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York City, and of different charitable and educational institutions.

Mr. Pollak is prominently connected with the Masonic fraternity, having received the Thirty-second Degree.



**OWEN O. NELSON** was born in Limestone County, Ala., November 24, 1823, and is a son of Frederick B. and Winnie (Owens) Nelson, natives of North Carolina.

The senior Mr. Nelson came to Limestone County in 1817. He was a lawyer, and was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of this county in the year 1841. He served this county as Representative several years while the capital was at Tuscaloosa. He died in 1848.

The subject of this sketch attended the common schools of his neighborhood, where he acquired a good business education. At the outbreak of the war, he was representing Franklin County in the Legislature. He was induced by Governor Shorter to resign that duty, and take a contract to manufacture arms for the State. The works were first erected in North Alabama. They subsequently removed to Rome, Ga., and were driven thence to Dawson, Ga. There Mr. Nelson built a large factory, put in improved machinery, and continued the manufacture of arms until the close of the war.

In 1866 he engaged in the manufacture of railroad cars, and did an extensive business up to 1876, at which time he came to Montgomery, and built the oil-mill located at the corner of Lawrence and Randolph streets. He was immediately elected president of this mill company, and four years later organized the Alabama Oil-Mill Company, of which he is also the president. He was the organizer of the Gulf City Oil-Mills, Mobile, and Rome Oil-Mills, Rome, Ga. These mills all belong to the American Cotton-Seed Oil Trust, and are being managed by Mr. Nelson as president, as well as the Union Springs Oil Company, and Enfaula Oil Company, and Albany Oil and Refining Company, of Albany, Ga. The capacity of these mills combined is 300 tons of cotton seed daily, and they employ about 400 men.

Mr. Nelson was one of the original promoters of the town of Sheffield; is interested in the Sheffield Furnace Company, and has considerable real-estate there. He is also largely connected with various enterprises in Sheffield and Montgomery.

Mr. Nelson is a wide-awake, public-spirited citizen, sagacious in business, and is always alive to the advancement and development of the industries of the South.

He was married in December, 1847, at Athens, Ala., to Miss Margaret S., daughter of Dr. David Hobbs, of Limestone County, this State. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**JOHN C. O'CONNELL** was born October 12, 1837, at Mobile, and is a son of Bernard and Catharine (Smith) O'Connell, both natives of Ireland. His parents came to America early in life, and settled at Mobile in 1836. The father was a contractor and builder, which avocation he followed until his death, which occurred at Mobile in 1871.

John C. O'Connell received a common-school education, and at the age of seventeen years, began to learn the trade of marine engineer under Henry B. Wolley, of Louisville, Ky. After becoming proficient in his business, he was appointed assistant engineer and was subsequently promoted to chief marine engineer in 1866; Mobile was his headquarters. He followed engineering thirteen or fourteen years, then engaged with his father-in-law, B. A. Weems in the wholesale gro-

cery and feed business at Mobile, where they had an extensive business until 1874, at which time, Mr. O'Connell withdrew from the firm and engaged in the commission business at Mobile for a short time.

In the latter part of 1874 he came to Montgomery where he was engaged as engineer and shipping clerk for The J. C. Hurter & Co. Cotton Compress Company of Montgomery. After serving one season in this capacity he purchased the interest of N. W. Perry and became an equal partner with Mr. Hurter. The business has enlarged from small proportions to its present enormous capacity of fifteen to sixteen hundred bales of cotton per day, and the employment of about seventy men. This company has two enormous presses of twenty-five hundred tons pressure each.

Mr. O'Connell entered the Confederate service in 1861, as sergeant of Company A, Twenty-fourth Alabama Infantry; was promoted to lieutenant, and subsequently appointed engineer of the navy, which position he held until the close of the war. He was first assistant engineer on the ram "Tennessee," and was engaged in the battle on Mobile Bay. He was wounded in this fight, captured and taken to New Orleans, where he was imprisoned a short time, and then taken to Ship Island, where, after imprisonment for five months, he was exchanged. He was then appointed engineer in chief of the ironclad steamer "Huntsville," which boat was destroyed at the evacuation of Mobile, and he was ordered aboard the blockade steamer "Heroine," with which he remained until the close of the war.

Mr. O'Connell is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, also a member of the Commemorative Society of the Twenty-fourth Alabama Regiment, Confederate troops.

He was married, in 1870, to Miss Lucy, daughter of George W. Merritt, of Mobile, and has had born to him six children: Mary C., Bernard W., Lucy G., John C., Jr., George A. and Alice E. Mr. O'Connell and family are members of the Catholic Church.

Mr. O'Connell has no ambition for political favors, preferring to devote his time strictly to his business. He has been very successful in life, and is to-day recognized as a man of wealth, and stands high in the ranks of Montgomery's enterprising citizens.

**ERWIN W. THOMPSON**, Manager of the Southern Cotton Oil Company, of Montgomery, Ala., was born April 15, 1859, at Greenfield, Colquitt County, Ga., and is a son of William W. and Sarah (Graves) Thompson, natives of Georgia.

The senior Mr. Thompson was a manufacturer and lumber dealer in Smithville, Ga., for over thirty years, and is now a horticulturist, and has the best pear grove in the United States, at said town.

Erwin W. Thompson attended the private schools of his native county, and subsequently the Cornell University, at Ithaca, N. Y., where he studied mechanical engineering, and was graduated in 1881. He then went to Thomasville, Ga., and organized the Thomasville Oil Company, of which he was superintendent three years. In 1885, he resigned that position and accepted another as superintendent of the Oliver Oil Company, at Charlotte, N. C., which position he held until December, 1886, when he resigned in order to take position as manager of the Augusta Oil Company, Augusta, Ga. He remained with this company until April, 1887, when he resigned to accept his present position. He has built up this mill until it has a capacity of 200 tons per day (the largest in the State), and employs about 100 men. The buildings of this concern cover five acres of ground.



**WILLIAM F. JOSEPH**, was born in Montgomery, Ala., November 16, 1847, and is a son of Thomas and Sarah A. (Riley) Joseph, also of this city.

He was educated at the University of Alabama, and was attending that institution in 1865, at the time the school was abandoned, owing to the Federal soldiers taking the city.

Mr. Joseph's first engagement in business was as book-keeper for Joseph & Forss, wholesale grocers at Montgomery. He remained with this firm and its successors four years, then assisted in the organization of, and was connected with the Capital City Insurance Company four years, after which he engaged in the commission business in St. Louis, Mo., for about five years. He then returned to Montgomery where he identified himself with the insurance business, and has lived here ever since.

In 1887, in connection with the insurance business, Mr. Joseph embarked in real estate brokerage and banking. He is secretary and treasurer, and a director of the Capital City Electric Railroad Company; secretary and treasurer and director of the Highland Park Improvement Company; president of the Montgomery Stone and Building Company, and a director in the Lost Creek Coal and Land Company. This latter named company's lands are located in Walker County, Ala. He is also a stockholder in the Walker County Coal and Mineral Land Company, and is largely interested in several North Alabama enterprises.

Mr. Joseph was married April 20, 1867, to Miss Mary E. daughter of Joseph P. Saffold, of Montgomery, and has had born to him four children, one of which only is living, Saffold.

Mr. Joseph is a member of the Knights of Pythias, in which order he has held high offices. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor, and is captain of the Montgomery Mounted Rifles, a cavalry company belonging to the State troops. He has filled the latter position with eminent satisfaction. He received his military training at the University of Alabama.

He has several times been tendered political offices, but refused them, preferring to devote his time to business. He is a man of sterling business qualities, and largely interested in the development of enterprises in Alabama.



**WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS.** General Agent of Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad Company, and of Western Railroad of Alabama, was born July 2, 1841, in Screven County, Ga., and is a son of Edward W. and Catherine R. (Daly) Williams, natives, respectively, of South Carolina and Georgia.

The senior Mr. Williams was a merchant in Savannah, Ga. He died in Columbus, that State, in 1844, at the age of thirty years.

William H. Williams attended the private schools of Muscogee County, Ga., received a fair English education, and at the age of fifteen years embarked in the cotton-market business on his own account, at Columbus, Ga. At the end of two years, he dropped the cotton to engage in the dray and transfer business to which he devoted his time until 1861. At the outbreak of the war, Mr. Williams entered in the Confederate service as

orderly sergeant in Company A, Second Georgia Battalion, and in July, 1861, was promoted to junior second lieutenant of that company. (They were originally twelve months' troops.)

In April, 1862, at Wilmington, N. C., Company A was reorganized and he was elected first lieutenant. He remained with this company until the battle of Fredericksburg (1863), when he resigned owing to disability. He came back to Columbus, Ga., where he was appointed agent of the Mobile & Girard Railroad. He acted in that capacity up to 1882, when he removed to Montgomery to take the position as agent of the Montgomery & Eufaula Railroad. In October, 1882, he was made general agent of both the Montgomery & Eufaula, and Western Railroads, which position he has filled to the present time.

Mr. Williams is vice-president of the Home Building & Loan Association of Montgomery; a prominent Mason, and a member of the National Union and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

He was married December 6, 1865, to Mary Frances, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Taylor) Chaffin, of Columbus, Ga. She died in September, 1878, leaving eight children. In April, 1881, Mr. Williams was married again to Martha Jane, daughter of Dr. J. J. Mason, also of Columbus, Ga., and to this union two children were born.

The family are members of the Baptist Church, of which Mr. Williams is a deacon. He has always taken an active interest in the Sunday-school work, and was superintendent of the Sunday-school at Columbus, Ga.



**PEYTON B. BIBB.** General Manager of the Montgomery Iron Works, and familiar to the people of this State as captain of the "Montgomery True Blues," was born in this city in 1857. His father was the late Col. Joseph B. Bibb, who commanded the Twenty-third Alabama Infantry during the late war. Colonel Bibb died in this city in 1868, from the effects of wounds received at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., and was at the time of his death about forty-eight years of age. Captain Bibb's mother was a daughter of the late distinguished Benajah S. Bibb.

P. B. Bibb was educated at the Virginia Military Institute, and from there in 1874, entered the

Annapolis Naval Academy, from which institution he was graduated in 1878. He made one cruise to Europe, one to the Pacific Ocean, spent two years in the United States Coast Survey, and, in 1884, resigned for the purpose of devoting his time to civil engineering. He located in Mont-

gomery where he has since remained. He gave up civil engineering in 1886, to accept the general managership of the Montgomery Iron Works. He was made captain of the "The True Blues" in 1885, and as their commander won distinction for himself and fresh laurels for the company.



## XVI.

# SELMA.

BY S. W. JOHN.

The city of Selma is situated on the north bank of the Alabama River, near the geographical center of the State.

On the 16th and 18th of March, 1819, before Alabama was admitted as a State into the Union, Wm. R. King and George Phillips bought of the United States all of section 36, township 17, range 10, and section 31, township 17, range 11, lying north of the river, about 1,101 acres. A company had been organized for the purpose of laying these lands off into a town. The stockholders of this company were A. P. Fore, Benjamin Clements, William Walton, William Aylett, Samuel Walker, L. B. Adams, Caleb Tate, William Harris, Alex. S. Outlaw, Thomas J. Campbell, George Phillips, William Blevins, Jesse Wilson, William Cowles, James Hatcher, J. M. C. Montgomery, J. P. Cunningham, John Simpson, Benjamin L. Saunders, James McCarty, William R. King, David Keller, John Taylor, David McCord, Samuel Greenlee, Henry Lucas, J. K. C. Pool, C. Sledge, William Taylor, C. L. Mathews, James Jackson, Thomas Moore, and Jesse Beene. William R. King, upon perfecting its organization, was given the privilege of naming the town. He named it "Selma." Gwin Washington, a surveyor, laid off the town into 125 lots and 37 out-lots. The two principal streets, Broad and Water, were laid out 120 feet wide, and all others 100 feet wide. Lot 107, corner of Alabama and Church streets, was given to the Baptist denomination for a church. Lot 112, corner Church and Dallas streets, was given to the Methodists for a church, and lot 122, corner of Washington and Dallas streets, was given to the Presbyterians for a church. The square bounded by Selma, Broad, Alabama and Church streets was reserved for a public square, and out-lot 9 was set apart for a cemetery, and the north half of out-lot 26 was set apart for a school lot.

In May, 1819, the town company sold off all the lots, except those reserved and set apart for public purposes, and the total proceeds amounted to \$37,330. On November 29, 1828, the out-lots and ferry across the Alabama River were sold, which increased the total proceeds of sale to \$44,754.93.

The highest price paid for one lot was \$800, at which sum lot 29 was sold to E. M. Bolles. The St. James Hotel now covers this lot. The next highest price, \$790, was paid by Wm. Read for lot 101, which fronts on the west side of Broad Street, from Walter Street to Hinton Alley.

In 1831 the ground reserved for a public Square, was divided into lots, and sold off for the sum of \$2,099.

Although Selma is located on a beautiful, comparatively level plateau, about fifteen feet above the highest water known in the Alabama River—that of March 28—April 4, 1886—yet, for the want of proper drains, the town suffered severely from fevers; so much so, that some of these sickly seasons had the effect to materially reduce the population of the town, so that, after twenty years of existence, there were only 431 white people living in Selma, out of a total of 1,053.

In June, 1836, the people of Selma became interested in connecting the waters of the Alabama and Tennessee Rivers by railroad. The first step was taken by John W. Lapsley, William B. Fellows and George W. Parsons calling a citizens' meeting at the law office of John W. Lapsley, the "father" of railroad building in Selma.

This meeting took such action as resulted in the grant of a charter to "The Selma & Tennessee Railroad Company" in December, 1836, by the Legislature of Alabama, under which the company organized in March, 1837, by the election of Gilbert Shearer as president, and Thornton B. Goldsby, Middleton G. Woods, James C. Sharp,



Daniel H. Norwood, John Brantly, Uriah Griggs and James M. Calhoun as directors.

The company located the road over the line now occupied by the track of the Selma, Rome & Dalton division of the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railway, and let the contract for grading the first ten miles to David Cooper & Bros. Col. A. A. Dexter, of Montgomery, was the chief engineer, and made a survey and located the line of the road as far as Montevallo, Ala. The great financial depression following the "flush times of Alabama," so embarrassed this company as to put a stop to the construction of the road, and finally resulted in the death of the company.

In 1838 a medical society, a military company ("The Selma Rangers"), an educational society and the Real Estate Banking Company, were all organized, and the town bought its first fire engine, a public library was established, and the building of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church was begun. In 1839 was laid the corner stone of the Episcopal Church, corner of Alabama and Lauderdale streets, which was afterward burned by "Wilson's Raiders" in 1865.

The Ladies Educational Society of Selma was organized and chartered by the Legislature, and did much to aid in building the churches begun about that time and soon afterward, and also built four large, commodious school buildings—three of which are now standing, but all of them, except "The Dallas Academy," have passed into the hands of other owners, and are used for other than school purposes,—one being the "Court House of Dallas County."

The prevalent sickness of the years 1840 and 1841, drove many of the most active business men of Selma to seek other homes, and the very great monetary stringency of the period, 1840-7, cast a gloom over the town. This may be called its "darkest hour."

In 1848 business began to improve, population increased, and Selma took a new lease on life, and John W. Lapsley, Thornton B. Goldsby, Philip J. Weaver, John Brantley, William Johnson, Hugh Fergusson, and others, were granted a charter—as "The Alabama & Tennessee Rivers Railroad Company"—for the purpose of building a railroad from Selma to some point on the Tennessee River. For some years Guntersville was the objective point, but the liberal contributions of citizens of Shelby, Talladega and Calhoun Counties, com-

bined with the great energy and ability of such men as Walker Reynolds, Judge Thos. A. Walker, and associates, caused the road to be built by Columbiana Talladega and Jacksonville, and finally, under the name of "The Selma, Rome & Dalton Railroad," to Rome and Dalton, Ga., a total length of 236 miles.

The first "spike" was driven in 1851, and the Coosa River was crossed, eighty-seven miles from Selma, in 1855, and Blue Mountain, 135 miles from Selma, was reached in 1860, where the war put a stop to all building.

The starting of this enterprise seemed to infuse new life into Selma, and was quickly followed by the building of the Alabama & Mississippi River Railroad, of which enterprise Jos. R. John, Jas. L. Price, Philip J. Weaver, Thornton B. Goldsby, Wm. L. Davidson, John W. Lapsley and others, were the leading spirits. This road was begun in 1855, and built to Uniontown in 1860, where it was stopped by the breaking out of the war, but in 1861-2 the Confederate Government furnished the means to build it to York in Sumter County, where it was united with twenty-seven miles of track of the Northeast & Southwest Railroad, running into Meridian, Miss.—thus giving a connecting line of railroad between the waters of the Alabama and Mississippi Rivers, the purpose indicated by the name of the first corporation.

This company had its origin among the people of Uniontown, who sought rapid transit to the Alabama River, and was chartered to run from Cahaba, west, but the wealthy men of Cahaba refused to subscribe a dollar to its building, and greeted the public statement of its first advocate, sent to them to solicit aid, Hon. Joseph R. John, "that if they would build thirty miles of railroad and put a train on it, it would never stop till it reached the banks of the Mississippi," with shouts of derisive laughter, and with the bold assertion that "a railroad could never be built through the cane-brake," "the cars would sink out of sight in the mud."

This conduct on the part of the people of Cahaba, opened the way for Selma to step in and give the desired aid, which she did, following the lead of Philip J. Weaver and Thornton B. Goldsby, and at the next session of the Legislature the charter was so amended as to allow the road to be built from Selma, west. In ten years from the time that Cahaba refused to subscribe to the building of this road, the thirty miles of road

had been built, and then extended, as we have seen, so that trains running west from Selma were not halted till they had reached the banks of the great Mississippi River. And Cahaba? From a flourishing town, the rival of Selma declined steadily till, in 1866, the court-house was removed to Selma, and soon there were not more than twenty whites and a few negroes living in the limits of the former capital of Alabama, and now it is a "deserted village," and Selma a thriving city of 15,000 inhabitants, seven railroads, and \$15,000,000 of taxable property.

The spirit of building railroads to Selma was not satisfied by the building of these two roads, and in 1857 John W. Lapsley, William T. Minter, Willis S. Burr, Dan. C. Langley, J. J. Hawthorne and others projected the Selma & Gulf Railroad, to be built from Selma to Pensacola. When most of the grading of the first twenty miles of this road had been finished, it was suspended by the war. After the war forty miles from Selma were built, and the road from Pensacola north to Pensacola Junction, and on to Repton—eighty miles—was built, and these two ends are now owned and operated by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Company, leaving an unfinished gap of thirty-three miles between Pineapple and Repton.

From the organization of the Alabama & Tennessee Rivers Railroad Company to the breaking out of the war, the growth and prosperity of Selma were wonderful. Population and capital flowed in, banks and insurance companies were formed and successfully operated, and the volume of business grew from a few thousand to several millions of dollars annually. The receipts of cotton in 1860 were 100,000 bales, much of which was bought from the producers by the merchants of Selma.

During this period of growth there were erected six handsome brick churches, three large brick and one frame school-house, and many other buildings.

It would not be just to the "builders" of Selma to leave unnoticed the fact that Thornton B. Goldsby built and owned more business houses in Selma than any other man, and that William J. Norris built more handsome dwellings than any one else.

During this period of building activity, many artesian wells were bored, one of which was numbered among the notable wells of the world. At the same time the yards and grounds of the private

residences were adorned with trees and shrubs, and the sidewalks planted with a species of oak, which is evergreen, and very like the "live oak," thus making it much more pleasant as a dwelling place in the summer. The city might well be called the "City of Wells and Trees."

This active building of a city was interrupted by the breaking out of the war between the States, when, at the call of Alabama, nearly every able-bodied man in Selma donned the gray and went to battle.

The great natural advantages of Selma, and its superb location near the coal, iron, limestone, sandstone and timber of the mineral region of Alabama, and in the heart of the great "black belt," the then "corn and hog" raising section of Alabama, together with the great navigable river flowing past it by Mobile to the Gulf, soon attracted the attention of the Confederate Government, and it erected here, under the command of Col. J. L. White, the largest arsenal of the Confederacy, where immense quantities of fixed and small arm ammunition and ordnance stores and supplies of every kind, were made and shipped to the armies of the Confederacy. The Confederacy also erected under the command of Capt. Catesby R. ap Jones (who designed and directed the building of the famous "ram," "Virginia," the first iron-clad vessel ever taken into action, and superintended her armament, and was her executive officer and commander on the wounding of Admiral Buchanan), a large and well-organized naval foundry and rolling mill.

In this foundry were cast the heavy guns mounted on the harbor and sea coast defenses, and guns used by the Confederate gunboats in Mobile Bay under Admiral Buchanan in the engagement with the United States fleet under Admiral Dahlgren. All of the machines and tools used in the foundry and rolling mills were made in the shops erected in connection with these works. Many of these were new inventions—notably a revolving lathe for turning off the trunnions of the eleven and twelve inch "Columbiads." This machine carried the tool around the trunnion, whereas before its invention the gun was strapped to the wheel of an immense lathe and revolved "end over end" around the center of the trunnion, while the cutting tool was stationary.

Many of the machines and tools used in the arsenal were likewise built therein, and the first

machine for making horse shoes, at one blow, was made and operated here. The gun boat "Tennessee," Admiral Buchanan's flag ship in Mobile Bay, was built and launched here, and floated down the river to Mobile, where her armor and armament were placed upon her.

The concentration of these Government works at Selma drew to this place many contractors who erected shops and factories of various kinds, to make and supply materials and munitions of all sorts to the Confederate States Government, so that Selma became, next to Richmond, the greatest depot of supplies of the Confederate armies. This attracted the attention of the Federal generals, and in March, 1865, a corps of cavalry, commanded by General Wilson, marched from the Tennessee River direct to Selma, arriving in front of the earthworks, which had been thrown up around the city, on the afternoon of Sunday, April 2, 1865.

The works were about five miles in length, and were manned by General Armstrong's Cavalry Brigade, about 400 strong, one battery of field artillery (Louisiana); the citizens of Selma, the workmen from the arsenal and foundry, and a few hundred Dallas County militia, old men, in all about 1,500 or 2,000. General Wilson attacked with Long and Upton's divisions, about 8,000 strong. The main attack was made on the Summerfield Road, across which, behind the earthworks, was posted Armstrong's Brigade. This gallant brigade, although posted ten to fifteen feet apart, repulsed the Federals twice with great loss to them. Upon the third advance the Federal's assaulted the works to Armstrong's left, where the militia, strung out twenty to thirty feet apart, held the works. Carrying the works at this point, the Federals attacked Armstrong in front and on his flank simultaneously, and drove him from the works.

The Federals then took the city by storm, burned dwellings, storehouses, warehouses, arsenal, foundry, and shops and stores of every kind, and gave the city over to be sacked and plundered by drunken soldiers. In this engagement Major-General Long, United States Army, and 168 officers and men were killed, and about 800 were wounded. The Confederate's militia and citizens lost thirty killed and about 300 wounded.\*

\* Among the killed were: Capt. Wm. T. Minter and A. W. Ellerbee, of Dallas County; Rev. A. M. Small, of the Presb. German Church; and R. N. Philpot, A. M. Hugy and Thos. Riggs, of Selma; Captain Dombroo, of Talladega, and Robert Patton, of Florence.

General Wilson occupied Selma about ten days while a pontoon bridge was being thrown across the river, upon which he crossed his army—now about 12,000, General McCook's division having come up with the trains, and marched on to Montgomery, burning and plundering as he went.

His last act before leaving Selma was to have killed in yards, in stables, on lots, on the streets, wherever they happened to be, 800 disabled horses, which were buried by the few old men and boys left, to save the people from the direful effects of their decay.

While the city was occupied by the Federals General Lee surrendered, and in a month thereafter all the armies of the Confederacy had laid down their arms and returned to their desolated homes.

When Selma's sons returned from Lee's, Johnson's and Taylor's armies, they found the once beautiful city in ruins, and the people, many of them, receiving food from their friends in the surrounding country, who had escaped pillage.

Without money, many of them with only the threadbare suit of gray they wore, they set to work to "rebuild the city"—no small task, under the circumstances, for the place had been literally destroyed.

At this time there was not a train of cars running into Selma, and nearly all of the boats, which had made the Alabama River a famous highway, had been destroyed by the Federal troops when they captured Mobile and Montgomery, but the men of Selma did not despair, but worked with a will, and soon had cleared away the rubbish of the destroyed houses, and were actively engaged in building a new city.

When it is remembered that "Wilson's raiders" left the whole of the business part of the city in ruins, and that there was not a single storehouse of any kind open for business, all the banks closed, all offices closed, and no postoffice, the wonderful progress made by her citizens in this work can be seen by contrasting their then condition with their present condition. Probably no better index on this material growth can be given than that of the banks of Selma. The City National Bank, with \$100,000 of capital, \$199,000 surplus, and \$800,000 deposits, and the Commercial Bank, with \$500,000 capital, \$100,000 surplus and \$600,000 deposits, now do an immense business, whereas, the two banks of Selma during the war were ruined and their vaults empty and doors closed.

In 1866, Selma received 26,000 bales of cotton; now her annual receipts vary from 80,000 to 112,000 bales. Then all cotton received had to be shipped to Mobile to be compressed and thence shipped to market; now nearly every bale received is compressed in Selma and shipped direct to New England spinners, or to ports for export to Europe. Then not a dollar's worth of goods were made in Selma; now her factories and shops turn out annually over a million dollars' worth of cotton goods, oil, oil-cake, cotton-seed meal, engines, presses, wagons, sash, doors, blinds, cars, car-wheels, brooms, castings and ice.

#### MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT

The town of Selma, was first organized on the first Monday in April, 1821, by the election of Carter B. Huddleston, James Reynolds, James Cravens, Gilbert Shearer, and Wm. Read, as councilmen, who elected James Reynolds as Intendant.

In 1831, the charter was changed by the Legislature, and "The City of Selma" was created, and John M. Strong was elected the first Mayor, who was re-elected annually till 1858, and succeeded by the following named incumbents of that office to the present time, namely: 1858, M. J. A. Keith; 1862, Geo. F. Plunt, who died in office, and was succeeded by Joseph R. John; 1863, M. J. A. Keith; 1864, John H. Henry; 1865, M. J. Williams; 1866, James T. Reese.

On May 14, 1867, General Pope usurped the authority of appointing a Mayor and Council. He appointed Ben F. Saffold as Mayor, who continued in office till September 1, 1868, when Wm. H. Smith, who had been legislated into the office of Governor of Alabama by Congress, appointed W. B. Gill as Mayor, who served till a new charter was granted by the Legislature, under which, on the first Monday in December, 1868, Jas. L. Perkins was elected Mayor for a term of two years. In 1870 James M. Dedman was chosen, and continued in office till April, 1873, when John Hardy was elected. During this administration the charter was amended, fixing the election on first Monday in May, 1875, and biennially thereafter. In 1875, N. Woodruff; 1877, N. Woodruff; 1879, N. Woodruff was elected, but R. J. Davidson was elected by the council till the contest was decided in favor of Woodruff by the Supreme Court; 1881, A. E. Baker; 1883, R. J. Davidson; 1885, Hugh S. D. Malbury; 1887, S. Maas.

#### RAILROADS.

The railroads running into Selma are the Birmingham, Selma & New Orleans road, 21 miles long, to Martin's Station, Dallas County; Pineapple Division of Louisville & Nashville System, 40 miles long, to Pineapple Station, Wilcox County; the Western Railway, Selma Division, 50 miles, to Montgomery; the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile Railway, to Akron, in Hale County, *via* Marion Junction, 71 miles; Alabama Central Division of E. T., Va. & Ga. Railway to Lauderdale, Miss., 110 miles; Mobile & Birmingham Railway, E. T., Va. & Ga. System, 150 miles, from Mobile to Marion Junction, thence over Alabama Central Division; Selma, Rome & Dalton Division of E. T., Va. & Ga. Railway, 236 miles, to Dalton, Ga.

#### PROJECTED ROADS.

Cahaba Valley Railroad, Selma to Birmingham; Alabama & Atlanta, Selma to Atlanta, Ga.; Selma & Greenville, Selma to Greenville, Ala.

#### STREET RAILWAY.

The Selma Street Railway Company was organized in 1872, and laid about two miles of track through Broad, Water and other streets. This was operated with little or no profit, till recently it has been relaid with heavier rail and a steam engine ("dummy") put on, and about three miles of additional track laid in East Selma and North Selma, the latter a newly laid out suburb.

#### BANKS

The first bank organized in Selma, was the "Real Estate Banking Company of South Alabama," which began business in 1838 on a cash capital of \$28,635, and did a flourishing business till the crash after the "flush times" forced it out of business.

"The Commercial Bank of Alabama" began business in 1856, with a cash capital of \$500,000, William J. Norris was president from its organization till it ceased to do business at the close of the war.

Under the management of Mr. Norris, this bank made a remarkable financial record. It never lost a dollar, or had to bring a suit for the recovery of a debt due it.

On the outbreak of the war it had in its vaults gold coin enough to redeem every bank note issued by it. This coin was taken by the State and used

in equipping soldiers and in preparing coast defenses.

"The Bank of Selma" was organized in 1857, with \$300,000 capital; Washington M. Smith, president. Its assets were all converted into Confederate currency, and the bank ceased to do business at the close of the war.

In 1865, "The First National Bank of Selma" was organized under the National Banking Act, with \$100,000 capital; John M. Parkman was the principal stockholder and president. Speculation soon bankrupted this institution and its depositors lost nearly all they had deposited therein.

"The City National Bank of Selma" and the "Selma Fire and Marine Insurance Company" were chartered by the State soon after the close of the war, and did a banking business for a year or two, till its capital had been reduced nearly a half, when its officers induced Jos. Isbell, Esq., of Talladega to invest \$25,000 and take charge of its business. With a capital thus made up to \$75,000, Mr. Isbell named Wm. P. Armstrong as its cashier. Shortly afterward the name was changed to "The City Bank," and its capital increased to \$100,000. In 1870 this bank was converted into a National Bank, and so successfully has it been managed that its capital stock has grown to \$400,000, with a surplus of \$199,000. Since its organization it has paid large annual dividends to its shareholders. Its management has been at all times judicious and its success remarkable.

"The Commercial Bank of Selma" is organized under the law of Alabama. It was formerly the "Selma Savings Bank." Under the management of R. M. Nelson as president, the business of the bank has grown to a very large volume, and the value of its stock has increased rapidly. Capital stock, \$300,000; surplus, \$150,000.

#### SCHOOLS.

Selma has a very fine system of public schools, under the control of the School Board, which is elected by the City Council. J. W. Mabry is the Superintendent of Schools. Under the control of this Board is "The Dallas Academy," a public school building built by the citizens on a lot given for that purpose by William Johnson. This academy was converted into a public school for white children in 1868, with Joseph R. John as president of the Board of Trustees, C. J. Clark, secretary, and N. D. Cross, superintendent of the school.

It has continued to improve ever since its organization, and now has over 500 children in daily attendance, with a corps of very efficient teachers.

The City School Board rent the "Burrell Academy," a large and commodious building, and have a good school conducted therein for the negro children, of whom there are over 400 in daily attendance.

#### CHURCHES.

Selma is renowned for her churches, their number, the number of members, and their zeal and piety. For the white people there are two Presbyterian, two Southern Methodist, one Baptist, one Protestant Episcopal, one Christian (Baptist), one Cumberland Presbyterian, and one Roman Catholic Church.

The negroes have ten or twelve large churches, and there is a Congregational Church whose members are negroes and white people. The Hebrews have a synagogue, and a large, well-organized congregation—"Mishken Israel."

#### SECRET SOCIETIES.

The following secret and benevolent societies are represented here: Masonic—Selma Fraternal Lodge, No. 27, Central City Lodge, No. 305, St. John's Chapter, Selma Council, and Selma Commandery, No. 5; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, and Ancient Order of United Workmen.

#### YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

In the spring of 1886, the Rev. D. T. Moody, during a series of sermons preached in Selma, delivered a lecture on Christian work among the young men. There had been a Young Men's Christian Association at Selma for many years, but it had no local habitation. Immediately after Mr. Moody's sermon a liberal contribution was made, and that was followed by an organized movement, which resulted in building a three-story building on Broad street, which has been elegantly fitted up, and is one of the best and most tasteful buildings of the Association in the United States.

#### SANITARY, ETC.

The healthfulness of Selma has steadily improved under the wise direction of the Board of Health, led by Dr. Walter P. Reese, and after his death by Dr. Ben H. Riggs. After long and patient work in the direction of drainage, Dr. Riggs procured the adoption of Colonel Waring's plan

of sanitary sewers, which are now being laid under the principal streets of the city. In June, 1886, a complete system of water works was opened, furnishing pure artesian well-water for drinking and other purposes in almost inexhaustible quantity. The benefits following these two great improvements are very marked, and the reduction of the death rate among the white citizens of Selma below the average of the United States shows the great wisdom of these sanitary improvements; and these, with her superior public schools, her numerous churches, well organized and zealous, her seven railways, her unrivaled banks, her facilities for handling a large cotton crop, her manufactories, the finest water supply in the known world, the grand river navigable all the year round, her geographical position, and the fact that Selma is and always will be the market of the finest body of farming lands in the world, the "Canebrake" of Alabama, assures her of a place in the front rank of Alabama's cities.



**PHILIP J. WEAVER** was born at Uniontown, near Manchester, Md., June 11, 1797, of German parentage, his father and mother being natives of the Palatinate on the Rhine. The family was large (there being many sons and daughters), and poor. But with German industry, honesty, and economy, a plain good living was obtained, and, as each child started out in the world, his portionate part, amounting to \$2,000, was given him.

While a child Philip J. was bitten by a moccasin snake in his right ankle, from the effects of which he never recovered, and which disabled him more as years increased. He often lamented that this misfortune prevented him from undertaking many things which he otherwise would have done. The necessity of taking care of himself at an early age, deprived him of an education; but constant intercourse with all classes of men, and a facility in letter writing, made this deficiency unnoticed, both in his conversation and in his letters. He had the singular faculty of being able to write business letters and carry on a business conversation at the same time.

Mr. Weaver was first articled to a large mercantile firm in Baltimore, to learn the business, and after a few years (1815), he was sent as a clerk to the firm of Trevis & McGimpsey, in Cahaba, Ala.

Such was his activity and efficiency in this capacity that he soon became a junior partner, and finally sole proprietor. In a short time (1818), he moved his business to the Falls of the Cahaba, now Centreville, and after a brief period to Mappesville, and then (1820) to what was called Moore's Bluff, now Selma. Here he bought Moore's log house, the only building on the bluff, and filled it with Indian goods. He very soon (1824) built himself a large warehouse, where Waller, Welch & Co.'s office now is, and, blasting out the rock, made a way to the water, where he constructed a wharf; at the same time running, in connection with his warehouse, what were known as keel boats from Mobile. On one occasion, while coming up from Mobile with his boat loaded with goods, the cook fell sick, and, rather than break up his crew of boatmen by taking one of them to cook, he did the cooking for the crew until the regular cook recovered; hence the story that at one time in his life he was a cook.

He soon found (1825) the Moore log house too small, and built him a large, long double-room store, on the corner of Lauderdale and Water streets, on the present V. G. Weaver lot. Also, in rear of the store he erected a handsome (for those days) framed residence.

All these years he had been doing a safe and ever growing business with the early settlers, who were rapidly increasing, and with the Indians. In 1830 he opened a branch house at Pontotoc, Miss., Chickasaw Nation, with his clerk, J. N. Wiley, at its head. A marked success attended this venture. A large amount of money was made and many thousand acres of land acquired. Somewhere about this time (1835), his log store house becoming too small, he built a large two-story frame house on the northwest corner of Alabama and Broad streets, which he occupied until 1845, when he built a large double three-story brick building, in which he did business until it was destroyed by Wilson, April 2, 1865. In 1830 he received letters and an invitation from General Coffee who had a commission to run off the township, range and section lines of the State, to accompany him. He accepted, and thereby gained accurate information as to the value of every section of land in any part of South Alabama, to which he had directed his thoughts. In this way his wonderful luck in land trades, as some of his acquaintances were wont to say, is fully accounted for. In addition to his mercantile business and his land specula-



P. P. Meaver  
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tions, he, without being a planter, carried on successfully a large planting interest.

At the time of the Emancipation he owned seven hundred negroes, and in one year (1855) made thirteen hundred bales of cotton, for which he received \$83,000. In addition to these employments, he took great interest in, and contributed largely to, the construction of the Alabama & Tennessee Rivers Railroad (as it was then called) and the Alabama and Mississippi Rivers Railroad (as then called).

He married Anne P. Gardner May 8, 1823. Their surviving children are: L. G. Weaver, Chattanooga, Tenn.; W. M. Weaver and V. G. Weaver, of Selma, Ala. Mr. Weaver died November 10, 1865, in Selma, from the effects of a blow on the back of his head, received from one of Wilson's raiders while standing in the side portico of his house. In his old school Bible there is found a paper containing the following words, forming a broken sentence:

*"My motto has ever been Truth, Honesty, Punctuality & Policy to my fellow men; to which I ascribe mainly my success."*



**WILLIAM M. WEAVER**, son of Philip John Weaver, was born, reared and educated at Selma, Ala. Soon after the outbreak of the late war, he joined Gen. John H. Morgan's command, and served with that general and was with him when he was killed. After the death of General Morgan, Captain Weaver joined the Thirty-seventh Alabama Infantry, and was made adjutant of that regiment. He left the army, at the close of the war, at Greensboro, N. C.

He was married in Dallas County, 1857, to Miss Lucy Frances Winter. She died in 1886, leaving two sons and four daughters.

Mr. Weaver and family are communicants of the Episcopal church.



**WILLIAM J. NORRIS** was identified with the progress and history of Selma for fifty-nine years. He was born at Madison, Ga., in 1808, and came to Dallas County about the year 1820 with his parents and settled near Cahaba. In 1826 he came to Selma and engaged in business as a clerk,

and in 1832 became a member of the firm of Douglass, Wood & Norris. In a short time thereafter he became associated with William Johnson, one of the most prominent and wealthy merchants in the place, under the firm name of Johnson & Norris. Mr. Johnson retired from the business in a few years with a large fortune, when Mr. Norris associated his brother, James A. Norris, with him in the business, which continued as one of the most successful and prosperous in the city, and from it he realized a fortune.

In 1856, with P. J. Weaver, E. K. Carlisle, Sr., Benjamin Marshall, John W. Lapsley, A. L. Haden, and others of the then prominent and wealthy citizens of Central Alabama, he organized the Commercial Bank of Alabama, at Selma, with a cash capital of \$500,000 and was made its president, which position he held until the bank was closed by the results of the war, in 1865. This bank was one of the three largest banks in the State, and it was one of the most successful and popular, its stock being at a high premium. It was in the management of this bank that he showed great judgment and financial skill, and established the reputation of being one of the best financiers in the State.

In 1866, he began a large dry goods business in Selma, with Mr. Thomas Johnson, of Greensboro, Ala., but on account of the death of Mr. Johnson, the business was closed. He was a member of the Methodist Church, and was one of its trustees, and it was largely due to his energy and liberality and attention to the duties in this office, that the elegant brick church building on Church street was erected in 1856.

During the epidemic of yellow fever in Selma in the fall of the year 1853, he was one of the few wealthy citizens who remained in the place to aid, by his personal attentions and benefactions, its stricken citizens. During his long residence in Selma he was identified with, and took an active part in every public and private enterprise for the advancement of the interests of its citizens. He constructed three or four of the handsomest residences in the city, which he occupied at different times as his home, and he did much by his example in planting shade trees, shrubbery and flowers, in inciting among his neighbors that taste for beautifying their homes and their surroundings, which has resulted in making the shade trees and shrubbery of the city the pride of its citizens, and the admiration of all visitors.

In stature he was of medium height, slightly stout, of shapely figure, and of handsome appearance. He was scrupulously neat in his dress. In manners he was reserved, but at all times polite, courteous and considerate of the feelings and opinions of others, yet firm in his own opinions and in his dealings with every one.

His honesty was a proverb in the community. He died July 12, 1855, at the age of seventy-seven years.

His brothers were all men of high character, and identified with the early commercial history of the State. The eldest, John B. Norris, was a successful merchant at Mobile, and the president of the Branch of the Bank of the State at Mobile, which was the largest bank in the State, and did an immense business throughout the Southwest. Another brother, Thomas B. Norris, was a successful commission and grocery merchant in Mobile, and accumulated a large fortune; afterward removing to New York City he engaged in business and died there a millionaire. Another brother, Calvin Norris, became a wealthy planter, and died leaving a very large estate. The youngest brother, James A. Norris, was associated with him as a partner in business at Selma, and acquired a fortune.

He married in 1837 Miss Rutherford, the daughter of William Rutherford, a wealthy planter of Dallas County, who was, by birth, a Georgian, and a member of the well-known family of that name in that State. He left, surviving him, his widow, a son, and three daughters. His eldest daughter married J. C. Compton, Esq., of the Selma bar; another daughter married Capt. David M. Scott, of Selma; and the third daughter married Mr. H. B. Franklin, of Nashville, Tenn. His son, Frank Norris, is at present engaged in business in Selma.



**JOEL EARLY MATTHEWS** was born at the Goose Pond in Georgia, on the 21st day of October, 1809, and died at Selma, Ala., May 11, 1874.

He was the second son of Col. Charles Lewis Matthews one of the sons of Gen. George Matthews, a distinguished Revolutionary soldier, who, emigrating from Augusta County, Va., to Georgia in 1784; was one of the first three representatives in Congress from that State, and twice its Governor. His mother was Lucy Early, a daughter of Joel

Early, and a sister of Gov. Peter Early, a distinguished jurist and statesman. These families, with the Merriwethers, Barnetts, Taliaferros, Marks and Gilmers, migrated from Virginia to Georgia at the close of the Revolutionary War and settled in Oglethorpe County.

The subject of this notice was educated at the Universities of Georgia and Virginia, where he was thoroughly grounded in the classics and sciences, and also in the principles of the common law. Soon after his graduation he removed to Alabama and fixed his residence on a plantation on the Alabama River near Cahaba, in Dallas County. His whole life was spent at this place, which became, under his taste and care, one of the most beautiful and attractive family seats in the county. This home was the center of a generous hospitality, as its host was the type and representative of the Southern planter of the old *regime*. Here he devoted himself to the management of his large planting interests, and was very successful. He received a handsome patrimony from his father, which was improved by judicious management, and at the commencement of the war he had grown quite wealthy. He took great interest in all that tended to improve society and develop the resources of the country. He was a liberal patron of schools and churches, and public-spirited and liberal in his aid to enterprises of a public nature.

Mr. Matthews possessed a strong, discriminating mind, which was highly improved by reading and study. His leisure hours were spent with his Bible, Shakespeare, Gibbon, Bolingbroke, Calhoun, the current politics and literature of the day, and he made the science of government a study.

In his political school of thought he was a disciple of Jefferson and Calhoun, and accepted their interpretation of the powers and limitations of the Federal Constitution, and, when all other means had failed, favored resistance and secession. Though too old to take an active part in the war which followed, he gave largely of his means to the State.

Soon after Alabama seceded he sent his check to the Governor for fifteen thousand dollars in gold, stipulating that the sum should be used at his discretion for the defense of the State.

The letter bears date the 29th of January, 1861, and though both of these patriotic men have "shuffled off this mortal coil" and sleep under the sod they loved so well, the bold characters convey-

ing this munificent contribution to the State are as fresh as if they were written yesterday. The Governor acknowledged its donation in the following letter:

“ EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Jan. 28, 1861.

“ MR. JOEL E. MATTHEWS,

CAHABA, ALA.

“ DEAR SIR:—Your munificence for the protection of the State is accepted, and the evidence of it placed upon record in this office.

The praise of one man, although he speak as one having authority, is but a small part of the reward which your patriotism deserves and will receive. When the present time shall have become historic, this donation will be an heirloom to your posterity, and the example you have set will be a source of power to your State, compared to both of which the liberal sum of money you have given will be as nothing. As Chief Executive of the State, and acting under a deep sense of responsibility, I have been compelled to do all in my power to strengthen the sense of resistance in the Southern mind, and to deepen the current flowing toward the independence of the State in defense of her constitutional rights. What I have been compelled to do by conviction of duty you have done voluntarily, and to that extent deserve more freely the gratitude of your fellow-citizens.

Trusting that an approving conscience and the gratitude of your State may be your ample reward, and commending you and the State to the protecting goodness of Providence, I remain

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. B. MOORE,  
*Governor of Alabama.*”

During the war Mr. Matthews was liberal to those in need of aid or assistance, and was very kind and generous to the sick and wounded. He uniformed and equipped several military companies at his own expense. Many of his neighbors were killed or died in the army, and many families were impoverished by the fortunes of the war, but this noble man permitted none to suffer or want within the limit of his means. Those to whom he rendered assistance were told that he was only discharging a debt and obligation that every patriot owed to those who had fallen in the service of the State.

After the termination of the war many persons in the South, smarting under misfortunes and

disappointments, desired to leave the country, and some, attracted by the similarity of its climate and institutions, turned their attention to Brazil. Liberal inducements were held out to them by the government, as the Emperor was exceedingly anxious to secure the accession of citizens from the South, familiar with the culture of cotton and its agricultural system. In 1867, Mr. Matthews visited and explored a large part of that country. He was treated with great consideration by Dom Pedro, who endeavored in every way to induce him to become a citizen of the empire. When the Emperor visited the Centennial in 1876, one of the first inquiries made of a gentleman from Alabama after having been introduced to him, was about his old friend and acquaintance, Mr. Matthews. When told of his death he expressed great regret, and spoke of him in the highest terms.

Mr. Matthews, however, was not pleased with the conditions of the country, and returned to Alabama determined to remain among his old friends and in his own State. He was a philosopher, and resigned himself with cheerfulness and dignity to the results of the war. No vain murmurings were expressed. He devoted the remainder of his life, with great energy, to the labor of restoring his wrecked fortunes. He gave liberally of his means to aid those who were less fortunate, and invested a part of his capital in the erection and equipment of a large cotton factory at Selma. This work has been continued, and its success is a monument to his wisdom and foresight in directing the energies of the South into new channels and industries.

His views and opinions upon all questions of business and public policy were greatly valued and respected. He was a profound and correct thinker, and a conversationalist of great fluency and power. Never but once did he appear as a public speaker, and then it was on an occasion of great political importance.

At a meeting of the citizens of the county, without distinction of party, held to consider the dangers which threatened them after the election of Mr. Lincoln to the presidency, he was called upon to express his views, as one of the leading planters, and one deeply interested in public affairs. He astonished those who knew him only as a private citizen, by the soundness of his views, the wisdom of his opinions, and the ease and clearness with which they were expressed. His speech, on that occasion, was a revelation to his

neighbors and friends, and convinced his hearers that he understood the exigencies of the situation, and had the courage to express his convictions.

Simple and courteous, always ready to serve those who applied to him for assistance and advice, he was the central figure in the community in which he lived. None envied him, none slandered him, many loved him, while all honored and respected him. His charities were bestowed quietly and unostentatiously, without the knowledge of the parties who were the objects of his benefactions, and it may truly be said of him, that his left hand never knew the good which his right hand did. In all his dealings he was governed by the high standard of right and justice between man and man. He was a man of good feeling, and good sense; unselfish, sympathetic, and considerate of the feelings of others. In this sense he was a man of true courtesy. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," and "Do unto others as you would that others should do unto you," were the golden rules by which he endeavored to square his actions toward others.

Few were more entertaining and instructive; his gentle kindness made him a great favorite with the young and the old, and a pleasant guest in every circle and at every fireside, while his sympathetic nature rendered him a welcome visitor at every home where sickness and grief were present.

Few men ever lived in a community who were so highly respected for their virtues, and who have been more universally regretted and lamented. This good man passed his whole life in private station, never aspiring to public or political honors. In his case the post of honor was the private station. He was one of nature's great and wise men.

Mr. Matthews was ardent and strong in his attachments, and devoted and unselfish in his friendships.

In all the relations of life he was gentle, considerate and affectionate. His home was the world in which he lived, and he made it the center of his life and happiness. It was there, that he gave full expression to the warm current of his tenderness and love. As a husband and father he was indulgent, gentle and affectionate. Upon his family was lavished the wealth of tenderness which filled his bosom. These qualities welled up from his heart, like the pure waters that flow along the current of the smooth and limpid stream.

As a master few were more kind and indulgent. He provided for his dependents with the same generous hand with which he bestowed the comforts and luxuries of life upon his own family.

In his intercourse with them the master was merged in the friend; he was more like a patriarch than a master. He was fully rewarded by them for this kind treatment. After their emancipation few of them deserted him, and most of them now live in the old homes where they have long resided, and where most of the present generation were born and raised.

He married Miss Elizabeth Woods Poague, of Alameda County, Va., who was born August 31, 1814, and died November 5, 1869. She was a woman of rare virtues and lovely character, and the gentle almoner of her husband's benefactions. The rich, and the poor and the distressed were alike the recipients of her kindness and ministrations. Gladness followed her presence into every household, and envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness were silent in her presence. They passed through life with many trials and griefs; they were blessed with lovely and loving children, whom they lived to see wither under the north wind's breath and sink into early and untimely graves.

They survived all their children but one, who died a few years after their death without children. Two daughters, Anne Eliza, and Lucy Early, married, respectively, Col. N. H. R. Dawson, of Dallas, and Col. Daniel S. Troy, of Montgomery. Both died young, and the latter childless, the former leaving an only daughter, now the wife of Dr. John P. Furniss, of Selma.

For forty years they lived in the same home, dispensing a generous and hearty hospitality. And now, after the cares and sorrows of life are ended, they repose alongside of their children and cherished kindred, in the beautiful family cemetery at Evergreen Grove on the Alabama River, in the shade of the magnolia and cypress trees planted by their own hands. Let us hope that a blissful immortality awaits them in the realm of eternity.



**FRANK NORRIS** was born at Selma, Ala., March 8, 1847. His father was William Jefferson Norris, one of Selma's most distinguished and oldest citizens, who located here in early life.

Our subject first went to the common school of





Very truly yours  
N. H. R. Dawson

his native place, and in 1863-4, attended the University of Alabama. At the age of seventeen, he enlisted as a private in Company B, Sixty-second Alabama Infantry, and was captured at Blakely this State, in April, 1865. He was held a prisoner thirty days, paroled and returned to his home. He engaged as a clerk in a dry goods house at Selma, and was occupied in that capacity most of the time up to January, 1888, when he bought an interest in the wholesale grocery house of Mr. Montgomery, his present partner. The business is now conducted under the firm name of Montgomery & Norris, and is in a flourishing condition, with increasing patronage.

Mr. Norris is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is one of the young men identified with the social and industrial life of the Central City, who has won for himself an enviable name by his sterling qualities, and who, to his fine business capacities, adds good social requisites. It is reasonable to expect that with the growth of his native city, his expansion and progress will bear a proportionate relation.



#### NATHANIEL HENRY RHODES DAWSON,

son of Lawrence E. and Mary W. (Rhodes) Dawson, was born in Charleston, S. C. His parents were of Huguenot and English extraction, and were descended from among the oldest families in Carolina—a rich heritage which no sensible man will either overvalue or underestimate. His father moved to Alabama in 1812, and settled near Carlowville, in Dallas County. He was a prominent lawyer in South Carolina, and was rapidly securing, by his zeal, ability and professional learning, a high reputation and an extensive and lucrative practice in the courts of Alabama, when he was arrested, in the meridian of life, by the hand of death. To his professional attainments were added that peculiar refinement which comes of high culture and a generous nature, exquisite grace and courtesy, which charm us in the man of genial manners and gentle spirit. He was loved during his lifetime for his stanch and manly adherence to principle, his loyalty to his Christian duties, and his devotion to his family and friends.

The son attended the local schools, and was matriculated at St. Joseph's College, Mobile, and there received those advantages of a well-rounded

classical education, without which even the most intellectual men feel themselves, in some sense, poorly equipped all through life. Upon leaving college he at once entered upon the study of the law with the Hon. George R. Evans, of Cahaba. In 1852 he was admitted to the bar, and commenced the practice of that noble profession, which, in his native State, is illustrated by such names as those of Drayton, Harper, Huger and Pettigru, and in Alabama by Dargou, Williams, Elmore, Evans and Goldthwaite, who were then in the zenith of their fame.

Surrounded by this professional atmosphere, it is not surprising that he should have formed a very high view of the excellencies and requirements of that profession, success in which, as has been well said, demands the "*incubationes viginti annorum.*"

In 1855 he was one of the candidates of the Democratic party for the Legislature in the memorable "Know-nothing" campaign. His party was largely in the minority, yet such was the hold he had upon popular confidence and favor, that he barely failed of election. From then to the stirring and critical Presidential canvass of 1860, he devoted himself unsparingly to the demands of his profession. In 1860 he was a delegate at the Charleston and Baltimore Conventions, and withdrew from the former with the Alabama delegation, under instructions from the State Convention.

As a result of this campaign Mr. Lincoln was elected, simply because the conserving forces of the country were frittered away between Bell, Douglas and Breckenridge.

In April, 1861, upon the secession of Alabama, he was elected captain of the Cadets of Selma, a company composed of the very best material of the young manhood of the South. The writer was a member of that company, and, at this late date, bears willing testimony to the popularity of Colonel Dawson with his comrades, and to the fidelity with which he discharged the various duties of his position. *En route* to Virginia, at Dalton, Ga., the company was incorporated into the Fourth Alabama Regiment, an organization of which every Southern man, and especially every Alabamian, should feel justly proud, for so nobly did the regiment bear itself, under the lead of Jones and Law and others that no man ever spoke invidiously of that historic command which, when brigaded with the invincible Texans, helped Hood

and Law on to martial fame. After his service with that regiment, he commanded during the last two years of the war a battalion of cavalry.

During this period he was elected to the House of Representatives, and at the annual sessions of 1863 and 1864, faithfully served his constituents, returning to his command at the close of the sessions of the Legislature. At the close of the war, Colonel Dawson resumed the practice of law in the city of Selma. In common with all the good and true men of the South, the war had brought no little trouble and sorrow to him. He had lost heavily financially, but by far the greatest loss to him was the fall of those noble friends who, at their country's call, after faithfully serving in the cause of the South, had passed from warring earth, we trust, to peaceful Heaven. He sought not to forget the past in Lethæan waves of dissipation, but with nobler aim of righting up the wreck, addressed himself with greater energy than ever before to the duties of his profession, and sought to apply to the youth of the South the vast powers of recuperation embodied in the aphorism of the great Virginian, when amid the classic shades of Lexington he taught the world "How to suffer and grow strong," not by repining, but by work and labor. During this period of depression, he took an active part in politics, and was made chairman of the county and congressional committees. In 1872 when the South was struggling to swing loose from Radical rule, and to rehabilitate herself in the constitutional habiliments of Statehood, he was appointed an elector on the Presidential ticket, and canvassed his district. From 1876 to 1886 he was a member of the State Executive Committee, and from 1884 to 1886 was its chairman, and rendered valuable and acceptable service to his party and State. In this position he gave universal satisfaction, and his candidacy for Governor in 1882 was the reward of the zeal, discretion and executive ability which characterized his administration. Under his guidance the Cleveland State canvass of 1884 was conducted ably and successfully. In March, 1886, he resigned this position in order properly to become a candidate for the Chief Magistracy of the State. In the heated and prolonged canvass which followed, and in the contest before the State convention for the nomination, he had a very strong following and came near being the choice of the people.

In 1876, when the State University was reor-

ganized, his interest in popular and higher education was recognized by his appointment by Gov. George F. Houston as one of the trustees, an honor which has been continued to the present time. In the midst of political, professional and business duties, so economical has Colonel Dawson shown himself in the wise expenditure of time, as to be able to look carefully after one of the most important duties of the citizen, and the present success of the State University in her ability to keep pace with the advancement in the various departments of a rounded education, has found a zealous and capable advocate and friend in him.

Colonel Dawson has enjoyed many honors at the hands of his fellow-citizens. He was a member of the Legislature of 1880-81, and was made Speaker of the House of Representatives. His conduct in the chair justified the choice: his dignity and courtesy, his impartiality and vivid sense of justice, his knowledge of parliamentary law, and his executive ability, greatly facilitated the public business. It was partly owing to the popularity obtained by him during this session of the Legislature that he was placed in nomination by his friends for Governor in 1882, developing great strength in the convention.

He was urged for the same position in 1884, but declined to antagonize the Hon. E. A. O'Neal, taking the ground that, according to the usages of the party, the incumbent was entitled to a second term for the faithful manner in which he had discharged the duties of the office.

In 1884 he was President of the State Bar Association. Among such eminent lawyers as Brooks, Watts, Pettus, Walker, and Semple, to say nothing of many others whose fine talents shed a lustre on the profession, this was no empty compliment. To a mind clearly judicial, and honestly discriminating, he had brought that delicately shaded power of expression in all that comes from pen or lip, which attaches to the diligent study of the Greek and Roman classics as a basis for the superstructure which the best English authors supply.

Colonel Dawson has rendered conspicuous service to his party, both as a private in its ranks and as one of its leaders. He was a laborer in the vineyard when the State was struggling in the throes of Reconstruction and Radical rule, and continued to work throughout the heat and burden of the day, for the good of the people of his



State, without reward or preferment. He is a public-spirited and liberal citizen, a true and generous friend, and an upright and honorable gentleman. His large practice and long experience at the bar and in public affairs, his prudence, ability, integrity and industry, eminently qualify him for official position, and his friends have not been surprised at the fitness he has exhibited in every place, he has been called upon to fill. Sympathetic in his nature, he has always felt an intense interest in questions of public policy, while his manly character, his genial manners, and his friendship for young men have won him hosts of friends in every portion of the State. These talents seem to be inherited, for he is a descendant of the distinguished Paul Hamilton, who was Governor of South Carolina when it was a distinction to be the Chief Magistrate of that little State of great men, and afterward Secretary of the Navy under Mr. Madison:

In August, 1886, the President appointed Colonel Dawson to the important position of United States Commissioner of Education. This appointment was unsought and unsolicited by him. Since he has assumed charge of the Bureau of Education he has devoted himself to the performance of his duties with rare patience, tact, and industry; he has studied carefully the condition and work of his office, and directed his energies with results extremely gratifying to his friends, and useful to the educational public.

He has planned and completed two reports, and is now busy in collecting materials for the preparation of another, and has brought the work of the office substantially up to date.

Nor have his labors lacked public appreciation. The educational men of the country have expressed their approval of his diligence and judgment, while the President and Secretary of the Interior confide implicitly in him, and Columbia College, one of the oldest, wealthiest, and worthiest educational institutions of America, at the centenary anniversary of its foundation, conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters. His associates and co-laborers respect and esteem him as a gentleman and friend, and wise supervisor of their work; strangers find him an impartial, courteous, and obliging respondent to their demands, and his old friends discover no abatement of the honor, loyalty, faith and affection, which endeared him to them before his assumption of these new duties.

Among the many flattering notices of his appointment, *Education*, in noticing his address of March 15th before the Department of Superintendence, makes the following comments:

"It was evident that, in the short time which had elapsed since he assumed the duties of the responsible position of Commissioner, he had acquainted himself with the details of the office work, while the policy which his address foreshadowed, the large, liberal and patriotic spirit which it evinced, afforded his friends a gratifying assurance that his administration would be strong, efficient and fruitful in results. His recognition of the importance of the public-school work of the country may be best expressed in his own words:

"While it may be said that the life of a State and the preservation of its liberties depend upon the courage of the people, it is equally true that a wise administration of its laws and the maintenance of order and happiness rest upon the virtue and intelligence of its citizens. If this proposition is admitted, then it follows that the education of the people becomes one of the highest duties of the State, and no subject is more worthy the consideration of the enlightened statesman.

"The public-school system is the common fountain from which the higher branches of education draw their living waters. You are its chosen guardians, and you should see that no step backward is taken, either in perfecting its excellencies or in extending its usefulness. The time, I trust, is rapidly approaching when its advantages will be offered to all the children of the land, without distinction of race."

"While thus heartily indorsing the common schools of our country, the Commissioner's references to work of a higher grade indicated that discriminating and comprehensive view of the subject which preserves the just relation of all scholastic agencies. It is, indeed, matter of congratulation, that, at a time when suppression of illiteracy has become a problem of serious consideration, the section of the country upon which the burden of illiteracy presses most heavily has given to this representative official position, a statesman who thoroughly comprehends the conditions of the problem. Nor is it less a subject of congratulation, that at a time when higher institutions feel the impulse of a larger and fuller life, the Commissioner is prepared by his training and affiliations, to appreciate the great importance of these institutions, the colleges and universities from which all

the inferior grades must draw their worthiest inspiration."

In conclusion, it may be permitted one who has known him intimately for nearly thirty years, to say that, if to his rare qualities of mind and heart, his exemplary character, his fine judgment, his well-nigh inerring intuition of right, his high sense of honor, his loyalty to friendship—in fact, if to him as he is—had been given more of self-assertion, more of disregard for the consideration and rights of others, he would to day be occupying a position far more commanding than the important and honorable one he now fills with so much grace and dignity. He is yet in the very prime of life, with fine powers, and we hope to see him reflect the confidence of a large circle of appreciative friends from high positions for many long years to come. His talents as a writer, and his ability and eloquence as a speaker are well attested. In fortune, dignity, culture, the strength of his convictions, and the courage and fidelity with which they are maintained, and his unflinching courtesy and politeness, he is a representative of the highest type of American character.

His refined and courteous manners leave their impress on every one with whom he comes in contact, and there is no man in Alabama who more fully enjoys the confidence and respect of the people of the State.



**JOHN TYLER MORGAN**, United States Senator, was born at Athens, Tenn., June 20, 1824. His father was George Morgan, a native of New York State and of Welsh descent. His mother was Frances Irby, of Virginia, and related to the renowned Chancellor Tyler, of that State.

The senior Mr. Morgan was a merchant by occupation. He came to Alabama in 1834; lived a short time at Talladega, going from there to Benton County, now Calhoun. He died in Nashville, Tenn., in 1882, at the advanced age of ninety-four years.

John T. Morgan was educated primarily at an academy near Athens, Tenn. At the age of sixteen years, in the office of the late William P. Chilton, he began the study of law, and was admitted to the bar in 1845. From that time up to 1855 he practiced at Talladega and in the surrounding counties, and in the latter year came

to Selma. In 1858 he removed to Cahaba, and was there at the beginning of the war.

Early in 1861, being then in the service of the State as an aide-de-camp on the staff of General Clements, and holding the rank of major, he resigned and enlisted as a private soldier in Company G, Fifth Alabama Infantry. At the end of about two months he was elected major of that regiment, and after the first battle of Manassas he was made lieutenant-colonel. Being about that time commissioned by the war department to raise a regiment of cavalry, he proceeded to Alabama, and at Oxford, in due season, organized the Fifty-first Cavalry. At the head of this regiment, he was ordered to join Gen. John H. Morgan, but *en route* he met General Forrest, who appropriated him at once to his command. Immediately after the Battle of Murfreesboro, he joined General Lee in Virginia, for the purpose of taking charge of his old brigade, having in the meantime received notice of his promotion to the rank of brigadier-general. Arriving at Richmond, he there learned of the death of Colonel Webb, who had succeeded him as colonel of the Fifty-first, and deeming it his duty to return to the command of that regiment, he resigned his commission as brigadier-general for that purpose. In November, 1863, he was again commissioned brigadier-general of cavalry, and assigned to the brigade of which his regiment was a part. During the winter of 1863-4 he was in command of the division, and operated with Longstreet in East Tennessee, and afterward with the armies of Johnson and Hood. He participated in the battles around Atlanta, and was left by Hood in Georgia and Alabama while that General marched into Tennessee. He finally surrendered at West Point, Miss.

General Morgan also participated in the battles at Manassas, around Nashville, in Forrest's skirmishes, at Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Knoxville, and everywhere proved himself a courageous, gallant, skillful soldier and commander.

At the close of hostilities he returned to Cahaba, and, not being allowed to enter at once into the practice of law, turned his hand to farming. Early in 1866 he opened a law-office in Selma, and immediately stepped into a splendid practice.

He was an elector for the State-at-large on the Breckinridge and Lane ticket in 1860; was a delegate to the Secession Convention, and an earnest supporter of that movement; and was again elector for the State-at-large on the Tilden and Jen-

drick's ticket. He was elected to the United States Senate by the Legislature, session of 1876-7, and re-elected in 1882-3. In that august body he is a most important factor, and stands to-day the recognized peer of any man in the nation. In all important questions he takes a prominent part. He has the faculty of making himself understood, and, without effort, enjoys the respect of his opponents and the love and confidence of his friends.



**EDMUND WINSTON PETTUS**, a distinguished jurist and citizen of Selma, was born in Limestone County, this State, July 6, 1821. His parents, John and Alice Taylor (Winston) Pettus, were natives of Virginia and descendants, respectively, from Welsh and English ancestors.

John Pettus, a planter by occupation, migrated from Virginia to Tennessee, and in Davidson County, that State, met and married Miss Winston. He came to Alabama in 1809, locating first in Madison County, but going soon afterward to Limestone, where he died in 1822, at the age of forty years. His widow died in 1878, at the age of eighty-two years.

E. W. Pettus was educated at the old-field schools and at Clinton College, Smith County, Tenn. He began the study of the law at Tusculumbia, in 1840, with William and L. B. Cooper, and was admitted to the bar in 1841. He began the practice at Gainesville, this State, and remained there until 1848. The gold excitement of 1849 attracted him to California, and he remained there two years. Returning to Alabama, he located at Carrollton and there practiced law until 1858. From Carrollton he moved to Cahaba, and from there, in 1866, came to Selma.

Recurring to an earlier period in General Pettus' life, we find that in 1844, he was elected Solicitor of Sumter County, and that he resigned to go to California. In 1852 he was appointed Solicitor of Pickens County, and held the office two years. In 1855 he was elected Judge of the Seventh Judicial Circuit and resigned before moving to Cahaba.

At the outbreak of the sectional war, Judge Pettus, as he was then known, was appointed commissioner of Alabama to the State of Mississippi. In August, 1861, he entered the army at Cahaba and was made major of the Twentieth Alabama Infantry. He was soon afterward promoted to

lieutenant-colonel and held that rank until the siege of Vicksburg. He first saw actual war in the Kentucky Campaign of 1862, and commanded Gen. Kirby Smith's advance when the enemy were driven into Covington and Cincinnati. During the winter following he was ordered to Mississippi, and there took part in the battles of Port Gibson and Baker's Creek. At Port Gibson he fell into the hands of the enemy, but readily effected an escape, rejoined his command, and with it entered the fated Vicksburg. During the siege of the latter place he was commissioned colonel.

An incident of the siege of Vicksburg, and with which General Pettus was connected, has been many times related in print, and while in the main it has been correctly reported, the real truth as to at least one feature of it appears to have been somewhat overdrawn. It is related that Gen. Stephen D. Lee wished to drive the enemy from a redoubt captured by them in the earlier part of the day, and that Colonel Pettus *proffered* his services for the undertaking, but could find none of his own men, nor any others, in fact, willing to join in the perilous enterprise. However, Waul's Texas Legion did volunteer *en masse*, and forty of them were selected. Led by Colonel Pettus, those brave men easily retook the redoubt without loss, and carried away 100 prisoners and three of the enemy's flags.

The only correction to be made in the narrative is as to Colonel Pettus' *volunteering* for the manifestly hazardous undertaking. In conversation with the writer, General Pettus said: "I did not volunteer my services on that occasion, as has been published. I was peremptorily ordered by General Lee to take the redoubt. Waul's Legion and three gallant Alabamians *did* volunteer, but I, as their commander, was acting in response to *orders*."

In October, 1863, Pettus was promoted to brigadier-general and placed in command of a brigade composed of the Twentieth, Twenty-third, Thirtieth, Thirty-first and Forty-sixth Alabama Regiments, and led that command until its final surrender at Salisbury, N. C.

From first to last General Pettus took an active part in the following engagements: Beginning with the skirmishes around Covington, in which he commanded the advance, he was afterward, and in rapid succession, at Port Gibson, Baker's Creek, siege of Vicksburg, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, where he held

the right under Hardee; Crow's Valley, Dalton, Rocky Face, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, siege of Atlanta, Jonesboro and Columbia, Tenn., where he forced a crossing of the river, and at the head of three regiments charged and captured the enemy's breastworks; both the battles of Nashville; thence by the way of Florence, through Mississippi to South Carolina, where he took part in the battles about Columbia; on to Kingston, and finally at Bentonville, N. C.

At the last-named place he was seriously wounded, which, aside from his capture at Port Hudson, appears to be about the only personal mishap that overtook him. Soon after the cessation of hostilities, General Pettus located at Selma, and resumed the practice of law.

Another publication describes the General as of "imposing personal appearance, a man six feet tall, broad-shouldered, with a large head somewhat leonine in its contour"; and a distinguished citizen of Alabama, in writing of him, says: "In general intercourse he is cordial and genial; at the bar he is diligent and laborious in the prosecution of his causes. His style of speaking is argumentative, clear and convincing. While on the bench he was distinguished for his decision and dispatch of business, and for his clear exposition of the law. As a soldier he was noted for devotion to duty, strictness in enforcing discipline, and promptness in obeying orders. He was always prudent, cool and brave. No officer was more jealous of the welfare of his men, and he was repaid by their respect."

Though approaching in years the allotted three score and ten, General Pettus is apparently but in the prime of life. Blessed with an iron constitution, in the enjoyment of robust health and in the daily exercise of a vigorous and perfect manhood, he is intellectually the peer of the greatest, and promises yet many years of a brilliant and useful citizenship, in a community that honors itself by honoring him.

A brilliant soldier, a great lawyer, an esteemed citizen, an eloquent speaker, a terse and vigorous writer, the biographer places General Pettus in the fore front rank of the greatest men of a State prolific in the production of intellectual genius.



**CHARLES MILLER SHELLEY**, Fourth Auditor of the Treasury Department of the United States,

is a native of Sullivan County, Tenn., and was born December 28, 1833. His father was William P. Shelley, also a native of Tennessee, from which State he came into Alabama in 1837, located at Talladega, and followed building and contracting. He died in 1864, at the age of sixty-four years. Two of his sons, Henry E. and Gen. N. G. Shelley, both of Austin, Tex., are lawyers by profession.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Talladega, and learned the trade of builder under his father. In February, 1861, he enlisted in the Talladega Artillery as a lieutenant. At the reorganization of the artillery, while at Pensacola, during the spring of 1861, he was made captain. In May of that year, the command was sent to Virginia, and there joined Lee's army. In February, 1862, he was made Colonel, placed in command of the Thirtieth Alabama Infantry, and reported to General Stevenson in East Tennessee. After participating in the Kentucky and Tennessee campaigns, he was ordered to Mississippi, and was in Vicksburg when that city fell. After being exchanged he joined Bragg's army at Missionary Ridge. In 1864, he was promoted to brigadier-general and assigned to Cautley's brigade, at the head of which he participated in the battles at Franklin and Nashville. Toward the close of the war he was assigned to a brigade composed of the remnants of various commands and thereafter known as Shelley's brigade. As captain of a company, he was in the advance on the march to Bull Run; he was engaged at Tazewell, Tenn., the bombardment at Cumberland Gap, Chickasaw, Port Gibson, Baker's Creek, Siege of Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, Rocky Face, Resaca, the Georgia campaign, Jonesboro, and at Franklin, Tenn., where he lost 432 men and all his staff officers, and had his own horse killed under him. In the consolidation at Greensboro, N. C., he and General Pettus were the only general officers retained. He was at Danville, Va., when General Lee surrendered. During his stay in Virginia he held the rank of captain, but, as has been seen, he was thereafter promoted to brigadier-general; and in no instance was promotion in response to his own solicitation. In fact it is known that in one case at least he insisted that another than himself should be elevated to the command of the brigade.

General Shelley always shared the perils and hardships of the men under him. He was com-

plimented by Gen. S. D. Lee for gallantry on the battle-field at Baker's Creek; and General Hood said: "that the strategy of General Shelley saved Stewart's corps from capture at Franklin." When the army was concentrating in North Carolina, General Shelley was sent with his brigade to protect the stores at Danville, but, as peace followed soon after, we find that he returned to Alabama, and, on June 15, 1865, was married in Talladega to Miss McConnell, daughter of Hon. Felix G. McConnell. June, 1866, he removed to Selma, where he again took up building as a business, and followed it up to 1874, at which time he was appointed Sheriff of Dallas County. He was elected to the United States Congress in 1876, 1878, 1880 and 1882, and in May, 1885, at the instance of Senator Pugh, was appointed to his present position in the Treasury Department.

It is of history, that the Republicans contested his every election for Congress, and that they succeeded twice in unseating him.

General Shelley is a member of the Masonic fraternity, a Knight of Honor, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Another biographer says of him: "General Shelley is of ordinary stature, and as unpretentious in appearance and bearing as he is sensible and sincere in conduct and language. As a soldier he was faithful, efficient and intrepid, beloved by his men and prized by his superiors."



**JOHN COLEMAN REID.** Attorney-at-law, was born in Tuscaloosa County, this State, December 6, 1824. His father, Thomas Reid, planter, a native of North Carolina, came to Alabama in 1818, lived in Tuscaloosa County many years, removed to Memphis in 1830, and died in 1836 at the age of forty-one years. His wife's maiden name was Mary Coleman, of North Carolina. She died in Memphis in 1833.

The Reids came originally from Ireland, and this particular branch of the Coleman family trace their ancestry to Germany.

The subject of this sketch was educated in Memphis; at the age of nineteen years he began the study of law, and was admitted to the bar at Jackson, Tenn., in 1843. He began the practice at Purdy, Tenn., going thence to Kingston, Ala., where he lived from 1845 to 1851. From Kings-

ton he moved to Prattville, and, later on, to Marion (where he remained seventeen years), coming to Selma in 1851, where he has since made his home. At the head of a company of twenty-eight men, Colonel Reid, in 1856, started on a volunteer expedition to explore the "Gadsden Purchase," the territory now composing Arizona and that part of New Mexico lying west of the Rio Grande River. This expedition lasted ten months. It is written up in graphic style, and was published in 1858, under the title of "Reid's Tramp." Colonel Reid was at that time prominently in politics; was a member of the Legislature and a Fillmore elector, and it was for the purpose of getting out of politics that he conceived the idea of this "tramp."

In April, 1861, he entered the army as first lieutenant of Company A, Eighth Alabama and in October following was commissioned by the Secretary of War to raise a regiment of infantry. This regiment was afterward known as the Twenty-eighth Alabama, and Reid was its lieutenant-colonel until just before the battle of Murfreesboro, when he was promoted to the rank of colonel. In the fall of 1864 General Johnson advanced him to the rank of brigadier-general, and from that time until the close of the war he was in command, in North Alabama, of a part of a cavalry brigade. From first to last General Reid was engaged in many hotly-contested battles. He was on Magruder's expedition across the peninsula of the James and York Rivers, and, as colonel of his regiment, took part in the battles of Murfreesboro and Chickamauga. At the time of the final surrender he was in Alabama, where he had been sent from North Carolina by General Beauregard. After the war he resumed the practice of law at Marion, and in 1871 removed to Selma. He has not been in politics since the days of "Reid's Tramp." He was married at Prattville in 1850, to Mrs. Alice Coughlin. She only lived about eighteen months after their marriage. The general's second marriage took place at Robertson's Springs, where he led to the altar Miss Adelaide O. Reid. She died October 22, 1883. The present Mrs. Reid, to whom the Colonel was married at Selma in February, 1886, was Miss Mary Frances Erwin, second daughter of the late Francis Erwin, Esq., of Dallas County, Ala. While in the army, as was many another good man, Colonel Reid was converted to the Catholic religion.

In the campaign of 1860 he supported Bell and Everett. He was opposed to secession, but, after

the election of Lincoln, he gave the South his unqualified support.

Away back before the war he was a "Know-nothing," and was elected to the State Legislature, as shown. At this writing (1888), he is actively engaged at the practice of law. He is an educated gentleman of the old school, polished in his manner, courteous alike to everybody, modest, retiring, unassuming. He is deserving of the high esteem as a citizen in which he is universally held.

Colonel Reid is a man of marked characteristics. He verifies the truth of the line "the bravest are the tenderest." His comrades in the Twenty-eighth Alabama Infantry, which he commanded, through the hardships and trials of three years campaigning, are certainly good judges of what the man is. Such experiences as the Twenty-eighth Alabama was called upon to pass through while Reid was its colonel, tries a man's soul as gold is tried in the crucible. As to what manner of man Colonel Reid was, there is but one opinion among field and staff of that very splendid regiment. He was as brave a man as ever followed his country's flag, and, at the same time, he was the tenderest and most sympathetic. Many instances might be related to illustrate the eminence of the rare combinations of these noble qualities, but, of course, this brief notice will not admit of reference to but one or two. Colonel Reid had been absent from his command while they were encamped at Murreboro, for about two weeks, and there was not a day during that period that he was not spoken of, and his absence regretted. It was at the time that Rosecrans began his advance. The two or three days' skirmishing occurred before the Colonel's return, and the morning of the third day, when a general advance had been ordered by General Bragg, suddenly Colonel Reid presented himself, and took his place at the head of the line. A "Confederate yell" went up from a thousand throats, and every heart was inspired with a fresh courage. Colonel Reid seemed as much delighted to reach his regiment, and to lead them into the charge, as if he were going to feast and banquet instead of into one of the bloodiest and deadliest conflicts in the history of the world. There seemed to be the intensest joy beaming from his eyes at the thought that he had arrived in time to share the dangers of his gallant and devoted men. History has never done that regiment justice for that day's fighting, but it is a truth, that "in all the tides of time," a more faithful set of men never marched

into battle, and a truer or more courageous man never led men to battle. In the evening of this day, after the Twenty-eighth Regiment had, in response to the very letter of the battle order, "advanced, turning on their right as on a pivot," until they occupied a line at right angle to their original position, Colonel Reid, while sitting upon his horse, received a severe wound. A minie ball struck the pommel of his saddle and glanced through his thigh. The writer of this was standing near enough to hear the peculiar thud of the ball, and looked at once to see its effects, but not an expression of pain escaped Colonel Reid's lips. A spasmodic twinge of the muscles of the face was the only expression, and the Colonel, as immovable as ever, sat facing the foe. It was not until evening—until after the fight was all over—that the Colonel took time to examine his wound.

Through every battle and skirmish to the close, the same kindness and affectionate tenderness for his men in camp and on the march, and the same invincible coolness in battle, characterized Colonel Reid in an eminent degree.



**JOHN WHITE**, prominent Attorney-at-law, Selma, was born at Courtland, Ala., on the 14th of April, 1829. His parents were John and Abigail (Dickinson) White, natives of Virginia and Maryland, and of English and Welsh extraction respectively.

The senior Mr. White, a lawyer by profession, removed from Virginia to Tennessee, and from there to Northern Alabama in 1814. He lived at Courtland until 1835, when he removed into Talladega county, where he died in 1842 at the age of fifty-eight years. Being elected Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, on December 27, 1825, his position on the *visi prout* bench, under the then existing law, constituted him a member of the Supreme Court. As Judge of the Fourth Circuit, he presided over the first court ever convened in Sumter County. He reared three sons to manhood, to-wit: Alexander, who was a member to the United States Congress from the Talladega district in 1851, and Robert W., a physician. Both these gentlemen now reside in Texas. The third is the subject of this sketch. Of the two daughters of the senior White, one

married Joseph J. Baldwin, the celebrated author of "Flush Times in Alabama and Mississippi," and "Party Leaders." Mr. Baldwin afterward removed to California, where he became a member of the State Supreme Court, and died there during the late war. The other daughter married Samuel H. Dixon; both she and her husband are dead.

John White, whose name stands at the head of this sketch, was educated at Talladega, began reading law in the office of his brother and L. E. Parsons in 1848, and was admitted to the bar in 1849. He removed to Cahaba in 1858, and to Selma after the war. March 3, 1862, he entered the army at Cahaba, as a private in Company F, Fifth Alabama Regiment, and served with that command about three months, when he was promoted to captain and made quartermaster of the regiment. July 4, 1863, he was captured on the retreat from Gettysburg, and taken to Johnson's Island, where he was detained until March 13, 1865. He arrived at Selma on April 1st, and found Wilson's Cavalry in possession of the town.

Captain White was a soldier in the Mexican War—a member of the First Alabama Regiment.

After the close of the war between the States, Captain White settled down to the practice of law, and to this he has since given his time and his talents. He is also largely interested in agriculture, but under the peculiar system prevailing in the agricultural districts in Dallas County, and other parts of the State as well, it appears that about the only men that make money in farming are those that do nothing at it. In other words, the man who furnishes the provisions and the supplies to the agriculturist, is the man, who, if he does not reap the harvest, "gathers it in." A history of the methods practiced by the "supply men" so extensively in Central and Southern Alabama, would open the eyes of Jay Gould to new methods of "squeezing," that, for elaboration in detail, and completeness in the appropriation of the products of others, would make him green with envy.

Captain White was married first in Talladega to Miss Mary J. Finley in 1849. She died in 1874, leaving one son and two daughters, viz.: John Finley White, attorney, Selma; Mrs. George H. Craig, and Mrs. Charles Heidt. His second marriage occurred at Greensboro, this State, in December, 1877, when he led to the altar Mrs. S. A. Nelson, *née* Waller, of that town.

Captain White is a public-spirited, highly-pro-

gressive man; is an advocate of modern methods and modern enterprise as opposed to "mossbackism" and antiquated ideas. He is one of the directors of the Dallas Academy; in fact he is one of the originators of that school, and, with others, labored successfully for a share of the Peabody Fund. This is now one of the best schools in the State, and the people recognize the fact that Captain White is entitled to much credit therefor.

The Captain is a member of the Masonic fraternity and a communicant of the Episcopal Church.



**JOURDAN CHAPPELL COMPTON**, Attorney-at-law, Selma, and the present Senator from Dallas County in the General Assembly of Alabama, is the eldest son of P. M. Compton, who was for many years the surveyor-general of the State of Georgia, and who now is a successful and prosperous business man at Milledgeville. He was born forty-five years ago, at Jackson, in Butts County, Ga., and was removed in his infancy with his family to Milledgeville, at the time his father was elected to the office of surveyor-general by the Legislature of that State, in 1842. His family is of English extraction, and came to America and settled in Maryland in its colonial days; from thence to Virginia, Georgia and other Southern States. His mother was a Miss Lydia R. Devereux, and her mother a Harrison, from the well-known family of that name in Virginia. His paternal grandfather removed from Dinwiddie County, Va., to Jasper County, that State, in 1806. He has two brothers living, one of whom, Lyman H. Compton, is engaged in business with his father, and the other, Dr. Guy D. Compton, is a surgeon on one of the steamers of the Pacific Mail Steam Ship Company at San Francisco, Cal. He was educated at Oglethorpe University, in Georgia, and at the Classical and Mathematical School of Benjamin Hallowell & Sons, at Alexandria, Va., the celebrated Quaker School, and one of the best known in the United States at that time. While engaged in the study of the law, he enlisted as a private in Company H, Fourth Regiment Georgia Volunteers, in 1861, which regiment was the first to reach Virginia from that State. This regiment was sent to Portsmouth, Va., to protect the navy yard and other property there not destroyed by

the Federal forces in their hastened departure from that city. The fires started by the Federalists on the navy yard were still burning when the regiment reached it. He served with this regiment at Norfolk, and at Richmond until after the series of battles around Richmond in 1862, when he was commissioned in the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, and ordered to Chattanooga, Tenn., for duty. Arriving at Chattanooga at the time General Bragg was about to move his army into Kentucky, he was assigned to duty on the staff of Maj.-Gen. Henry Heth, who commanded a division in that army, and he served on that General's staff during General Bragg's Kentucky campaign. After the return of that army to Tennessee he accompanied General Stevenson's division from Murfreesboro, Tenn., to Vicksburg, Miss., arriving there with it too late to take part in the defeat of General Sherman's army at Chickasaw Bayou in its attempt to capture Vicksburg. In January, 1863, he went before the board of officers at Jackson, Miss., organized in Richmond, with Col. LeRoy Brown as its president, for examination for appointment to the artillery and ordnance service, and was one of the three chosen by the board from a large number of applicants for such duty, and was commissioned a lieutenant of artillery and assigned to duty at Vicksburg. During the siege of that city by General Grant's army he was the officer in personal charge of the ordnance depot of the besieged army, a place of great responsibility and peril. After the capitulation of General Pemberton's besieged army, and his exchange, he was ordered to duty under Col. James M. Kennort, chief of ordnance of Gen. Joseph E. Johnson's army at Meridian, Miss., and in January, 1864, he was ordered by Gen. J. Gargas, the chief of ordnance at Richmond, to the Selma Arsenal. During that year he was twice assigned to duty by Gen. Joseph E. Johnson—once as chief ordnance officer on the staff of Major-General Walthall, and again to the same position on the staff of Major-General French; both of these assignments were countermanded by the Secretary of War, and by his order he was continued on duty at the Selma Arsenal as second officer in command to Col. J. L. White and afterward under Colonel Moore, its respective commanders.

He participated in all the engagements in Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi in which his respective commands were engaged,

and surrendered with the Confederate forces at Meridian, Miss., in May, 1865.

He married at Selma, Ala., in April, 1865, Miss Ada Norris, the eldest daughter of Mr. William J. Norris, president of the Commercial Bank of Alabama at that place, made Selma his home, and began the practice of law, having been admitted to the bar in Georgia, by the Superior Court before entering the army. He was admitted to the bar in Alabama, by the Supreme Court of the State in June, 1869.

He has always been an active member of the Democratic party, and has served as the chairman of its Congressional Committee, in his district and its county committee, and is now the chairman of the county committee.

In 1884 he was chosen by the Democratic State Convention a delegate from the Fourth Congressional District to the National Democratic Convention, held in Chicago, which nominated President Grover Cleveland, and served in that position. In 1886 he was, by acclamation, unanimously nominated by the county convention of his party for State Senator from Dallas County, and was elected without opposition. He served his first term in the winter of 1886, in the State Senate, as chairman of the Committee on Local Legislation and as a member of the Judiciary Committee and the Committees on Privileges and Elections and the Revision of the Journal. He took an active part in all the legislation of that session, speaking only a few times, and then briefly, but successfully, for or against the measures he advocated or opposed.

He has devoted himself to his profession, and has a lucrative practice.



**JONATHAN HARALSON**, Judge of the City Court of Selma, was born and reared in Lowndes County, and his parents were William B. and T. M. (Dunklin) Haralson, natives of the States of Georgia and South Carolina, and descended, respectively, from English and Irish ancestry.

The senior Mr. Haralson was among the very first settlers of Lowndes County, and assisted in laying off and locating that county's seat. He was a wealthy planter, and died in 1879, at the age of eighty years. The Haralson family in Georgia number among them some of the best people of







Samuel Hill Johnson.  
(

that State. The present governor of Georgia (General J. B. Gordon) married a daughter of General Haralson and a cousin of the subject of this sketch. So did the Hon. Logan E. Bleckley, the present Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of that State.

Jonathan Haralson was educated at the University of Alabama and was graduated therefrom as A. B. in 1851. In 1853, he was graduated by the Law Department of the University of Louisiana in the degree of LL. B., and began the practice at once, in Selma. He gave his time and talents to the practice of law until 1856 when he was appointed by Governor Houston to the City Judgeship. He was re-appointed to that office by Governor Cobb in 1882, and again by Governor Seay in 1888.

As a lawyer, Judge Haralson ranks among the foremost in the State, and as Judge, his character and reputation are as spotless as snow. He is the educated, polished, courteous gentleman at all times; actively interested in the cause of education and consistent alike in pretense and practice.

He was for many years trustee of Howard College; is at present a trustee of Dallas Academy; has been continuously president of the Alabama Baptist Convention since 1874, and is one of the trustees of the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn. He is one of the directors of the Commercial Bank of Selma, and its vice-president, and is largely interested in agriculture.

Judge Haralson was first married near Columbus, Ga., in 1858, to a daughter of the late John W. Thompson, of that place. She died in 1867, in Paris, France, whither she had accompanied her husband the previous year. He was married a second time at Selma in May, 1868, to Miss Lida J. McFadden, a daughter of the late Robert H. McFadden, of Greensboro, Ala.



**PLEASANT GREEN WOOD** was born near Centerville, in Bibb County, Ala., January 31, 1832. When about six years of age he removed, with his mother to Cahaba, where he received such education as the common schools of that day could furnish. During his leisure hours, while attending school, he devoted himself to the study of telegraphy, and after having become proficient in that art, was given charge of the company's office at Cahaba. He remained in this position

about two years, when he was given a "sit" on the *Dallas Gazette*, a paper then published at Cahaba.

In 1852 he began the study of law in the office of Messrs. Dawson & Pegues, and was admitted to the bar in 1854. He then devoted himself to the practice of his profession till the commencement of the civil war, at which time he enlisted in the Twenty-eighth Alabama Infantry, and was made first lieutenant of Company I. He served during the entire war with this regiment, and at the close of hostilities held the rank of lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, having been three times promoted on the field for bravery. Immediately after the surrender of the Confederate armies, he returned to his home and resumed the practice of law. In 1866 he was elected Judge of the City Court, and resigned immediately after the passage of the Reconstruction Act.

Retiring from the bench, Judge Wood, at Selma, resumed practice at the bar.

In 1877 he was appointed by Gov. George S. Houston to the Probate Judgeship of Dallas County; in 1880 he was elected to that office by the people of his county, and in 1886, was re-elected; each time without opposition.

The subject of this sketch has been, since boyhood, a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is the present president of the Board of Trustees of the Methodist Church in Selma, and also of the Board of Trustees of the Southern University,—the only male institution of learning endowed and sustained by the Methodist Church in Alabama.

Judge Wood has been twice married, having wedded Miss Kate Webb, of Greene County, N. Y., on the seventh day of February, 1856, and after her death in 1874, he married Miss Julia V. Roach, of Charleston, S. C., on the fifth day of August, 1875.

He has been for many years one of the directors of the Commercial Bank of Selma.



**SAMUEL W. JOHN**, Attorney-at-law, Selma, was born at Uniontown, Perry Co., this State, June 29, 1845, and is a son of the Hon. Joseph R. John. He was graduated from the University of Alabama in 1865, and was admitted to the bar in June, 1866. He entered the army during the first

year of the late war, as a private in Company F, Third Regiment of Alabama Cavalry, and on the expiration of his term of enlistment left the service, on account of his youth, and returned to school. Ever since his admission to the bar he has been regularly at the practice, and it is proper to state that he occupies a high rank in the profession.

Mr. John was solicitor of Dallas County in 1871 and 1872, and has been in the Legislature continuously since 1882. In the Legislature he is one of the most active members, and many of the most salutary laws are to be credited to his efforts. In the reformation of the convict system he took a leading part; he was the author of the law of increasing the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace of Dallas County; also of the law prohibiting the system of "rebates," and the Dallas Jury Law, which insures the best juries possible; and many other similar statutes are due almost entirely to his wisdom. One of the most important changes in the old laws of Alabama, that of the Rights of Married Women, is to be credited to Mr. John. In the last session of the Legislature he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the most honorable committee of the lower house. He was also chairman of the Committee on the Codification of the Alabama Laws, and the author of the law providing for the establishment of an Experiment Station at Uniontown. He was one of the organizers of the State Agricultural Society, of which he is now a life member.

Mr. John is also the author of the law making gambling a felony in this State. In April, 1885, he organized the Third Regiment of State troops of which he is, and has been since its organization, the colonel. The present popular military laws of the State are almost entirely due to the efforts of Colonel John and Col. Thomas G. Jones of Montgomery. The law providing for the indictment of corporations, and requiring judges to fix the amount of bail as soon as an indictment is found, are due to his genius, as well as the law amending the school fund statute, providing that the money shall be paid into the State Treasury, instead of distributed as heretofore. He was the author of the law providing for an expert examiner of public officers' accounts. Thus it will be seen that Alabama has probably never had a more industrious legislator than Colonel John. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Honor, Ancient Order United Workmen and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

As a speaker Colonel John is ranked among the foremost of the State, and as a writer he is fluent, polished, logical and readable. The history of Selma, as found in this volume, was written by Mr. John, and is one of the most elegantly prepared chapters in the book.



**JOHN FINLEY WHITE.** Attorney-at-law, Selma, was born at Talladega, this State, March 3, 1851, and is the eldest son of Capt. John White.

He was educated at Cahaba—Stonewall Institute—and the Virginia Military Institute, from which latter school he was graduated in 1871. During 1871, 1872, and part of 1873, he was clerking in a mercantile establishment in New Orleans, and, at the age of twenty-four years, in the office with his father, began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1874, and has since that time been regularly in the practice. The firm of which he is now a member, White & White, is composed of himself and Capt. John White, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume.

John F. White, with the rank of colonel, was Governor Cobb's adjutant-general during both that gentleman's terms of office, and was by Governor O'Neal appointed brigadier-general of militia. He was appointed city attorney for the city of Selma in 1880, and has been since regularly continued in that office. He was a member of the Legislature, session of 1884-5, and there bore himself in a manner in full keeping with his exalted character and reputation.

Colonel White is a good lawyer, a shrewd politician, an eloquent speaker, and a gentleman of high repute. He is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of the Knights of Honor, and a communicant of the Episcopal Church.

While in the Legislature, Colonel White served on the Committee on Corporations, Committees on Public Buildings and Institutions, Accounts and Claims, Military, and was the author of the bill to protect and encourage industries in the State, and the law providing against strikes.

He was married October, 1875, in Clark County, this State, to Miss Alice C. Jackson, who died in November, 1879. The present Mrs. White, *nee* Miss Sadie Waller Nelson, is a daughter of the late A. S. Nelson, of Greensboro.

**T. B. ROY**, attorney-at-law, Selma, was born October 12, 1838, near Front Royal, Warren County, Va., and is the son of honorable parentage, tracing their ancestry back to the early settlers of the Old Dominion, and among whom have been men distinguished in both Church and State.

April 18, 1861, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company B, Seventeenth Virginia Infantry, and was subsequently promoted successively to captain, major and lieutenant-colonel in the Adjutant-General's Department, Confederate States of America. In April, 1862, he was appointed adjutant-general and chief of staff to Lieutenant-General Hardee, and held that position to the close of the war.

Colonel Roy participated in the battles of Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Missionary Ridge, the Dalton and Atlanta campaign, the battles of Atlanta, siege of Savannah, the battles of Ayresboro and Bentonville, N. C. He was in active service from April 18th, 1861, to Johnson's surrender at Greensboro, N. C., April, 1865.

Having been educated for the bar, at the close of hostilities, Colonel Roy settled down to the practice of law. He came to Selma in 1867, and soon afterward became a member of the firm known for five years as Brooks, Haralson & Roy. After the retirement of Judge Haralson, the firm of Brooks & Roy continued for ten years. Judge Brooks having removed to Birmingham, Colonel Roy is at this time unassociated in the practice. He is recognized as a polished, scholarly gentleman, standing high in the legal profession, and in the esteem of all those who claim his acquaintance. He is one of the directors of the Commercial Bank of Selma.

Colonel Roy was married, April 18, 1871, to Miss Sallie Hardee. He is a communicant of the Episcopal Church, and has been vestryman of St. Paul's Church, Selma, for seventeen years.



**JOSEPH REED JOHN**, a retired lawyer of some distinction, was born at Mecklenburg, N. C., March 16, 1814. His father was Abel John, of that State, and his mother's family name was Reed.

The John family came originally from Wales, and this particular branch of the Reeds was Scotch-Irish. The Johns settled first in Penn-

sylvania, removing thence into South Carolina, and later on into the North State, whence, as has been seen, they came into Alabama.

Joseph R. John was educated at the common and high schools of his native State; visited Alabama in 1836, and the following year located at Uniontown. Here he began the study of law with Col. C. W. Lee, and was admitted to the bar in 1839. From the time of his coming to the bar up to 1856, he practiced law at Uniontown. In January, of the latter year, he came to Selma, where he has since resided. While a resident of Perry County he held the office for a time of Justice of the Peace, and in 1847 represented that county in the Legislature. In 1862 he was Mayor of Selma, and in 1863 was appointed Chancellor of the Middle Division, which office he was holding at the time of the overthrow of the State Government by the Federals in 1865. Since that time Mr. John has neither sought nor held any political office. He devoted his time to the practice of law until 1883.

Another biographer says of him: "Chancellor John is a profound lawyer, and a citizen of the highest moral and social standing."

Mr. John has always been more or less identified with the very best interests of education. The excellent school system of Uniontown is due to his efforts, and the Dallas Academy, of which he was many years a trustee, is probably the result of his labors. He was one of the original organizers of the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia Railway (then the East & West Alabama), and as attorney, procured its right of way, its charter, and the subsequent appropriations to its construction. During the war his sympathies were with the South, and it was under his direction that the fortifications at Selma were constructed. He was appointed receiver by the court to take and care for the property of Northern people sequestered here during the conflict, and in that capacity became for a time the trustee of immense sums in money and valuables.

Chancellor John has always taken an active part in politics and has been one of the most persistent and effective workers in the Democratic party. He is also equally interested in the cause of temperance, to which he has given much of his time. At this writing he has completely retired from active labor, and is spending the declining years of his life in absolute quietude at his beautiful residence in the city of Selma.

He was married at Mecklenburg, N. C., in 1837, to Miss Jane Smith, of that place, and has had born to him five sons and two daughters.



**GASTON ALEXANDER ROBBINS** is prominent among the representative men of Alabama. He was born September 26, 1859, and is the son of the late Capt. Julius A. Robbins.

Captain Robbins, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of North Carolina, and a graduate of the University of that State. He married Miss Alford, of Eastern Carolina, a lineal descendant of Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, and removed to Selma, Ala., where he commenced the practice of law. Soon afterward, Alabama seceded from the Union, and he was one of the first to answer the call for volunteers. After spending four years in active service, he was killed, just before the surrender, at Mt. Sterling, Ky., while leading a cavalry charge, made by a division of the brigade of Gen. John H. Morgan.

His company was composed of citizens from Dallas County, and of Jones Valley, in the vicinity of Birmingham. The valor of the "Robbins boys" is well-known to the soldiery of the State, and particularly to the remnant of the Fourth Alabama Regiment. Four of the six brothers were killed in their country's service.

Gaston A. Robbins is the only male representative of the family now living in Alabama. He graduated at Chapel Hill, the University of North Carolina, in 1879. The Supreme Court of that State granted him license to practice law, when he immediately returned to his home and began the practice of his chosen profession.

In 1881, Mr. Robbins became the editor of the *Southern Argus*, published in Selma. This paper was for some years successfully conducted by him and finally sold to the Times Publishing Company, and, by consolidation, became the *Times Argus*.

He was elected by the Democratic State Convention of 1884, the Presidential elector for the Fourth Congressional District. (The Democratic electors of Alabama were elected by a hundred thousand majority). He therefore had the privilege of voting for the first Democratic president after the war.

Mr. Robbins has applied himself closely to the practice of the legal profession, and with a distinguished degree of success.

**FRANCIS F. PETTUS**, Attorney-at-law, Selma, son of Gen. E. W. Pettus, is a graduate of Davidson (N. C.) College; read law with his father, and was admitted to the bar in 1879. Since that date, with the exception of the years 1881-84, spent as secretary of the Supreme Court, he has devoted his time to the profession, and attained enviable rank therein. He was elected to the Legislature in 1886, and, as a member of the Judiciary Committee and of the Committee on Ways and Means, performed much valuable service.

Mr. Pettus is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Presbyterian Church. He was married at Selma, in 1880, to Miss Mary Knox, daughter of the late William S. Knox, Esq.



**GEORGE H. CRAIG**, son of James D. and Elvira S. (Berry) Craig, natives of South Carolina and Mississippi, and descendants of Scotch-Irish and English ancestry, respectively, was born at Cahaba, December 25, 1845.

The senior Mr. Craig was a lawyer by profession and held office many years under the old *regime* as Clerk of the County Court of Dallas County. He removed to California in 1874, and was there filling the office of Master and Examiner in Chancery at the time of his death, which occurred at San Francisco in February, 1882. He was eighty-three years of age.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the University of Alabama, and at the age of sixteen years, entered the army as a lieutenant of Company C, Alabama Corps Cadets, and was in the service about twelve months.

He began the study of law in 1865 in the office of White & Portiss, and was admitted to the bar December 27, 1866. Of the firm of White, Portiss & Craig, he practiced law until February 1867, when he was elected by the Board of Commissioners to the office of County Solicitor. It may be remarked, however, that Federal General Pope never allowed him to discharge the duties of the office. In 1868, the Governor appointed him Sheriff of Dallas County, and he held that office one year. He was but twenty-four years of age when elected Judge of the Criminal Court of Dallas County, and was but twenty-eight years of age when Governor Lewis appointed him Circuit Judge to fill out an unexpired term. At the expiration of this appointment he was elected Judge

of the Circuit, held the office one term, six years, and declined re-election, to resume the practice of law. In 1882, he was the Republican candidate for Congress, nominally defeated at the polls, but given his seat after a contest. At the expiration of his term in Congress, he was appointed by President Arthur as United States Attorney for the Northern and Middle Districts of Alabama, and held that office until July, 1885. Since retiring from office he has devoted his time to the law, and is at this writing senior member of the firm of Craig & Craig, one of the leading law firms of Selma.

He was married at Selma, April 15, 1868, to Miss Alvina White, the accomplished daughter of Capt. John White, and has had born to him five children—three sons and two daughters.



**FRANK BOYKIN, JR.**, Tax Collector for Dallas County, son of Frank Boykin, native of South Carolina, was born in this county, March 3, 1842. He was attending the University of Virginia at the outbreak of the late war, and left that institution to enter the army in April, 1861. In Wilcox County, where the family was then residing, he joined the Alabama Mounted Rifles as a private, but served only a few months, ill-health necessitating his discharge. After a few months at home, having in a degree regained his health, he joined the Second Alabama Cavalry, and at the organization of that regiment in the spring of 1862, was made sergeant-major. In the spring of 1863, while campaigning in Northern Georgia, he was promoted to lieutenant for gallantry on the battle-field. The promotion was in compliance with an Act of Congress and an order of the War Department—the order setting forth, among other things, that the commission was issued in consideration of "Particular skill and valor upon every battle-field upon which he (Frank Boykin) was engaged."

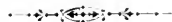
Lieutenant Boykin was assigned to the staff of Colonel Earle, with the rank of regimental adjutant, and was with Earle, who was afterward a brigadier-general, until the death of the latter, which occurred late in 1864. After the death of General Earle, Lieutenant Boykin was assigned to the staff of General Ferguson, and with him surrendered at Washington, Ga., to which point they had escorted President Davis from South Carolina,

(Lieutenant Boykin, under special orders from General Ferguson, had escorted John C. Breckinridge, Secretary of War, to Washington, Ga.)

While in the service, he participated in all the cavalry engagements from Resaca to Savannah. At the close of the war, he returned to Alabama, and in Dallas County, took charge of his father's plantations, and gave his attention to cotton raising until 1880. In 1878, he was the unanimous choice of the Democratic Convention for representative to the Legislature, and was one of the first members returned as a Democrat from this county after the war. He was elected Tax Collector in 1882 and re-elected in 1884.

Captain Boykin has been rather active in politics ever since 1878, and was chairman of the delegation in the interest of Colonel N. H. Dawson (campaign of 1886), for Governor, and managed the interests of his candidate with commendable skill. During the days of Republican rule, he was one of the most active and persistent Democratic workers, and distinguished himself as a member of the "Lightning Committee."

He was married in Dallas County, 1865, to a daughter of the late Burwell Boykin, Esq., and has had born to him two sons and a daughter; the former a graduate of Auburn. The family are communicants of the Episcopal Church.



**BENJAMIN H. CRAIG**, Attorney-at-law, and Register in Chancery, Selma, was born at Cahaba, April 27, 1835, and is a son of James D. Craig, a native of South Carolina, and of Irish descent.

The Craigs were among the first settlers in Dallas County, and many relatives of the family now reside here.

B. H. Craig was educated at Oglethorpe College, Milledgeville, Ga., and graduated therefrom in 1856. Immediately after leaving college he began reading law at Cahaba with Gayle & Williams, and was admitted to the bar in 1857. He was in the practice when the war broke out, and in the spring of 1862 went into the service as quartermaster-sergeant, being promoted sometime afterward to the rank of quartermaster in the Forty-second Alabama. After the surrender of Vicksburg he left the service on account of ill-health. His wife was visiting him when Grant's

Army invested Vicksburg, thus she became a prisoner with him during that memorable siege.

He was appointed Register in Chancery by Judge Byrd in 1866, and has held the office continuously since that time. With the exception of John F. Conly, who became a Republican, Captain Craig was the only officer retained during the period of Reconstruction, and when the new Constitution went into effect he was the only Democrat in office in the State. January, 1887, he formed a law partnership with his brother, the Hon. George H. Craig.

Captain Craig was married at Milledgeville, Ga., in December, 1856, to a Miss Tucker. She died at Selma in December, 1868, leaving two sons and two daughters. The eldest son, James H., is now a banker in Butte County, Neb. The daughters are married. One is a Mrs. H. M. Tanner, and the other Mrs. R. B. McAlpine. The Captain's second marriage occurred at Selma in 1870 to Miss Weedon. She died in May, 1884. The present Mrs. Craig was a Miss Barr, of Jackson, Miss. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**REV. THOMAS W. HOOPER, D. D.**, Pastor in charge of the First Presbyterian Church, of Selma; Trustee of Hampden-Sidney College, Virginia; Director in the Columbia Theological Seminary, South Carolina; Member of the Executive Committee, Colored Theological Institute, and of the Executive Committee of the Orphans' Home, Tuskegee, Ala., is a native of Hanover County, Va., and was born November 2, 1832. His father was Joseph Hooper, a native of Virginia, and a descendant from the Hoopers, one of whom, William, was a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Joseph Hooper was a farmer, mill owner and lumber manufacturer in his day. He died in Hanover County, Va., in 1852, at the age of forty-five years. His wife, before marriage, was Miss Haw, of Virginia, and a descendant probably from Irish parentage. She died in Richmond, Va., in 1881, at the age of seventy-three years.

The subject of this sketch was educated primarily in Hanover County, and graduated from Hampden-Sidney College as A. B. in 1855, with the first honors of his class. From Hampden-Sidney, he went to the Union Theological Sem-

inary of New York, and from there returned to Union Seminary, Va., completed a theological course, and was licensed to preach in 1857. In 1858, he was ordained at Pole Green, and was installed pastor of Pole Green and Salem Churches, where he preached five years. From Hanover he went to Liberty, Va., as pastor and chaplain of the hospital, and remained until the close of the war. He was next at Christiansburg five years; thence to Lynchburg, where he was in charge of the Second Presbyterian Church up to the time of his coming to Selma and to his present charge (1876). In 1873, he visited Europe on a pleasure trip, taking in the World's Fair at Vienna, and in 1884 he was a delegate to the Presbyterian Alliance which met at Belfast, Ireland. While abroad, his letters (published) under the caption of a "Memphian's View of Europe" attracted a great deal of attention, and showed him to be a man of versatile literary attainment. He was instrumental in the compilation and publication of a popular book of family worship; his sermons and addresses have been published, and his monograph, "Our Pastor's View of the People, as Seen by Himself," and his lectures on his travels of 1873, delivered for benevolent purposes, are all replete with interest and disclose much originality of thought. The title of D. D. was conferred upon him in 1876 by Roanoke College, Salem, Va.

Dr. Hooper was married at Liberty, Va., January 18, 1860, to Miss Lettie W. Johnson, daughter of James F. Johnson, Esq., a prominent lawyer and politician of that place, and has living four sons and two daughters. He buried two infants, and a little girl at the age of ten years. One of his sons is a student at Hampden-Sidney College, one is a book-keeper, and the third is in mercantile business.

The Doctor is a Knight Templar Mason, and a Knight of Honor.



**HAMILTON C. GRAHAM**, Editor-in-chief of the Selma *Times*, a daily morning Democratic paper of a large and growing circulation, was born in Warren County, N. C., July 20, 1840. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, which institution conferred upon him the degrees of A. B. and A. M. Before entering Chapel Hill, he spent three years at Trinity Col-







*James H. Smith*  
*1871*

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lege, Hartford, Conn. He left the University of North Carolina to enter the army, and became a member of Ramseur's Artillery as a private. At the end of four months, he was promoted to lieutenant, and assigned to the Twenty-second North Carolina Infantry. At the end of twelve months, he was transferred to the Seventh North Carolina Infantry. He was wounded at the battle of Gaines' Mill, and promoted captain of his company. Afterward he was assigned to General Breckinridge's staff in Southwest Virginia as judge-advocate of that department. He remained in that position to the close of the war, at which time he came to Dallas County, and engaged at planting. In 1876, Governor Houston appointed him Clerk of the Circuit Court, a position he held four years. In 1884, he represented Dallas County in the Legislature, and in November, 1886, identified himself with the *Times*.

He is a public speaker of rare force and ability, and as a newspaper man, he ranks among the foremost of the State.

At New Berne, N. C., in 1885, he delivered the address at the unveiling of the Confederate monument, in response to a special invitation of the ladies of that city.

Captain Graham was married, in Dallas County, July, 1886, to Miss Mary J. Moseley, daughter of L. B. Moseley, Esq.



**ALEXANDER WILLIAMSON JONES** was born November 3, 1840, in Somerville, Fayette County, Tenn. His father, the late Honorable Calvin Jones, Chancellor of the Northern District of Tennessee for a period of eight years, was a North Carolinian of English extraction, and was educated at Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina, receiving the first honors in a large class. His mother, Mildred Williamson, also of North Carolina, was of Scotch parentage, she being of the first generation in the United States. His father, after retiring from the Bench, continued in the active practice of law until his last illness. He died on the 8th of March, 1868, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His mother is still living at the family residence, near Somerville, Tenn., in her seventy-first year.

Alexander W. Jones received his preparatory education in the schools of his native county, and afterward a classical education at West Tennessee

College, located at Jackson. Selecting medicine as his profession, he prepared himself under the guidance of Dr. A. J. Peebles, of Somerville, Tenn., then attended the usual course of lectures, at the University of Pennsylvania, completing the same in the spring of 1861. Returning to his home immediately after the Southern States had commenced to withdraw from the Union, he early enlisted in the volunteer troops of Tennessee as private in the Dixie Rifles, Thirtieth Tennessee Infantry, then stationed at Randolph, Tenn., on the Mississippi River. He remained with his regiment until some time after it had moved to New Madrid, Mo. While there he was appointed to a position in the medical department, State Troops, and afterward, when mustered into the Confederate service, was appointed assistant surgeon and ordered before the Confederate States Examining Board of Surgeons, composed of Doctors Ross, Miller and Hall, at Mobile, Ala. Passing the examination with credit, he was ordered back to duty at the Confederate States Hospitals at Lauderdale Springs, Miss., where he had been on duty since the battle of Shiloh; remaining at this point until 1862, he was ordered to Port Hudson, La. While at that place, early in 1863, he was again examined by the Confederate States Examining Board, composed of Drs. O. B. Knobe, J. F. Fauntleroy and George Maughs, easily passing his examination for surgeon. Before the surrender of Port Hudson, he was ordered back to Jackson, Miss., and then to Lauderdale Springs, (after Vicksburg had fallen); remaining there until November 1863. Then orders came for Surgeon Jones to report to Gen. Stephen D. Lee, in command of the district of North Mississippi. Reporting promptly to this officer, then with his command at New Albany, Miss., Surgeon Jones, was, at the request of General Forrest, who was present, assigned to his (Forrest's) command.

At that time General Forrest had orders to proceed to West Tennessee, and organize for his special command a cavalry force to consist of one or more brigades, having as a nucleus for his operations one battalion of cavalry and one four-gun battery. Crossing the Memphis & Charleston Railroad, under the escort of Stephen D. Lee's cavalry, driving off the Federal troops guarding that road, he with his battalion and battery, rendezvoused at Jackson, Tenn., and there opened a recruiting camp for volunteers and conscripts, and, sending for Surgeon Jones, ordered him to

organize a medical examining board for conscripts, of which he was to be president, instructing him not to allow anyone excused who could stand ninety days' service. Under this stern and positive order, but few were excused from military duty, and the result was that Forrest soon had a large number of unarmcd men, which he carried through the enemy's lines successfully, had them equipped and armed, and, with this command, made himself still more distinguished by his numerous battles and victories, prominent among which are Fort Pillow, Tishomingo Creek and Athens, Ala., capturing at the last named place more prisoners than he had soldiers, by the surrender of Campbell, the Federal commander at that point.

From the time of Surgeon Jones' assignment to General Forrest's command, November, 1863, until the surrender of that command at Gainesville, Ala., May 5, 1865, when he was paroled, he served on Forrest's staff; was with him in every battle he fought, and by his side most of the time during the engagements, waiving the protection thrown around the medical department. He wore the usual arms of staff officers, and used them effectively as occasion presented. A notable instance was when he came to General Forrest's aid a few miles above Plantersville, Ala., during General Wilson's raid, in the spring of 1865, when Forrest was surrounded by six Federal cavalry soldiers, and materially assisted his commander by disposing of two of his assailants, while Col. M. G. Galloway, also an aide on his staff, helped the General care for the others.

Surgeon Jones had the privilege of having his clothes and horses shot occasionally, but never the honor of a flesh wound.

After the war was over, Dr. Jones, remembering the dark-eyed witchery of a girl he saw in one of his campaigns, returned to Alabama, wooed and won her, one of Alabama's fairest daughters, Miss Augusta Carlisle, only daughter of E. K. and Lucy W. Carlisle, and they were married on the 30th of January, 1866, at the family residence, near Marion, Ala. Returning with his fair bride to his native Tennessee, he lived there until 1870, when he formed a copartnership with E. K. Carlisle, of the firm of Carlisle & Humphries, of Mobile, Ala., and opened a commission house in Selma, under the firm name of Carlisle & Jones. In 1872 E. K. Carlisle, Jr., was admitted to the firm, the name of which was changed to

Carlisle, Jones & Co. In January, 1873, E. K. Carlisle, Sr., died, and a new firm was formed, composed of A. W. Jones and E. K. Carlisle, Jr. This firm retained the old name of Carlisle, Jones & Co., and remained unchanged until they retired from business on August 7, 1881. From the time of commencing business in Selma, Ala., under the firm name of Carlisle & Jones, until the retirement of Carlisle, Jones & Co. in 1884, this firm did a large business, and established and maintained a commercial reputation and financial standing second to none in Alabama.

E. K. Carlisle, Jr., of the above-named firm, and brother-in-law of Dr. A. W. Jones, died on the 18th day of October, 1886, leaving a widow and two daughters. All who knew him loved him and lamented his death.

On the 12th of August, 1878, A. W. Jones and associates purchased at public sale in the town of Marion, Ala., the Selma, Marion & Memphis Railroad and its franchises. This was an uncompleted road, in poor condition, both as to road-bed and rolling stock, and extended from the town of Greensboro to Marion Junction, a station on the Alabama Central Railroad some fourteen miles from Selma. Soon after the purchase a new railroad corporation was formed, under the name of Selma & Greensboro Railroad Company, of which A. W. Jones was elected president. Under his active and capable management the road and rolling stock was put in fine condition, and eight miles of new road built from the earnings of the road the second year, not calling on his company for a dollar. This eight miles of new road connected the Selma and Greensboro with the New Orleans & Selma Railroad, over which a favorable lease had been obtained by him to run the trains of the Selma & Greensboro Railroad into Selma, the effect of which was a saving to the Selma & Greensboro Railroad of thirty thousand dollars a year, putting this road at once on a sound footing for taking care of itself under proper management.

In the summer of 1882 he went to New York with the view of making arrangements for extending his road to a western connection, but, before doing so, some negotiations sprung up, looking to the purchase of the Selma & Greensboro Railroad, which he deemed would be more to the interest of his stockholders than an extension of the road. He returned South, and the negotiations he inaugurated by the favorable presentation he made

of the Selma & Greensboro Railroad, and its future possibilities, finally resulted in all of his stockholders selling their stock at handsome and satisfactory profits. The name of this road now is the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile Railway.

On the 14th of October, 1886, A. W. Jones and associates became the purchasers, at public sale at Selma, Ala., of the New Orleans & Selma Railroad and its franchises, an uncompleted road running out from Selma in a direct line toward New Orleans, with its present western terminus at Martin's Station. After the sale, a new corporation was formed under the name of Birmingham, Selma & New Orleans Railway Company, with A. W. Jones as president, and he is having the road put in fine condition, preparatory to extending it to a western connection, which, when opened, will give it a short line to New Orleans. Besides being president of this company, he is also one of the directors of the City National Bank of Selma, the strongest and most successful bank in the State. These, and his other interests, claim his active attention.

Dr. A. W. Jones resides in Selma, Ala., his family consisting of his wife and eight children, four sons and four daughters, the four eldest of whom, with himself and wife, are communicants of the Protestant Episcopal Church.



**COURTNEY J. CLARK, M.D.**, President of the City Board of Education and of the Selma Medical Society, was born in Laurens District, S. C., October 27, 1816. His parents were John and Susan (Parks) Clark, natives of South Carolina, and respectively of English and Irish descent.

The senior Mr. Clark removed from South Carolina to Georgia away back when the subject of this sketch was a small boy, and he lived in Jasper County in the latter State, and was a planter up to 1869, when he died at the advanced age of ninety-two years. His wife lived to be eighty-eight years of age. So the Clark family, particularly this branch of it, is evidently long lived.

The subject of this sketch was the first-born of a large family of children. He was educated at the common schools of Georgia, at least to the extent of a fair knowledge of the elementary studies, which were augmented by self-application, to the end that when he had reached his majority he

was well up in literary attainments. He began the study of medicine when eighteen years of age, and at this writing (1888) he says he is still a student of medical and physical science. He was graduated from the Louisville College of Medicine in 1843, and from Jefferson (Philadelphia) 1841. He began the practice at Jacksonville, Ala., in 1837, and, with the exception of the time spent as surgeon in the Mexican War and as assistant surgeon during the late war, remained at Jacksonville until 1861.

He was appointed surgeon in the Mexican War by President Polk, and was with Colonel Butler's Palmetto Regiment in all the battles of the valley and the city of Mexico. At the outbreak of the war between the States, he started out as a regimental surgeon, but was transferred to the charge of the Alabama Hospitals in Richmond, where he remained two years, coming thence to Montgomery, where he was again in charge of hospitals until toward the close of the war. He was finally at Columbus, Ga., and there surrendered to Wilson.

Dr. Clark came to Selma in the fall of 1865, and has here remained in the practice. He is a member of the State and County Medical Societies, a contributor to medical journals, a physician and surgeon of pronounced ability, and a citizen of the highest character. As president of the Board of Education, he has labored for the past fifteen years earnestly and faithfully.

He was married at Jacksonville, Ala., in 1853, to Nancy W., daughter of Thomas J. Davis, and now has a family of one son and five daughters. His son, Percy Clark, is a journalist, now employed as a newspaper correspondent at Washington City.



**BENJAMIN HOGAN RIGGS, M.D.**, was born in Mobile, August 19, 1838, and died at Selma, on the 11th day of January, 1888. His father was Daniel M. Riggs, a native of Surry County, N. C. The senior Riggs was once cashier of the State Bank of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, and from there removed to Mobile, where he was in the banking business for some years. He came into Dallas County in 1845, and here followed planting the rest of his life. He died in 1859, at the age of fifty-nine years.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Mobile and studied medicine at Selma in 1855 in

the office of Drs. Mabry & Kent. He attended lectures in New Orleans during the winters of 1855-6, spent the summers of 1857-8 at the Marine Hospital, Mobile, and was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in the spring of 1859.

Dr. Riggs began the practice of medicine in Wilcox County the summer following his graduation, and in the spring of 1861 enlisted as a private soldier in Captain Robbins' "Wilcox Rangers." He was soon afterward made assistant surgeon, and rose rapidly to surgeon, and senior surgeon of the brigade. He was in the Army of Tennessee and most of the time on field duty. At the close of the war, he returned to Selma and engaged in the practice of medicine at which he was very successful, and in which profession he occupied a high position. He was active always in sanitary matters and devoted special attention to hygiene, upon which subject he lectured at various times and places. He also wrote upon the subject for some of the leading newspapers and medical journals. He was an ex-president of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, and Grand Senior Counselor in and member of the State Board of Health. He took an active interest in all current matters, political, professional and social. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and held high official positions in the Commandery, having been Eminent Commander, Past Deputy Grand Commander, etc.

The Doctor was married in June, 1867, to Miss Fannie Gray Robertson, daughter of Henry C. Robertson, Esq., and has had born to him three sons and one daughter.

The doctor was a consistent member of the Episcopal Church.



**ABRAHAM MINTHORNE WOOLSY** was a native of Connecticut, and belonged to the immediate family from which descended the distinguished Dr. Woolsey, Chancellor of Yale University. In early life, he removed to Augusta, Ga., and was there married to Miss Emily Wingfield Sims, who was of the families of the Simses and the Wingfields of that State. From this union seven children were born, of whom Benjamin Minthorne, the subject of this sketch, was the oldest child. Mr. Woolsey was a very handsome man, and his

wife was a very beautiful woman, and both of them were noted for their elegant manners and pleasing address. The son inherited the physical features and acquired the polished manners of his parents, and was from boyhood remarkable for his fine appearance and graceful address.

In 1836 the family removed to Mobile, Ala., where the father died, leaving the mother with the son and two sisters, younger than himself. Reverses of fortune had overtaken them, and in widowhood this splendid woman leaned upon her son, who became her comforter and her counselor. Never did a son more honor a mother; never was a mother more worthy of honor. In early boyhood young Woolsey joined the Methodist Church with his mother, and remained in that communion until the day of his death. At sixteen years of age he was sent to Emory College, Ga. Here he remained two years, boarding in the family of Bishop James C. Andrew. He was graduated at eighteen years of age, and returned to Mobile, where he studied law, and was admitted to the bar. In the summer of 1847 young Woolsey was chosen to deliver the commencement oration at the Centenary Institute, at that time a very large and flourishing female college, located at Summerfield, Ala. On the rostrum of the college chapel he saw for the first time Miss Lucinda Swift. She was a member of the graduating class. Bright, beautiful, wealthy, and of excellent family, she won the heart of the brilliant young orator, and was won by him.

Of his sons, only two are now living. They are men of honorable positions, both in the social and business circles of Selma.

Mr. Woolsey was a man of very decided views—a very positive character. He read largely, thought clearly, spoke fluently, and felt strongly. In youth he was a political disciple of the great Henry Clay, and identified himself with the old Whig party. As a Whig he was elected from Dallas County and served in the Legislature of 1836, and again in 1838. In 1860 he was nominated for Congress by a convention of his party, but refused, for private reasons, to accept the nomination. He was an elector on the Bell and Everett ticket, in 1860.

In the best sense, Colonel Woolsey was a typical Southern gentleman. He had a fine physique and a handsome face. He was polite to all, rude to none. His manners were winning; his fortune was ample; his knowledge was large, and he had

as much leisure for reading and study as he wished. His friends were numerous and enthusiastic; his home was happy; his wife loved him and was ambitious for his distinction. Everything combined to secure for him success in politics, if he had only entered on that pursuit with the ardor that characterized him in other matters. But he preferred the pleasures of home to the strife and confusion of political life. Frequently he was called upon to preside over political meetings, and to address political assemblies, and always acquitted himself to the satisfaction of his friends, though his heart never seemed to be fully in these affairs. From his political standpoint, he thought the war between the States could be avoided, and, hence, was unnecessary. But when it began, he accepted the situation. Gov. T. H. Watts appointed him Salt Commissioner for Alabama, a most important office at that time. This trust he discharged with fidelity, managing this very vital interest to the entire satisfaction of the Governor, the people and the Confederate authorities. At the close of the war, though strongly solicited to engage in politics, he persistently refused to do so. His shattered fortune he determined, if possible, to restore, and removed to the city of Selma, to engage in the cotton business. There he spent the remnant of his days, in the bosom of his family, and surrounded by friends and acquaintances, who had known him amid all the changes of fortune. He died at his own home August 19, 1886.



**ALBERT GALLATIN MABRY, M. D.**, was born near the town of Jerusalem, Southampton County, Va., on the 7th day of September, 1810, and died in the city of Selma, Ala., on the 23d day of February, 1874, of pneumonia. His father, a farmer, of high standing in the community in which he lived, died when Albert was a small boy. He was the only child of his father's second marriage. His mother married the second time; but her husband did not prosper in worldly matters, so that the subject of our sketch was taught, at an early age, habits of self-reliance, which bore much fruit in after life.

At the age of sixteen years, he went to the town of Jerusalem and engaged in business. The dormant capacities within him, soon made him discontented and caused him to long for a

higher field of usefulness. By the advice of his friends he studied medicine. He had the faculty of fastening friends to him "with hooks of steel," and those friends of his early youth who survived him, in a ripe old age, felt with keen sorrow his taking away. Among his earlier friends was Dr. Wm. Spark, a man of liberal and cultivated mind, who befriended him in an effective manner; and thus began an attachment which lasted until death severed the tie. In later years this benefactor, wasted with age and infirmity, came to Dr. Mabry's elegant residence in Selma, and there, administered to by this friend and his family, surrounded by comfort and luxury, he breathed his last, when mourning hands bore his remains to the family burial lot in Selma, where now, side by side, lie the remains of both.

Dr. Mabry graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, March 3, 1837. After a short residence at the town of Whitesville, Ga., he came to Selma early in the year 1843. Here he began a long and useful career as a public-spirited citizen and as a high-toned physician, fully imbued with the ethics of his profession and alive to her interests and behests. Arriving in Selma, Dr. Mabry became a member of the local medical society, and associated in the practice of medicine with Dr. Drevry Fair, now deceased. They remained associated for many years in active practice, when Dr. Fair moved from Selma.

July, 1845, Doctor Mabry was married to Mrs. Martha (Riggs) Tartt, widow of Thomas E. Tartt, formerly of the head of the firm of Tartt, Stewart & Co., commission merchants, of Mobile. Mrs. Tartt was a sister of Daniel M. and Joel Riggs, lately of this State. She had one child by this first marriage, a daughter, Gertrude T. Tartt, now the widow of the late Catesby ap Roger Jones, captain in the Confederate States Navy.

Through this marriage Doctor Mabry became intimately associated with the late Gov. John A. Winston, who was guardian of Miss Tartt, and this association developed a friendship between these men of sterling worth which lasted until severed by the scythe of death, Governor Winston dying first. There were six children born from their marriage, five sons and one daughter. There are now living three sons and one daughter. The oldest boy, named for his father, in the midst of a budding manhood of great promise, a young

law) in Selma, preceded his father but a few years to the grave; William Spark Mabry, a civil engineer, and John Winston Mabry, both graduates of the Virginia Military Institute, of Lexington; Richard H. Mabry and Miss Virginia Mabry, named for his much-loved native State.

Doctor Mabry continued constantly employed in an extensive and lucrative practice at Selma, from 1843 to 1857, and remained at his post in the faithful discharge of professional duty during the prevalence of the yellow fever epidemic in the fall of 1853.

In 1855 he associated with him in the practice Dr. James Kent, and to a great degree turned the work over to him, for his health had become impaired. In the year 1857 he was elected to the Legislature, and was there continuously to 1867. In politics he was a State's Rights Democrat.

Dr. Mabry was, from the beginning of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama to the day of his death, an earnest and efficient member thereof, and its zealous friend. In an elaborate address delivered before the association soon after his death, the distinguished Dr. George A. Ketchum of Mobile, said: "The medical history of Alabama and its State Association would be incomplete, indeed, did not the name of A. G. Mabry adorn its brightest page.

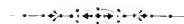
"His brain conceived this organization; he was present at its birth; he stood sponsor for it in its helpless infancy; he succored it in its days of progress; and now, when in its approaching maturity he dies, he bequeaths to it the honors inseparably connected with his example and name.

"Whilst we drop a tear on his newly-made grave, let us rejoice and be proud that he so honored his profession in his life."

As a public man and legislator, Dr. Mabry's service gave eminent satisfaction to his constituents; as a physician, he was successful and cautious in treatment, and his character was above reproach. He was a consistent and prominent member of the Protestant Episcopal church; a kind and indulgent father, and a considerate and attentive husband.

Dr. Mabry was a man of medium physical stature, being about five feet and eight inches in height, weighed about 140 pounds; slightly stooped in the shoulders; complexion dark, hair black and well trimmed, eyes deep brown, soft and expressive. His temperament was well marked bilious. His countenance, in repose was serious and

thoughtful, but readily lit up with a kindly smile, and his laugh was an index of the good heart within.



**JOHN P. FURNISS, M. D.**, was born at Columbus, Miss., September 24, 1841. His father was Dr. John P. Furniss, of Maryland; he removed to Louisiana in 1835, and from there to Mississippi in 1844, and died at the age of thirty-five years. Though an educated and skillful doctor, he practiced only gratuitously and upon his plantation.

The subject of this sketch was educated at Prof. Tutwiler's Greene Springs School, and at the University of Alabama, from which institution he was graduated in 1860. Immediately after leaving the University, he entered the New Orleans School of Medicine, and from there soon afterward enlisted as a private soldier in Company K, Fourteenth Mississippi. At the end of about nine months he was transferred to the Medical Department Confederate States Army, as assistant surgeon, and was promoted soon afterward to the rank of surgeon. He remained in the service to the close of the war. After spending one year in Mississippi he came into Selma, and in 1866, entered upon the practice of medicine.

He is a member of the State and County Medical Societies, and is Grand Senior Counselor of the former. In addition to his practice, which is large and lucrative, he is much interested in manufacture and agriculture.

Dr. Furniss was married in Selma, in December, 1876, to Miss B. M. Dawson, daughter of Hon. N. H. R. Dawson.



**CLIFFORD DANIEL PARKE, M. D.**, was born at Wadesboro, N. C., September 27, 1826, and died in Selma, May 10, 1885. His parents were Thomas Duke and Ann (Shipman) Parke, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter of North Carolina. They came to Alabama in 1842, and settled near Eufaula, in Barbour County.

After his academic education, C. D. Parke attended the Medical College of Louisville, Ky., and in 1850 was graduated as a doctor of medicine from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia,



He first began the practice of medicine in Montgomery County, coming from there to Selma, where he spent the rest of his life, giving his entire time to his chosen profession, and making therein distinguished success. He was devoted to his profession and was recognized by his fellows as one of the foremost doctors in the State. Though always a decided Democrat, he never sought political preferment for himself, and the only official position he is recorded as having held was that of President of the State Medical Society.

Dr. Parke was a quiet, unassuming gentleman, polished in his manner, somewhat reserved in his intercourse with men, though always possessing the confidence of his patients and the highest esteem of the people. He was married in Dallas County, January 10, 1855, to Miss Louisa Swift.



**DR. THOMAS P. GARY**, Wholesale Grocer and Cotton Merchant, was born September 23, 1829, in Abbeville District, S. C., his parents, William L. and Frances R. Gary, being natives of that State. His father moved to Lowndes County, Ala., in 1831, and was for many years a prominent planter in that county. He then found a home at Tuskegee, in Macon County, where he died in 1852.

After going to that place, Thomas P. Gary attended the Literary College at Ogelthorpe, Ga., and afterward studied medicine in the office of Dr. William Mitchell, at Tuskegee; took a course of medical lectures at Charleston (S. C.) College of Medicine, and graduated in 1852. Immediately afterward he began the practice of medicine in Tuskegee, where he remained three years, and then located at Cotton Valley, and followed his profession at that place two years.

We next find Dr. Gary at his plantation in Lowndes County, farming and practicing medicine, which he continued until 1871, when he moved to Wesson, Miss., and followed the mercantile business for several years.

In 1877 we find him in Selma, engaged in the wholesale grocery and cotton business, to which he has given his attention ever since, and has maintained his place as one of the first merchants in the central city. He formed a partnership with William R. Raymond, which continued to

January, 1888, under the firm name of Gary & Raymond. It was at that time dissolved by mutual consent, and Dr. Gary's son-in-law, D. A. Kennedy, became his partner.

Dr. Gary was married in Tuskegee, Ala., in 1853, to Miss Amanda W. Ligon, daughter of Robert and Wilhelmina Ligon, of Georgia. To them six children have been born, two of whom died in infancy. The remaining four—Mina, wife of Law Lamar; Leila, wife of D. A. Kennedy; Eleanor, wife of J. E. Hooper, and Thomas E.—are now living in Selma.

Our subject has for many years been an earnest and zealous member of the Presbyterian Church, and has sustained different official relations therein. He has been a successful citizen, a valuable member of society in its moral and social relations, and always ready to extend encouragement to any enterprise calculated to advance the common good.



**GOLDSBY KING, M. D.**, a promising young Physician and Surgeon, of Selma, son of the late E. B. King, Esq., an extensive planter of Dallas County, was born in this city April 29, 1861, and here received his primary education.

After completing his studies at Prof. Tutwiler's, Greene Springs, he entered the South Carolina Medical College at Charleston, and in March, 1880, was graduated therefrom as Doctor of Medicine. After receiving his diploma, he remained one year at Charleston as House Surgeon of Roper and City Hospital, coming thence to Selma, where he began the practice in July, 1881. He is a member of the Board of Censors, Dallas County, and present City Physician and Health Officer. He was appointed one of the Board of Color Blind Examiners of the State by Governor Seay, October, 1887, and is regarded as one of the most active and efficient members of that important body. He was made Secretary of the Dallas County Medical Society in May, 1883, and has continued in that office since. He was at the same time appointed Health Officer of the city, and has been since continued in that position.

Dr. King was married at Selma, October 11, 1883, to Miss Annie Graham, the accomplished daughter of Dr. C. W. Graham, of Kenansville, N. C. The Doctor is an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

The towns of Goldsby is so prominently identified with Dallas County and Selma as to form a part of their history.



**JOHN ALEXANDER McKINNON, M. D.,** Health Officer of Dallas County, and Register of Vital Statistics of Selma, was born in Pike County, this State. He was educated in the common schools, and began reading medicine at Macon, Ga., when nineteen years of age. He was graduated from the University of Louisiana as M. D. in 1867, and in 1871 took the *ad eundem* degree from Bellevue Medical College. He began the practice with Dr. Fabs, at Selma, in 1867, and remained with him eighteen months.

He is a member of the various medical societies in his county and State, and is Grand Senior Counselor of the State Medical Association of Alabama, which he represented at the International Medical Congress at Philadelphia, in 1876.

He was eighteen years of age when he entered the army from Lowndes County as a private in the Third Alabama Infantry. He remained with that regiment until after the battle of Malvern Hill, at which time he was commissioned a lieutenant in the regular army, and was placed in charge of the medical laboratory in Macon, Ga., when only twenty years old, where he remained until the close of the war. While a private soldier, he took part in the battles of Drewry's Bluff, Seven Pines, and the Seven Days' Fight in front of Richmond. He came to Selma in February, 1866, and here clerked awhile in a drug store, subsequently completing his education and entering regularly into the practice of medicine.

He is a prominent Knight Templar Mason and has filled the chair of Eminent Commander; is a member of the Knights of Honor, the National Union and Ancient Order United Workmen. He is also connected with the Railroad Conductors' Insurance Association and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, as Medical Examiner.

He has been surgeon for the railroads running into Selma for the past fifteen years, and has gained quite a reputation in his section as being very successful. He is a man of strong convictions and untiring energy.

**RICHARD MARSHALL NELSON,** President of the Commercial Bank of Selma, was born in Wayne County, N. C., in 1843. Appointed by President Buchanan, he entered West Point as a cadet in 1859. At the outbreak of the civil war he resigned his cadetship, and in May, 1861, entered the military service of the Confederate States. He served throughout the war, mainly as captain of ordnance. The technical knowledge of young West Pointers created a demand for their services in the ordnance and engineer departments and the like, where promotion was slow and slight, as compared with the line, and it thus not infrequently happened that conspicuous merit and fitness operated as a bar to rank and promotion.

After the close of the war he studied law, and was, by the Supreme Court of North Carolina, admitted to the bar in 1866. The same year he removed to Selma, Ala., where he formed, with Joseph F. Johnston, Esq., now president of the Alabama National Bank, of Birmingham, Ala., the law firm of Johnston & Nelson, and continued in active and successful practice until January, 1878, when, on account of his already recognized financial abilities, he was chosen President of the Selma Savings Bank, the oldest incorporated bank in Central Alabama. He accepted the office, and has ever since been the head of this prosperous institution, the name of which was in 1880 changed to the Commercial Bank of Selma.

In 1881 he also became President of the Loan Company of Alabama, at Selma, the pioneer in the South in the now extensive business of negotiating farm loans.

In 1873 he was, by President Grant, appointed one of the Commissioners for the State of Alabama to the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia; and was, by the Commissioners, elected a member of the finance committee, charged with the auditing of the millions of dollars disbursed in that enterprise.

He was Deputy for the Diocese of Alabama to the several General Conventions of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, which sat, respectively, at Baltimore in 1841, at Boston in 1857, at New York in 1880, at Philadelphia in 1883, at Chicago in 1886. He was also one of the deputation to the 1886 Synod of the Church in Canada, appointed by the General Convention of 1883.

He has, for many years, been an active member

of the American Bankers' Association, was, in 1878, elected to the Executive Council of the Association, and has, annually, ever since, been re-elected to that responsible position. It may justly be said of him that few men of his age, or, indeed, of any age, in this country, have maintained a higher standard of business sagacity and executive ability.

He has made an honorable record in the various spheres and relations of life, but, while he is keenly alive to, and faithfully discharges the duties of good citizenship and good neighborhood, it is as a business man that he is most widely known and appreciated. Whether as an officer of the several financial institutions with which he is identified, member of the Bar Association, chairman of boards and committees, member of the Court of County Revenues, vestryman, trustee of the public schools, or what not, he is prominently a man of affairs, of which it may be truly added, none of them, to his sense of duty, has seemed too small for careful attention, and none of them, to his facile grasp, has been too large for easy mastery.

Captain Nelson was married at Selma, in 1868, to Miss Ella Hines, step-daughter of Hon. Thos. J. Portis, now of St. Louis. Mrs. Nelson died in 1870. Their only son, William P. Nelson, is now a clerk in the Commercial Bank. In December, 1873, Captain Nelson married Miss Mary McFaddin, a daughter of the late Robert H. McFaddin, of Greensboro, Ala.

Rev. Charles J. Nelson, of the Baptist Church, Goldsboro, N. C., is the father of the subject of this sketch. He is a native of the old "North State," and a descendant from Irish ancestors. His father was "High Sheriff" of Craven County, N. C., at the beginning of this century, and was otherwise a very influential man in his day.

Prior to going into the ministry, Rev. Mr. Nelson was an active military man, and was quite conspicuous in public affairs generally. Since he began preaching, he has devoted his time and his talents to religious work.

Three Nelson brothers left the North of Ireland sometime in the early part of the eighteenth century, and came to America, one of them settling in Maryland, another in New York, and a third in Virginia. From these pioneers a large number of the Nelsons now in the United States, and many of them honorable men, have sprung.

**WILLIAM PARK ARMSTRONG.** President of the City National Bank of Selma and of the Selma Press and Warehouse Company, of this place, was born at Knoxville, Tenn., on May 7, 1843. His father was James H. Armstrong, a merchant of Knoxville, where he spent the most of his life, and his mother was, before marriage, Ann Eliza Park, a daughter of William Park, of one of the old and first families of East Tennessee.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the University at Knoxville, and in 1859 entered Princeton (New Jersey) College, which institution (now a University), in 1886, conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts as a complimentary recognition of his scholarship. For he is understood that in May, 1861, he left Princeton to enter the Confederate Army, and we find him almost immediately afterward acting as volunteer aide on the staff of General Zollicoffer. He was with General Zollicoffer at Fishing Creek; was beside him when he was killed, and assisted Major Fogg, another aide, mortally wounded, from off the battle-field. After Fishing Creek Mr. Armstrong was assigned to the staff of Gen. John P. McCown as aide-de-camp, with the rank of lieutenant. After Murfreesboro, Lieutenant Armstrong received his appointment from the Secretary of War as captain, with instructions to raise a company of cavalry for independent and scouting service. At the head of this command he remained to the close of the war, it being, during the last year, a part of General Vaughan's cavalry brigade.

Captain Armstrong surrendered with General Warford at Kingston, Ga., May, 1865. During the service he participated in many of the most hotly-contested battles, and at Wilsonville, Tenn., was seriously wounded; so seriously in fact, that it was thought to be mortal, and he was left upon the battle-field for dead. He was actively engaged at Fishing Creek, Shiloh, Perryville, Wild Cat, Murfreesboro, and was under Gen. John H. Morgan, at Greenville, when that brilliant officer was assassinated.

At the close of hostilities he went to New York City, where he accepted employment as a traveling salesman for the boot and shoe house of J. H. Ransom & Sons, and for them sold goods through the Southern States during 1865-6. In December of the latter year, at Talladega, he was married to the youngest daughter of Major James Isabel (now deceased), and from that gentleman learned the banking business. In 1868 he ac-

cepted the position of secretary and cashier of the Selma Fire Insurance Company, then doing also a general banking business at Selma. In January, 1870, that institution was merged into the City Bank, he acting as cashier. The City Bank was merged into the City National Bank January 1, 1871, with Captain Armstrong as cashier. At the death of Major Isbel, which occurred in September, 1871, he was made president.

Captain Armstrong has made his home in Selma since 1868. In addition to his banking interests in this city he is also interested in similar institutions in other cities of Alabama and in Tennessee. He is regarded throughout the South as one of the most skillful financiers of the day.

He is a man of a high moral character, liberal in deeds of charity, and a conscientious member of the Presbyterian Church and of the Young Men's Christian Association.

**ALPHEUS E. BAKER.** Cashier of the Commercial Bank of Selma, and president of the Central Alabama Fruit Company, was born near Leighton, Ala., March 21, 1834. His parents were John W. and Martha J. (Estes) Baker, natives of Tennessee and Virginia, and of English and Irish extraction, respectively.

The senior Mr. Baker was an architect by profession. He removed from Franklin County, in 1837, to the State of Mississippi, and from there, in 1842, to Sumter County, this State, where he manufactured plows and wagons until the time of his death, which occurred in 1858. He was killed by a drunken wretch.

The subject of this sketch pursued his elementary studies in an old log school-house, and graduated, he says, in a pair of plow handles. From the age of sixteen to nineteen years, he learned the wagon maker's trade under his father, and when about twenty went to Mobile, and there clerked in a grocery store for six years. In 1854 he went to Baltimore, Md., and was there graduated from Chamberlain Commercial College. He came to Selma in 1859, and here, in partnership with his brother, R. H. Baker, carried on a wholesale and retail grocery business until 1873. In that year a bank failure forced them into liquidation, but not out of business. In 1886, he withdrew from the concern, which has ceased to do a jobbing business in 1873.

He was made cashier of the Selma Savings Bank, in 1875, and has been since continuously in that position; the bank having been changed to its present style and title in 1881.

Mr. Baker, with the rank of lieutenant, served a short time during the war as a member of the Fourth Alabama State Troops. He was Mayor of Selma two years (1881-82), which appears to be about the extent of his public service. He was married in Mobile, in 1857, to a daughter of General Strang. She died in 1881, leaving two sons and two daughters. Mr. Baker's second marriage occurred at Marion, in 1883, when he led to the altar a Miss Clancy.

He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights of Honor, National Union, and is treasurer and deacon of the Presbyterian Church.

**WILLIAM R. NELSON.** In charge of the Law Department and General Manager of the Loan Company of Alabama; President of the Selma Board of Trade; Director in Selma Gas Light and Electric Light Co.

Mr. Nelson was born in Petersburg, Va., in 1844, and is a son of Hugh Nelson and Elizabeth (Harrison) Minge, who were natives of Virginia, and they were descended from old English families. Mr. Nelson's mother was a niece of President Harrison, and she was also a granddaughter of Benjamin Harrison, Jr., who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. On his paternal side Mr. Nelson is a grandson of Col. William Nelson, a distinguished officer of the American army during the Revolutionary War. (Colonel Nelson served under General Washington, and participated in several of the latter's great battles with the British forces.)

The father of the subject of this sketch, who married Miss Minge, died at Petersburg in 1862, at the age of sixty-seven years. He was for some years the treasurer of the old South-Side Railroad Co., and died holding that position. (This road is now a part of the Norfolk & Western Railroad system.) Previous to his connection with the above railroad, the elder Mr. Nelson had for some years been engaged in flour manufacturing at Petersburg.

The subject of this sketch was given a common-school education, and had just entered the lower class at Hampden-Sydney College when the war

came on. He at once left college for the army, although under the military age. He entered Company A of the Twelfth Virginia Infantry, and was with that command for over two years, when he was overtaken by serious illness contracted in the swamps around Richmond. He was then transferred to Selden's Light Artillery, and remained with it until the close of the war, never having missed a whole day from duty while connected with this battery. Mr. Nelson saw active service in Virginia, North Georgia, and with General Hood in his disastrous Tennessee Campaign, and participated in the battles of Seven Pines, Resaca, Peach Tree, the fights around Atlanta, at Tilton, and at Nashville. At the close of the war he went to New Orleans as a clerk in the employ of an express company, and was engaged there at first without the promise of any pay, he having accepted the place merely to be employed, and being quite sure he could make himself too useful to be dispensed with. He had been there but a short time before he was placed in a responsible position and paid a fair salary. In 1866, he came to Selma as a clerk for Knox & Adams, cotton factors, and after remaining with them for a year, and until they went out of business, he accepted a place as clerk in the law office of Morgan & Lapsley, and after his duties for the day were over he studied law, most of his studies having been carried on very late at night. He was admitted to the bar in 1869, and in 1870 was admitted to the firm, the style of which was Morgan, Lapsley & Nelson. The firm had a very large practice and existed until 1887, when General Morgan was elected to the United States Senate.

He then practiced with Mr. (now Judge) Lapsley for a short time, then alone for some time, and then as a partner with Capt. Joseph F. Johnston, now president of a National bank in Birmingham. After the latter retired from practice, he again practiced alone, and always with a good clientele and with much success. He gave up the general law practice in 1866 to accept the management of the Loan Company of Alabama, in which position he has charge of all the abstracts of title and all law matters connected with their large business. In 1869-'70 he represented Dallas County in the Legislature, and as a member of the Judiciary, and as chairman of the Committee on Corporations, he was quite a prominent member. He was always engaged with his duties, and framed and had passed some of the important bills of the

session. About this date he was very active in the county Democratic committees of which he was a member, and for four years was a member of the State Executive and District Congressional Committees of his party.

Mr. Nelson was married in October 1870, at Selma, to Mrs. Octavia L. Jones, *nee* Owen, the daughter of the late Dr. Robert Owen, of Mobile, and a cousin of Hon. R. B. Owen, the present Mayor of Mobile, and they have seven beautiful and very interesting children. Mr. Nelson is an elder in the Presbyterian Church.



**A. M. FOWLKES**, Secretary and Treasurer and General Superintendent of the Birmingham, Selma & New Orleans Railroad, and wholesale dealer in hardware, agricultural implements, etc., Selma, was born at Lewisburg, N. C., in November, 1838. His father, Edward L. Fowlkes, was a lawyer by profession; he came to Alabama in 1850, located at Marion and there died the same year.

The senior Mr. Fowlkes was a native of Virginia, and the family came originally from Wales. The Welch members of the family spelled their names Ffowlkes. His wife's maiden name was Foster, also a native of Virginia. She died in Marion, in 1875.

The subject of this sketch, the eldest of their two sons, graduated from Howard College in 1856, as Bachelor of Arts. Early in 1861, he joined the army, and was made lieutenant in Company A, Twenty-eighth Alabama Infantry, and commanded the company for the two succeeding years. His captain having been made major of the regiment, Lieutenant Fowlkes, without the commission of captain, was left in command of the company. In 1863, he was promoted to the rank of major and assigned to the staff of Gen. Joe Johnson, where he remained to the close of the war. Major Fowlkes participated actively in the battles of Shiloh, Farmington, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, siege of Atlanta, Bentonville, etc.

[When Hood superseded Johnson, he retained Major Fowlkes upon his staff, and when Johnson resumed the command, the Major remained with the latter.—*Et c.*]

At the close of the war, Major Fowlkes turned his attention to farming. In 1868, he was made

treasurer of the Selma, Marion & Memphis Railroad (now the Cincinnati, Selma & Mobile), and in 1814 was made the receiver of that company, and controlled it as such until its sale under foreclosure in 1818. He remained with the road afterward as superintendent and treasurer until 1882. At the sale of the New Orleans & Selma road, in October, 1886, he became one of its purchasers, and has since that date, been its superintendent, and the treasurer of the company.

Major Fowlkes was the president of the Selma Bridge Company; superintended its construction, and managed it after its completion one year.

The Major is one of the trustees of the public schools of Selma; a director in the Selma Land, Improvement and Furnace Company; is an active, wide-awake business man, a courteous gentleman, and worthy the high esteem in which he is held by all that know him. He was married, at Marion, Ala., in 1859, to Miss Bettie Jemison, and has had born to him two daughters. He is largely interested in farming, from which, he informed the writer, his returns are as satisfactory as from any other business in which he is engaged. He is a civil engineer by profession, which stands him in good hand, in the business to which he is giving much attention.

**NOADIAH WOODRUFF**, Cotton Factor, is a native of Farmington, Conn., son of Sylvester and Nancy (Andrews) Woodruff, and was born December 28, 1828.

Mr. Woodruff was educated at the common schools of his native State; spent the first twenty-one years of his life on his father's farm; came south in 1852, and at Talladega, accepted a clerkship in a mercantile establishment. At the end of a year and a half he became a partner of the concern and was there in business until the war broke out. He came to Selma in the fall of 1866, and engaged in the cotton business, the firm being Woodruff & Duncan. It appears that this firm succumbed within a year from the time of its organization, and Mr. Woodruff then went into partnership with Mr. Woolley, as Woodruff & Woolley. Mr. Woolley having withdrawn in 1870, the firm became Woodruff & Co. In 1875 E. W. North was admitted as partner, under the firm name of Woodruff & North, and it remains thus at this writing.

Mr. Woodruff is a large real estate owner, his magnificent farm lands being in Dallas, Talladega, Shelby and other counties. In addition to buying and selling ten or fifteen thousand bales of cotton per annum, he produces on his plantations several hundreds of bales.

He has been three times Mayor of Selma (1875, 1877, 1879). When he first accepted the mayoralty, the city had no money and was borne down with a large floating debt. At the end of his third administration, he left it in much better condition.

In May, 1866, in Talladega County, Mr. Woodruff was married to Miss Sarah E. Keith, and has had born to him one child—a daughter. This, however, was Mr. Woodruff's second marriage. His first wife died in 1863. Her maiden name was Miss Mary Smoot. Her only child, Nannie, an accomplished young lady of nineteen years, died in Selma in 1879.



**GEORGE O. BAKER** is a native of Pennsylvania, and came South in 1855 from New York, and was for some years in the employ of the Montevallo Coal Company. Later on he came to Selma, and engaged in the grain business, in which he was very successful in a financial way, and to which he was giving his attention at the outbreak of the late war. After the cessation of hostilities, he, in company with others, engaged in the foundry business, and in 1870, with a Mr. Barker, bought out the cotton-seed oil mill that had been established here by some Northern men, and at once converted it into one of the most successful enterprises of the South. Mr. Baker also takes an active interest in agriculture, and for some years gave the cultivation and production of cotton much attention. He is one of the directors of the Commercial Bank of Selma, and is regarded altogether as one of the most public-spirited and enterprising men in Central Alabama. He is always to the forefront in the encouragement of legitimate enterprise, and the people of Selma regard him as one of their most progressive and substantial citizens.

Mr. Baker is a man of literary taste, polished in his manner, a ready and forcible speaker, a terse and vigorous writer, and is possessed of extraordinary executive ability. His modesty is pro-

verbal, and that his humor is always of the most pleasant kind is seen in the following extract from a letter written by him to the publishers in response to a modest request to furnish the least bit of data with reference to his life, upon which could be based something of a sketch approximating in a degree what everybody knows he merits. His reason for declining to give the information is based upon the fact, as he says, of *his* being "an exceptional case." Then, continuing, he says: "I have killed nobody, never held or aspired to office, am only a plain, modest, retiring and retired citizen. Anyone under similar circumstances could have done anything I have done, hence (I regret exceedingly) I can write nothing about myself that would be of interest." The publishers in their correspondence with Mr. Baker, having mentioned the name of a particular friend of his in connection with the required data, Mr. Baker continuing in the letter before quoted, says: "Never mind, Captain N—, his high estimate of some of his friends is due to his kind-hearted partiality. He is in mid-ocean just now, so we will 'let him roll' while we quietly pursue the even tenor of our several ways on *terra firma*."



**NATHANIEL WALLER**, Cotton Factor, was born in Baldwin County, Ga., 16th day of October, 1813, and is therefore well up into his seventy-fifth year. His parents were Nathaniel and Telitha (Toole) Waller, natives of Maryland. His parents came to Alabama in 1818 and located at Wetumpka, where his father was engaged in planting until he died. His mother and her family moved to Dallas County, in 1820, where Nathaniel and his brother Thomas Flint Waller engaged at farming.

A Sabbath-school was organized in the neighborhood, and Nathaniel, then a mere lad, became a member. His teacher here was the gentleman (Mr. Hughes) to whom he had gone as a pupil for a short time in a day school. This gentleman took a great interest in the lad, and spoke to Mr. Anthony Minter concerning him. As it was then prior to the days of public schools, it was arranged between these two to give the promising boy a chance for an education without expense to his mother, who was too poor to afford him such advantages. He attended school three or four

years under this fortunate turn of events. He then obtained a clerkship with Parkman & Douglas, dry goods dealers at Selma. Remaining with them only a short time, he accepted a situation at a country store, where he remained until 1836. Mr. Minter then procured a situation for him with Philip J. Weaver, at that day one of the merchant princes of the State. He remained with this gentleman during the year 1836, and was paid \$600 per annum for his services. In the following year he was in the mercantile business on his own account. In the year succeeding he again engaged with Mr. Weaver; here he remained until the year 1865. He was advanced step by step, until he became head book-keeper and general manager of Mr. Weaver's vast business, which at that time was perhaps second to none in the State. His salary was increased from time to time, until he came to receive \$3,333 per annum. This lucrative pay was accorded him for several years in succession before Mr. Weaver's death. Perhaps there is no more crucial test of one's capabilities than that afforded by the daily routine of business life; and the idea is intensified in ten-fold ratio when one is subjected to the scrutiny of a careful and painstaking business man, such as was our subject's worthy employer. And were there no further evidence of his ability as a successful man of business, these facts alone would entitle him to a place among the foremost commercial men of his day. At the dawn of peace in 1865, Mr. Waller farmed for a short time; then for an equally brief space of time he was engaged in a clerical capacity. Afterward with Major Wailes and A. M. Treadwell, as partners, he was engaged in the mercantile business until the year 1873. Since that time he has given his attention to the cotton trade. In 1875, Mr. Waller admitted his son, George L. Waller. This firm continued for ten years, when the firms of Joseph Hardie & Co. and N. Waller & Co. consolidated. This firm was composed of N. Waller, George L. Waller, Joseph Hardie and William H. Welch, and was known under the firm name of Waller, Welch & Co. This association lasted until January, 1888. The partnership was then dissolved, and Mr. Waller and his son George, continued the business under the original firm title of N. Waller & Co.

Mr. Waller was married February 9, 1842, to Miss Annie A., daughter of Griffin and Matilda (Gammage) Bender, of Baldwin County, Ga. They have four children now living: George L.,

Maria J., Reys, William T. and Charles D.; the last two are Presbyterian ministers. Mr. Waller himself has been for fifty years a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; he and his son George are both elders in that church.

Mr. Waller is now in vigorous health, with the promise of many years of added usefulness. This is attributable to his regular habits of rest and eating and drinking. A life-long opponent of licentious living, he has ever lent his influence to the cause of temperance. Modest even to extreme diffidence, he has not perhaps exerted that wide influence over the public mind which such a life as his would otherwise have wielded. Yet in his own family and among his more intimate friends, his influence has been deeply felt and powerfully exerted in the formation of character. As already said, he lives to see one son in his own church, and two younger sons in the gospel ministry.



**SAMUEL D. HOLT**, Wholesale Grocer and Cotton Factor, was born in November, 1844, at Danville, Va., and is a son of James G. and Lucy (Burton) Holt, natives, respectively, of Virginia and North Carolina. The senior Mr. Holt was a merchant during his life, and devoted himself exclusively to that calling. He died at Yanceyville, N. C., at the age of thirty-three years.

Our subject received a common-school education, and at the age of fourteen years, commenced business life by engaging as a clerk in a dry-goods store, at Yanceyville, N. C., in which he continued until the fall of 1861. In 1863 he enlisted in the Confederate Army, and was assigned to duty with the Staunton Hill Artillery, from Charlotte County, Va. He was in active service until the close of the war.

After the close of the war, Samuel Holt went to Montgomery, Ala., where he was, for a time, clerk in a wholesale grocery business, and was afterward admitted as a partner into the same house, which was known as Warren, Burch & Company. In 1872 he sold out his interest, and was then quite extensively engaged in the coal business at Montevallo, where he continued for several years. In 1881 he came to Selma, and, in company with Mr. Starr, and others, an old resident of this city, engaged in the wholesale grocery and cotton brokerage business, under the firm

name of Holt, Starr & Co. This business has prospered in the hands of these gentlemen, and they rank among the deserving and worthy citizens of the community.

Mr. Holt was married in November, 1869, to Miss Catherine, daughter of Thomas and Mary Venable, of Prince Edward County, Va. They have four living children; Lucy, Fennie, Mary, and Ellie.

Our subject is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, of Selma, also an elder in the same, and superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is also connected with the City Government as a member of the Board of Councilmen, representing the First Ward.



**JOSEPH H. ROBBINS**, head of the firm of Robbins & Sons, Wholesale Dealers in Hardware, Selma, was born in Bertie County, N. C., March 17, 1830. His father, John Robbins, a native of Virginia, and of English descent, was a farmer of considerable wealth. He died in North Carolina in 1816, at the age of eighty-six years. His mother, whose maiden name was Harrall, came with her sons to Alabama, in 1850, and here died in 1864.

The subject of this sketch was the second of three sons. He was educated primarily at Bertie Academy, and graduated as a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Louisiana in 1854. He practiced medicine on his plantation until the close of the war. The oldest son was a private soldier, fought in the battle of Manassas, was wounded, and afterward became a captain of a company in the Fifty-first Alabama (John T. Morgan's old regiment). He lives now in this county and is a farmer.

Dr. Robbins engaged in the hardware business in company with his brother and a Mr. Aram, at Selma, in 1865. In 1869, he purchased the interest of his partners, and became the sole owner. Up to 1877 the business had been confined to retailing. In that year they began jobbing in a small way. At this time it has grown to be one of the most extensive concerns in Central Alabama. The firm is composed of Joseph H., Eugene and J. Syd. Robbins, the two latter being the sons of the former. Eugene became a member of the firm in 1874, and J. Syd. in 1883.



Dr. Robbins was married in Dallas County, in 1854, to Miss Mary Ann Jackson, of North Carolina Quaker descent, and a daughter of Nathan Jackson, a wealthy planter, in his day, of Dallas County.

Dr. Robbins is a progressive, public-spirited citizen, fully identified with the best interests of the community, and a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**JOSEPH W. STILLWELL.** President of the Mathews Cotton Mill Company, Selma, and Superintendent of the Dallas Compress Company, and the Selma Press and Warehouse Company, was born at Rome, Ga., November 17, 1844. His father was the Rev. Charles H. Stillwell, minister of the Baptist Church, and his mother, before marriage, was a Miss Marshall. Rev. Mr. Stillwell resided at Rome, Ga., upward of forty years, and there died September, 1887, at the age of eighty-two years. He was a minister of the gospel from early manhood, and in active ministry up to within five years of his death.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the schools of Rome, and there, in February, 1863, entered Gartrell's Legion, and served to the close of the war in Forrest's command. He participated in the battles of Nashville, Franklin and Columbia, Tenn., and in all the Tennessee campaigns.

After the close of the war he returned to Rome, and was appointed agent of the Rome Railroad, at that city. In 1870, he came to Selma as superintendent of the Selma Press and Warehouse Company. In 1887, he was elected president of the Mathews Cotton Mills Company, and is at this time (1888) giving his attention to those important industries, having under his immediate supervision from sixty to eighty men. He was married at Selma, in 1872, to Annie Haralson, daughter of William B. Haralson. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Baptist Church.



**JOHN R. KENAN.** President of the Selma Gas and Electric Light Company, was born in Duplin County, N. C., July 24, 1814, and his parents were Thomas and Mary (Rand) Kenan,

natives of North Carolina, and of Scotch-Irish descent.

The senior Mr. Kenan came to Dallas County in 1833, where he followed planting many years, and died at the age of seventy-three.

The subject of this sketch was nineteen years of age when the family came into Alabama. He had been educated in the North Carolina schools, and since coming here has been engaged as a lumber, lime and iron dealer. His father was a public man in North Carolina of much repute. He represented the Wilmington District in the United States Congress twelve years, and was a member of that body during the War of 1812-14. He also served many years in North Carolina Legislature, but after coming to Alabama he withdrew entirely from public life.

John R. Kenan was living in Shelby County when the war broke out, and he opposed secession upon the ground particularly of its inexpediency, and, secondarily, because he favored the Union. While in New Orleans on business in 1860, the people of Shelby County, without any solicitation upon his part, elected him to the Secession Convention by a good round majority, though his opponent, a known secessionist, was counted in. Thus a majority of the voting people of Shelby County were misrepresented in that memorable Convention.

In response to the earnest entreaty of his friends, he attended the Convention, but was peremptorily refused a seat in that body until *after the adoption of the secession ordinance.*

He was in the Legislature from Shelby County in 1863, and took a conspicuous part in the deliberations of that body.

Mr. Kenan's iron works, lime works, etc., were destroyed during the war, and the cessation of hostilities found him penniless. However, he despaired not, but readily set about the recuperation and accumulation of fortune, and at this writing (1888) we find him in the enjoyment of a handsome competency. He came to Selma in 1869, and engaged in compress and warehouse business, to which he has since adhered. He became interested in the gas company, in 1875, and has been its president since 1879. That company bought the electric plant in 1885, and merged it into the present styled concern.

He was married at Selma in 1858, to Mrs. M. L. Kimball, *nee* Cox, a native of Pennsylvania, and a descendant of one of the first settlers in the

valley of the Delaware. Mr. and Mrs. Kenan are members of the Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Kenan is an elder.



**WILLIAM E. WAILES.** Cotton Factor, Selma, was born at Salisbury, Md., August 12, 1837, and is a son of William H., and Sarah (Leonard) Wailes, of that State. The senior Mr. Wailes was a doctor of Medicine for thirty years in Somerset County, Md., where he died in 1849.

William E. Wailes was educated at the private schools of his native village, and at the age of fifteen years began clerking in a dry goods store, which avocation he followed until the breaking out of hostilities between the States. In 1861, he enlisted as a private in the Confederate service, in Captain Murphy's Company which was raised in Perry County, this State. Colonel Wailes came into Alabama in January, 1860. He continued in the war until its close, and for meritorious conduct, was promoted successively from lieutenant to lieutenant-colonel. He was also assistant adjutant-general on the staff of General Joe Wheeler. He was wounded at the battle of Murfreesboro, at Ringgold Gap, and, in 1864, near Gadsden, Ala., while guarding the movement of General Hood's army into Tennessee, and was paroled with his command near Charlotte, N. C.

After the war Colonel Wailes returned to Selma and was engaged in the dry goods business, until January 1880. In 1880, he engaged in the cotton commission business, which he has followed successfully since that time. He has been connected with other worthy and staunch concerns in Selma, to which he has lent timely assistance and sound advice. He has been a director of the Central City Insurance Company for fourteen years, and sustained the same relation to the City National Bank of Selma for a long time, after its organization.

Colonel Wailes was married in December, 1861, to Miss Georgia, daughter of Thomas S. and Emily (McGhee) Driskell, of Plantersville, Ala., and five children have been born to them, viz.: Laura S., Sarah E., Wm. D., Catharine E., and Wm. E.

Our subject has for many years been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and has been an official therein for more than a score. He is particularly active in Sunday-school work,

is a trustee of the Y. M. C. A., and a member of the Masonic fraternity.

The Colonel is a staunch and true friend of education, and has proved his devotion to that cause by an active participation in educational matters. He is at this writing (1888) a member of the Board of Trustees of the Dallas Academy and of the City Board of Education of Selma, Ala.



**JOSEPH HARDIE** was born near Huntsville, Ala., June 26, 1833. His parents were John and Mary M. (Hale) Hardie. His mother was a Virginian; his father came from Scotland to America at the age of twenty-one, and settled near Richmond, Va.; then came to Huntsville, where he remained eight years, and went to Talladega, Ala., in 1834, where he was a merchant until the time of his death in 1848. The family consisted of seven boys and two girls, all of whom attained their majority and were married.

Joseph Hardie received his primary education at the common schools, matriculated at the University of Alabama, and afterward attended college at Princeton, N. J., from which institution he was graduated in 1855. During that year he went to Selma, and became a clerk in the grocery-house of Philpot & Lapsley. After one year's clerical work, he became, by purchase, a partner in the house. This partnership lasted until 1859, when he became sole proprietor, and conducted the business until 1861, when he sold out and enlisted in the Confederate army.

Mr. Hardie's army experience commenced by his being made adjutant of the Fourth Alabama Infantry, in which position he served for one year. He then left that regiment and raised a battalion of cavalry, which was known as Hardie's Battalion, and remained with this command until the close of the war.

After the war, Mr. Hardie merchandised at Talladega until the fall of 1865, when he returned to Selma and pursued the same business in partnership with James H. Robinson, under the firm name of Hardie & Robinson until the following fall. He then sold out and began dealing in cotton, and pursued that business until 1880, when he was forced to make an assignment for the benefit of his creditors.

Being allowed an opportunity to reconstruct his

fortunes, he resumed business in June, 1881. His course thereafter proved the wisdom of his creditors. He was eminently successful and paid off his entire indebtedness in 1885.

In the fall of 1886, he made investments in real estate in California, in which the appreciation of value has by far exceeded his most sanguine expectations, and this has demonstrated that he is a man of business foresight and sagacity.

Mr. Hardie was married in December, 1856, to Miss Margaret D., daughter of James and Rubelia Houston Isbel, of Talladega. Mr. Hardie has been for some years an elder in the Presbyterian Church. He is prominently known in the Young Men's Christian Association throughout the United States, and is a member of its International Committee for the United States and the British Provinces.



**ALEXANDER W. CAWTHON**, Wholesale and Retail Druggist, Selma, was born January 2, 1841, at Eutaw, Greene County, this State, and is a son of W. T. and Sarah (Camp) Cawthon, natives, respectively, of Georgia and North Carolina. Some time after the birth of our subject, Mr. Cawthon, Sr., moved to Whistler, Ala., where he lived many years, and devoted himself to architecture and merchandising. He has retired from active life and is now living at Stonewall, Miss., and is seventy-eight years of age.

Alexander Cawthon was educated at Barton Academy, Mobile, and when sixteen years old, began clerking in his brother's drug store in that city, where he remained until the war came on.

In the year 1861, our subject enlisted in the Twenty-First Alabama Regiment (Woodruff's Rifles), but owing to his superior knowledge of the drug business, he was appointed, soon afterward, hospital steward, and acted in that capacity until the close of the war. During this time he was several times transferred, and when the surrender of the Southern Army occurred he was at Selma.

Mr. Cawthon was identified with the drug business in Selma as far back as 1865, and at the time above referred to he formed a partnership with James L. McVoy, under the firm name of Cawthon & McVoy. A partnership was formed at a later period with Mr. Coleman, and the new firm was and still is known as Cawthon & Cole-

man. Mr. Cawthon is one of the most experienced and skillful druggists in Dallas County. This is but a natural conclusion to arrive at, when we consider that he has devoted his life to the drug business, and has had an experience extending from 1857 to the present time.

The firm of Cawthon & Coleman possibly do the largest drug business in the State. Having a most suitable location for the transaction of a large business, they have not been at all slow to avail themselves of the advantage it offered.

Personally we may say of Mr. Cawthon that he is a public-spirited man, and has lent his efforts to other meritorious things than his immediate business. He is ready at all times to give all the assistance in his power to the furtherance of all laudable undertakings which have as their object the general upbuilding and advancement of his locality. He is a director of, and takes a deep interest in, the Selma Land, Improvement and Furnace Company.

Mr. Cawthon was married in April, 1867, to Miss Laura J., daughter of Thomas A. and Adelaide Keith, of Winchester, Tenn. They have five children: Marshall O., Carrie L., Alexander K., Sadie M., and Frank F.



**LAWRENCE H. MONTGOMERY**, Wholesale Grocer, Selma, was born at Summertield, this State, in May, 1849, and is a son of John H. and Hannah (Moore) Montgomery, natives of North Carolina.

John H. Montgomery located at Summertield in 1847, and there carried on the saddle and harness business. He was a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for many years, and died in 1863.

Our subject attended the Centenary Institute at Summertield until he was sixteen years old, and then began to clerk for Rosser & Morey, of Selma, with whom he remained seven years. Graduating from Poughkeepsie (N. Y.) Business College in 1869, he returned home, and was engaged with his old firm for three years. In 1872, he embarked in the wholesale grocery business in Selma, and has built up a trade equal to the best in Middle and Southern Alabama.

Mr. Montgomery was married in October, 1872, to Miss Annie, daughter of Joseph R. and Jane

(Smith), John, of this city. Their union has been blessed with five children: Lawrence, William V., Rosa Belle, Emaline and Charles G.

Our subject is a member of the Knights of Honor and of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**REV. ROBERT WOODWARD BARNWELL**, Rector in charge of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Selma, is a native of Beaufort, S. C., and was born December 27, 1819. His father, John G. Barnwell, now a retired citizen of Rome, Ga., reared six sons to manhood, and four of them are ministers in the Episcopal Church, to-wit: Rev. Stephen Elliott Barnwell, of Louisville, Ky.; Rev. William Haversham Barnwell, of Paris, Ky.; Rev. Robert Haversham Barnwell, and the subject of this sketch. This gentleman was educated at Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., graduating from that institution as A. B. in 1842. He subsequently spent two years in a theological seminary in New York City; was ordained deacon at Middletown, Conn., in 1843, and located at Griffin, Ga., in the spring of 1844. From Griffin, in the fall of 1846, he removed to Demopolis, this State, and was in charge of the church there until January, 1880, at which time he came to Selma.

Mr. Barnwell was ordained priest in Atlanta, Ga., by Bishop Beckwith, in 1845. He began his studies in his youth with a view to the ministry, and has ever since his ordination devoted his time to the profession. He was married at Demopolis, November 6, 1849, to Miss Margaret C. Blair, of that place, and has had born to him two sons and two daughters.



**EDWARD G. GREGORY**, President of the Union Iron Works Company, Selma; Secretary and Treasurer of the Gregory & Coe Lumber Company, Stanton, Ala., and Director in the Selma and Cahaba Railroad Company, was born in Liverpool, England, July 11, 1833, and came to America in 1852. He learned the machinist trade at Manchester, England.

Mr. Gregory was educated for a profession, but preferred mechanics, and therefore turned his attention in that direction. After coming to America he began work in Richmond, Va., where he re-

mained until 1857, in which year he came to Selma as an engineer and machinist on the Alabama & Tennessee River Railroad (now the E. T. V. & G. R.). He was with that company four years, at which time he was made Master Mechanic of the Alabama & Mississippi Railroad, and he held that position up to 1867. In this year he began business for himself in a small way, establishing a shop for the repairing of machinery, engines, etc. In 1869, in partnership with Mr. Coe (then of Gregory & Coe) he began the manufacture of machinery. The firm afterward became Gregory, Coe & Pollock, adding to that of machinery, a foundry. The firm was merged into and became The Union Iron Works Company, in December, 1885, with Mr. Gregory as president. They now manufacture steam engines, cotton presses, castings, etc., making a speciality, however, of stationary engines for all purposes.

Mr. Gregory is a director in the Commercial Bank of Selma, and is regarded as one of the most thorough-going business men in Central Alabama. He was married in Southwestern Virginia, in 1857, to a Miss Ewing. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gregory are communicants of the Episcopal Church, and for ten years, the former has been a vestryman of St. Paul's Church, Selma.



**HUGH S. D. MALLORY**, Attorney-at-law, Selma, President of the Home Real Estate and Loan Company, and of the Selma Council of the National Union; Member of the Board of Directors Selma & Cahaba Valley Railroad; Superintendent of the Baptist Sabbath-school, and Member of the State Mission Board, Alabama Commission, was born in Talladega County, Ala., February 9, 1848, and his parents were James and ——— (Darby) Mallory, of Virginia.

The senior Mr. Mallory, a planter by occupation, came into Alabama in 1832, and died in August, 1877, at the age of seventy years. His widow now lives (1888) at Talladega at the age of seventy years. They reared four sons, three of whom are living.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the Talladega Male Academy, and the University of Alabama, and from the University of Virginia in 1868, received the degree of LL. D. He entered into the practice of law at Selma in 1869, and

since that time has served two years as magistrate; a short time as Commissioner of the United States Circuit Court, and Mayor of this city two terms (1885-87). He has been a member of the City Board of Education since 1877, and was Superintendent of Education for the city of Selma from 1877 to 1885. He is at present a member of the Board of Trustees State Colored University, and is otherwise connected with various educational institutions. He was one of the organizers of the Home Real Estate and Loan Company, of which he is president; also of the Selma & Cahaba Valley Railroad Company. He has been president of the Selma Bar Association four or five terms; is a member of the American Legion of Honor and of the National Union; is a Knight Templar Mason, presiding officer of the Chapter, and Past Grand Dictator of the Knights of Honor for the State of Alabama.

Mr. Mallory was married at Summertield, this county, in October, 1872, to a daughter of Dr. C. B. Moore, of that place, and has had born to him five children — four daughters and one son.



**W. T. BROOKS**, Secretary of the Union Iron Works Company, son of the Hon. W. M. Brooks, now of Birmingham, was born in Marengo County, this State, in September, 1845. He was educated at Marion and Tuscaloosa, and entered the army from the latter place in 1862, as sergeant-major of the Twenty-Fifth Alabama. He served to the close of the war under Hood and Johnson, and surrendered in North Carolina. He took part in the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, New Hope Church, Resaca, siege of Atlanta, Nashville and Franklin, and left the service with the rank of first lieutenant. At the close of the war he went to Mobile, remained two years in the cotton commission business; thence to San Francisco, and, returning to Alabama, engaged at cotton planting in the Cane-brake district for the then succeeding seven years. At the end of that time he came to Selma, where he was for two years engaged in the drug business. Becoming interested in manufacturing, in partnership with a Mr. Tyler, he established a foundry and machine shop, which, in November, 1885, was merged into the Union Iron Works Company.

Mr. Brooks was married at Goshen, Conn.,

August, 1878, to Miss Carrie L. Tuttle. He is a member of the order of Knights of Honor, and is a communicant of the Episcopal Church.



**GEORGE PEACOCK**, Iron and Brass Founder, was born on a farm near Stockton-on-Tees, in the County of Durham, England, May 5, 1823, and came to America in 1848.

His father, Joseph Peacock, came to America in 1851 on a visit to his three sons (all of whom were then living in this country), and was accidentally killed by a New York Central Railroad train. He was an old man and very deaf. His widow returned to England, and there spent the rest of her life.

The subject of this sketch was educated in his native town, and, at the age of fourteen, was apprenticed to the trade of moulder. It requires seven years to learn that trade in England, and soon after his twenty-first birthday he accepted employment as a journeyman in the city of Liverpool. Before coming to America, he had, through correspondence, been engaged by the famous Erickson as an expert to assist in heavy castings in the construction of the Caloric engine, but, after arriving in this country, some mis-understanding led to a cancellation of the engagement, and Mr. Peacock accepted a situation in Townsend's foundry and machine shop at Albany. He was there for two years, and he distinguished himself. He moved to Troy, where, in less than a year, he was made superintendent of a large plant making a specialty of iron pipe. He remained with them three and a half years, and had under him as many as five hundred men at a time, and worked into piping as much as fifty tons of iron per day. When he went into this establishment, however, they were working less than one hundred men, and using about ten tons of metal per day. The great increase in facilities and product, was owing to inventions first introduced by Mr. Peacock.

Mr. Peacock invented what is known as the easing system of making piping; the system of making cores, known now as the green sand core; the core bar system by which all cores for crooks, crosses, etc., in green sand are now made; system of making small size piping on a match-board; the collapsible core bar, so valuable in manufacturing large size pipes, thereby dispensing with the

use of hay rope and much other expense well-known to the manufacturer, and many other inventions equally familiar now to scientific men and manufacturers in all parts of the world. From Troy he was induced to go to Cleveland, where he remained three years. He built the first works ever erected on the Cleveland Flats, where now stands over two hundred millions of dollars' worth of machinery and manufactories. His firm put in the first water works for the city of Cleveland. From Cleveland Mr. Peacock went to Louisville, Ky., built the water works for that city, and erected a new foundry. He was next at Natchez, Miss., and was managing Churchill & Co.'s large iron works at that place when the war broke out. It was his knowledge of manufacturing munitions of war that secured for the Natchez house, their first contracts with the Confederate States Government. This concern, after the fall of the lower Mississippi, in 1862, removed their plant to Alabama, and located at Columbia. From there Mr. Peacock came to Selma, in the spring of 1863, as superintendent of the Naval Cannon Foundry. The office of superintendent was created by a special act of Congress at that time. While in this capacity, Mr. Peacock invented a system of core-making for shells, whereby three times as many shells could be made in any given length of time as was possible under the system then in vogue. He also invented a system of tapping iron from furnaces, by which any desired quantity of molten metal could be withdrawn at pleasure from a reverberatory furnace and the metal stopped at the will of the furnace man, though there might be twenty tons of molten metal in the furnace. It was under his supervision that reverberatory furnaces were put into successful operation in the melting of iron for the manufacture of cannon by the use of wood. The introduction of wood as a heater was novel and proved the greatest success. They melted there as high as fifty thousand pounds at one lighting; reducing it to fluid in eight hours, thus increasing the tensile strength of the metal from thirty to forty per cent. It was from this they made the greatest cast iron cannon the world has ever seen. It was while in search of coal for this furnace that Mr. Peacock discovered in North Alabama, a fine quality of tripoli which was afterward used in polishing fire-arms. This mineral was found in Calhoun and St. Clair Counties, where was also discovered the first coking coal in the State. Since the war, Mr. Peacock

has been variously employed in the manufacture of machinery, the conduct of foundries and other important enterprises. He is the inventor of the celebrated Peacock Car Wheel, many of which are now in use throughout the United States. His self-lubricating tram wheel, invented in 1887, is a great success. He is now manufacturing this wheel as a specialty, and is employing from thirty-five to forty men. Mr. Peacock put up the first coke oven in Alabama (so far as we can find out); this oven he erected at Columbiana in 1863, bringing the coal from St. Clair County. He is one of the few great students in mechanical philosophy possessed of vast inventive genius, as is proved by his many inventions in labor-saving foundry machinery, as also railroad and agricultural machinery, notably a cotton press and a plow. Neither did he neglect to help the tinsmith out by his patent seaming tongs, used mainly in putting on tin roofs. He is possessed of a vast amount of executive ability and skill in the management of large bodies of men. It has been well said that he is one of the most remarkable of iron workers.

Mr. Peacock was married in England, at the age of twenty-two and a half years, to Miss Mary Ripley. She died at Selma in 1875.

He is a Knight Templar Mason, an Odd Fellow and a communicant in the Episcopal Church.



**SIMON GAY**, Foreman of the East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia Railroad roundhouse, Selma, was born in Sussex County, Va., in 1821, and learned the trade of machinist at Richmond and Petersburg. He subsequently learned the trade of gun making at the Tredegar Works, Richmond, and for a time pursued that vocation at Belona Arsenal, Chesterfield County, Va. When thirty-three years of age, he was employed as superintendent of the gun-making establishment of Dr. Junius L. Archer, then the largest Government contractor for the manufacture of heavy ordnance in the United States. Under a contract with Colonel McRay, he came to Selma in 1862, and took charge of that gentleman's shops, then manufacturing arms for the Confederate Government. In 1863, McRay's works were transferred to the Confederate States, who converted them at once into a manufactory of arms and equipments for both the army and navy. These shops were in a short time converted wholly to the uses of the navy

department, and Mr. Gay was made superintendent of gun making, and retained that position to the close of the war. During his engagement in that capacity he invented many useful tools and improvements, for use in gun-making, that have since been adopted by the United States Government, and probably by foreign countries as well. It is worthy of note that Mr. Gay was so well known as a skillful mechanic, and especially in the art of gun-making, that the United States Government offered him special inducements to enter its service, but his political preferences led him to the South. At the close of the war, he began work for the Alabama Central Railroad, and remained with them seventeen years, being the last four years of that time in the capacity of master mechanic.

In 1881, Mr. Gay began work for the East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, as general foreman, and was within a few months, promoted to master mechanic, a position he held until 1886, when a change in the general management replaced him. Since that time he has been in his present position.

It was probably due to his ingenuity that the Confederate Government was able to manufacture, at Selma, the superior cannon used by it upon so many battle-fields, and won for it the reputation of having produced some of the best guns ever brought into use. The iron from which those guns were made was melted with pine knots, a feat hitherto unheard of. There has been some controversy as to who was the real inventor of the system employed in the conversion of iron by the use of wood alone, but investigation satisfies the writer that Mr. Gay was undoubtedly that man.

Simon Gay was married in Chesterfield County, Va., in 1845, to Miss Mary Andrews. Of the eleven children born to them, six are living.

**CHARLES C. TYLER**, Superintendent of the Union Iron Works Company, Selma, was born in Boston in 1846, there learned the machinist trade, and worked at it a few years. From Boston he went to San Francisco, where he was employed in the Union Iron Works in that city for some time. He was afterward an engineer on one of the Pacific Mail Steamers. He came to Selma in 1882, and took service with J. H. Rob-

bins & Co., then in the foundry business. At the end of a few months, in company with Mr. Brooks, under the style and firm name of Brooks & Tyler, he purchased the Robbins Works, and subsequently merged them into the Union Iron Works Company. Since the organization of this company, in which he is part owner, he has continuously filled his present position.

**JOSEPH POLLOCK**, Vice-President of the Union Iron Works, Selma, is a native of Belfast, Ireland; was born in 1832, and came to America in 1855. He learned the moulders' trade in his native city, and after coming to America first obtained work in Philadelphia. From there he drifted into New Jersey, thence to Brooklyn, to St. Louis, and to Mobile, where he was at the outbreak of the war. He was in Mobile until 1862, and was employed by the Confederate States Navy Department at Selma from January, 1863, to the close of the war. In 1870, as one of the firm of Pierce & Pollock, he established a repairing and machine shop, and in 1873 merged it into the company of Gregory, Coe & Pollock, increasing their facilities and extending the branches of their trade. In 1886, the Union Iron Works Company was incorporated, with Mr. Pollock as vice-president, and it is now manufacturing his patent brake shoes in large quantities. He is also superintendent of the foundry department.

Mr. Pollock is a skillful mechanic, and gives his personal attention to the business.

He was married in St. Louis, in 1859, to Miss Susan Muldoon. She died in New York, in 1844, leaving seven children.

**B. S. BIBB**, of the firm of B. S. Bibb & Co., general bankers, real estate and insurance agents, Selma, was born February 5, 1847, at Montgomery, Ala., and is a son of George R. and Mary E. (Lipscomb) Bibb. The father was a native Alabamian and the mother a Virginian.

Mr. Bibb was educated at the schools of Montgomery in his early years, and subsequently at the Universities of Georgia and Alabama. Upon leaving the latter institution he engaged in railroad business, which he actively followed for twelve years in his native city.

In 1881 he came to Selma, and was a merchandise broker for two years, after which he entered the general brokerage business. He took a leading part in the organization of the Selma Land, Improvement and Furnace Company, of which he is a director, and is its agent for the sale of lands. During his residence in the Central City, Mr. Bibb has been more or less identified with the city government.

He was married first in February, 1854, to Miss Ella, daughter of Frederick and Margaret Smith, of Dallas County. To them were born two children, Sophie and Adgate. Mrs. Bibb died in 1878. Mr. Bibb was married the second time in 1885, to Miss Helen E., daughter of Dr. J. H. and Mary Robbins, of Selma. They have one child, Benajah S., Jr.



**WILLIAM B. GILL** was born in Louisville, Ky., June 6, 1827, and is a son of William B. and Ruth Gill, natives of Maryland.

The senior Mr. Gill came from Baltimore to Louisville about the beginning of the present century, and was there until about 1820 in the mercantile business, in company with his brother. He died in Louisiana in 1838 while on a visit to that State.

The subject of this sketch was educated in Louisville, there learned the trade of carriage-maker, transferred thence to Nashville in 1846, to New Orleans in 1850, and to Selma in 1852. Here he engaged in the carriage manufacturing business in a small way, with a capital of about \$1,800. During the late war, under a contract with the Confederate States Government, he manufactured wagons, ambulances, and pontoons. The close of the war found him without money but the owner of a great deal of real estate, which, with the advance in values, renders him at this writing in quite comfortable case. He has never been a politician, but always an active business man, and much interested in the welfare of the town.

Mr. Gill was the largest contributor to, and one of the most earnest workers in, the Young Men's Christian Association, whose magnificent hall is a monument to his generosity. He has made his fortune by degrees; never a speculator,

he has adhered strictly to legitimate dealing. He is noted for his punctuality and promptness in the discharge of his obligations.

After the war he resumed business, adding, in 1867, to his carriage-making that of furniture. He was married at West Point, Ga., February 22, 1852, to Miss Ann N. Evans, daughter of Captain Evans, an old seafaring man, who plied his ships between New York and India. To this union two sons and one daughter have been born. The latter, Elnora, died in 1865, at the age of sixteen months.

Mr. Gill is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the Masonic fraternity.

In 1869 he erected the block now known as Gill's Hotel, and has been giving it his personal supervision since June, 1887.



**EDMUND D. BOWLES**, Real Estate and Insurance Agent and Negotiator of Loans, was born September 4, 1855, at Wytheville, Va., and is a son of Zechariah H. and Mary F. (Pettit) Bowles.

Edmund D. Bowles removed to Selma with his parents in 1862. At the age of fourteen, he began the battle of life by engaging with the Selma Savings Bank (now the Commercial Bank of Selma), with which institution he remained until 1885, when he resigned the responsible position of first book-keeper, to engage in his present business under the firm name of Bibb & Bowles. This partnership continued one year.

Having been reared, as it were, in one of the leading financial concerns in the South, and being in daily intercourse with the people of Dallas and surrounding counties, Mr. Bowles has acquired a knowledge of business and people which well qualifies him for the position he now fills in the business world.

In addition to the real estate and insurance business, Mr. Bowles has succeeded in distributing among farmers in Central Alabama, during past twelve months, nearly a quarter of a million of foreign capital in farm-land loans, and he is yet in correspondence with leading banking houses and loan agencies in New York and other cities.

He was married December 30, 1880, to Miss H. L. Brown, daughter of Josiah R. Brown. They have one child, Bessie Garland.



## XVII.

### MARION.

BY WILLIAM GARROTT BROWN.

[The history of Marion has been written by Samuel Townes, a former resident, and I have seen the book, but have not been able to obtain a copy to aid me in the present sketch. To some papers on the same subject, which appeared two years ago in the *Marion Standard*, I am, however, much indebted for information I could not have obtained otherwise.]

Perry County, with six others, was formed by the first Legislature which was assembled after the admission of Alabama into the Union as a State. This was done at Huntsville, in the autumn of 1819. The new county was at the time almost a wilderness. There were a few unimportant Indian settlements and some white pioneers from South Carolina and Tennessee. Anderson West, a Tennessean, was the sole inhabitant of the place afterward known as Muckle's Ridge, and which we now call Marion. The former name was taken from that of the first settler, Michael Muckle, who came in 1817, built a cabin, cleared an acre of land, remained a year, and then sold out to Mr. West and departed—I know not whither. The latter is perhaps more intimately associated than any other with the earlier, and much of what may properly be called the later, history of Marion.

Immigration seems to have been peopling the county with considerable briskness during the two or three years following the coming of Anderson West. In 1822 the Legislature authorized the election of five commissioners to locate the county seat, Perry Ridge, which had until then enjoyed that distinction, having been found inconvenient when the boundaries were defined. When the commission had been chosen and had assembled, several sites were nominated. It was finally decided, chiefly through the influence of Joseph Evans, a member of the commission, that Muckle's Ridge was the most eligible spot. Soon after, the name Marion was chosen, again through the influence of Mr. Evans, who came from the State

which had given the "Swamp Fox" to the Colonies in their struggle with Great Britain.

In the same year, 1822, Siloam Baptist Church was established. The Rev. Charles Crowe was pastor until 1830. In the spring of 1823, the first court-house was built—a veritable log cabin, sustained by wooden blocks. It was not replaced by a more substantial building of brick until 1837. The present court-house, which is among the first in the State, was built in 1855 or 1856.

For a number of years after receiving its name, Marion appears to have remained little more than a chance assemblage of squatter homes, dignified by its possession of the seat of justice for the sparsely-inhabited county, and slowly taking on the proportions, not unaccompanied by the roughness, of a frontier town. The record of its growth is little more than a chronicle of the various individuals and families that from time to time came from the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, and occasionally from others of the States, some to remain for a few years and then resume a life of wandering somewhat characteristic of the period, others to remain permanently and have descendants who now constitute a reasonably large proportion of the citizens of the town and county. Among these are to be found our best and worthiest people—people of education and refinement. They are in no way ashamed of their pioneer fathers; they are, on the contrary, proud of the manly and sterling characters they so generally gave evidence of possessing; but our present reputation for culture need not blind us to the fact that the earlier settlers of this region were not representative of the refinement to which the old South, justly or not, had claim. It has been asserted frequently enough, and never disproved, that immigrants, as a class, are not apt to belong to the more cultured portion of the communities from which

they come, whatever merits of a different sort they may and often do possess. Indeed, the work which they have to do in developing a new territory is such as to demand rather the sterner and rougher than the humaner and gentler virtues. The strength and endurance which they need is more often found in the rough hands and coarsely clad bodies and unkempt heads than in hands and heads adorned with the graces, which have been so closely associated with the weaknesses of civilization. To the rough, strong, pioneer class, our fathers, as a rule, belonged, and they betrayed it in their speech and customs. Let us count it a ground of self-gratulation that in so short a time we have gained distinction for qualities of an entirely opposite sort.

The best idea of the manners and customs of the time, is to be obtained from such books as Longstreet's *Georgia Scenes*, and the stories of Richard Malcolm Johnston, who has for some time been depicting the life of the period with a humor that is somewhat milder than Longstreet's. Such scenes as the fight, the horse-swap, the lockout of the school-teacher, the school rebellion, all have their parallels in the early history of Marion. Simon Suggs appears less of an exaggeration and caricature than we are wont to consider him, when we hear or read authentic accounts of the doings of the spirited youth who gave life and animation to the community whose chief fault at present is an excess of order. It is hard for us to believe that there was a time, not more than half a century ago, when the absorbing topic of conversation at corn-shuckings and log-rollings was not the latest sermon (which was probably a mouth back), nor the Sunday-school lesson (there was no Sunday-school), nor the concert, nor the chances for prohibition legislation, but the beautiful style in which "Red Fox," the pugilistic champion from "Sinner's Beat," had demolished Weaver, "the boastful Goliath from Hamburg"—a combat in honor of which the market bell had rung and the entire community, white and black, male and female, had assembled around the prize ring. A bar-room was set up as soon as the first courthouse was built, and became the rendezvous of a number of choice spirits, who accepted the philosophy, though they could only vaguely conjecture the meaning of its classical sign—"Dum Virivus, Vivamus." The spring and fall assizes are still apt to bring to the surface the rougher elements of our society; but the orderly adminis-

tration of justice we now enjoy could hardly suggest the original and ingenious punishments which were resorted to in the good old days.

Of these, "Chandler's Coach," a device employed by an organization of friends of law and order, known as "Captain Slick's Company," was one of the most striking and effective. There were two lines of coaches under the control of this company, and under the immediate superintendence of David Chandler, who was elected Sheriff in 1831; one running from what is now the intersection of Green and Main streets to the Phoenix stables; the other from the jail, down the hill, to a brooklet then known as "Hangman's Branch." The coaches were large hog-heads, such as were used in shipping crockery, with a movable head in one end, through which the passenger was received. Pegs were driven through the sides, to which the occupant might hold when enjoying his ride.

If the objectionable character lived east of Marion, the coach was brought up before Gains Johnson's store and the offender headed up and rolled to the stable; then required to walk back to the starting point, and given another ride, and as many as the crowd thought his wickedness deserved.

A tramp, found asleep and drunk on the street, was nailed up in a box made after the fashion of a chicken-coop, and exhibited like a wild beast in a menagerie for a day. Drunkards were frequently ducked in mud-pools to the point of suffocation. A man detected in the act of taking money from a merchant's cash-drawer was first given several rides in the "coach," then carried off on a sharp rail, followed by half the adult population of the village, and thrown into a mud-pool to repent.

But the contrast between the old and new order of things is most strikingly apparent in the matter of education.

The first school was a log cabin, built a mile west of Marion, in 1824, by Thomas Billingslea, assisted by his neighbors. The second was taught in 1825, in a cabin where the Second Baptist Church now stands. Next year David McCullough taught at the same place. Joseph Walker opened a school near Gen. E. O. King's residence, and divided the town's patronage with McCullough.

Descriptions of these schools would read like extracts from Longstreet and Johnston. The instruction and discipline were barbarous. Of the

former we are told that "spelling was the principal study, and the pupils were not only required to spell the lesson, but to commit it to memory. After the spelling-book was mastered, pupils were permitted to have a slate and copy-book and learn to read. One thing at a time was the rule. Geography was not embraced in the curriculum. Teachers were expected to know how to sing, and "singing geography" was the usual method of teaching this science. The teacher formed his school in line, and, marching either inside or outside of the house, beating time with his switch, he sang the States, capitals and rivers, to some tune improvised by himself. After this manner the multiplication table was learned. Of the discipline we are told that the teachers endeavored to excel each other in the multiplicity of their useless rules, the penalty for the violation of which was invariably a whipping. "Parents estimated their sons' progress at school by the number of whippings they received. If, at any time, the boy thrashed the teacher, the fond father was never so elated, and usually boasted of it in a quiet way to his neighbors as evidencing his son's early physical development." Teachers were often "barred out" to secure holidays, and when there was a pond near the school-house the instructor always received at least one ducking during the year, the patrons assisting if the pupils were unable to consummate the rebellion unaided.

In many other ways, evidence of a low stage of moral and intellectual development was given. The pastimes and amusements were rude; the Sabbath was not properly observed; drunkenness was common; such records as we have are filled with accounts of incidents that could never have occurred in a community where a high standard of morality and refinement prevailed.

I have no doubt that a similar state of things existed in most, if not all, of the towns whose histories recorded in this volume run back as far as that of Marion. The only reason I can give for referring so plainly to a period whose true history is so generally palliated, or left unwritten by admirers of the old order is, that Marion's present claim to pre-eminence in culture among Alabama communities is so generally admitted that she need not fear a revelation of the extremely different state which was formerly hers. There was never any sudden change of course, and there was probably, from the very first, a certain progress, just as there was a gradual increase in wealth and

population. But the founding of the Marion Female Seminary in 1836, may serve as well as any other particular forward step to mark the beginning of a period in which the upbuilding of schools and colleges, and a continuous growth in refinement, have been the leading features.

This was accomplished through the united exertions of the citizens, irrespective of denominational or other distinctions. The school was controlled by Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists until 1839, when the latter seceded and built the Judson. Since then it has been controlled by the Episcopalians, Methodists and Presbyterians. The building was at one time destroyed by fire, and had to be replaced; there have been many difficulties and distresses; the war, of course, was a great interruption, but the Seminary now numbers near 300 graduates among its alumni, living and dead, and over 4,000 pupils have received instruction within its walls. The work it has done, and helped to do, in civilizing and elevating its environment, and the refining influence it has directly and indirectly exerted throughout Alabama and other States, have been great and valuable. It is the oldest female college in the State, and was founded at a time when there was much need of just such work and influence. But, perhaps its most important mission, was the demonstration of the fact that an attempt toward the higher education of their youth was possible to the citizens of Marion.

Through some dissatisfaction with the management, or with their share of the management of the school they had helped to build, the Baptists, as I have said, seceded in 1839, and set about establishing a school of their own. It was a great undertaking for a single denomination, in a community where religious affinities were not yet the strongest incentives to cooperation, and where the population was not yet large enough to create a necessity for more than one institution devoted to the education of a single sex. But the Baptists appeared to have already become strong, relatively and absolutely, and they persevered. Fortunately, they secured at the start the services of Milo P. Jewett, afterward somewhat celebrated as the first president of Vassar College, as principal, and with no great array of pupils and a rather unpretentious building, the career of the Judson was begun.

The Baptists throughout the State soon became interested in a school which represented almost

completely their efforts as a denomination in the way of education. This insured the success of the boarding department, and the local patronage was good from the first. With intervals of misfortune arising from various causes, but with much steady progress, and with a high aim, the institution has grown into an important factor in the educational development of the State, and a constant source of pride and profit to the place of its location. Of late years its policy has been especially progressive, and its standard and aims seem to have grown higher and higher; it has become a practical and effective plea for the fuller education of women—a demonstration of its practicability and beneficence. Of late, too, its success financially has been greater than ever.

Howard College was probably a sort of afterthought from the Judson, in the minds of the Baptists. If the denomination was able to build and sustain a female school of high grade, why not a male school of like grade also? Such, doubtless, was the way in which they looked at it; and, accordingly, in 1841, five years after the building of the Judson, they made the attempt. Again the beginning was such as the size of the community and the state of opinion concerning the value and need of higher education rendered necessary. But the same co-operation which had sustained the Judson, secured the success, though somewhat gradual, and with the inevitable wartime delay, of the Howard also. From the first it was a school of high grade, and the standard has been constantly rising. During the last decade the drill has been a feature of importance, and, under the superintendence of Dr. J. T. Murfee, who was at one time commandant of Cadets at the University of Alabama, the college has taken on the aspect of a thorough military establishment.

The removal of the Howard to Birmingham is still fresh in the memory of the people of Alabama. It was accomplished through the efforts, probably disinterested, of a number of leading Baptists throughout the State, backed by the financial inducements held out by Birmingham's citizens. It is useless now to question the wisdom of the change. There was much bitterness in the feeling with which it was contemplated by the people, especially the Baptists of Marion, and when Dr. Murfee announced his resolution to resign the presidency of the college and endeavor to establish in the abandoned buildings a school

which should carry out the ideas he had formed during a long experience as a teacher concerning the peculiar educational needs of Alabama and the neighboring Gulf States, it was at once apparent that he would receive the earnest support of a community which felt itself injured by the removal of an institution it had fostered, and whose progress it had watched with so much sympathy and pride. Marion Military Institute began its first session in the old Howard buildings in October, 1887, and its work so far is more than a promise of a great and useful career in the future.

The same year that saw the Howard removed, saw also the removal of another educational institution from Marion. Lincoln Normal University was a school for negroes, first built up and supported by Northern philanthropists, and afterward controlled by the State. Under the presidency of Prof. W. B. Patterson it had been remarkably successful, the attendance during the last two or three years having averaged about four hundred. Certain unpleasantnesses between students of the Howard and students of the University, however, and the general opinion that it was not fit that large schools for whites and blacks should be located in the same community, caused the sending to the General Assembly of a petition for the removal of Lincoln. It was granted; and in the summer of 1887, while Birmingham was exulting over the capture of the Howard, Montgomery, by a much less effort, secured our second great male school.

An excellent system of public school instruction, facilitated by the building of an adequate school-house, has grown up within the last several years. It has not diminished the prosperity of our parochial schools, however, but has supplemented them, and in a measure, completed the grounds on which to base our claim to be considered as an educational center.

In order to bring together all the reasons for this claim, I have followed the development of our institutions, without reference to the increase of population and the growth of other interests by which they were accompanied. From a view of the situation at present, it surely appears that the claim is valid. The Judson and Seminary, each under the direction of an experienced educator, and with able faculties, are doing much for the cause of the higher education of women, and the patronage they receive would indicate that their work is not unappreciated. Marion Military In-

stitute is applying the ideas of Herbert Spencer to the training of boys, with a practical consistency, that is a new thing in the South, if not in the entire country, and the indications are that the result will fully realize Doerflinger Murfee's expectations, and the academy is serving as a feeder to the institutions of higher grade. There has been no period, at which our people had better right to feel contented and hopeful concerning the schools which have now for years been the subject of their greatest anxiety and care.

Returning to the consideration of the growth in population and wealth, through which alone the progress in educational development became possible, we must state, in general, that Marion has had no sudden influx of either at any period in its history. Such quiet developments are not characteristic of agricultural districts or towns; and Marion and Perry County are agricultural if anything, forming a portion of the Black Belt, which is the agricultural part of the State. To speak at length concerning the natural resources of the county, must be to repeat what has been written with sufficient fullness and correctness already. I therefore borrow from Riley's Guide Book the following paragraph:

"The northern end of the county is of an uneven surface. The central and southern portions are level. In the northern portion there are brown uplands; in the southern, there is the genuine prairie soil. These are the only two characteristics attaching to the lands of the county. Both these soils possess very great inherent fertility. Upon the highest of the hill lands in north Perry there is a prevalence of sand, in which grows chiefly the yellow or long-leaf pine. Descending to the base of these hills, or rather to the uplands, we find, as we said above, a brown loam soil. Beneath this fertile surface there is a red loam sub-soil, said to be twenty or twenty-five feet thick. The prairies proper, which embrace the central and southern portions of Perry, are broken here and there by sandy elevations, upon which are usually located the towns and settlements of the county. These knolls are admirably suited for the location of homes, as they place one beyond the reach of prairie mud, and at the same time furnish him with an abundant supply of excellent water. Corn and cotton are the chief crops, and their yield is oftentimes amazing. Like many in the adjoining counties, the farmers of Perry are turning their attention to the remunerative pur-

suit of raising stock. Excellent stock farms can now be seen in the county, superior grasses are being cultivated, and the profits annually realized are most gratifying. These lands can not be surpassed for purposes of stock raising."

The same writer also adds: "Many delicious fruits are grown in the county. Peaches, pears, figs and grapes, together with strawberries and watermelons, are the principal fruits produced. The timbers of the county are the usual upland oaks, hickory, short and long-leaf or yellow pine."

A region of this sort could only become the home of planters and small farmers, and after the organization of the county the planters and small farmers came, not in crowds, but one by one and family by family. They settled at the most advantageous spots—those who were rich enough and owned slaves enough, taking large plantations in the central and southern parts, where the nature of the soil and the absence of hills and other obstacles made agriculture on the large scale profitable; the poorer class, who are now known locally as "Hillians" and "Poor Whites," and more widely as "Crackers," spreading thinly over the northern portion. Because of its central situation and its importance as the county seat, as well, perhaps, as from the somewhat enterprising character of its first settlers, Marion became the distributing point for both of these classes. The trade could not at first have been extensive, and it has not yet become colossal, because there were not enough people within the territory adjacent to require a large quantity of supplies; because, also, it is the good fortune of planters in this part of the State—of which, however, they have not fully taken advantage—to be able to farm their own lands, to supply themselves with many of the necessities and luxuries of life.

But with each addition to the population of the county the business of the town grew; there was, probably, an almost constant ratio between the number of inhabitants in the "territory" which Marion supplied and the number in Marion. The courts and the county offices were also a source of increase, as, from the nature of our politics, I believe they always are in every capital, county, State or National. Slowly, quietly, almost imperceptibly, Marion ceased to be a private neighborhood, passed the village stage, and became a veritable "town."

The goods of which Marion was the distributing

point, were obtained mostly from Mobile. There were no railroads, and they were only to be obtained by the use of pole boats on the Alabama River, on which they were brought up to Cahaba. Thence they were hauled to Marion with teams.

In 1830 the town had, including taverns, eleven business houses, mostly stores; there were three doctors, and four lawyers divided the meagre docket among them.

In 1836, there must have been a larger amount of property, or the building of the Seminary could not have been undertaken and accomplished. The dates of the construction of the Judson and Howard may also serve to indicate the rate of progress. But though there was, during the whole of this period, and up to a few years before the war, the same gradual growth, accompanied by an increase of refinement and morality equally steady, but more rapid, there was no event of preëminent business importance until about 1853, when the first effort to build a railroad to Marion was made. In order to gain connection by rail with the rest of the world, it was necessary to construct a road to the point now known as Marion Junction, to which the road that is now the Alabama Central division of East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia system, had been built. From the Junction, the road already constructed, afforded a passage to Selma. The people of Marion and those living between Marion and the Junction were unaided in the enterprise. They were compelled to raise every cent of the money themselves, and there were among them few, if any, capitalists able to contribute largely. A wide cooperation was therefore necessary; and much praise is due the men who effected this cooperation and the spirit which made it possible. The work was slow; it was three years before it was completed, and only for a short time after its completion was Marion permitted to enjoy the connection with Selma. Some difficulty arising between the two roads meeting at the Junction, the more recently built was debarred the privilege of using the older line from the Junction to Selma, and the object for which the former was constructed was thus left unaccomplished.

In this emergency a commendable spirit was shown. Determined not to surrender the benefits of their enterprise, the directors and the people abandoned the idea of a connection with Selma, and by another great effort extended the road

from the Junction to Cahaba, thus making connection with Mobile through the boat lines on the Alabama River. Such was the situation at the opening of the great civil conflict, which, while bestowing temporary disaster so liberally on every portion of the South, did not forget to bring a special misfortune to Marion. The Government, needing iron for purposes of its own, took the rails from the track between Cahaba and the Junction, and employed them elsewhere, and for a long time it was necessary to change cars between Marion and Selma. Immediately after the war, Gen. N. B. Forrest became largely interested in our road, and the Government offering a bounty of \$16,000 a mile for every twenty miles of new railroad, by skillful management succeeded in extending it six miles beyond Marion in the direction of Greensboro, to which place it was soon completed. From Greensboro it has been extended to Akron, connecting with the Alabama Great Southern. This is, so far, our only railroad. It has unquestionably helped much in the development of the business possibilities of the place, both by affording a cheaper means of obtaining goods, and by the activity and enterprise which it could not fail to arouse and encourage. Chiefly because of its existence, the eleven business houses of 1830 have grown into near seventy-five, and the cotton trade, which has always been the index to our prosperity, has been greatly increased.

At present the hopes of our people are directed to the securing of the Mobile & Birmingham Railroad, which must pass near Marion, and for which, in the opinion of many, it would be profitable not to ignore so important a place, which it might touch with small additional expense and with mutual benefit.

Some account of Marion's "war record" will perhaps be expected; but my desire to make this sketch as little as possible of a personal and family narrative leads me to confine myself to generalities. It is enough to say that no community responded more generously than this to the call of the South. No soldiers of the Southern Army conducted themselves with more heroism on the battle-field; none returned with records freer from blemish or stain. The Fourth Alabama, perhaps the most celebrated of all the regiments of the State, was largely composed of men from Perry County, and the youth of Marion, among whom were many students of Howard College, vied with the hardy yeomen of





Yours truly  
A. B. Liver



north Perry and the wealthy and high-spirited planters of the prairies in courage and endurance. Our cemeteries are not without soldier graves, and on our monument to the "Unreturned Dead" there are names whose fame is not merely local.

Having so plainly indicated my opinion that there was, during the earlier period of our history, a state of morality and an absence of refinement hard to conceive of, it is only proper that at the close I should again refer to the widely different condition of our society now. The work of our schools in this respect has been simply marvelous, and the schools have been more than supplemented by the churches. I do not think there is another community in Alabama where so much deference is paid to the ministry and to the teachings of Christianity. There is something almost Puritanical in the supremacy of moral considerations over all others, and the censorship to which, willingly or unwillingly, our people submit. The result is that whatever may be said on the score of dullness, no just accusation of anything approaching license can be brought against the town which Captain Slick's Company used formerly to keep in order only with the greatest difficulty.

A quiet, moral, refined community, spreading comfortably over a ridgy congregation of hills, divided by pretty brooklets, with an abundance of fine trees; a fair proportion of handsome residences and well-kept yards; the Seminary, a solid-looking brick edifice, hiding among the elms which cover its grounds; the Judson, an imposing structure, with a front of two hundred and fifty feet, crowning a slight and gentle rise near the eastern slope of the ridge; Marion Military Institute, with three adequate buildings, but in the suburbs toward the southwest; the court-house, at the center of the whole, facing Main Street and the business houses—such is Marion, a town of near 3,000 souls. Such, or nearly such, in all human probability, it will remain for years to come, playing no brilliant part in the life of the State, yet not without a power and influence for good through the morality and refinement it inculcates and exemplifies and the young characters it is shaping.



**JESSE B. SHIVERS**, Judge of Probate, was born in Marengo County, this State, April 27, 1839. His father, Dr. O. L. Shivers, a North Carolinian, came into Alabama at an early date, and

settled first in what is now Hale County. Sometime after his marriage to Miss Woodfin, a Virginia lady, he settled in Perry County, where he resided during the rest of his life. He died in 1881, at the age of sixty-six years.

Jesse B. Shivers was graduated from Howard College, Marion, in 1859, and was pursuing the study of law at Cumberland (Tenn.) University at the outbreak of the late war. Coming directly home, he enlisted as a private soldier in the Eighth Alabama Infantry, from which he was subsequently transferred to the Eleventh Regiment Alabama Infantry, and with this command remained up to and including the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond. At Glendale, or Frazer's Farm, he received seven severe wounds, one of which resulted in the loss to him of his left arm. The operation of amputation, which was immediately performed while he was yet upon the battle-field, was for some cause unsuccessful, and he was compelled, after arriving at the hospital, to undergo a second amputation. He was brought from Virginia to his home by his father, and was eleven months in recovering.

Judge Shivers entered the army from purely patriotic motives, and as a soldier he made an enviable record for personal bravery and a patient submission to hardship and misfortune.

He was admitted to the bar in 1863, and has now long been recognized as one among the very best lawyers in Central Alabama. About the time of his coming to the bar, he was elected Mayor of Marion, and held that office by re-election until ousted by the Reconstructionists in 1867. He was subsequently again called to the mayoralty, and was retained in that office for a period of about six years. From 1876 to 1886 he held the office of County Superintendent, discharging the duties thereof with characteristic ability, and in the latter year he was elected Probate Judge. In the performance of the functions of this important office, he is notably faithful, painstaking, obliging and correct.

Judge Shivers is decidedly a modest, unassuming gentleman; retiring and somewhat diffident in his nature. In repose his countenance is stern and gives out the impression of austerity, but in conversation his whole expression is entirely changed, and his face lights up with softness, humor and good-nature.

As a testimonial of the high regard in which he is held, the publishers take pleasure in embellish-

ing this chapter with a life-like steel plate portrait of Judge J. B. Shivers.

The Judge was married at Huntsville, this State, in 1871, to a Miss Robinson.



**PORTER KING**, an extensive Planter and a distinguished citizen of Marion, was born in Perry County, this State, April 30, 1824, and is a son of the late Edwin D. King, a native of Greene County, Ga.

Gen. Edwin D. King came to Alabama in 1816, settled in Perry County, and here followed planting until the time of his death, which occurred in January, 1862, and in the seventieth year of his life. He was a prominent citizen of Georgia, and was equally prominent after coming to Alabama. His first wife, to whom he was married in his native county, was a Miss Hunter. She died in 1852, leaving two sons, William, an extensive planter during his lifetime (now deceased), and the subject of this sketch.

General King was prominently identified with the Baptist Church, and gave to that organization substantial aid and support so long as he lived. He was by far the wealthiest man in Perry County at the time of his death, and it is written of him that he gave from his ample means unto all worthy objects of charity with a liberal hand. In a lengthy article devoted to him, and published in the *Alabama Baptist*, we learn much of this worthy man. The author of that article, Samuel Henderson, says: "My acquaintance with General King commenced about the time his influence and usefulness began to assume their denominational power, that is, about the year 1840. In the establishment at Marion of the Judson Female Institute, one of the grandest institutions of its kind in the South, he took a leading and conspicuous part. He put his shoulder to the wheel, and, in connection with other good men, reared it from its foundation, and from experiment to permanent success. General King took an active part in the establishment of the Howard College, and gave that worthy institution his strongest support. He was a man of few words, always meant more than he said, and his deeds were beyond his promises."

Speaking further of him, Mr. Henderson said: "Perhaps it would be invidious to say that, but for General King, neither the Judson nor the

Howard would have been in Marion, for there were other noble spirits there and elsewhere in the State, who gave to them their hearty coöperation, but thus much may be said most truthfully, that to no man in Alabama is the denomination more indebted for what these grand institutions have been in the past, are to-day, and promise to be in the future, than to Gen. E. D. King. His name is so interwoven with them that the history of neither him nor them can be written without writing the history of each. And so long as these institutions shall exist to bless the denomination and the State, so long will his name be associated in grateful hearts with all that is praiseworthy in Christian philanthropy. Nor less was he distinguished in other departments of Christian beneficence. God gave him a large estate, and a large heart to use it wisely. God blessed him, that he might be a blessing to others. The support of his pastor, to whom he was always devoted, the missionary enterprise—indeed, every institution that looked to the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom or the elevation of his fellow-men, always awakened his liveliest sympathies and the most generous responses. Thus he lived, thus he labored, thus he gave—laying up in store a good foundation against time to come.

General King was twice married. In his later years, accompanied by his second wife, he made a trip to Europe, visiting many places of interest, and on his return enlivened many a circle of his friends by his impressions of men, places, and things. I remember to have listened with no little interest to some of the incidents of his travels in Great Britain, where he first met the English after having fought them in the battle of New Orleans under General Jackson. Some of his bouts with them were amusing and entertaining. He was as destitute of fear in war as in peace, and could speak his mind to an English nobleman with as much dignity and confidence as any King that ever walked their soil."

General King received his title as a major-general of militia; in the war of 1812 he held the rank of major. His father was an officer in the Revolutionary struggle.

Porter King was educated in the University of Alabama, and in Brown University, Rhode Island. He began reading law in 1843, at Marion, with Tom Chilton, was admitted to the bar in 1845, and practiced law until 1850. In this year he was elected Judge of the Circuit

Court. While in this capacity and presiding over the Bibb (County) Circuit Court in 1861, he received notice of the formation of a company of volunteers, composed mostly of Howard College boys, and, calling his grand jury together, he handed in his resignation as Judge, and proceeded at once to Marion, where he was made captain of the company. This company became part of the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and Judge King commanded it twelve months. At the end of that time he returned home and resumed his seat upon the bench, and was there until ousted by Military Governor Parsons. Since that time he has given his attention entirely to his planting interests.

Away back in 1851-52, Judge King, though a Democrat in a strong Whig county, was a member of the State Legislature, and there took an active part in the establishment of the insane hospital. He was subsequently made one of the trustees of that institution, a position he held up to the close of the war. He was many years one of the trustees of the Alabama University; is now, and has been a great while, one of the trustees of Howard College, and, from 1866 to 1886, was president of the board of trustees of Judson Female Institute. He was prominently identified with the construction of the Selma, Marion & Memphis Railroad, and was its president until succeeded by General Forrest.

The Judge was married February 25, 1849, at Greensboro, this State, to a daughter of Col. John Erwin, a distinguished lawyer in his day. Mrs. King died in 1850, and Judge King, on the 19th of February, 1852, at Athens, Ga., married the youngest daughter of Chief Justice Lumpkins, of the Supreme Court of that State. To this union eight children were born, five of whom died in infancy. The living are: Joseph Henry Lumpkins King, attorney-at-law, Anniston; Porter King, Jr., attorney-at-law, Atlanta, Ga., and Thomas King, of the Bessemer Steel Works, Troy, N. Y.

Judge King and family are members of the Baptist Church, and the Judge is a Knight Templar Mason.



**JOHN MOORE**, Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit, was born in Wake County, N. C., March 13, 1829. His father, Wooten Moore, a native of

Chatham, N. C., came to Alabama in 1833, and in 1834 settled in Perry County, nine miles west of Marion. He was an extensive cotton planter, and died in 1855, at the age of sixty years. He reared three sons, the subject of this sketch being second in order of birth.

John Moore was educated primarily at Howard College, and in 1849 was graduated from the State University with the degree of A. B.; the same institution conferring upon him, subsequently, the degree of A. M. He began reading law in 1850, at Marion, in the office of I. W. Garrott (afterward General Garrott), and was admitted to the bar in 1851. Associated with his preceptor, he at once entered upon the practice, but was soon afterward called from it to enter the army. Early in 1861 he raised a short-term company at Marion, and went out as its captain. At the expiration of the term for which his company was enlisted, Mr. Moore entered the regular service and was made a lieutenant in the Fortieth Alabama Infantry. He was captured at Noon Day Creek, Ga., June 15, 1864, taken to Johnson's Island, and was there detained until the following winter. Having been exchanged he rejoined his command, but illness, contracted while on Johnson's Island, disqualified him from further service, and he soon afterward returned to Marion.

In 1865-6 Judge Moore represented Perry County in the Legislature, and in May of the latter year was elected Judge of what was then the First Judicial Circuit, composed of Autauga, Bibb, Perry and Dallas Counties. He was occupying this position in 1868, when he was removed by the Reconstructionists, and from that time until 1880 he devoted himself to the practice of law. In the year last named he was elected Judge of the Fourth Circuit, and was re-elected in 1886.

Judge Moore was at one time officially connected with what is now the Selma, Marion & Memphis Railroad. He was many years a member of the Board of Trustees of Howard College, and at this writing (1888) is president of the Board of Trustees of Judson Female Institute. He was married at Marion, February 18, 1851, to Miss Emily Billingsly, daughter of the late Dr. C. C. Billingsly, who, before coming to this county, represented Montgomery once or twice in the Legislature. To this marriage have been born two sons and one daughter. The sons are now residing in Tennessee. The family are members of the Baptist Church.

**ROBERT TIGNAL JONES**, was born in Mecklenburg County, Va., October 8, 1815, and was killed at the battle of Seven Pines, in May, 1862.

He was graduated from West Point in 1837 and served in the regular army until and during the Florida War, after which he resigned and retired to private life on his plantation in Perry County. He was married at Marion in 1847, to a daughter of Leonard H. Seawell, and had born to him three sons and two daughters. He was a prominent citizen and a gallant soldier. He surveyed and constructed the Cahaba & Marion Railroad, now the C. S. & M., and was its first president. At the outbreak of the war between the States he left his plantation, tendered his services to the Confederate Government, and at once proceeded to raise what became the Twentieth Alabama Infantry. Before the organization of this regiment, the Confederate Government commissioned him colonel, and assigned him to the command of the Twelfth Alabama Infantry, which regiment he was leading at the time of his death. In 1861, and prior to his being made colonel of the Twelfth, he was tendered the rank of brigadier-general and a seat on the military board of the State by Governor Moore, but declined it and repaired at once to Fort Morgan, where he was placed in command of a battalion of artillery and, for a short time, in command of the fort.

Colonel Jones was a strict disciplinarian, yet so great in him was the confidence of his men that at the reorganization of his regiment, in 1862, he was unanimously chosen by them as their colonel. Toward the close of the day at Seven Pines, and while in the act of turning the captured guns upon the enemy, a minie ball pierced his breast, and he fell.

He was a man of sound judgment, inflexible will, lofty sense of honor, upright character, and one who always preferred deeds to words.

Early in 1862, it will be remembered, the new battle-flag adopted by the Government was sent to the various commands, and its reception was made the object of many addresses by various colonels. Colonel Jones' men of the Twelfth anxiously waited the address that he should deliver at the time it was to be unfurled as their banner. Mounting his horse he had the regiment drawn up in line, and turning to an orderly, he said: "Unfold that flag!" and then to the men, he continued "there is your new battle-flag. Wherever you see it mov-

ing, do you follow." This was the end of his speech, and he dismissed his regiment and rode away.

Colonel Jones' first wife was a Miss Jones of this county. His second was a sister of Captain J. J. Seawell. He left living several children, and among them we will notice L. S. Jones in another chapter.



**L. S. JONES**, son of the late Col. Robert T. Jones, was born in Perry County, Ala., in 1850, and was educated at Richmond (Va.) Baptist College.

He was appointed Clerk of the Circuit Court of Perry County in 1871, and again in 1874; the latter appointment was the result of necessity—the Negroes having elected a man to that position who was unable to give the required bond. He has been twice elected to the same office, and in all had held it over sixteen years, when he resigned for the purpose of going in business. He is a member of the Knights of Honor, a communicant of the Episcopal Church, and is an upright, honorable, highly-respected citizen.

Mr. Jones was married, in 1877, to a daughter of Capt. John Howz, of Marion.



**JAMES DOUGLAS WADE, A. M.**, President of the Marion Female Seminary, was born at Christiansburg, Va., in 1832, and was educated at Emory and Henry College, that State, and at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., graduating from the last named institution in 1855. Soon after leaving Dickinson he accepted a position as teacher in Andrew Female College, Cuthbert, Ga., and remained there eight years. In 1863 he was elected to a professorship in Monticello (Fla.) Academy, and taught there nine years. From here he went to Tallahassee, where he took charge of the Western Florida Seminary, now University, and was there eight years.

At Troy, Ala., he established an academy, beginning with only thirteen students, and building it up to one of the first institutions of the State, with an average attendance of one hundred and twenty-five pupils. He came to Marion in the fall of 1884, as president of the Marion Female Seminary. Under his wise supervision, the school

has rapidly advanced in popularity, and is now one of the leading institutions for the education of girls in Alabama. It is claimed that this is the oldest female college in the world. It was founded in 1836. The Seminary now belongs to the Presbyterians, Methodists and Episcopalians jointly. The art teacher, Miss Mary E. Jones, visits Europe and our Northern cities frequently, in the interest of her department. Miss Harriet A. Woodham, an English lady, a graduate of Leipsic, Germany, is principal of the music school. Over 1,000 young ladies have been taught at this school, and there has not been a death among its *boarding* pupils in thirty-five years.



**CYRUS D. HOGUE**, Attorney-at-law, Marion, was born in Perry County, near Scott's Station, this State, December 7, 1818. His father, John Hogue, was also a native of this county, and his mother, whose maiden name was Wallace, was a native of South Carolina. His grandfather Hogue was one of the pioneers of Perry County, and his father lived here all his life, and died in 1870, at the age of fifty-two years. The Hogues are of Scotch-Irish descent, and the Wallaces came originally from Scotland.

Cyrus D. Hogue was educated at Howard College, the Alabama State University, and Washington and Lee University, Virginia, attending each of these institutions in the order named. He began the study of law with Judge Powhattan Lockett, at Marion, in 1842, and was soon afterward admitted to the bar. He rapidly took rank as one of the leading attorneys at the Perry County bar, and has maintained that position ever since. He was elected to the Legislature in 1882, and was successively returned, sessions of 1884-5 and 1886-7. In the first named session, he was chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations, and was of the Committee on Education; sessions of 1884-5, he was of the Judiciary Committee, Committees on Education, Rules, etc., and in session of 1886-7 was chairman of Committee on Privileges and Elections, and member of the Judiciary Committee, Committee on Rules and Committee on Penitentiary. In all these committees, Mr. Hogue was ever active, and won for himself the reputation of being one of the most persistent working members of the House.

Mr. Hogue stumped the district in General

Shelley's interest in 1878, and in every succeeding campaign, both State and National, his voice has been raised in the interest of the only party that stands eternally as the exponent of individual American liberty. He has the reputation of being an eloquent speaker, and is now a prominent candidate for State Auditor.

Mr. Hogue was married at Marion, May, 1842, to Miss Mary A. Brown, the accomplished daughter of the late Gen. W. R. Brown of this place, and has had born to him three sons. He is a member of the Order of the Knights of Honor, and the family are identified with the Presbyterian Church.



**JAMES H. STEWART**, Attorney-at-law, was born in Greene County, this State, February 10, 1841, and is a son of Warren D. Stewart, a native South Carolinian. The family came to Alabama at an early day, and settled in what is now Tuscaloosa County, on the bank of the Black Warrior.

Warren D. Stewart's father was a planter, and spent his life in the cultivation of the fertile valleys of the Warrior. He resided in Greene County until 1848, at which time he moved to Mississippi, where he died in 1849, at the age of twenty-eight years. His only son, the subject of this sketch, was educated at Doctor Tutwiler's famous Greene Springs School, and at the law department of the University of Virginia. He left the latter institution to join the Eleventh Alabama Infantry as a private, and with that command participated in the battles of Seven Pines, Gaines' Mill, Gettysburg, etc. He was wounded at Gaines' Mill and at Gettysburg, and surrendered with Lee at Appomattox. After the death of his father in Mississippi, his mother removed to Marengo County, this State; and there he returned, after leaving the army.

He was admitted to the bar in 1866, and practiced law at Uniontown until 1880. In that year he was elected Probate Judge of Perry County for the term of six years. Since the expiration of his official term he has lived at Marion and devoted himself to the practice of law. He was for a number of years, and until very recently, one of the trustees of Marion Female Seminary.

Judge Stewart is a popular citizen, a lawyer of pronounced ability, and as Judge of the Probate Court he made a record for fairness and fitness of which he may well be proud.

**CHARLES H. SEAWELL**, Register in Chancery, Marion, was born at this place, March 18, 1844. His father, L. H. Seawell, a North Carolinian by birth, came to Alabama in 1833. He was an extensive planter and a highly respected citizen. He died at Marion in 1858.

The subject of this sketch was for a time a student at Summertield Academy, Dallas County, and subsequently at St. James College, Maryland.

He entered the army early in 1861, and with his command proceeded to Ft. Morgan. The short term of his first enlistment having expired, he joined the Eighth Alabama Infantry, and was soon afterward, "for gallantry on the battle-field," promoted to first lieutenant of his company. Toward the latter part of the war, he was commissioned captain in the Provisional Army, and held that rank to the close. He participated in all the battles fought by the Eighth Alabama Regiment and the Army of Northern Virginia, and it is no flattery to say that that incomparable army had in it no more gallant and worthy soldier than he.

At the close of hostilities he returned to Perry County and was engaged in farming until 1881, when he was elected Register in Chancery, which office he has held ever since. He is an active political worker, takes a live interest in public affairs, and is altogether one of Perry County's best citizens.

Mr. Seawell was married at Mobile, in 1886, to Miss Ravasies. Both he and wife are members of the Episcopal Church.



**JAMES H. GRAHAM**, Mayor of the City of Marion, was born at Gallatin, Tenn., February 9, 1817. His parents migrated to Tennessee during the Territorial days of that Commonwealth, and there reared a family of six sons and six daughters. The senior Mr. Graham was educated for the ministry, but it appears that he, from choice, devoted his life to farming and the breeding of fine stock. He died in 1819, at the age of eighty-six years. Two of his sons became lawyers, and two doctors; one of his daughters is now the wife of Dr. Daniel Johnson, of Covington, Ky.

The subject of this sketch was educated in Sumner County, Tenn., came to Marion in 1835, and began life as a clerk in a store. In 1837 he visited his brother in Texas, and there spent three years, engaged principally in chasing Indians on

the frontier. He returned to Tennessee in 1840, and in 1843 married Miss Louisa Wheelock, of Kentucky. After merchandising for two years at Hartsville, that State, he returned to Marion, and here, barring short intervals, continued that business until 1861. In the fall of 1870 he was elected to the State Legislature, and from 1872 to 1876 he was enrolling clerk of the State Senate. From 1877 to 1881 he was Marshal of Marion. He was Mayor of Marion in 1870, and in 1884 he was called again to that office, and has since been retained therein.

Captain Graham earned his title upon the battle-field in the conflict between the States. His army service covered the period between the autumn of 1861 and the battle of Chickamauga. At the latter place he was so seriously wounded by a minie ball that he was compelled, soon afterward, to retire from the army. As captain of Company A, Twenty-eighth Alabama Infantry, he had under him one hundred and twenty-five men, and led them gallantly at Murfreesboro and Chickamauga. At the latter place, as has been seen, he was wounded.

Though a married man, Captain Graham has not had born to him any children. He and his goodly wife, however, have reared and educated four orphans, who have grown up under their training to adult estate and taken their places in the world and such positions in society as to reflect the greatest credit and honor upon their foster parents. Captain and Mrs. Graham are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Captain is a Mason.



**JAS. A. MOORE**, President of the Marion Savings Bank, also President of the Marion Female Seminary, and present Mayor of the city of Marion, was born at Palo Alto, Miss., December 10, 1839, and is a son of Thomas Moore, a native of South Carolina.

Mr. Moore was educated at Marion, to which place he came when fourteen years of age. At the outbreak of the late war he was attending commercial school at New Orleans; he came at once to Alabama, entered the army as a member of the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and served with it until the close of the war. In all the hotly-contested fights in which his regiment participated, including Gettysburg, Richmond, Petersburg,





*Yours Truly*  
*B. M. Huey*



Fredericksburg, the second Manassas, and many others whose names are not now recalled, Mr. Moore took an active part. At the close of the war he returned to Marion and soon afterwards established the mercantile firm of J. A. Moore & Co. This firm subsequently became Moore & Fitzgerald, and went out of mercantile business in 1883. The Marion Savings Bank was established in 1872, and he became its president in 1883.

The capital stock of this bank is \$50,000, and something of the skill with which Mr. Moore has managed it may be gathered from the fact that in 1883 its stock was selling at fifty cents on the dollar, while now it sells at about par.

It is proper to say that Mr. Moore is a self-made man. What of this world's goods he has, have been acquired by his individual effort and industry. He was Mayor of Marion in 1882, which seems to constitute the sum of his public services.

At Huntsville, this State, in October, 1872, he married Miss Sarah F. Robinson.



**THOMAS HUDSON**, Editor and Proprietor of the Marion *Standard*, a weekly Democratic paper, published every Wednesday morning, was born at Uniontown, Perry County, Ala., August 28, 1841.

His father, Richard H. Hudson, many years a successful merchant, came from Virginia when seventeen years of age, and lived at Uniontown until the day of his death, which occurred in 1863. He married a Miss Chambers, of Clarke County, this State, a granddaughter of Gen. Joseph Chambers, of the War of 1812.

Thomas Hudson was educated at Uniontown, and at the age of sixteen entered the State University, leaving there in 1859 to attend the University of Virginia. He was at the latter place when Alabama seceded from the Union. He came immediately home and entered the army as a member of an old military company, which had at that time tendered its services to the Governor and been accepted. They left for the field April 19, 1861. At Dalton, this command was reorganized and became the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and took part in the first battle of Manassas, where the subject of this sketch fell into the hands of the enemy. He was taken to the Old

Capitol prison, and held to November following, when he was paroled. It will be remembered that about this time the Confederate States Government, as a stroke of economy, ordered the discharge from the service of all paroled prisoners. Therefore, young Hudson was at liberty to enlist into another command when once he had been exchanged, and we find that early in 1863, he joined Captain Storr's Cadet Company from Tuscaloosa, and became a part of the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, with which command he remained to the close of the war. Having married while on parole, he, in 1865, returned to Uniontown, settled down upon a plantation and followed farming until 1874. His wife was a Miss Pitts, daughter of P. H. Pitts, Sr., and a niece of the Hon. A. C. Davidson, the present member of Congress from that district. She died in August, 1873, leaving four children, one daughter and three sons.

Mr. Hudson is Grand Keeper of Records and Seals of the Order of Knights of Pythias, member of the Knights of Honor and of the Order of Iron Hall. He has been twice vice-president of the Alabama Press Association; held the office of Assistant Tax Assessor, and was elected Tax Assessor and served three years. It is proper to mention that the records kept by the County Commissioners show that they, upon three occasions, passed resolutions declaring that "Thomas Hudson was the best Tax Assessor the county ever had."

In the fall of 1880 he came to Marion to take charge of the Probate Judge's office for Judge Stewart, who was incapacitated from illness to attend to the duties of the office. While here he purchased the *Southern Standard*, and changed its name to the Marion *Standard*, the present popular provincial paper.



**BENJAMIN M. HUEY**, prominent Attorney and Counselor-at-law, Marion, Ala., and present State Senator from this district, is a native of Talladega County, this State, where he was born June 15, 1810, and is a son of General James G. L. Huey.

Captain Huey was educated at Oxford, Ga., primarily, and graduated from the Southern University, Greensboro, Ala., as A. B., class of 1860. Immediately after leaving college, and in the office of Hon. A. J. Walker, of Talladega, he began the study of law. In June, 1861, he joined

Company E, Tenth Alabama Infantry, as a sergeant, and was with that command about eighteen months. At Williamsburg, Va., he was promoted by the War Department (C. S. A.), for gallantry in action, to second lieutenant, and assigned to Talladega as drill master. He remained in that position from October, 1862, to July, 1864, at which time he raised a company of infantry, and was assigned to a battalion at Mobile. At the latter place his company fell into the hands of General Farragut—he, being absent with his sick family at the time, escaped imprisonment. His company was never exchanged, and he was assigned to post duty again at Talladega, where he remained until the close of the war.

While in the service, Captain Huey participated in the battles of Dranesville, Williamsburg, Seven Pines, Gaines' Mill, Frazier's Farm, Malvern Hill, second Manassas, Harper's Ferry, Sharpsburg, and any number of skirmishes not dignified in history with the name of battle.

At the close of the war, he came to Marion, and, with ex-Governor Moore and Hon. William M. Brooks, resumed the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in 1866, and at once entered into the practice.

He was a member of the Legislature from Perry county in 1878-9, and for the succeeding term declined nomination. He was Mayor of Marion in 1881, and was elected to the State Senate in 1886. In 1887, he was appointed on the staff of Governor Thomas Seay with the rank of colonel, by which title he will hereafter be familiarly known.

Colonel Huey is a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and is a member of Selma Commandery, No. 5; is Past Chancellor of E. D. King Lodge, Knights of Pythias, in which order he has been the representative to the Grand Lodge four times in succession; and is also an officer in the Grand Lodge. He is a member of the Knights of Honor, in which he is Dictator of Marion Lodge, No. 2780.

The Colonel is one of the Trustees of Marion Female Seminary, and is otherwise variously interested in Marion and her most reputable institutions. He is one of the most earnest Democratic workers in Central Alabama; takes an active part in all political campaigns, and does much effective work. He stumped the State at the request of the State Central Committee, for Seymour and Blair, Greeley and Brown, Hancock and English, and Cleveland and Hendricks, and is always to

the forefront when any duty, political, social or religious, calls him.

As a lawyer, Colonel Huey ranks among the best; as a speaker, he is forcible, logical and eloquent; as a legislator, he is active, diligent, progressive and energetic. He introduced a bill in the last Senate of Alabama to establish a State Female Industrial School and University—the first move in that line ever attempted in this State, and it is to be hoped such a bill will yet become a law at the approaching session of the General Assembly of Alabama.

Colonel Huey was married in Perry County, June 9, 1863, to Miss Sarah E. King, daughter of the late E. W. King, and has had born to him four sons and four daughters. Three of his sons are already fine business men. The family are all members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Indicative of the esteem in which Colonel Huey is held in Alabama, and of his high social position, wealth and attainments, the publishers take pleasure in presenting herewith a life-like portrait of one of the representative men of Alabama, which speaks for itself.

Gen. James G. L. Huey came to Alabama from Georgia in 1835. His grandfather, born in Ireland, came to America prior to the Revolutionary War, and was a captain in the Continental Army during the struggle for liberty. The Hueys were French Huguenots, and this particular branch of them are the descendants of those who left France under the persecutions of Catholicism in the latter part of the sixteenth century. General Huey settled at Talladega, and there married Miss Virginia V. Maclin, a native of Virginia, and a near relative of the Hon. James M. and John Y. Mason, of that State. He lives now in Bibb County, this State, where he is a wealthy farmer. He represented Talladega County in the State Senate, away back in 1845, and during the late war took an active part, holding the rank of major-general in the command of State troops. He removed to Marion in 1872, and from here to Bibb County in 1874.

Col. B. M. Huey's mother *nee* Virginia V. Maclin was the daughter of Mr. Benjamin Maclin, a high-toned Virginia gentleman of the old school and of large means, who reside near Petersburg. Gen. G. L. Huey removed from Lancaster, S. C., in 1833, to Harris County, Ga., where he filled several public positions of trust, and where he is

universally esteemed for his excellent judgment and high integrity of character. He accumulated a considerable fortune and is ever ready to assist in benevolent charities.



**WM. W. WILKERSON, M.D.**, son of P. H. and E. W. (Foster) Wilkerson, natives, respectively, of the States of Kentucky and Georgia, and of English extraction, was born in Tuscaloosa County, Ala., August 15, 1833.

Of the seven sons reared to manhood by the senior Wilkerson, two of them are doctors of medicine, three of dental surgery, and two are farmers.

The subject of this sketch was educated at the State University and began reading medicine at Tuscaloosa when twenty-one years of age. In 1855, he was graduated from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, and at once began the practice of medicine in Perry County. Since 1865, he has lived in the town of Marion, where he stands at the head of his profession.

In 1862, he entered the army as assistant surgeon and remained in the service until the close of the war. The last eighteen months of his service was as surgeon in charge of the hospital at Eufaula; the first eighteen months were spent in the field.

The Doctor has been many years prominently identified with the Baptist Church, in which he is regarded as one of the most substantial pillars. For fifteen years he was president of the Board of Trustees of Howard College, the denominational literary institution of this Church, then located in Marion. During this period, the college did some of the grandest work of its history, notwithstanding it had lost its large and munificent endowment by the results of the war.

The Doctor furnished the means for starting the *Alabama Baptist* in Marion, and, as business manager, in connection with Rev. E. T. Winkler, D.D., as editor-in-chief, carried the paper on for five or six years, during which time it made a National reputation. After the successful establishment of the paper, they turned it over to the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

He was married in Perry County, in 1857, to Miss Moore, a sister of Judge John Moore, of this city, and they have had born to them four sons, the eldest of whom, Dr. Wooten M. Wilkerson, is practicing medicine in Montgomery. William

is an attorney in Birmingham. Another son is in the drug business at Marion, and Chas. W., the youngest, is in business in Marion.



**WILLIAM F. HOGUE**, son of the late John Hogue, and brother of the Hon. Cyrus D. Hogue, of Marion, was born in Perry County in 1853. He was graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1873; subsequently read law at Marion, and was admitted to the bar in 1876. For a short time after coming to the bar he gave his time to the practice, but his planting interests were of such character as to require his personal attention. He therefore withdrew from the law, and is, at this writing (1888) devoting his time to the growing of cotton. He lives upon his plantation, near Scott's Station, and is regarded as one of the most successful farmers in the county.

He represented Perry County in the Legislature, sessions of 1880-81, in which he proved himself an energetic and useful member, and he is the present nominee of the Democratic party for that position. Having no opposition, he will of course be the next representative from this county.

Mr. Hogue's wife, to whom he was married in Hale County, this State, in 1880, is the accomplished daughter of William H. Lavender, Esq.



**JOHN BINION COCKE**, Postmaster, Marion, was born at this place May 4, 1845.

His father was a planter by occupation, and died at Marion in 1867, at the age of fifty-three years. His brother, the Hon. J. F. Cocke, was sixteen years a State Senator from his district. The family to which John B. Cocke belongs consists of three sons and two daughters. The oldest son was a member of the Fourth Alabama Regiment, and was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. One of the daughters, Mrs. Zitila, was graduated with honors from the Judson Female Institute, Marion, and, after traveling extensively, located at Baltimore, Md., where she is engaged in literary work and in teaching German and music. She is a well-known contributor of recognized merit to various literary publications.

John Binion Cocke was educated at Marion and at the University of Alabama. In 1863 he enlisted in the Twentieth Alabama Regiment, then

located at Vicksburg, and was made first lieutenant of Company G. With this command he served to the close of the war, and participated in the battles of Jackson, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Nashville, and left the service as a member of Gen. E. W. Pettus's staff. For some years after the war he gave his attention to farming, and in 1879 was elected sheriff of Perry County. He was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland in 1885 in response to the wishes of an overwhelming majority of the best people of Marion. He is an active, simon-pure Democratic worker, in whom there is no guile, and, at this writing, he is a member of the State Executive Committee.

Mr. Coker was married in 1870 to Miss Modawell, daughter of W. B. Modawell, Esq., and has had born to him six children.



**CARLOS REESE**, probably the best representative of pioneer life now living in Perry County, was born in Pendleton District, S. C., in 1815. His father, Henry Dobson Reese, was a planter, but Carlos Reese, it seems, began life as a mechanic. He learned the carriage-maker's trade, and followed it about fourteen years. He came to Alabama in the fall of 1832, and carried on a little carriage manufactory at Marion for six or seven years. At the end of that time, he removed to the plantation, about three miles south of the town of Marion, upon which he has since resided. As before stated, he came to Alabama in 1832. At the end of a couple of years, he returned to Charleston, where, in 1836, we find that he was a member of Captain Henry's Company of Irish Volunteers, and with this command fought the Indians in the Florida War about three months. Before returning to Alabama, he spent some time in Augusta, Ga., where as a mechanic, he assisted in the construction of the first passenger coach that ever ran into the city of Atlanta.

January 5, 1841, he married Mary Catharine Crenshaw, by whom he had born to him eight children; now living, three sons and two daughters. Two of his sons, Joseph R., and Carlos R., Jr., were soldiers in the late war from the first to the last, and participated in all the battles of the Eastern Army from Manassas to Appomattox.

Away back in its early history, the town of

Marion probably had the reputation of being one of the toughest places in the State, and we have an idea that the subject of this sketch knows more of its history, during those times, than any other man now living. None but the oldest inhabitants can remember one of the most ridiculous incidents that ever occurred in this vicinity. A circus company, after their performance, had occasion to put up at Marion for a night. Jess Price, a painter, was one of the characters of that time, and, at the head of a party composed of Roundtree, Gilmer, Pennell, Coker, Comer, Scuddy, Dozier, Lee and others, took charge of the menagerie accompanying the circus, and turned many of the animals loose in the village. It is said that there were stray monkeys, baboons and other wild animals circulating in the woods of Perry County for months afterward. If Carlos Reese was a member of that party, it does not appear from the data at hand.

Nevertheless, a jollier, better-hearted, more whole-souled set of men probably never congregated together than were those who formed the pioneers of the town of Marion, and the descendants of many of them are to-day among the most respected citizens of Perry County.

Sam Houston married here to Margaret Lee, sister of the Lees who participated in the sports hinted at. Mr. Reese was present at that wedding, and remembers many interesting incidents connected therewith. Gen. John F. Thompson waited on Houston as his "best man," and a week later Thompson married Dr. Benson's daughter, four or five miles west of Marion, and Houston waited on Thompson. As the hour of the ceremony approached at the latter wedding, Houston concluded that Thompson was too drunk to go through with it, and, in order to sober him up, he procured a bottle of cologne and saturated the General's head. It ran down into his eyes, and caused Thompson to think that Houston was trying to kill him. The misapprehension came very near leading to bloodshed. One of the Misses Lee suggested to Houston that they "trot the General around the square a few times to sober him up."

These and hundreds of other interesting reminiscences are vividly remembered and dwelt upon by Captain Reese, and an hour or two may be spent more pleasantly in his company than most any other place the writer knows of.

He has for some years past been experimenting with Texas blue grass, and has fully demonstrated

that it can be grown with the most perfect success in Perry County, and consequently anywhere in Central Alabama.

**JOHN E. FRAZIER, D.D.S.**, Marion, was born at Trussville, this State, and is a son of Colonel J. H. Frazier, a planter, of Jefferson County.

The senior Frazier came with his parents to Jefferson County when he was but three years of age, and when there were but few others living in that part of the State.

Dr. Frazier was educated at the Trussville Academy; began the study of dentistry at Oxford, Ala., and in the spring of 1884 was graduated from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. He began the practice of his profession at Springville, and in April, 1885, came to Marion. At this place he has since made his home, and is, at this writing, in the enjoyment of a well-deserved, aristocratic and lucrative patronage. He is a young man of highly moral character, a member of the Baptist Church, belongs to the orders of the Knights of Pythias and of the Iron Hall, and is altogether a popular and much-esteemed citizen.

**E. P. THOMPSON, M. D.**, was born in this county, March 11, 1841, and is a son of the late John F. Thompson, well remembered as a civil engineer. He was a native of South Carolina, and a member of the celebrated Thompson family of that State. He spent many years in Perry County, and here died, in 1892, at the age of fifty-two years.

Dr. Thompson was educated at Marion and at the State University. He left the latter institution to join the army, and he served gallantly for three years as a member of the Eleventh Alabama Infantry.

At the close of the war, he returned to Marion

and began the study of medicine with Dr. R. Foster as his preceptor. He was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Louisiana in 1879, and at once thereafter began the practice in Perry County. He moved into Marion in 1872, and has here since been actively engaged in his profession. He is chairman of the Board of Censors of the Perry County Medical Society, and is a member of the State Medical Association. He is devoted to the profession, and contributes much to the literature thereof.

The Doctor's wife, *née* Miss Rosa Townes, to whom he was married in 1882, died in 1885.

**J. ANDREW FRAZIER, D.D.S.**, Marion, Ala., brother of Dr. John E. Frazier, is a native of Trussville, this State, and a graduate of Vanderbilt University. He began the practice of his profession at Marion in 1885, where he is at this writing, associated with his brother, with whom he equally ranks as a skillful and reliable dentist. They are both members of the Alabama State Dental Association.

**WILLIAM G. BROWN**, author of the histories of Marion and Shetfield, as found in this volume, and Professor of Ancient and Modern Languages at the Marion Military Institute, was born in this city April 10, 1868. He was graduated with first honors from Howard College in 1886, and bears the distinction of having the best scholarship record in the history of that educational institution. Since his graduation, and prior to his coming to his present position with the Marion Military Institute, he has devoted his time to literary work, and has contributed much valuable and highly appreciated matter to the *Montgomery Advertiser*. His chapters on Marion and Shetfield in this volume, will be found among the most valuable in the work.

## XVIII.

# TROY.

BY JOEL D. MURPHREE, SR.

Pike is one of the oldest counties in the State, having been organized in the year 1822.

Louisville was her first seat of justice, Monticello next, and then Troy.

The first court in Pike was held in 1823. In 1836, General Welborn drove the last red men of the forest, the Creek Indians, out of the county; the last battle being fought in the swamps of Pea River, near Hobdy's Bridge, on the road now leading from Troy to Louisville, in Barbour County.

Two years from that time the first house was built in Troy, by Peter J. Coleman, for Mrs. Ann Love, familiarly known as "Granny" Love.

October 6, 1838, John Coskrey donated to Pike County fifteen acres of land, and on the 8th of the same month, John Hanchey donated fifteen acres, Coskrey on the north and Hanchey on the south of the section line running east and west through the court-house, afterward built about the center of said thirty acres.

Troy was then laid off by Robert Smiley, County Surveyor, the first lot being the Court-House Square, the remainder of the thirty acres being divided into business and dwelling lots.

In the year 1839, the first court-house, a wood-  
en structure, was built by Nubel A. Moore, who, I am informed, is now living.

Pike was, at that time, a wilderness, abounding in game and fish, furnishing sport for the early settlers, most of whom had moved into this county from North Carolina, and settled in neighborhoods composed principally of those who had been neighbors in the old State. Of the first inhabitants of Pike, we find the Fitzpatrick's, Baldwins, Evanses, Townsends, Talbots, Youngbloods, Den-  
nises, Mays, Stinsons, Loves, Griffins, Keeners, Reeves, Simmonses, Dixons, McLeods, Stringers, Hobdys, Flowerses, Grimses, Sharplesses, Crowd-

ers, Walterses, Catretts, Whites, Harrisers, Faulks, Powels, Burgesses, Wingards, Jeffcoats, Flomars, Hodges, Grangers, Davises, Coskreys, Hancheys, Williamses, Spiveys, Rodgers, Darbys, Pughs, Carters, Soleses, Joneses, Wilsons, Mancells, Oatses, Sellerses, Gainers, Hendersons, Silers, Gibsons, Kellys, Wm. M. Hill, Enzors, Madisons, Fryers, Stanalands, Brookses, Wileys, Worthys, Segars, Lees, Bryans, Laws, Redmons, Millses, Mullinses, Kirkseys, Hurleys, Herndons, Stanleys, McLures, Burneys, Hilliards and Howards.

The first hotel, or inn, was erected in 1839, for "Granny" Love, it being the old court-house building removed from Monticello to Troy. Shortly afterward another hotel was built by Nathaniel Soles.

The first mercantile enterprise was by James M. Thompson and Stephen D. Smiley, who did a general merchandise business. The next, and at about the same time, was, what was then known as a grocery (now called a whisky saloon), kept by John Hanchey and Zach. Collinsworth. And we find the grand jury, in its general presentment, mentioning the evils resulting from the excessive use of intoxicants, as the juries have, from time to time since, and will continue to do, as long as time lasts and liquors are drunk as a beverage. Two hotels, one store, one grocery (or saloon), one blacksmith shop, two lawyers' offices, one doctor's shop and a postoffice, was all of Troy from 1839 to 1844.

James R. Granger, who now lives in Florida, was the blacksmith; Richard T. Johnson and John F. Beecher, a cousin of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, were the lawyers, and one Harris the physician. Daniel McInnis was postmaster, at which time postage was 6¢ to 25 cents, according to distance. McInnis kept the office in his hat.

The jail was built of pine logs hewn twelve

inches square, the walls, floor and ceiling being a thickness of two layers of these logs. The two windows, ten inches square, with inch square iron bars, securely fastened therein, two inches apart. Andrew P. Love was the first jailor, and one Linton the first prisoner.

About the year 1845, one Stokes committed suicide in this prison by cutting his throat with a razor.

Mrs. Ann Love, "Granny," and her family are entitled to special notice, being the first family that settled in Troy, and because of her extensive acquaintance, having been in the hotel business from 1839 until her death, October 4, 1858, at the age of seventy-seven.

At her hotel the wayworn traveler, however humble, was bountifully and tenderly cared for. The pride of her life, as a hostess, was to make her guests feel that in her they had a friend that would look after their wants. Her family consisted of herself and two sons and four daughters.

Her daughters married, respectively, Peter J. Coleman (father of Walter S. Coleman, who is at this time, and has been from his birth, a citizen of Troy, and for several years one of her foremost business men), Ira Hobby (a brother of Hon. Harrel Hobby, who figured in politics, and was elected to the Legislature, as Representative, in 1844 and 1845, and to the Senate in 1853 and 1855) David Hudson and James Key.

After Key's death his widow married James M. Thompson, who has heretofore been mentioned, and who served the people of his county as Circuit Clerk, from 1843 until the fall term of 1853. All Mrs. Love's daughters and their husbands are now deceased.

Her two sons, Andrew P. and William M., are living in this county, the former at China Grove, and the latter at Troy. They conducted a mercantile business in Troy, as partners, from 1843 to 1849, at which time their nephew, John Key, was associated with them, and they were in business till 1861.

Andrew Love was Sheriff during 1848, 1849 and 1850, and a member of the Convention of 1860 that passed the ordinance of secession. Wm. M. Love is at present a citizen of Troy, and is the only one residing here now who was present at the founding of our little city in 1838.

Andrew P. and Wm. M. Love have always been peaceable, law-abiding citizens. John Key, their nephew, was a noble man, loved and respected by

all who knew him. He was elected Sheriff in 1850, and served out his term. He died in 1864. He was a bright Mason, and served Troy Lodge as W. M. for several years.

#### SCHOOLS IN THE EARLY DAYS.

Troy's first school was taught by one John Carr, the next by Duncan Maloy, and the third by James Key.

Then followed Alfred Boyd (father of our townsman, Dr. H. DeWitt Boyd), H. A. Gaston and John R. Goldthwaite, who taught through the '40s and into the '50s.

About 1845, business increased somewhat. Mr. James S. Murphree, having arrived from Tennessee, opened a store of general merchandise. Being a fine business man, full of energy and enterprise, he stimulated others, and, in a few years, Troy could boast of several new business houses.

"Dexter Straight" was the favorite drink. Saturdays were the principal business days with the grogshopmen, and whisky then, as now, aroused men's passions, giving them an inclination to antagonize their neighbors and friends in fist-cuff fights, which were regarded by some as innocent amusement, especially for the bystanders, who saw that no foul play was indulged in. To be regarded as the best man and the best fighter in a neighborhood, was an honor that was sought after; hence a test of manhood was the order of the day, and Saturday was the time set apart to settle the question as to who should wear the belt.

Troy made no material progress until after the completion of the Mobile & Girard Railroad from Columbus, Ga., to Troy, in 1870.

The population which did not exceed 500 in 1870, increased until it reached 3,000 in ten or twelve years, and the business houses from five or six stores in 1870 to fifty in 1878, several of them doing a business of from one to two hundred thousand dollars annually.

Troy is located fifty miles southeast of Montgomery, sixty miles west of Eufaula, and fifty miles east of Greenville, there being no trading point of importance southward to the Gulf, hence there is no place in Alabama where there is as much business done, according to the population, as is done in Troy.

There is no city or town in the State that excels Troy in the amount of commercial fertilizers sold to farmers, and it is doubtful whether there is a

city or town in the State that sells more mules and wagons to farmers than are sold in Troy.

All sales by business men of Troy, of fertilizers, mules, wagons, buggies, and goods of every character, are made directly to the consumers. Troy is strictly a city of retail dealers.

Of the 20,000 bales of cotton marketed annually at Troy, 29,500 are brought to market on wagons by the producers, and sold to her merchants.

Nearly every dollar for which this cotton is sold finds a lodgment in the vaults of her banks or in the iron safes of her merchants, in payment of debts contracted for money, merchandise, etc.

Troy has but recently awakened to the importance of industries, in the way of manufactories.

She now has in successful operation two factories for the manufacture of commercial fertilizers and one cotton-seed oil mill.

The Troy Iron Works, under the able management of Rev. B. H. Rider, is doing well, but would do much better if a few thousand dollars were added to the capital stock.

Nearly all the cotton produced in this part of the State is ginned by steam power. There are also many steam saw and grist mills in Pike and adjoining counties.

The Conecuh steam works do a general planing and wood-working business, including sash, doors, blinds and scroll work. George N. Buchanan, also, has a steam planing-mill and gin, in connection with his wagon and buggy manufactory.

Troy can boast of as good business men as can be found in any town or city in the State. It is to be regretted, however, that her fair record in financial circles should have been subjected to the withering touch of unprincipled men in her midst. But there is a consolation in knowing that the men who did the crooked work were not of her citizenship proper. They came to Troy because of her good name, whereby they could the more successfully accomplish their diabolical designs. Some of them succeeded admirably in securing to themselves a luxurious living, but at the same time they secured to themselves a name that is a reproach and by-word wherever they show their faces, or their names are mentioned. Some unavoidable failures, leaving no stain or reproach upon the good name and character of the unfortunate, have occurred.

Troy is much relieved by having gotten rid of this fungus growth, and she is now in a healthy financial condition.

#### BANKS AND BANKERS.

Troy's first and only bank, the Pike County Bank, was organized in 1879, with John Butterfield as president. In 1880 it changed hands and became the property of Col. E. B. Wilkerson and Captain Henry D. Green, the former being president and the latter cashier. In the summer of 1881, it again changed hands, Messrs. Fox and Clem Henderson becoming the owners and the name being changed to the Farmers' and Merchants' Bank, Fox Henderson president, Clem Henderson vice-president, and L. M. Bashinsky cashier, all thorough business men.

Troy's merchants, capitalists and bankers, furnish all the money to the farmers of the surrounding country that their necessities demand, and cheerfully extends to her patrons every possible aid.

The city has seven cotton warehouses, to all of which are attached commodious wagon yards, with water and shelter for man and beast, free of charge.

Her hotels are equal to the best in the State. The City Hotel, built in 1869, and the Parker, built in 1878, are the leading hostleries.

Nearly every branch of mercantile traffic is represented in Troy, and prosperity appears to be the rule.

Of lawyers, we have a full dozen, embracing some of the best talent in the State; of doctors we have only six, but they must be mighty good ones, for our death rate is only seven to the thousand.

Troy's Military Company was organized in 1885, with O. C. Wiley, captain; J. T. Davidson, first lieutenant; and T. E. Hill, second lieutenant.

In July, 1886, the roster was changed by electing L. E. Gellerstedt, captain; J. T. Davidson, first lieutenant; and E. M. Shackleford, second lieutenant.

In May, 1887, Shackleford was elected captain, Davidson first lieutenant, and Tip, Griffin, second lieutenant.

In January, 1888, Davidson resigned, and Griffin was elected first lieutenant, and J. W. Morgan, second lieutenant.

The company was named in honor of William C. Oates, Representative in Congress, Pike being the county of his nativity.



## THE CITY GOVERNMENT.

Troy was incorporated February 1, 1843, but has no record of city officials until 1868, at which time Mr. U. L. Jones was elected Intendant, and served as such during 1868 and 1869, with H. S. Urquhart, John R. Goldthwaite and Joel D. Murphree, Councilmen.

In 1870, Mr. Jones was elected Mayor, with William H. Parks, R. H. Lane and H. S. Urquhart, Councilmen, and Joel D. Murphree, Clerk.

After this the following named persons were elected to the Mayoralty of the city: 1871, E. B. Wilkerson; 1872 to 1876, N. W. Griffin; 1877, T. R. Brantley; 1878, DeKalb Williams; 1879 to 1881, E. B. Wilkerson; 1882-83, James Folmar; 1884, A. St. C. Tennille; 1885-86, E. B. Wilkerson; 1887-88, Charles Henderson. With the following Clerks: 1871 and 1880, Henry C. Wiley; 1872 to 1878, L. H. Bowles; 1879, G. F. Halloway; 1881-82, Moses N. Carlisle; 1883 to 1888, A. C. Worthy.

Too much can not be said in praise of our first Mayor, Mr. Urban L. Jones, for his untiring and persistent work in securing the extension of the Mobile & Girard Railroad to Troy. Not only for weeks and months, but for years, single handed, and with very little encouragement, he continued to labor for his town. He manifested a determination to succeed, not only with the work of his head and his hands, but his money and his credit also.

After overcoming many difficulties in getting the consent of the Memphis & Girard R. R. authorities to bring their road to Troy, the conditions were such that it became necessary for Troy to take the responsibility of having the grading done at her own expense. She did not have the means, and the road would have been lost to Troy, had it not been that Mr. Jones staked his all to save the town, and took the contract to do the grading, together with one Homer Blackman, and trusted the good faith of the town for reimbursement by the issue and sale of her bonds.

How well she kept faith with her promise, the records of the courts disclose.

Mr. Jones devoted several years of his life and all his property to secure the road. He succeeded in giving Troy a railroad, but at the sacrifice of his entire estate. He secured the prize for which he had so long and so diligently labored, saved Troy and her real estate owners, many of whom made

big money by the enhancement of values, while he lost all his worldly possessions, and after some years died insolvent, leaving a wife and several children dependent upon their own exertions for a living. The ingratitude of the then citizens of Troy should cause them to hang their heads for shame, at the manner in which they treated their best and truest friend.

Our present Mayor, Mr. Charles Henderson, is a young man full of pluck and energy, and is giving Troy the benefit of both. He has done a great deal in advancing the interests of her citizens in the improvement of her streets, in which he has displayed superior judgment, overcoming difficulties that baffled his predecessors.

But the greatest work of his administration is the securing for Troy her present excellent school advantages.

## STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The year 1887 marked an era in the educational history of Troy.

The last Legislature appropriated \$3,000 a year for the maintenance of a Normal School here on the condition that the city would furnish and equip a suitable building. A large and handsome brick building was immediately erected, at a cost of \$12,000, and furnished throughout in the most approved style, including chemical and philosophical apparatus necessary for such an institution. The school was organized in September, 1887, with the following faculty: Jos. M. Dill, President; E. M. Shackelford, Professor of Science and English Literature; J. W. Morgan, Professor of Mathematics and Latin; Miss Nettie Rousseau, Teacher of Methods; Edward H. Kruger, Director of Music; Miss Laura Jenkins, Art Teacher.

## THE COURSE OF STUDY.

I. The Professional Studies, consisting of Psychology, School Management, History of Systems of Education, Methods and Practice in Teaching.

II. The Sciences, Physiology, Physics, Chemistry, etc.

III. The English Language, Grammar, Rhetoric and Literature.

IV. Mathematics, Algebra, Arithmetic, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Surveying.

V. Foreign Languages—Latin, French and German. Besides these, pupils receive instruction in Music, Drawing, Elocution and Calisthenics.

The instruction in all departments is made thorough and practical, the teachers using the natural

methods of teaching, by which the mental faculties are systematically developed.

The number of pupils enrolled this session has been 120, of whom 78 are Normal students, *i. e.* those who receive free tuition on condition that they teach two years in the State.

#### CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

In connection with the Normal School, and under the same management, the city of Troy has established, and maintains by local taxation and a small incidental fee, a system of public graded schools.

The following is the Faculty: Prof. W. E. Griffin, seventh and eighth grades; Miss Mary J. Moore, fifth and sixth grades; Mrs. L. H. Bowles, fourth grade; Miss Catherine Gardner, third grade; Miss Abbotte Spratlen, second grade; Miss Laura Montgomery, first grade and lowest primary.

The number of pupils enrolled in this school, during the present session, is 314.

The total enrollment in normal and graded schools is 434, of whom 66 are now residents.

Normal students not only have the advantage of observing the work of skilled teachers in the graded school, but it is so arranged that they may work in these schools under the eye of the normal teachers.

#### MASONIC.

Troy Lodge, No. 56, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized on Tuesday, March 30, 1841, by the Right Worshipful John A. Whetstone, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, under a dispensation from said Grand Lodge.

The following officers were elected: Wiley White, W. M.; John D. Curtis, S. W.; Luke R. Simmons, J. W.; Rob't Smiley, Treas.; John F. Beecher, Sec'y; Wm. B. Alfred, S. D.; Hamilton Kyle, J. D.; Jas. Hutchison, Tyler; and installed by R. W. D. G. Master Whetstone, in the court-house, having no Lodge hall at that time.

The lot where the Lodge now stands was purchased in 1841.

The first person buried with Masonic honors was James Hutchison, in January, 1842.

#### TEMPERANCE.

The Good Templars have had an organization in Troy for a great many years. Their prosperity, however, has been spasmodic. But the good they have done is almost beyond compute. The senti-

ment of the people of Troy and surrounding country has undergone a wonderful change for good, in the last decade, upon the subject of temperance, and this change of sentiment is the outgrowth of temperance organizations, abetted always by the religious denominations. We have now only two whisky saloons in the county, with a population of about 25,000; ten years ago we had a dozen, with a population of much less.

#### EARLIEST COURTS, JURIES, ETC.

At the first term of the Circuit Court, September, 1823, Hon. R. Saffold was Judge, Benjamin Fitzpatrick, Solicitor; Obediah Pitts, Circuit Clerk, and James Pugh, Sheriff.

The first case on the civil docket was an action commenced June 16, 1823. Suit on note of Blake Jernigan, for \$540; Henry Goldthwaite, attorney for plaintiff.

The first case on the criminal docket, was *The State vs. Alva Fitzpatrick and John Falconn*, for selling in less quantities than a quart, rum, brandy, whisky and gin.

Lemuel Tramm was foreman of the first grand jury, September term, 1823.

#### JUDGES OF CIRCUIT COURT,

1839 to 1888, inclusively: Abram Martin, Peter Martin, John P. Booth, Eli Shortridge, Ezekiel Pickens, W. R. Baylor, George Goldthwaite, George W. Stone, George D. Shortridge, John D. Phelan, Samuel Chapman, Thos. A. Walker, Robert Dougherty, John Gill Shorter, Nathan Cook, E. W. Pettus, C. W. Rapier, S. D. Hale, John Cochran, J. McCaleb Wiley, H. D. Clayton, J. E. Cobb, John P. Hubbard.

STATE SOLICITORS, 1838 to 1888.—James E. Belser, Sampson W. Harris, Marion A. Baldwin, James N. Arrington, John D. Gardner, James N. Arrington, Henry C. Wiley, Alto V. Lee, Fred S. Ferguson, J. F. Stallings.

SHERIFFS, 1838 to 1888.—Wiley White, Burrell W. Hodges, Wiley White (second term), Allen Frazier, Andrew P. Love, Wm. C. Brooks, M. M. Nall, James P. Nall, John Key, John B. Youngblood, Wm. H. Stricklan, Hugh R. Segars, Jas. W. Scarborough, John N. Folmar, John H. Morgan, R. A. Ross.

#### COUNTY COURTS.

First County Court, June 10, 1839, Joseph W. Townsend, Judge. Then follow, in order, Judges

Charles A. Dennis, A. C. Townsend and Wm. H. Manning.

Probate Court was established in 1850, and the Judges thereof have been as follows: Bird Fitzpatrick, fourteen years; J. P. Null, one year; D. W. Siler, about three years; W. C. Wood, about six years; U. L. Jones, six years; W. J. Hilliard, the present incumbent. His term will expire November, 1892.

#### COUNTY COURT CLERKS.

Daniel McInnis was County Court Clerk from 1841 to 1843; then follow Jesse W. Loe, James A. DeWitt, and Wm. M. Murphree. Office abolished, May, 1850.

#### NEWSPAPERS.

The first newspaper published in Troy was the *Palladium*, by James M. Norment, in April, 1851. Richard F. Cook purchased it and changed it to the *Bulletin*, December, 1853. It was Democratic in politics, and edited by A. W. Starke and Richard F. Cook. In December, 1853, a Whig paper, *The Union Advocate*, was started by Hinds Goode, Edward L. McIntyre and Samuel M. Adams. The next was the *Independent American* (Know-Nothing), June 20, 1855, by E. B. Armes. Edited by A. N. Worthy and C. J. L. Cunningham. In 1856, Samuel M. Adams became the proprietor, and A. N. Worthy, editor. In 1860, Worthy retired from the editorship, and Adams became editor and proprietor, until July 10, 1861, on which day the last number was issued.

The *Southern Advertiser* took the place of the *Bulletin* (Democratic) under the management and direction of the party so far as the editorial work was concerned. A. W. Starke was editor, and A. A. Griffin publisher. It soon passed into the hands of D. A. Hobbie, with the understanding that the paper should be run in the interest of the Democratic party.

In 1860, Mr. Starke was very unexpectedly ousted from his position by a sale of the paper by Hobbie to Bird Fitzpatrick and Barton H. Thresher, who changed it from a Breckinridge to a Douglas paper.

After Starke's deposition, the Breckinridge party secured another press, and, in two weeks, commenced the issue of the *State Rights Advocate*, with Joel D. Murphree as proprietor and A. W. Starke as editor. Soon after the election the *Advertiser* again changed hands, becoming the property

of Thomas L. Fielder and John P. Hubbard as editors, and with Hobbie as publisher. Under this management it was run during the war, and was then discontinued.

The *State Rights Advocate*, Democratic and Secession in politics, was published until July 17, 1861, Mr. Starke retiring to accept a lieutenantancy in Company I, Fifteenth Alabama Regiment. The *American* was then mixed with the *Advocate* and continued under the name of the *Advocate and American*, with C. J. L. Cunningham as editor, until about May, 1862, when it passed out. November 20, 1866, the *Southern Messenger*, Anti-Scalawag, in politics, was issued by Samuel M. Adams. Mr. Adams continued the publication of this sheet until June, 1868, when he sold the office to Wm. J. Blan, who united with it the *Southern Advertiser*. The consolidated papers became the *Messenger and Advertiser*, Hon. John P. Hubbard editor and Wm. J. Blan publisher. In the fall of 1869, Hubbard sold his interest to John Post, who, March 24, 1870, bought Blan's interest. The paper then became the *Troy Messenger*, with Rev. W. M. Jones local editor. On the 13th day of October, 1870, Sidney Herbert Lansey's name appeared as editor, who filled the place until November 11, 1875, when Hon. L. R. Bowles became editor.

On the 1st of January, 1875, John Post sold the *Messenger* to William J. Blan, who retained the former editor. October 21, 1875, Fletcher P. Cowart bought a half interest, and on the 11th of November, Bowles and Cowart became the editors and Blan and Cowart publishers. February 15, 1877, Cowart sold his proprietary interest to Messrs. Blan and Jeff J. Darby, and Cowart and Darby became the editors. On the 4th of September, Cowart purchased Darby's interest. In March 1880, Mr. A. L. Brooks, of Tuskegee, bought Cowart's interest, and on the 25th of that month, Cullen A. Battle assumed the editorial chair.

On the 1st day of November following, William J. Blan bought Mr. Brooks's interest, and changed the form to an eight-page paper. Mr. Blan has since been sole proprietor.

The *Troy Enquirer* (Democratic) was started on the sixth day of February, 1875, by Frank Baltzell, editor and proprietor. It is still published under the same management.

The *Primitive Pathway* was started January 1, 1876, by John Post, a religious paper in the inter-

est of the sect known as Primitive and Hardshell Baptists, with John Post publisher and J. E. W. Henderson editor. The last issue appeared December 15, 1885.

#### CHURCHES.

There are seven Churches in the city: Old-School or Primitive Baptist, First and Second Missionary Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Methodist Protestant. The first named was constituted in 1832. Her first pastor was named Wood. The following were of her membership when organized: John Bryan and wife, Jesse Pugh, Britton Jones and wife, Peter Lawrence, and Silas Lee and wife. There were others whose names we have been unable to ascertain. Among her first preachers were John Summersett, Elisha Manceull, Matthew Burk and a Mr. Little. Of the original membership only one is living: Mrs. John Bryan.

THE METHODIST CHURCH was organized in the year 1843, in the first story of the Masonic Lodge Building, there being no house of worship in the town except the one just named. Mrs. Ann Love was one of the first members. The Church is at present in a flourishing condition, having over 300 members. The new church building is valued at \$7,000, with parsonage. Rev. W. S. Wade is the present pastor.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (Missionary) was constituted in April, 1850, in the first story of the Masonic Lodge Building. A Presbytery was formed, consisting of Elders Zachens Nix and Alfred N. Worthy. The following persons were of the organization: Elders Zachens Nix and A. N. Worthy, Urban L. Jones and wife, Elizabeth Jones, Matilda S. Murphree, Mary B. Murphree, Richard F. Cook and wife, Jane Cook and Mary Jane Allen. The Church held first Conference that same day. Elder A. N. Worthy presided over its deliberations; Richard F. Cook was the first clerk, and Elder A. N. Worthy first pastor. Afterward the following persons preached for the Church, as pastors, in the order named: Elders Matthew Bishop, J. T. S. Park, Dabney P. Murphy, James Harris, Dr. Williams, James P. Nall, J. S. Yarborough, R. W. Priest, W. B. Carroll, E. Y. Van Hoose, Thomas Stout. — Norris, M. M. Wombolt and John F. Purser, who is now serving the Church, in the third year of his pastorate. The church building now in course of erection will be worth, when completed, \$15,000, and

will compare favorably with the finest in the State.

THE SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH.—This church was organized during the year 18,8. Rev. Wm. A. Cumbie being her first pastor. The following were the organizers: W. D. Wood and wife, Mary L. Wood; A. Y. Cosby and wife, Jane Cosby; T. R. Mullins and wife, A. H. Mullins, Josiah Jernigan, A. M. Jones, Rev. J. L. Youngblood and wife, Margaret Youngblood and Lizzie Youngblood.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—The first Episcopal service was held in 1876, Rev. De B. Waddell, pastor. The church was consecrated in 1880 by Bishop Wilmer.

Rev. De B. Waddell has been her pastor since the church was organized until this year, having been called elsewhere.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was organized in 1871, by the late Rev. G. B. Foster, of Tuskegee, Rev. F. B. Webb, of Birmingham, was the first stated supply, followed by the Rev. J. C. Sturgeon, Rev. G. R. Foster, Rev. J. G. Duncan, Rev. J. McG. Richardson, and Rev. Wm. H. White, the present supply.

THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.—Although this church has no organization at this time in Troy, yet they have a nice building, nearly completed.

A CHURCH-GOING PEOPLE.—The people of Troy are distinctively a church-going people, and the various denominations are on the best of terms. Bickerings, heart-burnings and jealousies find no place among ministers or members, but all mingle in various entertainments and social gatherings as if not separated by denominational lines.



**JOEL D. MURPHREE, Sr.**, was born in Smith County, Tenn., on the 5th of November, 1827, and his parents were James S. and Matilda (Dyer) Murphree, natives, respectively, of North Carolina and Tennessee. They came into Alabama, located where the town of Troy now stands, in January, 1845, and there spent the rest of their lives. The old gentleman was a merchant many years, and succeeded therat in accumulating a handsome competency; he died in 1856 at the age of thirty years.

The subject of this sketch, in his youth, attended the private schools of his neighborhood,



*Joel D. Murphy*





lished at Montgomery. In 1872, he was elected Attorney-General of this State, and filled the office one term. Retiring from official life he resumed the practice of law, and pursued it until compelled by the loss of eyesight to abandon it.

John D. Gardner received his earliest education at the old field schools, studied law under his father, and, in 1859, was admitted to the bar. He began practice at Troy, and resumed it after the war. He occupies a high position at the Alabama bar, and is one of the most popular men in the profession. Early in 1861 he entered the Confederate Army as first lieutenant of Company F, First Alabama Cavalry, and remained in the service until the close of the war, leaving the army with the rank of captain. In 1865, he was appointed by the Governor to the office of Solicitor of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and discharged the duties thereof one term.

Captain Gardner takes an active interest at all times in the cause of education, and is at this writing, president of the Board of Directors of the Troy Normal School. He was married in January, 1866, to Miss Belle Starke, the accomplished daughter of Bowling Starke, of Richmond, Va., and has had born to him four children: Addie B., Catharine C., Ann S., and Lucian D.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**WILLIAM H. PARKS**, Attorney-at-law, son of William N. and Eliza W. (Hayne) Parks, natives, respectively, of the States of North and South Carolina, was born in Mecklenburg County, N. C., in January, 1734, and was educated at Davidson College, Charlotte, N. C. Leaving college, he came directly to Troy, where he taught school for about three years, studied law, and, in 1859, was admitted to the bar. In 1872, he was elected to the State Senate and for four years was a member of that body, taking a prominent part in all important legislation during that period. He was a member of several committees, and chairman of the Committee on Local Laws.

Aside from being one of the most prominent attorneys in Southeastern Alabama, Mr. Parks is somewhat distinguished as a literary man.

He was married in 1856, to Miss Catharine Benbow, daughter of Richard Benbow, Esq., of Pike

County, this State, and the children born to him and now living are: Richard, a promising young attorney at Troy; William L., also an attorney at Troy; Isaac T., Clifford, Samuel, Selden and Irene.

The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and Mr. Parks is a member of the Masonic fraternity.



**JOHN P. HUBBARD**, Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit of Alabama, was born in this county in 1836, and is the son of William T. and Amy (Youngblood) Hubbard. The senior Mr. Hubbard was an extensive planter in his lifetime, and represented Pike County in the Legislature, sessions of 1847-8. He died in 1873.

John P. Hubbard was graduated from Howard College, Marion, Ala., in 1859, read law under David Clopton and R. F. Ligon, and was admitted to the bar, before the State Supreme Court, in 1860. In 1861, he enlisted as a private soldier in Company I, Twenty-second Alabama Infantry, and after the war returned to Troy and entered the practice of law. In 1868 he was elected to the Legislature on the Democratic ticket, and was a member of that body until 1873, being Speaker of the House during the latter session. He was returned to the Legislature in 1876; was elected Judge of the Second Circuit in 1880, and re-elected in 1886.

Judge Hubbard is one of the most popular men on the *visi prius* bench of the State. As a lawyer he ranked among the foremost while at the bar, and as a citizen he is held in the highest esteem. He was married in 1869, to Miss Ann G., daughter of John S. and Mary E. (Provost) Coombs, and has had born to him three children: Graph J., Amy and Ann. The family are members of the Baptist Church, in which the Judge has been many years a deacon. He was also some years superintendent of the Sabbath-school.



**HENRY C. WILEY**, prominent Attorney-at-law, was born in Clayton, Barbour County, this State, in 1810, and is a son of Judge J. McCaleb and Elizabeth (Duckworth) Wiley, natives, respectively, of North Carolina and Georgia.







*Yours truly*  
*Ch. Hutchinson*

The senior Mr. Wiley was a lawyer by profession, and practiced at the Troy bar about twenty-eight years. He was elected Judge of the Circuit Court in 1867, and held the office one term. He came to Alabama in 1823 with his parents, who settled in Lawrence County; removed to Louisiana in 1829, and in 1832, being in bad health, took up his residence in Matamoros, Mexico. After varied experiences, some of which were highly romantic, he joined the regular Mexican Army as aide-de-camp, on the staff of General Santa Anna, with the rank of major of infantry.

Having been ordered, in 1836, to march against Texas, he deserted the Mexican Army. While in Mexico, he passed through some of the most perilous adventures. He was at one time tried by court martial, and sentenced to be shot for disobedience of orders; again he was confined in the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa at Vera Cruz, when the battle of San Jacinto was fought on the 21st of April, 1836, and was, finally, discharged from the Castle, and from arrest, without any intimation from any human being as to whom he owed his deliverance. He always thought, however, that there was a certain *mystic influence*, which, by its labor of love, wrought his liberation.

At that time the Americans in Mexico were in very bad odor, and he took the first opportunity to escape, and to return to Alabama. Here, in Barbour County, he began the practice of law in 1836, and three years later, was appointed Register in Chancery, and moved to Clayton. In 1843, he was elected major-general of militia, and in 1850, came into Pike County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1878, at the age of seventy-two years.

In 1865 he was appointed to the Circuit Court Bench, and in 1866 was elected to Congress, but was not permitted to hold the seat.

Judge Wiley was of portly figure and impressive appearance. He was dignified and impartial on the bench, and was a citizen of moral habits and public spirit. In politics he was an old fashioned Whig, and in 1850 took an active part with the Union men in trying to prevent the trouble between the States which afterward occurred.

He was a zealous Mason, having taken thirty-two degrees, and was for two years Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Alabama.

From his return from Mexico till the time of

his death, Judge Wiley was prominently identified with the temperance cause, being at one time Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Sons of Temperance.

In social circles, General Wiley was affable, communicative and companionable.

Henry C. Wiley was educated at Davidson College, Davidson, N. C., and at Oglethorpe University, near Milledgeville, Ga. In 1861 he entered the Confederate Army, as a private in "Terry's Texas Rangers," afterward the Eighth Texas Cavalry, and subsequently rose to the command of his company. He remained in the service to the close of the war, when he returned to Troy, studied law with his father, and in October, 1865 was admitted to the bar. In 1868, he was admitted to practice before the State Supreme Court, and at this writing is of the firm of Gardner & Wiley, the most prominent law firm in Southeastern Alabama.

Captain Wiley was the only solicitor ever elected in Pike County by the people. This was under the old law; he received flattering majorities of the popular vote, and held the office two terms, or eight years.

He is a fine lawyer, a profound scholar, and a gentleman of tact and foresight, and of pronounced business ability.

Captain Wiley is a Knight Templar Mason, and Master of Troy (Blue) Lodge, a position he has acceptably filled for several years.

He was married, in 1866, to Miss Henrietta Worthy, the accomplished daughter of Dr. A. N. and Ann (Pace) Worthy, natives of the State of Georgia. By this marriage has been born to him three children: Lizzie, Rhydonia and Ophelia.

Mrs. Wiley having died, Captain Wiley, in 1874, married her younger sister, Miss Ophelia Worthy, and to this union have been born two children: Henrietta and Walter Harry.



**CHARLES HENDERSON**, Mayor of the city of Troy, was born in Pike County, this State, April 26, 1860, and is the son of Jeremiah and Mildred (Hill) Henderson. He was instructed through boyhood in Troy under the various distinguished pedagogues who have been instrumental in making the town famous as the educational center of

Southeast Alabama. In 1875, he entered Howard College at Marion, and in 1876 when nearing the completion of his literary training, was obliged to abandon his studies (being called home by the death of his father) to enter vigorously upon the business pursuits of life. At the age of seventeen years he was relieved of the disabilities of nonage by the Legislature of the State, and has since been conducting a large and successful business on his own responsibility. He is now the junior member of the wholesale and retail establishment of Henderson Bros. & Co. His kind and generous nature has won for him many friends, especially among his associates, the young men, and to their efforts may be accredited his victory in the formidable race for Mayor of this city, on December 7, 1886.

Among all Troy's young men of wealth, wisdom and influence, Charles Henderson is certainly the most fitting one to fill, with honor and credit to himself and lasting benefit to the city, the responsible position he now holds. Since he entered the office of Mayor, he has been constantly on the alert, ever watchful of the city's interests, and has already done much for Troy. The phrase "Success in business," is almost inseparably linked with the name of Henderson, one of the principal characteristics of the whole family being industry and energy.

The progenitors of the family came from Edgefield District, S. C. Eli Henderson, the first to immigrate to Alabama, settled the old homestead nine miles below Troy in 1828. He married a Miss Darby, whose family was also from Edgefield. They had thirteen children, twelve of whom grew to manhood and womanhood. Eli Henderson, who was the grandfather of the present generation of younger Hendersons now residing in this city and county, died in 1859, in the fifty-sixth year of his age.

J. A. Henderson was born in 1831, and after he came to years of maturity, married Miss M. E. Hill, who is of another old and noted family of this country. He settled at what is known as Henderson, twelve miles below Troy. Seven children were the fruits of their union, all of whom are yet living. In 1870 he moved to Troy, where he resided until his death, in 1876.

Fox Henderson was born in 1852, J. C. Henderson in 1857, Charles Henderson in 1860, and W. J. Henderson in 1863. "Toodle Dink" and Miss Gussie are yet under age, and the oldest

daughter, now Mrs. Brock, of Montgomery, was married in 1879.

LaFayette Henderson and Willis D. Henderson, were born in 1833 and 1836, respectively, and are engaged in the mercantile business in this city. They came to Troy in 1879, from the neighborhood of "Henderson's Store," in the southern part of the county.

J. M. Henderson, another brother, also does a large and prosperous business in this city.

At a rough estimate, this family owns property, both personal and real, in Pike County, amounting to nearly a million dollars, and perhaps more, if it were summed up. They have a large connection in the county, and number among them, aside from those already enumerated, many of the county's very best and most highly esteemed citizens.

As a fitting testimonial to true personal worth and merit, the publishers preface this sketch with a life-like engraving of probably the youngest, municipal executive in Alabama—Charles Henderson, Mayor of Troy.



**JOSEPH M. DILL**, President of the Troy Normal School, and Superintendent of the Troy City Schools, was born in Dallas County, this State, in 1852, and is a son of Thomas J. and Jane L. (Allison) Dill, natives of the State of South Carolina. The senior Mr. Dill is now president of Howard College, East Lake, Birmingham.

Professor Dill was educated at Howard College, when that institution was located at Marion, and was graduated from there in 1874. Immediately after graduating he began teaching in the high school at Tuscaloosa, and was there two years when he accepted the Chair of Natural Science at Howard College. He remained in the Chair of Natural Science two years, and returned to Tuscaloosa as principal of the high school. In the year 1884, he came to Troy as superintendent of the high school, and in 1887, upon the establishment of the Normal School at this place, he was made its president. At this writing he has the supervision of all the schools, both white and colored, in Troy. The Professor is devoted to the advancement of education, and, though yet a young man, is known throughout the State as an educator of rare accomplishments and ability.

He was married, in 1878, at Tuscaloosa, to Miss Lucy Foster, the accomplished daughter of Joshua H. and Lucy (Billingsly) Foster, and has one child, Joseph M.

Professor and Mrs. Hill are members of the Baptist Church, wherein the Professor holds the office of deacon and is superintendent of the Sabbath-school.



**PUGH H. BROWN, M.D.**, son of Enoch G. and Permelia (Flournoy) Brown, natives of Georgia, was born in Monroe County, in this State, in 1833. The senior Mr. Brown, a planter by occupation, represented Marion and Calhoun Counties in the lower house of the Georgia Legislature two sessions, and was ten years Judge of the Court of Ordinary. He was also a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, officiating in that capacity upward of twenty years. During the Creek War he commanded a company of volunteers, and participated in many of the hard-fought battles of that campaign. He died at Dawson, Ga., in 1883, at the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Dr. Pugh H. Brown received his primary education at the high schools in Marion County, Ga., and in 1854 was graduated as a doctor of medicine from the University of New York. He began the practice of medicine near Auburn, this State, immediately upon leaving college, and removed from there in a short time to Russell County. He came into Pike County in 1857, and has had an office in Troy, and given most of his time and talent to his chosen profession regularly since that day. Early in 1861 he enlisted as a private soldier in Company I, Fifteenth Alabama Infantry, and remained in the service until the close of the war. At the battle of Cold Harbor, in 1862, he was promoted to a lieutenancy "for gallantry in action," and held that rank one year with Company K, Fifteenth Alabama. He was next assigned to duty as acting surgeon of the Forty-eighth Alabama. From the Forty-eighth he was transferred to his old regiment, the Fifteenth Infantry, and commissioned assistant surgeon. He remained with the Fifteenth until he was wounded, at the battle of Turkey Ridge, near Richmond, and from that date he was confined to hospital duty at Opelika, Ala.

Leaving the service of the Confederacy, Dr.

Brown, returned to Troy and resumed the practice of medicine. Here he is, and has been for nearly a quarter of a century, recognized by the profession and the people, as a safe, cautious, and skillful physician. He is a member of the State College of Counselors, and has been vice-president of the State Medical Association. He is a member of the Pike County Medical Society, president of the local Board of Censors, and is at present, holding the position of County Health Officer.

Doctor Brown married, in 1854, Miss Calista M. Tawer, daughter of Benjamin S. and Lucinda Tawer, of Georgia, and has had born to him six children, viz.: Milton T., Charles K., Mortimer P., Pugh U., Alfred P. and George G. The mother of these children died in 1877, and in 1878, the Doctor led to the altar Miss Louise T. Perry, daughter of Thomas W. Perry, of Russell County, this State.

The family are of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Doctor Brown is identified with the Masonic fraternity.



**DR. A. ST. C. TENNILLE**, prominent citizen of Troy, was born in Washington County, Ga., September 16, 1838. His father, Maj. A. S. Tennille, a planter by occupation, was also a native of Georgia, and his mother, whose maiden name was Louisa D. Roe, was a native of the same State.

He graduated in medicine from the University of Tennessee in 1861, and almost immediately afterward entered the Confederate service as a private in the Fort Gaines Guards, Ninth Georgia Regiment. He was soon afterward made assistant surgeon of his regiment, a position he held for about one year, when he was made commissary of the regiment. He surrendered at Appomattox C. H., at the close of the war, as assistant division commissary of General Field's division. He moved to Jackson County, Fla., in 1865, and commenced the practice of his profession, which he continued with success until 1874, when he moved to Troy.

In Troy he established a retail drug store, in connection with the practice of medicine; and, after three years, he retired from the practice, to more closely watch his large and growing business in other fields. He soon became a leading spirit in all public enterprises; his progressive views caused his election as Councilman, and after-

ward Mayor of the city, in both of which offices he was fully alive to the best interests of the city and her people.

Dr. Tennille is original and inventive, with excellent judgment, and is decidedly practical in his plans and methods. He was the originator of the scheme that built the Troy Fertilizer Factory, which was the pioneer industry of that kind at an interior point. He was also the originator of the plan to build the Alabama Midland Railroad, and was its first vice-president; and his limitless resources of invention have kept it before the public, gradually working its way to success, and will eventually secure the consummation of the purpose for which it was undertaken.

He is one of the clearest-headed business men in Alabama, and would bring to any enterprise in which he might be enlisted the energy and sagacity necessary to render it a success. Most of the leading citizens of Troy have unbounded confidence in any undertaking he would lead; and his judgment in regard to all local enterprises is sought and accorded great weight.



**OLIVER C. WILEY** was born at Troy, Pike County, Ala., January 30, 1851, and is the youngest son of J. McCaleb and Cornelia Ann (Appling) Wiley.

June 25, 1874, Mr. Wiley was married to Miss Gussie Murphree, daughter of Hon. James K. and Adelaide (Henderson) Murphree, and to this union have been born three children, viz.: Olive, James McCaleb and Lois.

Mr. Wiley was educated chiefly at Troy, the late war depriving him of the advantage of a collegiate education, but in 1871 he took a course at Bryant & Stratton's Business College, Nashville, Tenn.

In 1873 he entered the mercantile business with W. S. Coleman as partner. In 1876 he was associated with James K. Murphree, and in 1880, with Clarence Murphree, with whom he still is. He has been in business for fifteen years, making him one of the oldest, as well as youngest, business men in Troy.

In 1883, he was elected president of the Troy Fertilizer Company (of which he is a director and large stockholder), a position he still retains.

In 1884, and again in 1886, he was elected a member of State Democratic Executive Committee, and in 1888 an alternate delegate to St. Louis

National Democratic Convention. He is also a member of the Central Executive (Democratic) Committee for Pike County.

In 1885, upon the organization of the "Oates Rifles," Southeast Alabama's crack military company, he was elected its first captain, and resigned only after he had made it in every respect one of the best companies in the State.

On March 2, 1887, at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Midland Railroad, of which he was one of the incorporators, Captain Wiley was elected President of the company. He is also a Director in the Southeast Alabama Land and Immigration Company, a Director of the State Normal School at Troy, a member of the Board of Aldermen of the city of Troy, and one of the incorporators of the Southeast Alabama Fair Association. In these positions, he is using every energy to build up the educational, financial and agricultural interests of Troy and Southeastern Alabama.

Captain Wiley is recognized as one of the most thorough and accomplished business men in Southeastern Alabama. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a strong temperance worker, and in politics an uncompromising Democrat.

His great popularity with all classes and the success he has achieved in business warrant the publishers in illustrating this chapter with a handsome life-like engraving of him.



**JOHN RANDALL GOLDTHWAITE** was born in Spartanburg District, S. C., on the 29th of May, 1823, and died at Troy, Ala., on February 20, 1887. When but a child, his father located in Montgomery County, this State, and here he received his early training, acquiring at the neighboring schools a fair education. Arriving at his majority, he began the study of law with Judge John A. Campbell, and in 1847, was admitted to the bar. In 1845, he located at Troy, where he remained but a short time, when the death of his father recalled him to Montgomery, to take charge of the estate and business as administrator. While so engaged, he married Miss Julia A. Mock, of Lowndes County, and in 1850, returned to Troy. Here he engaged at teaching, in which he became distinguished, and gave his time and talents thereto for a number of years. Evidences of his skill, zeal and faithfulness in the school-room



*Oliver L. Wiley*





are now to be seen in this community on every hand, many of the leading citizens and most prominent business men of Troy, having finished their education under him. The confinement of the school-room having finally threatened to impair his health, he abandoned the profession of educator, and in 1853 returned to Montgomery, where, for a short time, he was engaged in mercantile business. Returning again to Troy, he was soon afterward elected Clerk of the Circuit Court, a position he held by reelection through a series of terms. In this position, as in every other one filled by him, he acquitted himself as a skillful, painstaking, energetic, capable man, and the improvements made in the methods of that office are to be seen and enjoyed till now. At the close of the war between the States, Mr. Goldthwaite, for a short time, resumed teaching, when, by the most flattering vote ever cast for any man in Pike County, he was elected to the Legislature, and kept there for two terms.

Mr. Goldthwaite was made a Mason in Troy Lodge in 1850, and kept his membership here to the day of his death. He filled all the offices in the Blue Lodge at various times, and rose rapidly through the various degrees to the exalted rank of Knight Templar. As a Mason he was widely known throughout the State and was much beloved by the fraternity.

He was a man not only of superior natural intellect, but was possessed of a highly-cultivated mind. He was an honorable refined citizen, sincere and faithful in his friendships, and always identified with every enterprise or measure that had for its aim the good of the community. He is remembered as a man of fine business tact and foresight and as a Christian gentleman.

In his actions he was honorable. He was in his nature, refined; in his instincts, pure; in his friendships he was sincere and faithful; in his habits he was temperate, industrious, systematic and painstaking. As a citizen, he was exemplary, public-spirited and useful, and he was closely identified with every measure or enterprise for the good of this city and county, and the fruits of the labor of his hands and brain are felt and seen in the greatly improved condition of this section. In his intercourse with his fellow-men, he was social, genial and refined, which, with his most superior conversational powers, not only made him a welcome guest, but caused him to be

sought after by the lovers of true worth and intellect.

Charles B. Goldthwaite, son of John R. Goldthwaite, was born in April, 1855, and educated at the Troy schools and at Wake Forest College, N. C. Completing his education in 1879, he returned to Troy, where he was admitted as a partner with his father in the drug business, and where, since the death of the latter, he has continued to this day under the style and firm-name of Goldthwaite & Son. Mr. Goldthwaite is a registered pharmacist, and understands the business as thoroughly as does any man in the State. In addition to the drug business, he is the authorized agent of the Southern Express Company at Troy.

Mr. Goldthwaite was married in June, 1876, to Josie, the accomplished daughter of Joel D. Murphree, and his three children are: Charles B., Eugene and John Randall. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



**JAMES K. MURPHREE**, a Merchant of Troy, is a son of James S. and Matilda (Dyer) Murphree, and a native of Smith County, Tenn. He came with his father to Troy in 1845, and here attended the common schools and clerked in the mercantile establishment of the senior Mr. Murphree for a number of years. He engaged in business for himself while yet a very young man, and from that time up to 1887, he was recognized as one of the active business men of Troy. Early in 1862, he joined the Fifty-ninth Alabama Infantry, became its assistant quartermaster, and remained in the service to the close of the war. As before indicated, from the close of the war almost to the present time, he has been actively engaged in business, and that he has been reasonably successful thereat goes without telling.

Mr. Murphree was married, in 1854, to Miss Adelaide, daughter of Eli and Mary (Darby) Henderson, of Pike County, and has had born to him nine children: Augusta, Clarence, Fannie, Ella, Mary, James, Robert, Bettie B. and Jake.



**JOHN B. KNOX**, a prominent Merchant of Troy, was born in Upson County, Ga., May 1, 1850, and is the son of O. F. and Susan (Kendall) Knox, also natives of that State. From a recent

publication, we take the following: "Mr. Knox has been in business in Troy for eight years, and is considered one of the best business men in our prosperous little city. \* \* \* He has always been engaged in millinery and dry goods business, keeping the finest and largest stock of ladies' goods and millinery in Southeastern Alabama. He has done much to advance the educational and financial interests of Troy. His superior business tact has made him secretary of the Alabama Terminal and Improvement Company, which has the contract for building the Alabama Midland Railroad. He is also secretary and a large stockholder in the Troy Fertilizer Company. Mr. Knox is a quiet, straightforward, unassuming gentleman in every sense of the word, and has made a host of warm friends in Pike and adjoining counties."

Mr. Knox was educated in the schools of Pike County, and at the age of seventeen years began

business as a clerk in a mercantile establishment at Brundidge, Ala., and subsequently became associated as partner. He came to Troy in 1880, where, in addition to the various enterprises hereinbefore enumerated, he is at this time one of the directors of the Troy Normal School.

He was married February 6, 1873, at Brundidge, this county, to Miss Lula Dinkins, daughter of Edward and Lucy (Perry) Dinkins, of Midway, Ala., and has had born to him seven children: Edward O., Mabel, John B., C. Kendall, Evalyn, Lucy and Susan. Mr. Knox is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of the Knights of Honor, and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

The senior Mr. Knox, father of the subject of this sketch, was a physician by profession, and, in 1860, was a member of the Legislature. He died in Pike County in 1873.



## XIX.

### OPELIKA.

By W. J. SAMLORD.

Lee County, named in honor of Gen. Robert E. Lee, was created by Act of the General Assembly December 15, 1866, out of portions of the counties of Chambers, Tallapoosa, Macon and Russell. A few months after the county was formed, by a popular vote, Opelika was designated as the seat of justice. The city has about 4,000 inhabitants, and is situated on the southern line of the hill country of Alabama. The word is from the soft dialect of the Indian (a language fertile in beautiful names), and was the name of an Indian local chief, which, translated, means "Owl in the Bush." The unromantic insist that it means "Red Mud," and yet it might be difficult to have a loftier significance than the vulgar rendering, since "Adam" means "red earth" or "red man," and man was made out of dust.

But it matters little as to "the classics" of the word; Opelika is here as one of the live cities of Alabama, and bids fair to measure her growth with the increase of years.

#### FIRST SETTLED.

The town was settled in 1836 or 1837, while the Indians were here. Among the early, if not the first, settlers were Abijah Bennett, William Mangrum, Amos Mizell, David Lockhart and Luke Mizell, all highly respectable citizens, and the last named a Methodist minister, so exemplary and upright in his life and walk that he won the esteem, not only of his own race, but of the savages as well. And when the Indians began hostilities, they carefully refrained from molesting this good man's house, while many others were burned. Among those who settled early in and around Opelika, besides those mentioned above, were J. C. W. Rogers, Nathaniel Sledge, J. R. Greene, Charles Bird, Elisha Thomas, Peter Bogia, Wash Bedell, Thomas Robertson, John

Haley, James B. Reese, Daniel Gentry, Brady Preston, Nelson Clayton, Wesley Williams and Felix Hubbard. Of all these old settlers only four are now living.

In April, 1848, the little village was connected with the outside world, by the construction of the Montgomery & West Point Railroad, which was shortly afterward extended to West Point.

In 1852, the Columbus branch was built to Columbus, Ga. Notwithstanding the presence of these roads, the growth of the place was very slow, and, as late as 1860, could not poll over fifty votes, though it was then incorporated, with Beverly Johnson as its first Mayor.

Although the progress of the town was imperceptible, the surrounding country was being rapidly peopled with a fine, patriotic and enlightened citizenship. At that memorable period in our country's history, the "country home" was the seat of intellectuality, of social charm and unbounded hospitality. The men and women who were building the country homes in Alabama in 1860 were splendid types of the race that fought at Runnymede, and wrenched from kingly prerogative the glorious charter of civil liberty. Hence, at the call of the State for men to meet the shock of the war, three companies were soon organized, and on the tented field, from Opelika and the adjacent country.

As soon as the cannon's roar was hushed, and this people awoke to the desolation and destruction that had overtaken them, they beat the swords into plowshares, gathered up the little left from rapine and pillage, and with stout hearts and willing hands began anew the battle for bread in the shadows of poverty. Out of the black night of a four-years bitter war, there sprang new ideas, new systems, new problems of civilization that demanded solution. In the efforts of the people for

material advancement, fortuitous circumstances favored Opelika. It was the natural point for the county seat. Already railroads ran in three directions. The revival of the arts of peace demanded the construction of the two railroads, now known as the East Alabama Railway and the Columbus & Western road, which were chartered several years before.

The citizens became alive to the advantages of the town as a commercial point, and a wonderful activity set in. Real estate, which for years had been of small value, arose to city prices, and indeed became so high that the growth of the place was checked. This check became a full stop during the financial depression in 1873.

Since the panic of 1873, candid statement compels the assertion, that the city has not progressed in material prosperity as it should have done. Real estate rapidly decreased in value, and for ten years remained almost stagnant. The causes which produced such an unsatisfactory state of affairs were numerous, not the least of which, was unfortunate difference of opinion among its citizens on public questions.

In the light of the dawn of a new era, filled with the promise of better things, there is no benefit to result from a recital of the details of antagonisms of the past. We would rather look upon them as incidents to the friction of ideas struggling for ascendancy, and, on their subsidence build structures worthier of record and more beneficial to humanity.

The city's depression was not due entirely to internal troubles—indeed this was not the main cause. A general lack of prosperity was the misfortune of the whole State, and of the whole South, and Opelika shared the common lot. But in the last year or two, by the sheer force of her natural advantages, she begins to revive and her future is more assuring.

It is not permissible in this article to speak of her men; to give place to all who deserve to be mentioned in connection with her majesty, would expand this article to forbidden length, while to mention a few would be invidious distinction. Not even all the points of her excellence can be elaborated—only those of prominence and beyond question will be mentioned.

The topography of the city is all that could be desired. Sufficiently level for building and beauty, the location is high and rolling enough for perfect drainage. Sitting on the highest point between

Savannah, Ga., and Vicksburg, Miss., she is far above malaria, and epidemics are unknown. When yellow fever scourged other cities in 1873, Opelika cordially invited the citizens from the stricken cities to her gates. This invitation was accepted, and some brought the fever with them, but not a single case was contracted here. In the eastern suburbs of the city a spring rises, whose waters flow eastward to the Chattahoochee, while one in the western part empties its waters into streams that flow into the Alabama. Her health is above dispute, and her death rate will compare favorably with any city in the Union. The altitude of the city above the level of the sea, is remarkable as compared with other points in the State. From sources, pronounced by Mr. D. H. Cram, to be both *official* and *reliable*, Opelika is 812 feet above the sea, and a point two and a half miles from Opelika measures 847 feet. This latter point is higher than any other station on the railroad from Montgomery, Ala., to West Point, Ga., and what is more wonderful, higher than any station on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad from Montgomery to Louisville.

Lest the reader may conclude that this statement is exaggerated, the tables are here given that may be verified from official sources. The figures indicate altitude in number of feet:

Opelika, 812; Summit (2½ miles north of Opelika), 847; Montgomery, 162; Coosada, 175; Elmore, 199; Fort Decatur, 312; Chenaw, 252; West Point, 415; Deetsville, 300; Mountain Creek, 542; Verhena, 450; Cooper's, 458; Clanton, 596; Lomax, 625; Jenūson, 506; Clear Creek, 549; Calera, 502; Whiting, 555; Siluria, 464; Pelham, 427; Helena, 400; Brock, 564; Oxmoor, 652; Birmingham, 602; Blount Springs, 434; Cullman, 802; Milner, 840; Wilhite, 608; Flint, 568; Decatur, 577; Athens, 709; Pulaski, 643; Columbia, 646; Franklin, 619; Nashville, 411; Gallatin, 498; Franklin, 691; Bowling Green, 469; Cave City, 613; Mumfordsville, 570; Elizabethtown, 683; Muldraugh's, 757; Colesburg, 425; Louisville, 432.

The business of the city is almost exclusively of a commercial character. In this line her merchants have established characters for solidity and fair dealing, that give them a high rating in the commercial reports of the country. Some of them have accumulated fortunes, and have ample capital to handle all the goods the country around will justify. Several fires, in the last few

years, destroyed many stores, which have been promptly rebuilt, and many new ones added, until now there are at least one hundred well arranged storerooms and offices in the city, and all occupied. An interesting fact will arrest the attention of the observer, the commercial and industrial enterprises of the city are almost entirely in the hands of young men, very few indeed, having arrived at the meridian of life. The character of the merchandise is of every sort that is sold in the wholesale markets. There are also here wholesale houses whose jobbing trade is constantly increasing, and this too in spite of the discrimination that has existed in transportation facilities against Opelika, and in favor of Montgomery, Columbus, and other cities. Very recently, the promise is, this discrimination will be largely modified, and in time it is hoped, will cease altogether. If it does, an impetus will be given to the commercial efforts of Opelika, that will largely increase her importance as a trading market, and give her a commanding position in the State.

Unfortunately for the agricultural section surrounding Opelika, and unfortunately in the final event for any city so situated, the necessities of the farmers has forced them to have "advances," and the merchants have therefore done a heavy "advancing" trade. But the farmers in this section are industrious and intelligent, and having learned, by experience, that crops raised by "advances" are barren of profits, are changing their methods, and beginning to get away from such a system. When they completely change, by raising farm supplies at home, it will be of incalculable advantage to them and to the merchants also.

From Opelika, the railways radiate in five directions: One through Columbus and Macon to Savannah; one through Atlanta to the North and East; one *via* Montgomery and Mobile to New Orleans; one through Birmingham to Memphis and Kansas City, and one forty miles to Roanoke to the northeast, destined very soon to go to Anniston. By two of these routes Opelika reaches water transportation at a distance of only a few miles. Columbus, Ga., thirty miles away, is at the head of navigation on the Chattahoochee, and Montgomery, sixty-six miles distant, has uninterrupted navigation during the year. But this matter of her transportation facilities will be subsequently noticed.

In addition to her many storehouses for trading

purposes, there are located in this city, and adjacent to successful operation, five cotton warehouses. It may be possible that they are capacitated to handle more cotton than they get, still the fact remains that they each get enough to remunerate their owners. The receipts of cotton are not less than 18,000 bales, and will be more another season, and continue to increase, since better rates of freight have been given the city by the railroad, and would be more even now, but for the fact that large quantities are bought at the railroad stations near by, and shipped directly to the spinners in New England and Europe. Better results will soon come in this regard.

As a market for commercial fertilizers, wagons and mules, Opelika is unsurpassed. Large amounts of the one and numbers of the others are annually sold.

But the future prosperity of the city will not exclusively, or even mainly, depend on her commerce. That which is destined to build Opelika to the proportions of a large city, are her unsurpassed advantages for manufacturing enterprises. There are now located here, a soda-water manufactory, a large wagon and buggy factory, a cotton-seed oil mill, merchant mill, a fertilizer factory, an iron foundry, a spoke and handle factory, and a sash and door factory. These industries are in the hands of intelligent, active and stirring men, who are having all they can do, and meeting with unbounded success. Year by year they are enlarging and demonstrating, by practical work, the necessity for the establishment of enterprises to supply the articles which enter so largely into consumption of our people. Besides these, there are here, also, a chair and furniture factory, an extensive manufacture of brick, several steam ginneries, and a wholesale candy manufactory.

Situated only a short distance by rail from the iron and coal deposits of the State, with two railroads penetrating these inexhaustible fields of wealth, with building sites for shops and houses very cheap, removed from the large mass of discontented spirits that usually gather about the mines, with health assured, a mild, salubrious climate, with ample school and church facilities, and with railroads running out in every direction, Opelika presents splendid advantages for the establishment of factories for the making of many articles which will always be in large demand. For reasons, obvious to the thoughtful, this city offers inducements superior to cities near the mines for manu-

facturing axes, hoes, bolts, screws, and, indeed, all the lighter articles into the making of which iron enters. It is a singular fact, that the finest and most expensive fabrics from the great staples of universal use are rarely made in proximity to the production of the raw material.

The educational institutions are of a very high order. In addition to the public school there are two high-schools, with full corps of competent teachers, besides several private schools. These, together with the benign influences of the churches, are exciting healthful, intellectual and moral training, which is observable in the intelligence and conservatism of her citizens. Each Protestant denomination has, among the whites, a well-built, commodious church building, some of which are quite expensive and handsome,—while the colored people have several churches, which are also substantially built and well attended. As a people, the citizens are quiet, orderly, sober, upright and conservative; and these qualities are characteristic, not alone of the white people, but of the colored population as well, some of whom are solid, reliable men, who are gathering substance around them and bravely struggling for honest livelihood and honorable reputation.

In the beginning of this article we said that Opelika is situated at the foot of the hill country of Alabama. This is true, and north and east of her is the red land of the oak and hickory—the land of grain, fine horses and hospitality; while west and south are pine and hummock lands, where cotton, fruit and melons grow to perfection, and cheerful homes abound, filled with a race of men and women whose virtues are many.

Owing to many untoward circumstances and weighty causes, agriculture has not thriven during the past few years as it might have done, and as its patrons deserved. It would serve no practical purpose, in this brief historical sketch, to set down these causes or to discuss the reasons. Bright hopes of better systems and more abundant results are animating the hearts of the people and nerving them for renewed efforts. And why should they not bear, in this favored land, golden crowns for the labor of the husbandman? Climate, seasons and soil, all conspire to enrich the intelligent tiller of the fields. Corn, oats, wheat, rye, barley, sorghum, milomaize, kafir-corn, ribbon-cane, grass, potatoes, melons, peanuts, peas, cotton, cabbage, onions, lettuce, carrots, celery, asparagus, berries, grapes, figs,

peaches, apples, pears, plums, quinces, apricots, and all other field and garden products of the temperate zone, besides different kinds of nuts, grow in great abundance, “with half a chance”; while the delicious scuppernong is literally at home on every hill and in every valley.

When we say these things grow in *abundance*, we speak only the literal truth.

Intelligent experiments have demonstrated that the soil, in all the country surrounding Opelika, is susceptible of vast improvement, and, when improved, will yield enormous crops. Well authenticated results have reached two and three bales of lint cotton on one acre, and one hundred bushels of corn per acre, and other crops in proportion. Where such wonderful yields are possible, it requires no prophet's eye to see, in the near future, the hills and valleys of Lee County studded with the cozy homes of bright, cheerful farmers, surrounded by happy, contented wives and children, singing the cheerful songs of life.

In addition to these benefactions, a kind Providence has given this favored spot a genial climate. For eight months in the year cattle can subsist in open fields. During all that time the temperature is from 40° (Fahrenheit) above zero, in the early spring and late autumn, to 60° and 80° in the summer, rarely reaching 90°, while the other four months seldom bring many days that prevent outdoor work and recreation. With these conditions, cattle-raising is made easy, certain and profitable—a fact which some farmers are now practically demonstrating, for at the agricultural fair held at Opelika, in the fall of 1887, one farmer exhibited twenty-seven colts, and several exhibited fine cattle of different strains, besides hogs, sheep, poultry, etc. The fair-ground is beautifully arranged in the suburbs of the city, and is one of the permanent enterprises of the place. The first exhibition was in October, 1887, and surpassed the most sanguine expectation.

In the country surrounding the city, are many indications and outcroppings of minerals, though there has been no development of this source of wealth, and it is not definitely known that minerals exist in paying quantities. But a few miles from the city, there is, in successful operation, one of the most famous lime works in the South. The rock is of the finest quality and inexhaustible. Quarries of granite are being opened in different places, and samples of marble and paint, from different points near by, are now being

tested to determine their value, while a few miles to the northwest gold mines are "panning out" in paying quantities.

In addition to the sources of wealth already alluded to, is the timber of the adjacent forests. Very fine lumber is being sawed in large quantities by numerous sawmills, which find ready sale in this, and other markets easily reached by rail. Then we have in great quantities the several varieties of oak, hickory, beech, ash, chestnut, china, maple, poplar, some black walnut, and other varieties of hardwood—valuable material for many articles of utility.

It would be a difficult matter to find a better watered section than this. Clear, cool, pure, free, stone springs are in nearly every valley, and run on forever. The branches are, therefore, very numerous—indeed so numerous, that it is doubtful if a spot in Lee County can be found as much as one mile distant from a never-failing, running stream.

With all these points of excellence, land is quite cheap but will not remain so, for a great while.

Seven miles from Opelika, at Auburn, is located the Agricultural and Mechanical College of the State, an institution just beginning a career of usefulness to the whole State.

A history of Lee County would, of course, be incomplete, that failed to mention Loachapoka, Salem, Browneville and other important points in the county. But this is only a brief sketch of Opelika, and the remarks on the surrounding country are incidental to her environment.

One thing that has contributed largely to the depression of Opelika and Lee County is a large bonded indebtedness, which was voted in aid of railroads, when such things were possible in Alabama, twenty years ago. The county indebtedness has been nearly adjusted and can not be burdensome in the future. By judicious legislation it has been compromised, and the State assisted by loaning money to pay the compromise, which loan bears no interest, and is to be repaid in easy installments. Besides this the county has no bonded debt. The city debt is now in the hands of Commissioners, and will doubtless be adjusted before a great while. The creditors are offering to compromise, and when adjusted, the debt can be easily managed. The rate of county taxation is one-half of one per cent., and the rate of the city is the same.

The learned professions are ably and well rep-

resented in Opelika. Some of her physicians and lawyers have attained State reputations.

Her ministry has for years been, and still is, of the very highest order, and how earnestly, faithfully and conscientiously these devoted men of the churches have performed their duty, is manifested by the large congregations of Christian men and women who constantly wait upon their ministry.

This sketch is assuming forbidden length. A recapitulation of some of Opelika's points of excellence, and her present status, will indicate the possibilities of her future. In the absence of official ascertainment, the statements may be incorrect in some slight respects, but are sufficiently accurate for practical purposes to say that Opelika has one hundred stores and offices of business; five large brick and rock cotton warehouses; two well managed banks; four wholesale establishments; three hotels, besides restaurants; a wagon and furniture factory; an iron foundry and several steam gins; an extensive variety works; a cotton-seed oil mill and fertilizer factory; a merchant mill and several other industries; eight churches; several schools; Young Men's Christian Association and other public halls; an opera house; several large livery and sale stables; a large brick manufactory; the court-house and other public buildings; spoke, handle, sash and door factories; four thousand inhabitants; railroads radiating in five directions; a prosperous newspaper; a good country around for farms; a fine climate; good health, good water, and favorable prospects.

With all these and many other advantages, Opelika, in the very near future will fulfill the prophecies, and realize the hopes of her most sanguine friends.



**WILLIAM J. SAMFORD**, President of the State Senate of Alabama, and a prominent Attorney-at-law, was born in Meriwether County, Ga., in September, 1844, and is the son of William F. and Susan L. (Dowdell) Samford, natives of that State.

The senior Mr. Samford was a lawyer of high standing in Georgia, and had a reputation throughout the South as a gentleman of fine scholarship and varied attainments. He came to Alabama in 1846, and was prominent here as an attorney. He was also an extensive planter and an able political writer.

William J. Samford studied at what is now the Agricultural and Mechanical College, at Auburn, Ala., and at the State University of Georgia, but his collegiate career was cut short by the war. He was seventeen years of age when he enlisted in the Confederate Army, as a private in Company G, Forty-sixth Alabama, with which command he was in the Tennessee and Kentucky campaigns. Being transferred to Mississippi he was captured in front of Vicksburg, and afterward imprisoned on Johnson's Island eighteen months. When his exchange was effected, he at once returned to the army, and stayed with it to the close of the war, leaving the service with the rank of first lieutenant.

Mr. Samford gave his attention to farming for several years after the war, devoting his spare time to the study of law. He realized the truth of the saying that there is no royal road to greatness, and with this idea before him, it is needless to say he applied himself to study with the greatest assiduity.

He was admitted to the bar in 1866, and began the practice in 1871, at Opelika, where he has continued ever since, and where he has risen step by step, until he has few equals and no superiors. He is regarded as one of the most prominent young men in the State.

Before reaching thirty-one years of age, he represented his Senatorial District in the Constitutional Convention of 1875; was one of the Greeley Electors in 1872; voted for Tilden in the Electoral College of 1876; was elected to Congress in 1878; to the lower house of the State Legislature in 1882; to the State Senate in 1884, and in 1886 was made President of that body.

In all the positions to which he has been called, Mr. Samford has borne himself with marked ability and dignity. He was married in October, 1865, to Miss Carrie E., daughter of Dr. John H. and Mary (Williams) Drake, formerly of North Carolina, and has had born to him eight children: William H., Thomas D., William J., Richard L., Susan G., Caroline E., Crawford A. and Walter R.

Mr. Samford is a member of the Masonic fraternity, the American Legion of Honor, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

He is the author of the chapter in this volume on Opelika, and for careful arrangement and succinct presentation of fact, the publishers take pleasure in recommending it to their readers.

**WILLIAM E. HUDMON**, of the firm of Hudmon Bros. & Co., Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Dry-goods and Groceries, Opelika, was born in Chambers County, this State, December 30, 1843, and is a son of Daniel N. and Sarah (Collins) Hudmon. His father was a native of Georgia, and his mother of Tennessee. The senior Mr. Hudmon was a planter and merchant, and died in 1880 at Opelika.

Our subject received his education at Beulah Academy, this county, and, when twenty-four years of age, began a general merchandise business in partnership with his brother, J. F. Hudmon, at the town of Beulah. This arrangement continued until January 1, 1873. He then purchased his brother's interest and continued in business at Beulah until March, 1877, when he moved to Opelika, and, in the fall of 1878, formed a partnership with G. W. Hopson. This firm, under the name of W. E. Hudmon & Co., continued in general mercantile business until January, 1880, at which time its members succeeded the Messrs. Edwards of the firm of Edwards, Hudmon & Co., forming the new firm which still continues as the firm of Hudmon Bros. & Co.

Mr. Hudmon enlisted as a private in Company C, First Battalion Hilliard's Alabama Legion, (afterward the Sixtieth Alabama Regiment), in April, 1862 and remained in active service until the close of the war. During his term of service, he was wounded at Chickamauga, taken prisoner March 31, 1865, near Petersburg, Va., and imprisoned at Point Lookout, in Maryland.

After the war, Mr. Hudmon returned to Beulah, and, as has been seen, moved to Opelika in 1877. Associated with him are his brothers, P. T. Hudmon, D. T. Hudmon, G. N. Hudmon and G. W. Hopson, the latter marrying his only sister.

Not only is Mr. Hudmon a leading merchant of Opelika, but he is one of her progressive and public-spirited citizens, and he has received proofs of his appreciation by the people of that city. He has served the city as Mayor, and been repeatedly on its Board of Aldermen. Both as Mayor and Alderman he has always given the highest satisfaction.

He was married December 17, 1865, to Miss Mary E. Dickens, of Beulah. To their union one child was born, Dona Belle, now the wife of Benjamin A. Cooper, of Opelika.

Mrs. Hudmon died in January, 1887, and Mr. Hudmon was married to Mrs. A. E. Milford, *nee* Sutton, in February, 1888.





John W. R. Williams received his primary education near his boyhood home, and was graduated from the Agricultural and Mechanical College, at Auburn, this State. He studied medicine and surgery at the Georgia Eclectic College of Medicine, and received the degree of M. D. in 1858. He began practice immediately in Louisiana, and remained there fifteen years. In 1872, he came to Opelika, and has since been in the practice here.

Dr. Williams entered the Confederate Army as a member of the Twenty-seventh Louisiana Infantry, and remained in active service until the smoke of the battle had cleared away.

In 1861, he was married to Mary W., daughter of Daniel and Susan (Mizell) Bullard, of Lee County, Ala. They have had five children: Francis, deceased; Daniel B., who is a physician; Wiley W.; Warren S., deceased; and William H., deceased. Mrs. Williams died in 1870, and Dr. Williams was married again in May, 1872, to Elizabeth, a sister of his first wife. To this union have been born three children: Susan M., Rinaldo G., and John W.

The Doctor has for many years been an active official of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and is one of its most prominent members. He is highly esteemed by all who know him as a Christian gentleman and a first-class physician.



**GEORGE P. HARRISON, Jr.**, Attorney-at-law, was born March 19, 1841, near Savannah, Ga. His parents are Gen. George P. and Mrs. Addie Harrison, who still reside in Chatham County, Ga.

The senior General Harrison is a native Georgian, and Mrs. Harrison is a South Carolinian by birth. The former was an extensive rice planter and a conspicuous figure in the politics of his earlier days. He repeatedly represented his county in both branches of the Georgia Legislature, and before the war was major-general of the Georgia State Militia. In the Confederate Army he held the rank of brigadier-general. After the war he was a member of the First Constitutional Convention for the State of Georgia, and has filled many other positions of honor and trust.

The subject of this sketch, after the preliminary school training which most boys receive at the common schools, went to Ellingham Academy, and at a subsequent period entered the Georgia Military Institute. From the latter institution

he was graduated as captain of Company A and as the first-honor man of the class of 1861. He at once entered the service of the Confederacy as a second lieutenant in the First Georgia Regulars and his promotion was rapid and marvelous. He was successively promoted from the grade of lieutenant to staff officer, colonel of the Thirty-second Georgia, and brigadier-general, with the command of a brigade. He was a colonel before he was twenty years old, and a brigadier-general before he had reached his twenty-second year. He enjoyed the remarkable distinction of being the youngest officer of his rank in the Confederate Army, and maintained this honorable connection with the army, in behalf of the cause he espoused so warmly, until the war closed.

The criticisms of his seniors in the service were in every way creditable to and eulogistic of General Harrison.

General Beauregard, than whom there was no grander military spirit on either side, in his reports, where he refers to General Harrison, speaks of him as "an officer of skill and courage," and in Maj.-Gen. Samuel Jones' reports, after the war, we find equally complimentary notice of him.

In 1864 General Harrison was ordered to Florence, S. C., to take charge of the Federal prisoners. Here his kind treatment of those who were his enemies in war, and who were now to a great extent at his mercy, was as lofty and noble as his previous conduct in the heat of battle had been daring and chivalrous. Nor was this manly and humane conduct to be lost sight of. The mementoes of appreciation emanating from those who were committed to his charge as prisoners are the most striking and the most genuine asseverations of his noble and generous bearing, when, had it been in the power of many to fill a similar position, a tale as black as night itself would have been the only record left behind.

When the fortunes of war decreed that Savannah, the native city of our subject, should fall into the hands of the enemy, and when the families of all Confederate officers had been ordered to leave the city, the War Department of the Federal Government at Washington issued an order giving special permits to the immediate family of General Harrison to remain in the city, and placed guards at their disposal for the protection of their home and property, as a reward and evidence of appreciation of his previous kind treatment of the Federal prisoners under his care.



*Yours very truly*  
*Geo. P. Harrison Jr.*



As a mark specially eulogistic of General Harrison's career as an army officer, nothing more graceful and appropriate can be found than the vote of thanks passed by the Legislature of South Carolina for his gallant defense of Battery Wagner, on Morris' Island, during the siege of Charleston.

Prior to the war and while at college, he had cursorily studied law, and afterward, during a four years' experience as a farmer, he gave his leisure hours to a continuation of the study. He was admitted to the bar of Lee County in 1850, and the following year was admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Alabama. In 1855 he was elected to the Constitutional Convention, and from 1856 to 1880 served as a member of the State Senate. Being re-elected in 1880, he was made President of that body in 1882.

In 1871 he was chosen to the Chair of Civil and Military Engineering at the State Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn, and after remaining there one year, resumed the practice of his profession at Opelika. In 1877, he was appointed a brigadier-general of the Third Alabama District by Governor Houston, and, being several times re-appointed to the same position, he now holds that office.

General Harrison has won distinction as a lawyer, and now has a clientele which would be regarded as satisfactory, from a financial standpoint, by any lawyer in the State. He is the General Counsel for the Columbus & Western, the Western of Alabama, and the Charleston, Savannah & Mobile Railroads, all of which are among the leading roads running through Alabama; and his general practice is of a most satisfactory kind, he being on one side or the other of almost every important case in his county.

He was married, in 1863, to Miss Mary E., daughter of John C. and Mary A. Drake, of Georgia. To this union two children were born; of these, only one, Miss Mary Addie, who is a first-honor graduate of the Wesleyan Female College, is now living.

Mrs. Harrison's death occurred in June, 1884, and General Harrison was married the second time, in 1886, to Miss Mattie C., daughter of Ex-Lieutenant Governor Ligon, of Montgomery.

The General is a Knight Templar and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

**JAMES J. ABERCROMBIE** was born in Georgia. His father, Gen. Anderson Abercrombie, was a conspicuous figure in the War of 1812, and was wounded at the battle of Kalohee. The family of Abercrombie belongs to the best people of the South, and have always left their impress upon the times in which they have lived. General Abercrombie died in 1867, at the age of eighty-two years.

James J. Abercrombie received his education at Oxford, Ga., and at Cambridge University, Massachusetts. He studied law in the latter institution after finishing his literary course, and was admitted to the bar at Columbus, Ga., in 1858. This city being near the dividing line between Georgia and Alabama, gave Mr. Abercrombie an opportunity to practice in both States, and we find that, in addition to a lucrative practice in the courts of the former, from the lowest to the highest, he also practiced before the United States Courts of Alabama. In 1860, he was elected Judge of Muscogee County, Ga., and filled that position four years.

Judge Abercrombie, like most Southern men of that day and time, is not without his war record. He entered the Confederate service in Ross' Battalion, as a member of Company B.; was made judge-advocate of the battalion, and served a short time on the staff of General Browne, with the rank of major.

He was married in 1856, to Miss Parthenia, daughter of Major Isaac Ross, of Elmore County, Ala. To them have been born four children: James A., Isaac R., John C. and Wily.

Judge Abercrombie is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has for many years been an active worker in the Sunday-school.



**SAMUEL O. HOUSTON**, Attorney-at-law, Opelika, was born February 2, 1851, in Harris County, Ga., and is a son of George W. and Nancy (Ward) Houston, natives, respectively, of North Carolina and Georgia. His father was a farmer up to the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1886.

Samuel O. Houston attended East Alabama College (now the Agricultural and Mechanical College), at Auburn, for some time, and afterward completed his literary course at the University of Georgia, graduating in 1869. He engaged in agri-

cultural pursuits until 1879, when he began the study of law. He was admitted to the bar in Lee County in 1881.

As a practicing lawyer Mr. Houston has been very successful; as a citizen, he is public-spirited; and as a gentleman, he is refined and cultivated. In 1886 he formed a partnership in the law practice with Judge John M. Chilton. This association continued one year, and was mutually dissolved.

Mr. Houston is one of those who has studiously let politics alone and devoted himself to his profession; as a consequence, success has crowned his efforts. Thinking it a good way to help the people he has negotiated loans from large moneyed concerns for farmers, in order that their lands might be improved and a better state of farming introduced among them. At present, he is in correspondence with capitalists at the North, with a view to bringing additional sums of money into this locality, to be lent to the farmers upon their lands as security.



**WILLIAM B. GIBSON**, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Lee County, is one of those honest citizens who has been a tiller of the soil all his life with the exception of the period of his incumbency in the present office. He was born in this county in February, 1851, and is a son of Wily J. and Sarah A. (Bennett) Gibson, natives, respectively, of Georgia and North Carolina. The former was a farmer throughout his life, and died in 1868.

W. B. Gibson was educated primarily at the common schools near his home, and subsequently attended a private school in Montgomery. At the age of nineteen years he began farming and kept it up till the year 1886, when he was elected Circuit Clerk. Prior to his election he had held the position of Postmaster at Wacoochee, Ala.; was several years a Magistrate, and was also a Notary-public.

He was married in 1871, to Miss Mary L., daughter of John and Martha N. (Finch) Monk, of Lee County. They have six children; Bertha, Jennie, Oscar T., Katie, William B. and Smith.



**NOAH P. RENFRO**, Vice-President of the First National Bank of Opelika, was born in October, 1855, in Chambers County, this State, and is

a son of N. P. and Nancy (Rinchart) Renfro. The senior Mr. Renfro was a farmer and died in Chambers County in July, 1855.

Noah P. Renfro was educated at Howard College, Marion, Ala., and, when twenty-two years old, engaged in the grocery business at Opelika in partnership with his brothers, F. and F. M. Renfro. The firm did an extensive wholesale grocery business until January, 1888, when they closed out and entered into the banking and warehouse business exclusively.

The First National Bank was organized in March, 1886, with Noah P. Renfro as Vice-President. He is also a stockholder in the Chewala Lime Works, a \$100,000 concern, situated near Opelika.

Mr. Renfro, though yet a young man, has attained a place in the business world which those of much greater years would consider an ample reward for a lifetime of toil. He has always been a public-spirited citizen and occupies a high social position. He is at present a member of the City Council of Opelika.

In 1885 he was married at Greenville, to Miss Maggie, daughter of T. P. and Laura (Williamson) McCall, of that place. They have one child, Neville P.

Mr. Renfro is a member of the Masonic fraternity, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and of the Knights of Pythias.



**MOSES T. TRAWICK**, Proprietor of the Opelika Oil Mills and of the Lee County Fertilizer Manufactory, was born in May, 1847, in Russell County, Ala., and is a son of Moses T. and Anna (Lawson) Trawick, natives of Georgia. His father, a farmer by occupation, died in 1848.

M. T. Trawick received his education at the common schools in his native county, and, at the early age of sixteen years, enlisted in the Confederate Army, where he remained till the close of the war. His last fighting was done within the limits of the county where he was born, and very near his home.

After the war, he devoted himself to farming for fifteen years in Russell County. He came to Opelika and established the Opelika Oil Mills in 1884. In 1885 he built the fertilizer factory of which he is now proprietor. Both of these institutions have been among the most successful ever

started in the city of Opelika. They employ about thirty hands, and afford a living to many besides its immediate promoter. To him, therefore, is due a double meed of praise, for, in addition to having given proof of his enterprise, thus stimulating those around him to energy and effort, he has conferred a blessing upon his locality, by showing what the country is capable of.

Mr. Trawick was married in 1868 to Miss Annie, daughter of Richard and Margaret Buchanan, of Russell County. To this union four children have been born: Henry, Birdie E., Willie D. and L. T.



**CHARLES E. STEVENS.** Manufacturer of Sash, Doors, Blinds, Cotton-gins etc., was born in 1854, in North Branford, Conn., and is a son of Amos and Laura A. (Maltrup) Stevens, natives of that State. The senior Mr. Stevens is a mechanic, and died at Opelika in 1885.

Charles E. Stevens attended school at Bristol, Conn., and subsequently, at the grammar school at Hartford. At the age of sixteen years he apprenticed himself to the carpenter trade, and was afterward made superintendent and manager of the construction of buildings of importance, in the State of Connecticut. He remained in that occupation until 1880, when he came to Opelika.

In 1885, Mr. Stevens formed a partnership with Mr. D. W. Floyd, and at once proceeded to erect the large brick building in which he subsequently placed the requisite machinery for the manufacture of sash, doors, blinds, and gins. The business has been a marked success from the beginning, and, as it grows older, patronage increases.

Mr. Stevens was married in 1874 to Miss Olive, daughter of Madison Treat, of Meriden, Conn., and has had born to him six children: Jennie A., Hattie A., Frank H., Edwin A., Charles E. and Olive E.



## XX.

# BIRMINGHAM.

BY JOHN WITHERSPOON DUBOSE.

Environments, geographical, topographical and climatic, when rightfully appreciated, relieve the site of a great city from suspicion of accidental selection to give to it the importance of a natural affinity. The maritime influence of England creates of London the monetary center of the world's commerce. But the fact of this influence is not involved alone in the sea-bound attitude of England. It is further explained in the climate which excites continual physical and mental effort, and in the vicinity of other enterprising countries maintaining separate and distinct social institutions promotive of diversity in the objects of commerce. London is also the *entrepôt* of the great British iron and coal trade.

The hereditary trading instincts of the Dutch, discerned in the confluence of the Hudson River and its tributaries, draining valleys of the interior of great agricultural fertility, and affording hundreds of miles of navigation, with a matchless harbor upon the sea side, conditions indicative of the site of a great commercial emporium. And in the correctness of this prediction, New York has become the *entrepôt* of more than half the commercial wealth of the world.

Before Atlanta had been projected, a convention of the people of the entire Mississippi Valley, assembled at Memphis, was addressed by John C. Calhoun. Referring to the map, and pointing out the course of the rivers and the lay of the mountains, and the richness of the agricultural lands, he declared that the spot on which the city now rests would be the crossing place of the great trunk lines of rail transportation, initiating in the Mississippi Valley south of the Ohio and reaching out for the Atlantic coast.

The selection of Jones' Valley as the centripetal influence of railroads, projected to tap the universally distributed mineral wealth of several

counties, was a practical observance of the course taken by wagon roads and mail routes for half a century. Elyton, a small village toward the center of the valley, had been the objective point of immigration coming from the older States to this region of Alabama, whence it spread itself into the farming lands of the county. The village was a resting place for travelers by public stage or private carriage, passing between the southern and northern counties, long before the wonders of Red Mountain or the Warrior Coal Fields were suspected. Through Elyton passed the celebrated mail stage coach line of Jemison, Powell, Ficklen & Co., *en route* from Huntsville and Decatur, on the Tennessee, to Montgomery and Selma, on the Alabama, onward to Mobile. Elyton was the stage of recuperation and rallying point of the great droves of Tennessee and Kentucky mules bound to the Southern towns for distribution on the cotton plantations of the twelve prairie counties, reaching from the Tom Beckbee to the Chattanooga. Through Elyton passed all the travel from the South to the celebrated Blount Springs. At Elyton was assembled, in 1854, the first popular convention ever called to attempt an organized movement to build a railroad to the top of Red Mountain, the result of which was the chartering of the Northeast & Southwest Road, now the Alabama Great Southern, a section of the Queen and Crescent system. There, too, John T. Milner directed the line of the South & North Road, now a section of the Louisville & Nashville system. The crossing of these two roads determined the site of Birmingham, and the variation of two miles in the selection of the site from Elyton, indicates only a speculative advantage thought to have been attained by the original founders of the city.

The mineral region of Alabama is the base of a



pyramidal form of mineral deposits, whose apex reaches into Canada. Birmingham is the center of that base. Bituminous coals, red and brown hematite ores, kaolin, marble of extraordinary variety and excellence, limestone, building stone and fire-clay are in easy reach of the city, and practically in inexhaustible supply, inexpensive to mine; situated in a climate where no extreme either of heat or cold delays labor for an hour of the year; where laborers are compelled to undergo no heavy expense for clothing or fuel to ward off the frosts; where State, county and municipal government is free, stable and enlightened; where taxes are singularly low, schools absolutely free, and churches abounding of all creeds and denominations. Transportation lines from every quarter insure for Birmingham an unlimited supply of articles of diet from every zone. Kansas City breadstuffs, Chicago meats, Virginia tobacco, fruits from the tropics, apples from New York, meet here. Capital is abundant to provide the most active competition among family and staple grocers, dry-goods and clothing merchants and venders of all things that are required to meet the laborer's wants. Every article of family consumption is in abundant supply, and can be purchased at prices and on terms of unsurpassed liberality by the comparative test of any market in any part of the Union.

The *physical constitution*, so to speak, of Birmingham is, by the blessing of nature, most vigorous and robust in her infancy. The mental tone is hopeful, resolute and conservative. New churches, new schools, new club and society halls are being constantly built, and all the old ones are inadequate to accommodate the demand on their space.

The foundation and growth of the city is the fruit of Southern energy, striving amidst unparalleled social and political revolution to cultivate new fields. The origin of the city, nevertheless, is not a conception of the new era of Southern industrial life. In the happiest realizations and amidst the most confident anticipations of the slave times, the result had been foretold by many an argument of the canvassers, who went about among the planters soliciting subscriptions in money or in labor of their slaves, to build the projected railroads. The profits of cotton crops had long accumulated and re-investment in cotton production was steadily reaching limits beyond which it could not go.

Cotton agriculture, in the nature of a great enterprise employing capital, was limited to African slave labor, and the foreign supply of this labor was prohibited by the Federal laws. The problem with those who held money in increasing annual deposits in the banks, was to find investment for it. Even the distribution of slave labor native to the country had become greatly impeded by the high price of slaves. Only those who owned already large numbers were able to increase their possessions in this species of property. The rich only could grow richer in slaves; at the same time, the Federal census proved that with every decade, the natural increase of slaves diminished. It is highly interesting to note that, while the increase of farm acreage in the Slave States from 1850 to 1860 had been only three per cent., the increase of railroad mileage in the same States had been three hundred per cent., and that manufactures had more than doubled, and bank deposits in the Gulf States, the center of the cotton production, had nearly quadrupled. It was evident that the surplus profits of the cotton plantations were seeking investment in diversified industries. The Elyton Railroad Convention of 1854, was a meeting composed almost wholly of slave owners, and cotton planters living in all parts of Alabama. It was the most hopeful effort thus far organized to discover profitable employment for the bank deposits of Alabama; and not only so, but to open diversified employment for slave labor. Many planters, in response to the action of that Convention, took contracts with the railroad authorities to build a specified amount of roadbed by the labor of their negro men and their plantation teams, in seasons when the agricultural operations would most conveniently permit. This was a substantial reform in the application of labor and capital.

War and its enormous revulsions in every element of civil life greatly hindered and delayed the avowed intent of the Elyton Convention. Bank deposits had totally disappeared. Three hundred and fifty millions of assets in slave property, gained under the protection of the laws by many generations of toilers, had been extinguished in Alabama alone by the stroke of the pen. Lands and houses alone were left standing in the track of war, and while the impairment of farm values was estimated only at \$125,000,000, the market for farm lands was practically destroyed in the whole State.

Four years after the Elyton Convention, the

Governor ordered the survey of the line afterward adopted by the South & North Road. The Legislature heard the report thereon, and, becoming thoroughly convinced of the policy of building the line, was only turned aside from its speedy construction by the early necessity of devoting the entire energies of the State to the pursuit of an exhaustive and protracted war.

J. C. Stanton came to Alabama soon after the disbandment of the armies. The Northeast & Southwest Road was in a partially constructed state. By much tact he obtained a controlling direction of it, and, having secured liberal aid from the State, proceeded most industriously to push it toward completion. Rivers were to be bridged, long gaps of roadbed to be filled, equipment to be furnished throughout a long line, upon which very little local business awaited to be developed. A valuable feature of Stanton's scheme was to determine for himself and in his own interest the point of crossing of the two roads, both reaching toward Red Mountain. While he pushed toward completion the Northeast & Southwest, or Alabama & Chattanooga, as he termed it, other active spirits labored with no less zeal to force onward from Montgomery the South & North Road.

The location of Birmingham being dependent on the point of intersection of the two roads, R. C. McCalla, chief engineer of the Alabama & Chattanooga, and representative of the managers, and John T. Milner, chief engineer and General Superintendent of the South & North Road, entered into a written agreement between themselves to buy options on the seven thousand acres of land at the crossing, wherever that might be found, for the joint benefit of their respective companies. The crossing had been located by the engineers about seven miles southwest of the present site of the city in Village Creek Valley, where springs of pure water were abundant, and drainage easy. The "options" had been bought and the engineers were highly elated with their success in having taken successfully, the first step toward building a city. Milner and McCalla had even been at work completing the lines of the streets and avenues into which the city was to be laid off. At an early hour in the morning, Baylis E. Grace, a farmer near by, rode up to their tent door before the engineers had breakfasted. He related the startling news that Stanton had purchased "options" on 4,000 acres, a few miles

higher up the valley, yet not lying upon the creek, and that the managers of the Alabama & Chattanooga Road had determined to renounce McCalla's agreement with Milner, and to require him to change his location of their line so as to pass through this latter purchase. The South & North Company was by this trick to be deprived of joint ownership in the site of the new city. Now Stanton's "option" on the new purchase ran sixty days. At the expiration of this time the attorney of the vendors, Alburto Martin, appeared at the banking house of Josiah Morris & Co., in Montgomery, to receive the full payment due from Stanton. No cash had been deposited to take up the titles. The law allowed three days of grace. Punctually upon the expiration of the days of grace Josiah Morris, on his own account, paid Mr. Martin the full value of the lands of his clients and took the titles in his own name. The Boston men were thus completely out-generaled and lost all in their effort to grasp an undue advantage.

Josiah Morris then proceeded to organize the Elyton Land Company, on a capital wholly in land, represented by \$100,000 purchase money. Some of the vendors preferred part stock to all cash payments for their farms, transferred to the possession of the company and received it. James R. Powell was elected president, and began at once with great energy, wisdom and enthusiasm to build a city. The name for both the Land Company and its city was chosen by Mr. Morris. Major Barker, civil engineer, laid off 1,160 acres in wide streets and wider avenues. A sale day for lots was advertised. The railroads had not yet crossed on the site of the prospective city. The South & North were several score of miles away with either termini. Travel on the Alabama & Chattanooga was perilous, and on no schedule time, even days going without a train of cars rolling into the city station. Nevertheless, Colonel Powell had attracted wide attention to the sale, and many men and some women came by stage, by private and public conveyance, and even on foot, to attend. The first lot sold for \$150, on the corner of First avenue and Nineteenth street.

December, 1851, the city received its charter from the Legislature. The Governor appointed Robert H. Henley, a young lawyer, and a native of Demopolis, to the office of Mayor. Henley at that time conducted a weekly newspaper, established in one end of the railroad freight depot, for want

of more convenient quarters. He exerted his authority under the law to the utmost to maintain discipline; even anticipating, in the decrees of his daily courts, the laws which prudence must, at a future time, require, but which were not yet written; and oftentimes proceeded, in the assumed capacity of policeman, himself, to execute his own judgments. Ill-health forced his resignation after a year's occupancy of the office, in which time at least one public meeting had been summoned, by the turbulent element of the population, to request his removal and that authority be vested in the people to choose his successor.

Colonel Powell was chosen second Mayor of the city after an exciting contest at the polls. He was in the prime of physical and intellectual vigor, and had been ever distinguished for masterly tact and indomitable energy. He had surrendered to the management of overseers one of the finest cotton plantations on the Yazoo, and neglected other large interests, to come to take up his life-work in the building of Birmingham. Among the first of the many effective steps taken by him to this end was the enlistment of the sympathies of the newspaper press of the United States and of England. Analyses of the ores of Red Mountain and geological reports confirming their exhaustless supply were sent out to the great dailies in every direction. It was arranged that the Alabama Press Association should convene at the young town at its annual meeting in the spring of 1872. A two-story wooden hotel, called the Relay House, had been erected, and the novelty of assembling at a "city in the woods," of less than six months' chartered life, attracted a good attendance of the members. The indefatigable Mayor and corporation president intimated a desire to become, himself, an honorary member of the Press Association. With alacrity his name was enrolled. He then moved that the Association select Birmingham as the place for its next annual convention, and overcame all citation of precedents which opposed the eligibility of the same town to two successive visitations of such an honor, by declaring that in a year the town to which the members would come would be created, new from the foundation. This point adroitly carried, he moved that the Association invite the Press Association of New York to meet with them at Birmingham in the spring of 1873. No map of the State could be found to indicate to the invited guests the locality of the appointed

rendezvous. Birmingham had no place in geography. The New Yorkers greatly relished the audacity of the invitation, and their principal newspapers were represented by competent correspondents. The wonders of Red Mountain were explored by them. The great boulders of hematites, red and brown, weighing two or three thousand tons, lying loose on the surface of the earth, the very wagon roads for miles being a bed of pulverized ore; lumps of coal gathered on the farm and carted to the city consumers; the lime rock in juxtaposition to the ores and the coal, the productive valleys, the abundance of forest, and the clearest perennial streams, the incomparable climate and the profound peace of the country, were themes which the appreciative gentlemen of the distant press discussed in surprise only equalled by the enthusiasm and eloquence of the narratives they sent home to be repeated over the world.

The fame of Birmingham had this newspaper origin. The press of foreign countries repeated the wonderful discovery. The London *Times* declared: "Birmingham, Ala., is destined to be America's greatest metallic-workers' city."

For years military rule dominated the State and the problem of race co-occupancy had not been adequately tested. Debt, public and private, weighed down the people and embarrassed all calculations for the future. The dismal cloud of the "Reconstruction" era in Alabama had this silver lining, and only this: it urged individuals of hope and courage to seek in the mining and manufacturing resources, lying in such untold prodigality at their hands, a diversity of industry which would secure commercial connections, and thus operate to work a reform in the public spirit, to the ultimate liberation of the energies of the whole people. Labor was no longer capital and the release of labor from the *status* of capital had swept out of existence \$350,000,000, as we have said, of assets in Alabama, only on that single item of account of losses of the revolution. The statesmanship of the day was to create capital afresh from the ground, as the basis of reorganized society. Thomas Peters, the explorer, Sloss and De Bardeleben, the designers, Morris and Powell, the hammer-bearers, must take rank as statesmen who lead their people out from confusion and fear to the promise of a most enduring prosperity. Thomas Peters took no money in his purse, nor two coats for his journey, but, laying aside his good Confederate sword, proceeded about

to find out the hidden wealth of Jefferson County and to publish it to capital.

By the beginning of the summer season of 1873 the white planters of the valley of the Tennessee and the prairie region, and their black laborers, had congregated in Birmingham to the number of 2,500. A handsome bank and a few two-story brick business houses, and three or four hundred cheap wooden structures had been built, including, often under the same roof, shops for merchandise storage and rooms for residences. Sewerage, or even scavenger carts, were unknown. The water received from wells was uncertain in supply and unfit in quality, and its supply at once became the paramount problem to be solved. The anti-clinal formation of the territory on which the city was founded was proven to be unfavorable to a natural water supply adequate to the needs of even a small urban population. The wells would not hold water. Cholera prevailed in some parts of the United States at this date, and was imported to Birmingham. Many weeks of the summer of 1873, the second summer of the life of the city, witnessed the prevalence of this scourge. Hundreds of the more substantial part of the community moved away permanently, or for many months. Numerous deaths occurred. The Mayor devoted himself assiduously to nursing the sick and to the enforcement of the best improvised sanitary arrangements. A beautiful devotion was displayed, by those who remained, to each other in the season of trial. Even the outcasts and despised became good Samaritans.

Hardly had the fearful scourge subsided when the financial revulsion, beginning with "Black Friday" in Wall street, in September, 1873, prostrated every interest in the Union. Birmingham felt the shock, ceased to grow, and practically disappeared from all calculation and all influence. Colonel Powell, of the Elyton Land Company, resigned the presidency, abandoned his interests in the city, and retired to his plantation on the Yazoo. The Company owed then \$40,000, and, being unable to meet the debt—a debt for permanent improvements—its founder, Mr. Morris, who owned a majority of its stock, offered to exchange the whole of his share for a release from this liability.

Unlighted, undrained, and almost moribund, the young bantling of the Alabama forest drifted along until the opening of the Pratt Coal Mines of the Warrior fields, six miles distant, and the erec-

tion of the single stack of the Alice Furnace in the suburbs. These decisive enterprises had been inaugurated by November, 1879. By 1883 the Sloss Furnace Company had erected two stacks, the Mary Pratt Furnace Company one, and the Alice Company had added one to its first.

In 1881 the first daily newspaper, *The Age*, was established in the city, and at once began to publish full and accurate reports of the progress of industries and the growth of the population, and the appreciation of values, and these attracted wide attention in every part of the Union.

In 1882 the city passed into a competent and energetic municipal administration. Street improvements, sewerage and public supervision at once began.

In 1871 the first bank of discount was organized, with a capital stock of \$50,000. The next came nine years later, with a capital stock of \$100,000. Four years passed with no increase of banks or banking capital. From 1884 to April of 1888, the banking capital was increased from \$150,000 in the former period to \$2,350,000 in the latter. The percentage of increase of banking capital and the percentage of increase of bank deposits in four years, last past, has exceeded the percentage of increase of real estate values in the business part of the city in the same time. The percentage of increase of manufacturing capital and general business capital has exceeded the increased value of the real estate upon which the enterprises have been erected. The growth of the city is thus proven to partake of that substantial character which distinguishes the commercial value of its chief commodities. Excitement has been generally wholesome, partaking rather of the exuberance of youthful vigor than the over-stimulation of maturer greed.

The commerce initiating in Birmingham and the suburbs consists in iron ores, coal, coke, limestone, the product of blast-furnaces, rolling-mills (including sheet-iron), engines and boilers, furnace machinery, stoves, fine tools, tacks, pins and nails, iron bridges, bolts, chains; the product of foundries, such as pipes, iron fencing, etc.; flour and meal, gins, agricultural tools, cotton bales, woodwork of various kinds, common brick and fire-brick. The departing and arriving freights occupy at least fifty thousand cars per month, and the quarterly exhibits of all the railroads for one year is in excess of the corresponding period of the year preceding.

Business for the past year may be stated as follows: Iron, \$12,500,000; coal and manufactures, \$12,500,000; wholesale and retail general merchandise, \$26,000,000; railroad business, \$3,600,000; making a grand total of \$54,600,000! Not a dollar of this business represents any impairment of previously existing enterprises in the State.

The financial exhibit of the city is as follows: Banking capital, \$2,350,000; various land companies, \$25,000,000; iron and steel companies, \$4,000,000; furnaces, \$5,000,000; general manufactures, \$5,000,000; mercantile capital, \$5,000,000; a grand total of \$46,350,000.

The development of Jefferson County has been profitable to the agriculture of the State, in causing new railroads to bisect the agricultural region, and which, but for that development, would not have been built—at least in the nineteenth century; and the profits arising to farmers from investments in the county have been largely serviceable in their agriculture.

In 1860, Jefferson County drew from the State Treasury more money than it contributed thereto. In 1887, the county paid into the Treasury more than any other two counties combined.

Choice business lots in the city, 100 feet deep, command \$400 to \$700 the front foot. Choice lots in the residence part of the city sell for \$75 to \$150 the front foot. Rents of all sorts of buildings are enormously high. Water rent is moderate and the supply, received from springs in the mountains away from all possible contamination, is abundant. The city government has contracted for ample gas and electric lighting for the entire corporate limits, and is gradually laying Belgian block for pavement.

Enlarged explorations, followed by fresh discoveries of natural resources of the most secure and profitable branches of manufactures and commerce, make memorable the annual history of Birmingham. The greeting which met the first trains of pig-iron sent into the great markets of the North was only an outburst of derision. This proved to be the slur of mean jealousy only, for, as furnaces have multiplied, every one, from the day it goes into blast, is employed by rule, and not by accident, to filling advance orders. There are 10,000 tons in a single yard often awaiting transit. Every stockyard is well-filled with the product, marked for shipment, and waiting only for delayed transportation. A steel and iron company recently made two experimental shipments of pig

—one to Texas, and the other to New England. The report from each manufacturer at these extreme points, was in the highest degree complimentary to the product. Large shipments go from Birmingham furnaces to Pittsburgh, and the metal is converted there by the Bessemer process.

Birmingham ores are known to be heavily charged with phosphorus, and the monopoly of the patents hitherto in use for producing steel from that class of ores has been safely lodged with Northern manufacturers. But Southern-bred men residing in Birmingham took up a neglected patent, introduced originally at the North, moved the machinery from Boston, where it had been set up, put it in operation under their own supervision at their home, and to-day Birmingham ores of the lowest grade, under the Henderson process, are converted into all kinds of steel tools and implements, from the cold chisel to the concave razor, with a rank second to none known to commerce.

No railroad running to Birmingham was built with any other original design save to draw life from the foundations of the strength and glory of Birmingham. The State built not one of the whole number as a public convenience. To reach Red Mountain and the Warrior Coal Field the first and the latest line was projected. The cry continually goes up from the public at large for more cars on every line, and for new lines to every point of the compass. When John T. Milner and Robert E. Rodes, in the old era, were at work, locating surveys and building roadbeds for the two pioneer lines, the entire pig-iron product of the United States was \$50,000 tons per year. In less than ten years from the completion of the pioneer Birmingham furnace, the pig-iron product of Jefferson County alone, from furnaces which will be ready to go into blast within ninety days, or are now in blast, will be 650,000 tons per year.

The percentage of increase since 1884, in these several elements of city prosperity—viz. the price of real estate, the amount of banking capital, the outgoing and increasing commerce, the manufacturing capital and population—have been surprisingly even, as we shall demonstrate by figures and facts, as our narrative proceeds.

The streets and avenues of Birmingham are from 80 to 100 feet wide, and an alley twenty feet wide bisects every block running parallel with the avenue on either side.

The sidewalks are twelve feet wide. A rail-

road avenue divides the corporation limits into two equal parts, designated as Birmingham North and Birmingham South. This reservation is 200 feet wide, running from east to west. A bridge 1,100 feet long spans the railroad avenue on Twenty-second street, affording a safe crossing for street railway cars, vehicles and pedestrians, all at once.

A Belt Line railroad encircles the city, taking loaded cars from all the trunk lines, to leave them, for unloading, at warehouses at various points on the line convenient to consignees, and at the manufactories and at its own sidings. Shippers of heavy freight may order one car, or any number of cars, left at their own platforms, where they are loaded, and when ready are taken in charge by the Belt engines to be transferred to the trunk lines. A dummy passenger line enters the southern highlands, enabling business men and laborers to have comfortable homes for their families in easy reach and above the smoke and noises of the streets. A mile and a half from the center of the city, on the wooded mountain side, is a public park of forty acres, provided with an artificial lake, boats, rustic seats, drives, walks, flowers, a pavilion, club house, etc., entirely free to the public. There, too, is a commodious modern hotel, open summer and winter to the public.

#### CITY GOVERNMENT.

The government consists of a Mayor and a Board of Aldermen, elected biennially by the people. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen select the policemen of all ranks, the firemen, the Clerk, Auditor and Treasurer, the City Physician, City Engineer, the Street Commissioner, Market Clerk and all subordinate officers in any way connected with the administration. The Mayor holds court daily and all offenders against the city code are by his judgments tried and punished. The Mayor's office has been a very responsible and important one, under the circumstances, where every street was new and the population increasing at the rate of 400 *per centum per annum*. The following persons have occupied the Mayoralty: Robert H. Henley, one year; James R. Powell, two years; W. H. Morris, about two years; H. M. Caldwell, a few months, by special appointment to fill Morris' unexpired term; Thomas Jeffers, four years; A. O. Lane, six years.

The city debt is, in round numbers, \$305,000,

which is much less than one per cent. of its assessed values for 1887. Its bonds always command a premium. The financial condition of the city is as follows: Assets—Market Houses, \$60,000; Parks, 880,000; School buildings and furniture, \$100,000; Fire Department property, \$20,000, making a grand total of \$250,000.

The city officers consist of a Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer, six Aldermen, Civil Engineer, Physician, Chief of Police, Chief of Fire Department, Street Commissioner and Sanitary Inspector.

#### RAILROADS.

Fifteen railroads, either now in operation or in course of immediate construction, meet at Birmingham. The inexhaustible natural resources of the territory through which these roads pass, and the great variety of the same, must be appreciated before the just influence of the roads on a given center of accumulation and distribution can be anticipated. From Birmingham, as a central point, iron in all its commercial forms, grate and steam coal, building stone, brick, breadstuffs, provisions, and general merchandise can be, under the ordinary laws of trade, as cheaply concentrated and distributed as at any other point in the Southwest. The cars that take off iron, coal and cotton go hence to the cities manufacturing all textile goods, shoes, etc., and to Kansas City, Chicago, and Cincinnati, in which cities the greatest cold-storage houses for all meats are to be found, also furniture and breadstuffs and other heavy and bulky commodities. The iron manufacturing and coal mining population is the highest paid wage class, and therefore the cars which take the outgoing freights from Birmingham will return laden with merchandise adapted to cash sales among a people generally enjoying a high degree of prosperity. The outgoing freights insure a high degree of solvency of the resident merchants and the local banks at the initial point. Thus firmness of prices and uniformity of supply must distinguish the Birmingham market in the jobbing trade. The roads run through an agricultural country, every acre of which is productive and all townships of which are blessed with timber, water and equable climate. Every acre of land in Alabama, generally speaking, in reach of any one of the fifteen railroads, is productive of cotton, all cereals, grapes, many varieties of fruit, all varieties of garden vegetables, and perennial grasses of both winter and summer classes.

When the line of the South & North Road was laid, there was not a single village or open farm along its entire length, from Decatur to Alabama River, 200 miles. The territory which includes Cullman County paid into the State Treasury less than \$500 in taxes before the organization of the county. The county paid, in 1886, \$5,999,633 into the State Treasury.

The Birmingham & Mobile Railroad grade adapts itself to the naturally gentle decline of the surface of the earth to the south. It is constructed on a grade to the sea which will allow the carriage of heavy freights with lighter engines than usual in that direction. The agricultural country intersected is the most famous for fertility in the State. The timber lands traversed are of incalculable wealth in that product.

The Birmingham & Savannah Air-line Railroad will offer an independent outlet to the Atlantic, as short as can be made.

The Louisville & Nashville Mineral Road runs from Tuscaloosa, *via* Birmingham, to Huntsville through the celebrated Murphree's Valley where the most abundant untouched supplies of iron ores, coal, limestone and building-stone are to be found, in the midst of extraordinary fertility of the soil.

The Birmingham & Sheffield Railroad connects the city with the Tennessee River at the foot of Mussel Shoals, and affords cheap transportation to the valley of the Ohio.

THE STREET RAILWAY mileage of Birmingham is wonderfully extensive. It aggregates seventy-seven miles—twenty-five miles of horse-car lines and fifty-two miles of steam-dummy lines. Over twenty thousand people ride on these lines on Sundays and holidays, to reach the numerous parks, the base ball grounds, or race course. It is the remark of strangers that the teams and cars are better kept upon them than in any Southern city.

The unequal wealth of Alabama in all soil products—minerals, textile staples and cereals, is the proposition. The energy of her people in their development is the corollary. Of transportation there is certain to be an abundance. Water lines so numerous and so universally crossed by railroads will rectify any disposition to abuse of opportunity or extravagant charges by the latter. The general wealth of the State can find no more stable center of trade and distribution than Birmingham. The period of disasters of the iron interest in the

United States has witnessed the phenomenal growth of the furnaces of Birmingham. Ten years ago not exceeding 200 tons of that product was the daily output. Within this year it will reach 2,000.

#### LABOR.

The relations of labor to capital in Birmingham have thus far maintained perfect harmony. No general or damaging disagreement has appeared. The peculiar economic conditions encourage the belief that none is near. The mechanic who earns \$20 a week can buy, with the wages of three months, a farm of twenty acres, within two hours' ride of the city, and upon that support his family on the profits of the city markets. Invitation in the climate and in the resources of the earth to infinite diversity of occupation must tend to the equitable adjustment of the rights of labor in operating capital.

The manifest result of the appearance of the white and black labor in the same field is the elevation of the white in the scale of wages and the approximate equalization of all whites on a race basis of social organization. Because the negro is already in easy reach, he comes to the city to engage in whatever calling may be open to him for weekly wages paid in cash. He enters an open field of competition. His muscle is strong. He finds his industrial and social level with unerring certainty. As the continent of Africa ranks among continents, so do its children rank among the sons of men wherever their lot be cast. The negro race of Birmingham now occupies about forty per cent. of the class of day laborers. The relative classification of laborers in the various pursuits inevitably relegates the negro to a low grade. The places in the low grade, therefore, are filled by the inferior race. The appreciable consequence is, that perhaps in no town in the United States are the white wage class so intelligent and orderly as in Birmingham. The social line between the races is so certainly instinctive that no jealousy of any kind prevails between the white men and the black men at work, day after day, on the same building. The black man is sure to be hood carrier to the white, block mason, dray driver to the white merchant, servant of servants everywhere, and when night comes the two separate to enter different lodging-houses, different social halls or different churches. Their children attend different schools, and, in all respects and

circumstances, the natural law of the survival of the fittest asserts itself in quiet and common contentment.

While it is true that the negro only enters a manufacturing community after the white man's capital and the skill of white labor have introduced the machinery whose operation demands cheap manual labor, he will remain and when called answer many good purposes. His relative social progress is yet an open question. The cotton and tobacco agriculture of the slave era did not admit the use of machinery, except to a limited extent. Manual labor, quite dexterous and absolutely faithful, was the requirement. Certainly no community of four millions of laboring people, covering an area equal to the Southern States, have ever been found in any country more uniformly excellent in the use of the plow, the hoe, and the spade, than the old-time plantation negroes. The plantation discipline of the slave era, apparently necessary to excite the mental and moral nature of the negro, did, in truth, develop a man of mental and moral force. His labor was of the first quality and his fidelity was not only absolute, but was cheerfully rendered. To what degree the hard law of competition in a manufacturing community is destined to bring out his dormant manhood, is yet an unsolved problem. That dormant manhood is resident in his nature, slavery proved. In Birmingham, a considerable number of negroes own the lots and houses they occupy, but the proportion of negro property holders to the white is small, and is not increasing, as the grade of white labor improves by the introduction of new industries requiring skill in the operation. Negroes never serve as apprentices to learn trades. Full seventy per cent. of the labor of the furnaces is of the negro race. Negroes are employed at the rolling mills, but in those iron manufactories which reduce the pig iron and the merchantable bars to stoves, edge tools, or tacks, nails, etc., the race is notably absent.

A great majority of the city criminals are negroes, and the mortality of negroes is double that of whites; but when we appeal to sanitary and moral statistics to demonstrate their relative race status, it must be borne in mind that the class of whites in other cities which fills the negro's social position here is notably more liable there to criminal prosecution and less observant of sanitary rules which secure health than the employer class.

## SANITARY.

Birmingham is situated in a valley open at the eastern and western ends, and bounded by mountainous ranges at the north and south. The site of the city is of greater elevation above the sea than the territory forty to fifty miles around it. Drainage is, therefore, practicable, and the Cahaba River will probably be the receptacle, ultimately, of the city sewage. The celebrated engineer Waring was employed by the authorities to visit the city seven years ago, and by his advice the "Waring System" of sewerage was successfully introduced. The drainage from the pipes is now forced by means of a flush tank situated below the ground, and automatically emptied. The contents are thus carried into Valley Creek, two miles off. The storm water sewers are large brick conduits sufficiently large to answer the purpose, and constructed at a heavy cost. The general healthfulness of the city is proven by the official records. The death rate has not varied from fifteen to seventeen in the thousand of population of both races for five years. Robert P. Porter, of the United States Census Bureau, gives the following mortality statistics in foreign manufacturing cities: Death rate in Manchester, England, 27 in 1,000 of population; in Sheffield, 21; in Huddersfield, 23. The official authorities give 19 deaths to 1,000 population in San Francisco; 24 in New Orleans; 19 in Atlanta.

There are no malaria-producing causes in or near Birmingham. The city and suburbs are already health resorts in summer, and will become so in winter as soon as the excellent hotel accommodations, now being erected, are completed. Sunstroke is unknown, and after the sun is set on the warmest days of summer, a delightful breeze regularly cools the air and refreshing sleep is made sure. There is a marked difference between the temperature of Northern nights and nights in Alabama, in favor of Alabama.

## THE BANKS.

The banking business of Birmingham is one of the most decisive evidences of the forcing power of railroads in organizing the business factors of society. The varied and powerful resources of the surrounding country have naturally sought a monetary center and the railroads have established it with unerring certainty. It is probable that Birmingham banks will conduct a continu-



ally increasing business with the agricultural regions of all parts of the State, as the result of direct rail connection with Kansas City and Chicago pork packing houses and grain elevators. The losses of the banks on account of over-drafts, bad paper or other causes, have been thus far insignificant. They pay regular and high dividends, and their business is largely with local merchants and manufacturers. The presidents are all Southern-born men, save one, who is a German by birth. They are all married men, living in the city, and thoroughly identified with it in other ways than by banking. The banks are furnished in costly style and in beautiful taste. The city business does not comprise the whole volume of the bank discounts or deposits. The villages along the railroads for many miles are important customers; so are the coal operators and railroads in course of construction. The First National is the oldest bank. It was built in 1872-3, long before any house of corresponding architectural importance had sprung into existence, and was known as "Linn's Folly," having been erected by Charles Linn, a wealthy merchant of the young town. The original capital stock was \$50,000.

In 1880 the City Bank was organized with a capital of \$100,000.

The banks as they now exist are: First National, capital stock, \$300,000; State National, capital stock, \$500,000; The Berney National, capital stock, \$300,000; The Birmingham National, capital stock, \$250,000; The American National, capital stock \$250,000; The Jefferson Savings Bank, capital stock \$150,000; The Birmingham Trust and Savings Company, capital stock \$500,000; The People's Savings Bank, capital stock \$50,000; the private bank of J. R. Adams, capital stock \$50,000.

#### SUBURBS.

No manufacturing city has given more attention to, or been more fortunate in, suburban development than Birmingham. The natural invitations to enterprise are unsurpassed. Wooded hills surround the city in all directions. Abundant mountain springs—some mineral, some free-stone—supply the best of water. Lovely spots suited to private residences, in a few minutes' drive or travel by steam-propelled street cars, abound at every point of the compass. An Arcadian quiet may be obtained for the night's repose in easy reach of the duties of the day. The scenery is varied

and pleasing, the atmosphere pure, and the breezes constant.

AVONDALE is one and a half miles from the center of the city, and is reached by street-car lines operated by steam. The village is incorporated, has a government of its own, and contains, perhaps, three thousand souls. There is a public park, heavily wooded, in which is found a bold spring of cool water, a natural cave of considerable dimensions, a pavilion supplied with a platform for dancing, and numerous rustic seats, swings and other attractions. There is a theatre, schools and churches. A number of manufacturing concerns have been established, among them, gin works, which do a large business in several Cotton States, a stove foundry, wool works, ice factory, and others. Dense shade protects the mountain's sides of the public park, and there, on Sundays and holidays, the people assemble, well dressed and well behaved, to enjoy the cool air and the scenery. Picnics and moonlight dancing parties are frequent in summer.

LAKE VIEW, the second suburban resort, in order of creation, is situated two miles from the city. There is a pavilion containing a dance-hall and skating-rink, natatorium and other bathing conveniences. There are a dozen or more cottages to let, and a large, elaborately fitted up, and thoroughly lighted and heated hotel, kept in best of style. In the center is a lake of fresh water, on which are rowboats for the public amusement. From the several elevations on the grounds a full view of the city below is had. Along the dummy street-railway line which reaches the park, many of the wealthier business men of the city live. Thousands of workmen and their families repair to the park on Sundays, to drink the mineral waters which abound there and to repose in the shade of the hillsides.

EAST BIRMINGHAM is situated one and a half miles from the city. It is connected with the city by dummy street railway. The present effort, in pursuance of the original intent of the Company controlling it, is to create a manufacturing town. Cedar Run and Village Creek, two never-failing mountain streams, border two sides of the area.

Already they have established thereon a machine and foundry works, an iron roofing and corrugating company, sad-iron works and fine wood and variety works. Numerous cottages for laborers have been erected.

**EAST LAKE.**—This suburb is exclusively devoted to residences and to such commercial houses as supply family wants. It is expected that no machine smoke-stack will rear its obnoxious proportions in the entire 2,000 acres comprising its area. The location is at the head of the Ruhama Valley, and at the headwaters of Village Creek, five miles in a northwardly direction from the city. The land consists of a succession of low hills and narrow intervening valleys, through which the purest and coolest spring waters flow. It is connected with the city by a dummy railway line, on which the fare is five cents. A free ticket for a year is given to every purchaser of a lot on which the owner builds a house for his family. It has an artificial lake of irregular contour and pleasing effect, covering thirty-one acres and surrounded by a carriage drive bordering the waters. The springs from the overhanging mountains fill this reservoir. Upon its surface floats a steam yacht and numerous rowboats for the public amusement.

At East Lake, is Howard College, a Baptist denominational institution, well supported. A female high school is projected.

**NORTH BIRMINGHAM.**—The name implies the section of this suburb, 1,000 acres of Village Creek Valley lands, two miles from the city, laid off in streets, whereon many houses have been built. The reservoir and pumps of the city water works are hard by.

Two blast-furnaces have been erected at this place, equipped with the latest and most costly machinery.

North Birmingham will ever be known as the seat of the first steel manufactory ever erected in Alabama—the industry which overtops all others hitherto introduced in substantial importance—the Henderson steel process!

**ENSLEY CITY** is the incorporated name of the Pratt Mines village, and was called for Enoch Ensley, once president of the mining corporation. Four blast furnaces, among the largest in the world, and of the best appointments, have been erected there. The first put in blast turned out on Sunday, April 8, 1888, one hundred and eighty five tons of pig. A newspaper, several trading shops and many cottages, together with the costly buildings, railroads, etc., of the corporation, comprise the principal features of the village. It is connected with the city, six miles distant, by a railroad for the transportation of the output of

the mines and product of the furnaces, and by a dummy line for passengers.

**BESSLER** is an incorporated city, which in the first year received a population of 3,000. It is situated in Jones' Valley, twelve miles south of Birmingham. Two blast furnaces, equal to any in the State, and a rolling mill plant, comprise the principal manufactories.

There are various other suburban corporations within one to six miles of Birmingham. Only one of the whole number has proven to be without substantial footing. Therefore, only one of the many involving millions of dollars and thousands of acres, appears in the history of the rapid and extensive growth of the city, a purely speculative adventure.

The following list presents evidence of the variety and proportions of the manufacturing industries in, and immediately around Birmingham. Only those are mentioned whose standing with Dun & Co's Commercial Agency is authenticated:

Artificial Stone Company, capital, \$25,000; (Connellsville) Coal and Coke Company, \$500,000; Gas Fuel and Manufacturing Company, \$30,000; Granite Company, \$200,000; Ice and Cold Storage Company, \$80,000; Iron Works Company, \$20,000; Alabama Rolling Mills Company, \$250,000; Elyton Land Company Rolling Mills, \$250,000; Birmingham Rolling Mills Company, \$500,000; (Gate City) Anglo-Birmingham Pottery Company, \$350,000; (Avondale) Ice Factory, \$150,000; Birmingham Ice Factory, \$85,000; (Avondale) Lumber and Milling Company, \$150,000; (Avondale) Stove and Foundry Company, \$50,000; Baxter Stove and Manufacturing Company, \$200,000; Birmingham Clothing and Manufacturing Company, \$10,000; Construction Company, \$50,000; Compress and Warehouse Company, \$100,000; Corrugating Company, \$100,000; (East Birmingham) Sad Iron Manufacturing Company, \$25,000; (East Birmingham) Iron Roofing and Corrugating Company, \$25,000; Edison Electric Illuminating Company, \$75,000; Ellen Ross Works, \$20,000; Enterprise Manufacturing Company, \$100,000; (Gate City) Lumber and Improvement Company, \$20,000; (Gate City) Pottery Works Company, \$20,000; Hughes' Lumber and Manufacturing Company, \$100,000; Peacock Iron and Improvement Company, \$200,000; Birmingham Fire Brick Works, \$50,000; Gas

and Electric Light Company, \$150,000; Iron Works, \$100,000; Tanning and Manufacturing Company, \$250,000; Machine and Foundry Company, \$100,000; Mining and Manufacturing Company, \$100,000; Natural Gas and Fuel Company, \$100,000; Paint, Glass and Wall Paper Company, \$100,000; Safe and Lock Manufacturing Company, \$50,000; Tool and Implement Works, \$75,000; Warehouse and Elevator Company, \$250,000; Hotel Company, \$120,000; (Coaldale) Brick and Mining Company, \$100,000; Pioneer Glass Company, \$200,000; Red Mountain Mining and Manufacturing Company, \$300,000; Gin Manufacturing Company, \$100,000; Southern Foundry and Manufacturing Company, \$5,000; Southern Mining and Manufacturing Company, \$600,000; Thompson Brick Company, \$20,000; Wharton Flouring Mill, \$50,000; Mineral Water Manufactory, \$7,500; Kreble Engine Manufacturing Company, \$25,000; Cigar Manufactory, \$1,000; Iron Bridge and Forge Company, \$250,000; Brewery, \$100,000; Chain Works, \$50,000; Sash, Door and Blind Factory, \$50,000; Agricultural Implements Works, \$50,000; Pin, Tack and Nail Works, \$50,000; Car Manufactory, \$100,000; Pioneer Mining and Manufacturing Company, \$1,000,000; Sloss Iron and Steel Company, \$1,000,000; Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, Pratt Mines Division, \$1,500,000; De Bardeleben Coal and Iron Company, \$4,000,000; Birmingham Furnace and Manufacturing Company, \$1,500,000; Williamson Iron Company, \$150,000; Mary Pratt Furnace Company, \$350,000; Eureka Furnace Company, \$1,000,000; Mabel Mining Company, \$50,000; Milner Coal and Railroad Company, \$200,000; Pierce Warrior Coal Company, \$100,000; Home Coal and Iron Company, \$100,000; Henry Ellen Coal Company, \$500,000; New Castle Coal Company, \$100,000.

There are various minor manufactories of clothing, trunks, harness, shoes, wood work, etc., etc. The Queen and Crescent and the Louisville & Nashville Railroad systems have extensive car works in the city, and the Georgia Central will erect similar works here at an early day.

#### STEEL MANUFACTURE.

Hitherto the only debatable question as to Alabama's leading the world in the product of iron and steel has been, as to whether the native ores could be sufficiently dephosphorized to make a good quality of the latter. Scientists have said

not Bessemer and Reese processes have both been making good steel from Alabama ores, but owing to the monopoly of the patents covering those processes they have been unavailable to others.

In 1887, James Henderson, of Belleville, N. J., succeeded, after much discouragement, in organizing a company at Birmingham for the purpose of testing his claim that he *could* make the best of steel from Alabama ores.

The test was made, and the *process* was found to be a grand success.

The question as to the feasibility of making from the poorest ores of Alabama the finest quality of steel is no longer debatable.

The small experimental furnace is now giving way to a permanent structure of a 100 tons capacity.

#### MEDICAL HISTORY.

It has been observed that while Jefferson County and the surrounding country was the favorite hunting ground of the Creek, Choctaw and Cherokee Indians, no tradition of a "medicine man" among their number remains. In further illustration of the simple methods of the healing art, adapted to the climate, it is related that the first practitioner who settled in the county was Wm. James Keller, by courtesy called Doctor. He had studied medicine one term at Lexington, Ky., but had no diploma; nevertheless, for twenty years he maintained a large and successful practice. Samuel Earle, Doctor also by courtesy, and Daniel Davis, of like claim to professional title, were distinguished by long and successful medical practice in Jefferson. "Dr." Earle was a gentleman of much culture and of excellent discernment. "Dr." Davis was not behind him in the latter qualification, and was a most generous and patriotic citizen.

Among the early educated physicians none ranked higher than Dr. Joseph R. Smith. He was one of the four first-born whites of the county. Always industrious, practical and saving, he acquired large landed property, which was cultivated in limited area by slaves. His old plantation is partly incorporated in Smithfield suburb, and he is probably the largest individual real estate holder in the city and suburbs.

The Birmingham medical profession has gathered from all parts of Alabama, and from some other States, not a few eminent practitioners. The president of the State Medical Association, Dr. E. H. Sholl, is a resident of the city, or of the

ally from Pennsylvania, but long removed to Alabama. A flattering *esprit du corps* prevails, and the impetus of society generally has possessed the profession. The Alabama Gynecological Association was organized in the city in December, 1886, and its official journal established here. The Jefferson County Medical Society has its headquarters in the city, and is an aggressive and well-organized body.

#### CIVIL COURTS.

Justice was first dispensed in Jefferson County very near the present site of Birmingham. A log hut of a single room served the purposes of a court-house. After one or two changes Elyton, two miles from the court-house of Birmingham, was chosen the county capital. A government land surveyor from New England, named Ely, donated to the county 160 acres of land, upon which to erect county buildings. A brick building was then erected for a court-house, and the village was named, in honor of the donor of the site, Elyton. The county courts were presided over each by its own judge, and these dispensers of justice in Jefferson were generally, as the early doctors were, self-made men, relying upon a native sense of right—not mob law, but “Lynch” law—to determine the causes at bar. Peter Walker, “Red” John Brown, Walker K. Baylor, Moses Kelley and W. L. Wilson, held the county justiceship in succession. E. W. Peck, afterward Chief-Justice of the State, was a New Yorker, who settled in Elyton as a young lawyer in 1824. W. S. Mudd came to Jefferson County, in his infancy, from Kentucky, and was twenty-seven years Circuit Judge.

In 1873 the county seat of Jefferson was transferred from Elyton to Birmingham. The court-house erected to receive the records and accommodate the business was soon found inadequate in proportions, and another was ordered built of stone, brick and iron, and, from basement to roof, absolutely fire-proof, to cost \$240,000, not estimating the value of the site.

The courts now held in Jefferson County are the Chancery Court, Circuit Court, Probate and County Court, City Court, having jurisdiction of all cases of law and equity arising in the county, Criminal Court, and courts of Justices of the Peace.

The presiding officers of the courts in 1888 are Thomas Cobbs, Chancellor; Leroy F. Box, Circuit

Judge; Henry A. Sharpe, City Court Judge; Samuel E. Greene, Criminal Court Judge; Mitchell T. Porter, Probate Judge; and two “Justices.”

The lawyer of greatest age at the Jefferson bar is William M. Brooks, a native of South Carolina. John T. Hedlin, a native of Georgia, ranks next.

#### POLITICAL HISTORY.

Jefferson County was originally a part of Blount. Its separate organization was among the early acts of the State Government in 1819. One of the first grist-mills erected was put up on Village Creek, and the stones were the native rock, cut from the bank of the creek. In the lower part of the county, iron to supply the early settlers with wagon wheel tires and horse shoes, was made from Red Mountain ores, melted in an open oven, used for domestic purposes, and beaten into bars by a hammer turned by the water of a creek. The total population in 1860 was less than twelve thousand, about one-fifth of whom were slaves. The slaveholders were not wealthy, as compared with those of the prairie region of the State or the Valley of the Tennessee. The slaves were not as profitable in Jefferson as in the distinctively cotton region. The non-slaveholders were a remarkably honest class, and no more virtuous people are known to history. Every head of a family owned as much land as he could inclose and cultivate, while the vast wooded commons furnished free range for his live stock. The farms of the people were self-supporting. The soil produced abundantly of wheat and rye. Corn was raised to feed the work animals and to fatten the pork. Cotton sufficient to supply the home spinning wheel and the home loom, upon which all textile goods needed for the family was produced, and very little to sell. The neighborhood smithy built and kept in repair the plows and wagons; the neighborhood cobbler shod the population. The pork, beef and mutton, poultry and vegetables, the plow animals, whether horses, mules or oxen, were raised at home.

Children were born and grew to maturity before they had ever seen a railroad car, or a steamboat, or heard the steam whistle. Many young men volunteered to join the Confederate armies, who, until mustered into the service, had never taken mumps or measles, nor a dose of medicine, had never seen a town of 200 inhabitants, nor been compelled to rise up or lie down by the order of a superior. The non-slaveholders of

Jefferson, volunteered promptly to fight the battles of the Confederacy. They had never been sought out by capital to receive its wages. They were free men among the freest. They had natural intelligence to understand the peril to their own social standing in the issue of a war professedly waged to enfranchise the negro race as an adjunct to the political power of capital employing a wage class.

The Tenth Alabama Infantry, commanded by W. H. Forney, afterward major-general, and the Nineteenth Alabama Infantry, commanded by Joseph Wheeler, afterward lieutenant-general, contained many Jefferson County non-slaveholders.

Peck and Mudd are famous names in the history of the bench and bar of Alabama, and these were men of Elyton. G. W. Hewitt, a native of Jefferson, represented the district of which the county forms a part, for eight years in the lower house of the Federal Congress.

Those who have held prominent political offices now resident in Birmingham, are William A. Handley, G. W. Hewitt, and John M. Martin, ex-members of Congress. William M. Brooks has been Circuit Judge, and was President of the Convention of the State which passed the ordinance known as the Ordinance of Secession. John T. Heflin was a member of the State Legislature and of the Convention which framed the present State Constitution, and was Circuit Judge.

The present members of the Legislature from Jefferson County are Robert H. Sterrett, Senator, and G. W. Hewitt and Chambers McAdory, Representatives. Senator Sterrett is a native of Shelby County, adjoining Jefferson, and both Representatives are natives of Jefferson. All were Confederate soldiers.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The city schools are absolutely free. The city school fund is supplemented by the State appropriation. The superintendent's office is an elective one, and all the teachers are examined for election. The salary of the superintendent is \$1,800 per annum. The teachers receive from \$125 per month down to \$30. The value of the school property in houses, lots, furniture, etc., is probably \$100,000. The races are supplied with separate buildings, with teachers of their own blood, and with separate but equal facilities.

The public-school system is not an adjunct to

the city government, but is, by law, placed under the control of a Board of Education, of which the Mayor is *ex-officio* chairman, and the City Clerk *ex-officio* clerk. The number of school children of all ages enumerated August 1, 1887, was 3,261. The school buildings of late years constructed are after the most approved styles of architecture adapted to the purpose, and all their appointments, furniture, etc., are of the most convenient models. The buildings are named in honor of eminent men in the history of the city and country. The names of the three Mayors, Henley, Powell and Lane, have been each commemorated in the naming of a school, and also the Southern poet, Paul Hamilton Hayne.

The Superintendent of Schools is Prof. J. H. Phillips, a native of Kentucky, with experience in practical school management acquired in Indiana. He is the executive officer of the Board of Education. To his zeal, intelligence and administrative faculty, the very admirable system in use is largely due in conception as well as in its operation. He was elected in September, 1883, and is annually re-elected without opposition.

The people of the city, irrespective of wealth or condition, patronize the public schools, and thus the parents, themselves educated, become the guardians of the schools of the children of all classes.

There exist, nevertheless, many private schools in the city, conducted by teachers of distinguished ability.

#### CHURCHES.

Nothing more surely attests the homogeneity and the Southern origin of the people of Birmingham, than their reverence of character and the regularity of their religious observances. New churches are constantly going up in the city, and the first built are often enlarged. Yet every Sunday their seating capacity is taxed to the utmost. All leading denominations of Christians are represented in the religious organization, and there is a Jewish synagogue. Both races have houses of worship regularly open. All of the clergy of the white race are Southern-born, or nearly all, and most of these were in the Southern Army as private soldiers or chaplains. The leading men in the industrial enterprises are members of some Church. All Christian denominations are represented here, and most of them are established in magnificent church edifices. There are also here,

and in flourishing condition, the Young Men's Christian Association and the Society of United Charities.

#### THE PRESS.

The oldest and best equipped daily journal in the city is the *Birmingham Age*, founded in 1881. It is published by a corporation, with J. L. Watkins editor, and A. B. Bethea business manager. It occupies a three-story brick house with glass and iron front, its rooms are neatly furnished, and the telegraph and telephone apparatus needed by the paper are under its own roof. It has elegant press and stereotype facilities, being able to turn out 10,000 copies of an eight-page paper an hour. It is Independent-Democratic in politics. The *Weekly Age* has a large circulation.

The *Evening Chronicle* is an eight-column folio, taking Associated Press dispatches. It is Independent-Democratic in politics, and is chiefly devoted to local matters, wherein its influence is marked for good. It has a wide city and suburban patronage, both in subscriptions and advertisements. George M. Cruikshank is editor, and D. B. Grace business manager. These two gentlemen own the paper and conduct it in a fearless spirit. The *Evening Chronicle* was founded in 1883. The *Weekly Chronicle* is also a valuable and popular publication.

The *Morning Herald* is an eight-page paper, taking Associated Press dispatches, Democratic in politics, and, although less than a year old, has acquired a large business and influence. It is exceedingly neat in appearance, and maintains a large corps of correspondents. The *Herald* was founded mainly through the personal influence of Rufus N. Rhodes, a young Tennessean. It is owned by a corporation. The editor is R. H. Yancey, a young gentleman also from Tennessee.

The *Evening News*.—This, the latest of the four dailies, was founded also by Rufus N. Rhodes, upon his retirement from the management and editorship of the *Morning Herald*. It is edited by Col. Louis J. DuPre, late United States Consul to San Salvador, and formerly editor and associate editor of several leading Southern dailies, among them the *Memphis Appeal* and *Birmingham Age*. It is the only ten-cents-per-week daily in the city. It is a subscriber to special telegraphic news, and in all respects is a vigorous and aggressive Democratic newspaper. Mr. Rhodes is general manager.

The *Alabama Sentinel* is the official Labor Union paper, and is edited with zeal and tact.

The *New South* is an industrial paper, edited by the Messrs. Worthington, and is sent into all parts of the United States and Canada. The typography is beautiful and the illustrations well executed. It abounds in articles explanatory of the natural resources of Alabama in timber, agriculture and minerals.

The *Alabama Christian Advocate* is the official organ in the State of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. It is a handsome paper of eight pages, published weekly, and edited with extraordinary zeal and ability by Rev. Mr. McCoy.

Several other advertising sheets appear weekly. The American Newspaper Union has an office here, with presses, from which the "outsides" of a number of country papers are issued.

#### PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BUILDINGS.

THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE, now well advanced toward completion, will cost \$240,000. It is situated on a hill in the central part of the city, and the architecture will be worthy of the prominent site and well adapted to the uses of the building.

THE FEDERAL BUILDING.—An appropriation of \$300,000 has been made lately by Congress to erect this structure.

THE MORRIS BUILDING, seven stories high, is to be one of the handsomest business houses in the South, built of stone, iron and brick. Many of the business houses are three- and four-story bricks, well ventilated and provided with elevators.

The private residences have not, thus far, kept pace with the architectural importance of the business houses. They are almost wholly of wood, but spacious and surrounded with well-kept yards in many cases.

THE THEATRE is elegantly fitted up with all modern improvements, and Booth, Barrett, Jefferson, Langtry and other prominent actors have appeared on its boards.



**E. T. TALIAFERRO.** Prominent among the noted lawyers of this State stands the subject of this sketch, who is a descendant of some of the oldest families of Virginia. His ancestors are traced in the history of that colony as far back as 1774. They were patriots, and participated in the struggle for independence, and subsequently some of them were engaged in the War of 1812.



By Henry Brady  
E. S. Williams





His parents, Dr. Edwin T., born in King William County, Va., and Jane B. (Pope) Taliaferro, born in Henry County, Tenn., resided at the time of his birth at Paris, Tenn., where, for over twenty-five years, his father practiced his profession. In 1866, he removed with his family to Madison County, Ala., where he continued in practice. He is an esteemed physician and citizen, and represented that county in the State Legislature during the session of 1884-85. The mother of our subject died in 1843. She was the mother of five children, three of whom are now living, all residents of Alabama.

Colonel Taliaferro was born in Paris, Henry County, Tenn., in 1819, and received a common-school education, supplemented by a course of study for two years at Manchester College, Tennessee. He began the study of law in 1838, in the office of John C. Brown, of Pulaski, Tenn., who was twice Governor of that State, remaining under his tutelage for two years, teaching school in the meantime, which occupation he followed for over a year after leaving the office of his preceptor. He was admitted to the bar, at Pulaski, in January, 1841, and immediately began practice there, continuing until January, 1883, during which period he was associated with Maj. B. F. Matthews, and again with John T. Allen, both natives of Tennessee.

Colonel Taliaferro rose rapidly in his profession, and was a prominent factor in the political affairs of the State. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1846, by the largest Democratic majority ever cast in his county, and was elected Speaker of the House, being one of the youngest members of that body. He made great reputation as a presiding officer, as will be readily attested by all Tennesseans. During his term of office there was a regular and three extra sessions of the Legislature, and excitement ran high on the question of the State's indebtedness; and, although he was with the minority in the House, yet, in all four of the sessions, never for a single time were his rulings overruled, and seldom appealed from, by the House.

In 1848 he was elected permanent President of the Judicial Convention called to nominate five Supreme Court Judges, Gen. William A. Quarles, of Clarksville, being temporary chairman. This was the largest and perhaps the ablest Convention ever assembled in that State, being composed entirely of attorneys. During his

term in the Legislature the question of the State debt of Tennessee was first agitated, Colonel Taliaferro took strong grounds for State credit, which he warmly maintained, with the approval of his constituents.

In 1880 he was an Elector on the Hancock and English Presidential ticket, and at the close of the campaign abandoned political life, to devote his entire attention to his profession. In 1881, he was employed, as one of the twelve leading lawyers from different sections of the State, to file a bill in the Chancery Court of Nashville to have declared unconstitutional a bill passed by the Legislature to settle the debt of the State with three per cent. bonds, the debt amounting to \$27,500,000 at the time. Upon appeal to the Supreme Court, Colonel Taliaferro was chosen as one of the counsel to argue the case, orally and by printed brief, and they carried the appeal to victory.

In January, 1883, he sought a larger field for the practice of law, and removed to Fort Smith, Ark., where he was in the practice two years, all of that period in connection with B. H. Tabor. In Arkansas, as well as elsewhere, he took foremost rank among lawyers, and was engaged in nearly every important case at Fort Smith, while living there.

In 1884 Birmingham commenced to attract and command the attention of the entire United States as a mining, manufacturing, railroad and corporate center. Colonel Taliaferro foresaw the great future of the city, and the advantages it offered in the practice of law. Having a strong desire to practice more especially that branch of his profession relating to corporations, he came to Birmingham in September, 1883, prospecting, and at once saw the immense resources of Birmingham and vicinity, and its extraordinary inducements in his profession, and determined at once to make it his home.

Colonel Taliaferro became a citizen of Birmingham in January, 1885, and has from that date been a power in what is now termed the most able and brilliant bar in Alabama. In December, 1885, he was employed to return to his old home in Tennessee as leading counsel in one of the most important and exciting cases ever tried in that section, the celebrated "Jones Case." Of his efforts in that case we copy a single extract from the Pulaski *Citizen*, of date December 3, 1885:

"Hon. E. T. Taliaferro's speech yesterday in the Jones case was a great and brilliant effort of

an able man. The court-room was crowded to suffocation. The interest with which it was awaited and listened to, and the high opinions expressed of it since its delivery, must be peculiarly gratifying to him. His first appearance for several years before his old clients, constituents and friends was an ovation, and an expression of regard and trust that should urge him to even nobler efforts and purposes in his profession."

Colonel Taliaferro in person presents a striking figure. Over six feet tall, erect as an Indian, and with a high, intellectual cast of features, he commands attention at a glance. His legal attainments are of an excellent order. Added to them are great oratorical powers and superior mental attributes. He is ever dignified, but, withal, one of the most gentlemanly and genial of men; is ever generous to assist the needy, and ever ready to do what is in his power to advance progressive civilization. He is the attorney for the Alabama National Bank, the Sloss Furnace Company, the Birmingham Iron-Works, and other great corporations, and has large real estate interests.

Colonel Taliaferro has been connected, as counsel, with some of the most important cases in Jefferson County. His first legal experience in the State was in 1817-78, in the Federal Court at Huntsville, when he defended some prominent citizens of Tennessee upon a charge of counterfeiting, and, after two trials of five weeks each, succeeded in securing an acquittal. Associated with him were John B. Walker, ex-Gov. David P. Lewis, ex-Gov. John C. Brown, Gen. Joseph Wheeler, William M. Lowe, ex-United States Senator Luke Pryor, Hon. David E. Shelby, Gov. E. A. O'Neal and others. Four of them were allowed to argue the defense, and Colonel Taliaferro was one of the number.

Colonel Taliaferro is a Knight Templar.

He was united in marriage October 13, 1874, with Miss Eva, daughter of Col. J. W. Sloss, of Birmingham. Four children have been born to them, two of whom are living: Edwin T. and Mary.



**WILLIAM McLINN BROOKS** was born in 1815, in Sumter District, S. C. He came of Virginia stock, who had espoused the cause of the colonies in the War for American Independence. The parents, William Middleton and Elizabeth Brooks (*nee* Watson), both natives of Virginia, migrated

from that State to South Carolina, and then to Alabama, in 1833, and settled in the rich county of Marengo, long one of the four richest counties in the State. The father soon died, after reaching the Alabama home. William M. was recalled from the South Carolina College at Columbia, then the most aristocratic educational institution in the Cotton States, to return to Alabama to assume charge of his deceased father's estate, and to care for a large family, the widowed mother and seven daughters. The youth proved equal to the emergency of his strange situation. He found time to continue his literary studies and to read law as well. In 1838 he was licensed to practice, being then in his twenty-third year. He opened a law office in Linden, the Marengo county seat, and became associated in practice with William Robinson, a wealthy cotton planter of the vicinity, who had lately moved to Marengo from Charleston, S. C. Two years after entering the practice Mr. Brooks was elected District Solicitor. In this office he acquired high reputation. Some cases of extraordinary importance were prosecuted by him, in which he encountered such lawyers as Murphy, John Erwin, Henley, F. S. Lyon, Manning and others, whose names adorn the record of the bench and bar of Alabama. Solicitor Brooks prosecuted Gaines, a young man, for the murder of his stepfather, Curry, on the streets of Linden. The ablest criminal lawyer then in the circuit, Murphy, of Eutaw, was called in to oppose the Solicitor. It was in this case that Murphy, in the course of his address, became so impassioned and aroused by his theme that, stooping to the floor, with his ear down, he listened to hear the mutterings of Curry's soul in Hades, and told the jury what he had heard!

After six years of distinguished success as State prosecutor in the circuit, Mr. Brooks resigned his office, and at once entered upon a general practice which has never been surpassed and seldom equaled in this State, in the constituents of great causes stoutly fought, great principles incorporated in the common law, and rich pecuniary rewards to the practitioner.

In person, Judge Brooks is of medium height, well proportioned, with elastic and easy carriage. A massive chin, clear steel gray eyes, broad brow, always cleanly shaven face, and attire scrupulously neat, make the *tout ensemble* one of the most striking *personnells* among all the lawyers at any of the courts of the State.





Wm. Wallace Jr.

During the war Judge Brooks was chairman of a committee to provide sustenance for the support of the families of Confederate soldiers, non-slaveholders of the hill country in the vicinity of Birmingham. Toward the close of the war he was appointed colonel of a regiment of reserve troops.

In 1866, he moved to Selma and at once became absorbed in a very heavy and lucrative practice. From Selma he came to Birmingham in 1886, and here as the senior of the law firm of Brooks, Bush & Vary, he stands unrivaled at the head of the bar.

**DEMETRIUS FRANKLIN MYERS,** Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, son of Henry and Samueline (Heydenfeldt) Myers, was born in Hamburg, S. C., December 2, 1856. He was reared at Augusta, Ga., and was graduated in classical course at the University of Georgia in 1873. He read law in the office of Frank H. Miller, of Augusta, and was admitted to the bar when but eighteen years of age. He practiced law in Augusta until 1879, when he went to Washington City as private secretary to Senator Joseph E. Brown, of Georgia, and afterward became connected with the Treasury Department of the United States. In 1883 he was sent to Europe on an important secret mission for the Government, and remained there eighteen months, spending most of his time in London, before completing the object of his commission. He then returned to Washington City and renewed his practice before the Departments, and continued there until 1886, when he located in Birmingham, where he has practiced his profession with much success until the present time.

Mr. Myers has just begun to take an active interest in politics, and has been very energetic in the recent campaigns. He is a liberal contributor to all philanthropic enterprises which have been organized here, and is a member of most of the various local organizations.

Henry Myers is of German origin. He located in Augusta, Ga., in 1830, became a wholesale dry-goods merchant, and retired in 1870. He was a member of the "Silver Greys" during the war, and has held many positions of public trust. He is a capitalist, and is enjoying his "*otium cum dignitate*." He was married to Mrs. Samueline Rush, a lady of French-Irish origin, who has a brother, a millionaire of San Francisco, who went

there from Alabama in 1849, and who has occupied the position of Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court of California for a number of years.

**WILLIAM A. WALKER, Jr.,** was born in 1846, in the vicinage of Elyton, Ala., and was sent, in the season of boyhood, to the neighborhood schools, the best nurseries of human nature which our educational methods have thus far devised. He slept under his father's roof, and spent his hours awake in continual contact with the tempers, intellects, courage, and idiosyncrasies guided by the motives of boyhood. Directed by the motives of manhood, he now daily encounters the same human nature, and, thus early made familiar with its scope and meaning, has been able to take, in its affairs, a commanding position, commensurate with his natural instincts and high capacity.

He entered the University of Alabama, at Tuscaloosa, in his sixteenth year, and was a student (or cadet, the institution being under military administration) and in the senior class, when, in September, 1863, he enlisted in a company formed from the University corps, and commanded by Captain C. P. Storrs, a fellow cadet, to join the Seventh Alabama Cavalry, Confederate States Army. He continued in the service until the final surrender and disbandment of the military forces of the Confederacy. He had been promoted sergeant, and had some unpleasant experiences as a prisoner of war in the period of active hostilities.

Returning to Elyton, young Walker engaged at once as a school teacher in the community of his friends and neighbors. After, perhaps, eight months' service in this field, he entered upon the study of the law. In 1867 he was admitted to the bar. Entering immediately upon the practice of his profession, he was so fortunate, as an example of the usual good fortune of his life, to be taken into copartnership with Burwell Boykin Lewis, a gentleman of scholarly attainments, great energy, and of the highest moral character. Mr. Lewis became a leader of the new era. He was elected to Congress, and resigned to take the Presidency of the State University, where he died in the prime of a highly useful and honorable career, regretted by the whole State.





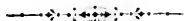


*A. J. Cannon*



His father's ancestors on both sides were prominent in the history of North Carolina during and since the Revolutionary War; and his mother is descended from the Speights, who have been for many years a leading family in North Carolina, and several of whom have served in the United States Congress and the State Legislature. She is the daughter of the late James L. Hibbler, who was a prominent and extensive planter in Mississippi. She was married to William G. Little, December 10, 1857.

William G. Little was born in North Carolina in 1832. He was brought to West Alabama by his parents when but three years of age, and there grew to be a leading lawyer. He became prominent in politics at the time when Alabama was being redeemed from black Republican rule. He was President of the Senate at the time of his death, in 1879, after which, many papers throughout the State published sketches of him and his career, and it was generally conceded by them that if his life had been spared, his name would have been enrolled in the list of Governors of the State. He was of the highest type of manhood, and his untimely death was lamented throughout the State. His wife still lives on the family homestead near Livingston, Ala. They reared three children, of whom J. H. Little is the eldest son.



**W. J. CAMERON**, President of the First National Bank, and one of the most conspicuous among Southern financiers, is a native of the State, and was born in Montgomery in 1851. His progenitors came from Scotland, where the name is familiar to all who read the history of that noted race. They were emigrants from the North of Ireland, where his parents were born. His father, Andrew Cameron, came to America about 1838, and in 1840 became a resident of Montgomery, where he was engaged in the mercantile business until the close of the war. He is still in business life near Montgomery. He married, in 1850, Miss Eliza Crozier, of Philadelphia, and has four children living. William J. is the oldest child and only son.

Mr. Cameron received the benefits of the best schools in Montgomery, and also one year's course at the Norristown (Pa.) Academy. He began his business career in the banking house of Josiah Morris, of Montgomery, now one of the most

noted financiers of the South, and rapidly rose from the position of runner, until, in 1880, he was appointed cashier of the City Bank of Birmingham, through the influence of Mr. Morris, who had tested him in all positions and knew his sterling attributes. In 1881, he was appointed cashier of the First National Bank upon its organization, and in January, 1886, was elected president of that institution.

Mr. Cameron has been a resident of the city since that period, and is now at the head of one of the largest and most stalwart banks of Alabama. He is also president of the Southern Bridge Company, secretary and treasurer of the Birmingham Ice Company, secretary and treasurer of the Alabama Construction Company, and of the Building and Loan Association, and a director of the Gas and Illuminating Company. He was one of the incorporators of the East Birmingham Land Company, and was elected treasurer of that corporation. He is one of the most progressive, genial, and popular citizens of Birmingham, and has attained his high position among some of the leading moneyed and industrial enterprises through sterling merit and superior executive ability. While living in Montgomery Mr. Cameron was orderly sergeant of the famous Montgomery Greys, and upon the reorganization of the State troops was made major of the Second Infantry, which regiment was in service in the famous Posey riot in Birmingham, in 1883.

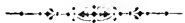
Mr. Cameron has been twice married; his first wife was Miss Mary E. Smith, of Montgomery. They were married in 1872, and her death occurred in 1881, leaving four children — Wm. Smith, Pauline, Andrew C. and William J., Jr. In 1883, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary B., daughter of George R. Ward, of Birmingham. Mr. Cameron is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and his wife of the Protestant Episcopal Church.



**JOHN FINLEY GILLESPIE**, Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, was born in Blount County, Tenn., December 12, 1859. He was educated at the Somerville Academy and the Hartsell College, and afterward attended the University of Alabama in 1881 and 1882, where he was graduated as LL. B. He entered the practice of law at once at Somerville, in copartnership with

Charles L. Price. In October, 1886, he became a partner of the firm of Dickey & Gillespie of Birmingham, and they have succeeded in building up a lucrative practice in this city.

Mr. Gillespie is a son of Campbell M. and Nora Lorinda (Clarke) Gillespie, both of Tennessee. C. M. Gillespie was a planter and extensive land holder before the war, and a member of the Gillespie family, prominent in the early history of Tennessee.



#### FREDERICK SUMMERFIELD FERGUSON.

Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, was born in Huntsville, Ala., May 2, 1841, and is a son of the Rev. F. G. and Lucinda (Hale) Ferguson.

F. S. Ferguson was graduated from the Florence Wesleyan University in 1859, with the Hon. Wm. Richardson and Wm. M. Lowe, in the classical course. He taught school, and, under Judge Clopton, at Tallassee, studied law until January 9, 1861. He entered the Southern Army in the latter year and was assigned to the staff of General Lomax at Pensacola, with the troops that took Pensacola Navy-yard, Fort Barancas and Fort McRae. Upon the organization of the Confederacy, he was appointed second lieutenant in the First Artillery by President Davis, and served with that regiment, or on staff duty, during the entire war. He was wounded and captured at Fort Morgan in 1864, and imprisoned in Fort Lafayette, New York, and in Fort Warren, Boston, until the end of the war. In February, 1864, he was promoted to a captaincy upon the recommendation of his commander, for meritorious conduct at the siege of Fort Powell, where he commanded the artillery. He was with his command in every battle in which it was engaged.

Captain Ferguson was admitted to the bar at Tuskegee, Ala., in September, 1865, and during the fall following was elected to the Legislature, where he served until ousted by the Reconstruction crowd in 1868. He was in the National Democratic Convention in New York that year, and voted for Salmon P. Chase for President. In 1870, he removed to Montgomery, and in 1875 was elected Solicitor for the Second Judicial Circuit. He was re-elected in 1880, and retired from the office in the fall of 1886.

Captain Ferguson came to Birmingham in September, 1887, and formed a partnership with Wm.

R. Houghton, the two making one, of the strong law firms of this city.

The Captain was married October 18, 1871, to Miss Laura Burr, daughter of Rev. Wm. Burr, of Franklin, Tenn., and has two sons and one daughter living, viz.: Burr, Hill and Laura.

Frederick J. G. Ferguson, Captain Ferguson's father, died in 1863, and was at that time one of the oldest ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Alabama. He was a missionary to the Indians, at and about Missionary Ridge, and was well known throughout the country. Our subject's two grandfathers, James Ferguson and William Hale, were together in the Indian Wars and in the War of 1812.

Messrs. Hale and Hunt settled Huntsville, and drew straws to see who should name the town. Mr. Hunt pulled the longest straw and named the place Huntsville, for himself.

The Fergusons are of Scotch blood. The Captain and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He is a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight of Honor and a Knight of Pythias.



**LEONIDAS C. DICKEY**, Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, is a native of Alabama, and a son of W. W. Dickey, Esq., an Alabama planter, and a grandson of Samuel Dickey, who moved from Georgia to Alabama in 1830, and settled near Orion, Pike County.

The subject of this sketch was reared at Raif Branch, in the county of Montgomery. His mother, Nancy L. Dickey, *nee* Burgess, was a daughter of Richard Burgess, Esq., originally of East Tennessee, but for many years previous to his death a citizen of Shelby County, Ala.

Mr. Dickey is of Scotch-Irish and English ancestry, and is now thirty years of age. He spent his youth on the farm and prepared for college in the schools near his father's home, and at the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn. He entered Hiwassee College, East Tennessee, session of 1875-6, and was graduated as A. B. from that institution in 1877, and as A. M. in 1878.

During 1879 and 1880, he was president of the Central Collegiate Institute, Culloden, Ga., and in the fall of the latter year became a post-graduate student at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.





*William Perry*

In 1881, he became a student in the Law Department of the University of Alabama, from which institution he was graduated, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Laws in July, 1882.

In 1882 and 1883, he was president of the Corinth Female College and Male Classical Institute, Corinth, Miss. In June, 1883, having resigned the last-named position, he removed to Montgomery, Ala., and entered upon the practice of law. In October following he was offered and accepted the professorship of History and English Literature in the Southern University, Greensboro, Ala. This position he resigned at the close of the University year, and immediately thereafter (July, 1884) removed to Birmingham, where he opened a law office. He at first practiced his profession alone, but, later, formed a partnership with Wm. H. Polk, nephew of President James K. Polk, under the firm name of Dickey & Polk. This partnership having, one year thereafter, been dissolved, he formed a copartnership October 1, 1886, with John F. Gillespie, under the now well-known firm name of Dickey & Gillespie.

Mr. Dickey is known as a prudent counselor and an able advocate.



**WILLIAM BERNEY.** President of the Berney National Bank, is a striking character among the young financiers of the South. He was born May 27, 1816, in Montgomery, Ala., and is a son of Dr. James and Jane E. (Saffold) Berney. His father, a native of Charleston, S. C., was a prominent physician of Montgomery for more than forty years, where he resided until his death, in July, 1880. His mother was a native of Dallas County, Ala., and died in Montgomery in October, 1874.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth of a family of eleven children, six of whom are now living, all residents of the South. He was reared in Montgomery, where he received his preliminary education, which was supplemented by a course of study at Baltimore, Md., and continued subsequently in Montgomery. In the spring of 1864, when he was eighteen years of age, he entered the army of the Confederate States at Dalton, Ga., in Hallonquist's Reserve Regiment of Artillery, and served as ordnance sergeant until the close of the war. His regiment was in the active service of the Army of the Tennessee, and participated in the severe battles of Dalton, Resaca, Atlanta, Jones-

boro, and the many other engagements of the great retreat of Gen. Joseph E. Johnson. After the close of the war he was appointed deputy collector of Internal Revenue of the Second District of Alabama, and before twenty-one years of age had handled over two millions of dollars in Government funds. He was next appointed cashier for the large cotton commission house of Lehman, Durr & Co., which situation he held for a short period, when he removed to Birmingham, in 1871, as the agent of the South & North Alabama Railroad, and after one year's service resigned. For one year he was engaged in farming, and was subsequently appointed book-keeper of the National Bank of Birmingham, which position he ably filled until 1875, when he became cashier of that institution. Upon the death of Charles Linn he was elected president of the bank, and continued until the consolidation with the City Bank, forming the First National Bank, of which he was also elected president. This important position he ably filled until February, 1885, when he resigned and organized the Central Bank of Birmingham, with which he was connected as the master spirit until in February, 1886, when it was reorganized and named in honor of its founder, the Berney National Bank, with William Berney as president, its capital stock being \$100,000, which was subsequently increased to \$300,000. This institution is a model of its kind, and ranks among the leading moneyed corporations of the South.

In all of the responsible positions which he has occupied, Mr. Berney has displayed wise and judicious management, and proven himself worthy of any trust. With the reputation of a safe financier, of honest integrity and sterling merit, he is destined to play an important part in the commercial life of Alabama.

Mr. Berney is a stockholder in the Iron and Oak and the Royal Insurance Companies of Birmingham, and in all enterprises tending to promote the healthy growth of Alabama, takes great interest. A Christian gentleman, his hand is ever ready to promote the cause of religion; he is also a firm believer in the public schools, and keeps well abreast with the advancement of the age.

April 29, 1868, Mr. Berney was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Taylor, of Montgomery, a daughter of Dr. W. P. Taylor, of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Berney are consistent members of the First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham.

**ELISHA J. ROBINSON.** Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, was born in this county, near the village of Trussville, September 16, 1846, and, at the common-schools acquired the elements of an education. In June, 1863, he joined Company E, Fifty-third Alabama Regiment, and took part in the battle at Big Shanty the same day he was mustered into service. From that time on to the close, his regiment was almost continuously engaged with the enemy, and of its many gallant members none of them saw more active service than did he. December 13, 1864, the accidental discharge of a torpedo carried away his right foot, and in March following he was discharged.

Returning immediately home Mr. Robinson resumed his studies, attending school at Ashville and Trussville, and subsequently beginning the study of law. In the spring of 1870 he was admitted to the bar at Ashville and at once entered upon the practice. In February, 1871, he was appointed Probate Judge by the Governor, to fill out an unexpired term, and in 1874 he was regularly elected to that office. In 1880 he was re-elected, and since 1886 he has devoted his time to the practice. He located in Birmingham in 1887, and in 1888, formed a partnership with Mr. J. B. Embry making now one of the strongest legal firms in the city.

Mr. Robinson was married in February, 1872, to Miss Sue Vandegrift, the accomplished daughter of John Vandegrift, Esq., and the children born to this union are named, respectively, Della, Boston and Harrold.

Mrs. Robinson, a devoted Christian wife and mother, died in February, 1887. She was a devout member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and was noted for her benevolence, purity and womanly traits of character.

George Robinson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Greenville, S. C. He located at Elyton, this county, in 1836, and removed from there to St. Clair County in 1857.

from Florida at the end of that expedition, he joined Clanton's regiment and was in the service until January 22, 1865. He took part in the battle of Shiloh, and in Bragg's Kentucky campaign, performing, in the meantime, much special and detached duty. At or near Knoxville, Tenn., he was wounded in the leg and disabled for further service for about eighteen months.

April 6th following his discharge from the army, Mr. Miles was married to Miss Emma Youngblood, of Pike County, this State, and soon afterward engaged in farming. At the end of about two years he embarked in mercantile business at Pine Level and from there moved to Montgomery. In May, 1872, he gave up merchandising and removed to Texas, whence he came to Birmingham in 1887.

While in Texas (1885), Mr. Miles was admitted to the bar, and upon coming to this city he entered regularly into the practice.

Mr. Miles is an active member of the Baptist church and of the Masonic fraternity.

Thomas J. Miles, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Jasper County, Ga., and at the age of eighteen years entered the ministry of the Baptist Church. In 1859 he came to Alabama, and settled at Pine Level, Montgomery County, where he continued to preach for many years. He is now traveling in the interest of the Church, and is in the sixty-ninth year of his age. His wife died in 1855. She was a Miss Embry, of one of the old and most respectable families of Georgia. She died in 1860. He reared a family of six sons and two daughters, and four of his sons were soldiers in the Southern Army during the late war. William was captured at Look-out Mountain, and died in military prison, at Rock Island; George died from sickness at Danville, Ky. They were both members of the Eighteenth Alabama Infantry, and John, another son, was a member of the Fifty-third Alabama. The other sons are the subject of this sketch, Joseph and Thomas.

**JOHN E. MILES.** Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, was born at Hamilton, Ga., September 12, 1839, and was educated in the schools of that vicinity. He located at Montgomery, this State, in 1858, and in May 1861, entered the Southern Army as a member of J. H. Clanton's Company, the first company to fire a gun at Pensacola. Returning

**JAMES JONES BANKS,** Attorney-at-law, Birmingham, is a native of Bullock County, this State, and was born April 27, 1861. From the common schools of his native county he entered the Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn, and was graduated therefrom with the degree of A. B., class of 1882. At once, after leaving college, he began the study of law, and in 1885





*C. P. Williamson*



was graduated from the Alabama State University as Bachelor of Laws. Mr. Banks came to Birmingham in the fall of 1885, and immediately entered upon a successful practice. He is notably a close student, and is much devoted to his profession. His plain, courteous manner renders him universally popular with those with whom he comes in contact, either professionally or socially, and it is perfectly safe to say of him, in this work, that his future is altogether bright and promising.

Mr. Banks was married December 7, 1887, to Miss Lee Frazer, the accomplished and popular daughter of Judge Sidney T. Frazer, of Bullock County.



**C. P. WILLIAMSON** was born in New Richmond, Ohio, January 11, 1843. His father, Henry Williamson, came to Ohio from Pennsylvania, and settled at New Richmond. His mother, Julia Hough, came from Loudoun County, Va. The former was of Welsh and the latter of English descent. His father was a river engineer for many years, and ran on different steamers in that capacity, and for a large portion of the time from Cincinnati to New Orleans, and then from Louisville to New Orleans. He continued in this trade until sustaining personal injuries in the burning of a steamboat. He then left the river, and in 1844 moved his family to New Albany, Ind.

The educational advantages of the son were obtained at the public schools in New Albany, and, when not going to school he clerked in a book store. He continued thus engaged until fifteen years old, and then went to work in the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railroad Company's Shops, and remained in them until 1861, when he was elected second lieutenant of Company C, of the Sixteenth Indiana Regiment. His colonel was P. A. Hackelman. Young Williamson served in the Army of the Potomac thirteen months, until the winter of 1862, when he returned home to work in the Louisville & Nashville Railroad Shops in Louisville. He worked one year, and was then assigned to the pattern shops of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railroad, and filled the responsible position of foreman there for six months. At the end of this time he returned to Louisville and worked in a similar capacity for Davies & Co., engine builders. After five years'

connection with this firm, he took charge of the shops of Sneed, Sayre & O'Bryan, who were architectural iron workers. He was, for the first year, foreman of the pattern shop, and was then promoted to the position of superintendent. He continued to work here, with great satisfaction to his employers, until the latter part of 1874, when he came to Birmingham to do the iron work on the First National Bank.

Going back a little, it is necessary to state that it was in the winter of 1844 '42 Mr. Williamson first came to Birmingham for the purpose above stated, but he had not then determined to live here. During the progress of the work already mentioned, Mr. Charles Linn made a proposition which culminated in his removal to the young town in January, 1845. He was, at the first, part owner and superintendent of the Birmingham Foundry and Car Manufacturing Company, now known as the Linn Iron Works. He continued in this position until March, 1849, and then retired from this establishment to build the Jefferson Foundry, of which he was sole proprietor. These latter works were put in operation on the first of May of that year. The shop was then small and worked only about ten men. It has, however, had a prosperous career, and from a small beginning has grown to be one of the most important enterprises in Birmingham, and has worked up to its full capacity almost from the start. Of late years its capacity has been taxed to its utmost, which is the best evidence of the superior character of the work done. The payroll, carrying ten men to begin on, now has one hundred and fifty.

In July, 1885, Mr. Williamson was the prime mover in the organization of the now Williamson Iron Company. The building of their furnace was the beginning of the present "boom" in furnace-building now going on in the Birmingham district. The new company was known as the Williamson Iron Company, and the Jefferson Foundry was merged into the new enterprise. The furnace thus far has had a similar experience to the foundry, and, with its capable management, there is no reason to suppose that any other fate than prosperity will befall it. Thus it is seen that Mr. Williamson has thoroughly established himself as one of the essentially representative men of this progressive city.

In 1864, he was married to Miss Mary Bligh, of Louisville, Ky. He has four children—Harry,

Emma, Julia, and Mary. Harry is assistant superintendent of the Williamson Iron Company. Miss Emma was married to Mr. W. L. Woodruff, manager of the Birmingham Telephone Exchange in 1886, and now resides with her husband in the city. All of the rest of the family also live here. He had two brothers, Braden and William. The former is dead, and the latter is farming in Illi-

nois. His father and mother both died a few years since in New Albany.

Mr. Williamson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and of Mineral City Lodge of Odd Fellows, of Birmingham; he has taken most of the degrees in the order and has filled many of the offices. He is also a member of the Knights of Honor.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

[Sketches under this head taken from various sources, to reach the publishers in time to appear with the cities to which they respectively belong. Etc.]

**IRA R. FOSTER**, late of Gadsden, Ala., was born in Spartanburg District, S. C., January 18, 1813. His parents being in humble circumstances, he, at the age of twelve years, hired his time from his father and entered a grammar school at his native place. By diligent application to study he was soon able to teach a small school, the proceeds whereof he applied to incidental expenses and to the purchase of such books as he required for the initial step in the study of medicine. He was yet a young man when he migrated from South Carolina to Forsyth County, Ga., and he was in the practice of medicine in the latter place at the outbreak of the Florida War. He took an active and conspicuous part in that war. Going out as the captain of a company, he was very shortly promoted to the rank of colonel, and he led his regiment successfully through several bloody fights with the Indians. After the war he returned to Georgia, and resumed the practice of medicine, from which he soon afterward turned his attention to the study of law. In the legal profession he rose rapidly to prominence. Finding that the climate of the place where he was living was deleterious to the health of himself and family, he moved to Atlanta, where he was living at the outbreak of the late war. He was an original and uncompromising secessionist; therefore, so soon as Georgia declared her withdrawal from the Federal Union, he placed himself at the service of the Confederacy and was immediately appointed Quartermaster-General by Governor Brown. He entered at once upon the duties of the office, and from the beginning to the close no man was more devoted, constant or active in the cause of the South.

After the war, General Foster returned to Atlanta, and from there he moved to Dodge County, Ga., where he was for several years

actively engaged in the practice of law. Again finding the climate disagreeable he decided to remove to Alabama, where, prior to the war, he had made extensive investments in land. He thereupon came at once to Gadsden, and here spent the rest of his life. In 1884 he was elected to the State Senate, and was a member of that body at the time of his death.

To a native intellect, capable of grappling with intricate questions, General Foster brought to the service of his adopted State a long, rich and varied experience, gathered from a life distinguished for the uniformity of its successes. With an incorruptible integrity, he combined a transparent candor and simplicity that won the confidence of all men. His moral character had borne the stress of a somewhat long and eventful life, and in it envy itself can not find a flaw.

After coming to Alabama, his wife, to whom he was married in Georgia soon after the Florida War, was called to the better world. She was a noble woman, a kind and devoted wife and a gentle and loving mother.

General Foster was possessed of a great and good heart and of much strength of character. He was many years a consistent member of the Baptist Church, and devoted a great deal of his time to religious work. His second wife was Miss Cora W. Rogers, the estimable and accomplished daughter of George C. Rogers, of Marion, Ala.



**STEPHEN F. NUNNELEE**, of Tuscaloosa, was born near Portland, Dallas County, Ala., in the year 1825. He is of Welsh and Scotch descent, his parents moving from Georgia to Alabama, in 1818. Young Nunnelee lost his father by drowning when he was but two years old, and grew up without any educational advantages. In 1842 he left his family and entered the printing office of the *Entaw Whip*, then owned by Houston and

Davis. Being deficient in the elements of a common education, he went to school four months and returned to the printing office under a promise of three years' apprenticeship. The Mexican War coming on, with the consent of his employer, he volunteered in Captain Syd Moore's Company, and served twelve months. He was one of the jolliest soldiers in the regiment, never missing a roll-call, and with one or two others was the very life of the command. He was physically strong and almost fearless in the presence of danger. His soldierly bearing once or twice received complimentary recognition from General Quitman.

Returning to Eutaw, he re-entered the printing office, buying an interest in it. He finally sold out and went to clerking in a dry goods store, where he continued until 1853, when he married the daughter of Mr. James Murphy, a prosperous and respectable farmer. In 1855, he established the *Independent Observer*, and warmly espoused the cause of secession.

When the war came on he commanded the first company that went from his county under the call of the Governor. Upon a proposition to transfer its service to the Confederate States, the company returned home, and upon reorganizing he got only a lieutenant's place, and with the Eleventh Alabama (Col. Syd Moore) went to Virginia. The regiment was within hearing, but was not in, the battle of Bull Run; it was guarding a gap in the mountains. Resigning he came home in 1862, and was elected captain of a ninety-day company under the call of the Governor.

In the spring of 1863, he joined the cavalry regiment of General J. D. Webb, and in June was wounded and captured at Shelbyville, Tenn., and was for fifteen months a prisoner, at Camp Chase and Ft. Delaware; at the former, for demanding his rights as a prisoner, with five others, he was ball and chained and handcuffed. Being the oldest looking man in prison he had great influence over his fellow prisoners, and often appealed to the officers in charge for less rigorous treatment. If he could not speak he would write to them, demanding treatment due to prisoners of war.

He was released in October, 1864, and getting to Richmond, wrote to Secretary of State, J. P. Benjamin, suggesting certain reliefs, which were finally agreed to by the two Governments. Getting home a mere skeleton of his former self, he never again entered active service. After the surrender he remained on the farm taking the "fore

row," and making average crops with his neighbors.

In 1877, he bought the *Tuscaloosa Gazette*, which he and his sons afterward published and edited, making it one of the leading weeklies in the State. In April last they began the publication of a small daily, which is a credit to them and the city of Tuscaloosa.

Captain Nunnelee is a man of marked characteristics. An elder in the Presbyterian Church, he is somewhat of a "Blue Stocking" both in religion and politics. He is perfectly uncompromising for what he conceives to be right, and with him right has but one side to it. He is a bold and ready writer for a man of his acquirements, and has perhaps done more to arouse the people to united efforts to develop the many natural advantages of Tuscaloosa than any of her citizens. He composes altogether at the ease; rarely if ever using pen or pencil. Could he devote more time and care to composition he would equal in force and directness of argument most of the many able editors in Alabama.



**WILLIS WINSTON GARTH**, of Huntsville. This son of General Jesse W. Garth and his wife, Miss Dandridge, was born in Morgan County, Ala.

His father, of sturdy Welsh stock and a native of Albemarle County, Va., was physically, mentally and morally a fine specimen of the manhood of "The Old Dominion"—six feet four inches tall, and erect. He was educated at the famous school of Dr. Waddel, in Hillsboro, N. C. Entering the bar at Charlottesville, Va., he served in the War of 1812, represented Albemarle County in the Legislature of 1815, and moved to North Alabama in 1817. In youth he saw much of Thomas Jefferson, the sage of Monticello, which was near the home of his nativity, now owned by Colonel S. H. Buck, of Huntsville, Ala. And he was a contemporary and friend of Gen. Wm. F. Gordon, Wm. C. Rives, V. Southhall and John Tyler. In manner General Garth was quiet and retiring, and, while self-reliant and decided in opinion, he was careful and wise in action. He took a self-interest in public affairs and spent his time and invested his money freely in matters of public benefit. As an example, he took \$60,000 of stock in the project of the Memphis

& Charleston Railroad in its inception. By judicious investments, chiefly in lands, and by successful and economic planting, he accumulated a large fortune; and, having led an active, useful, pure and patriotic life, he died in 1867, at the age of seventy-nine, at the house of his son in Huntsville. Even after the losses and disasters and depreciation of the sectional war, he left his two sons and four daughters rich for people of the South. Miss Unity Spotswood Danbridge, the wife of General Garth and mother of W. W. Garth, was a member of the old Virginia family of which Martha Washington was one and the wife of Patrick Henry another.

Willis W. Garth was educated at the University of Virginia and studied law. Previous to the war he practiced his profession in Morgan County, and during the political excitement preceding the war, he canvassed and spoke on the issues so vital to the Southern people with power and effect. He married Miss Maria Fearn, a daughter of Dr. Thomas Fearn, of Huntsville. During the war he was an ardent Confederate. After the war he moved to Huntsville and occupied the old Fearn homestead, where he still resides. At the Convention of the Democratic party, held at Decatur in 1876, he was nominated for Congress from the Eighth District, was elected and served most acceptably, making an unexceptionable record. In 1878, however, although the nominee of the party, he was defeated by Col. Wm. M. Lowe, Independent Greenback Labor Democrat, supported by the Republicans of the District.

Colonel Garth has been a student of history, and is deeply versed in the fundamental principles upon which have hinged the politics of the country, no less than in the careers of its leading men from the formation of the Federal Government. Thus accurately informed, with argumentative ability, and natural gifts of oratory, he is one of the strongest and most effective public speakers in Alabama. And his rigid adherence to principle renders his views a standard of true Democracy.

Colonel Garth, as executor of his father's large estate and trustee of the portions of his sisters, has had his hands full of business since 1867; and he is recognized by the courts of equity and by all who have dealings with him, as a thorough man of business, scrupulous and just, and, so far as he is concerned, generous and free from greed—a man of judgment, sagacious, safe and wholly reliable. A believer in country life and farming,

he has never been a speculator in cotton, railroad stocks or lands, although he has dealt largely in each and was long a director of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad.

Colonel Garth has a son and two grandchildren, to whom he is devoted. He and his family are members of the Protestant Episcopal church.



**WILLIAM C. OATES**, present member of the United States Congress from Third District and one of the most prominent and influential men of that body, was born in Pike County (now Bullock), this State, November 30, 1833.

Principally self-taught, he studied law, and in 1858, was admitted to the bar. In July, 1861, as captain of Company G, Fifteenth Alabama Infantry, he entered the Confederate Army. May, 1863, "for valor and skill displayed on the field," he was appointed colonel and assigned to the command of his old regiment. He was four times seriously wounded, losing his right arm in front of Richmond.

He was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention of 1868; a member of the House of Representatives of Alabama in 1870-1 and 1871-2; a candidate for Governor in 1872; a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1875; elected to the Forty-seventh Congress, and, by re-election, has continued in that body to the present time.



**HILARY A. HERBERT**, of Montgomery, represents the Second District in the Congress of the United States. He was born in Laurensville, S. C., March 12, 1834, and came to Alabama in 1846. He was educated at the Universities of the States of Alabama and Virginia, studied law and was admitted to the bar. He entered the Confederate Army as captain, was promoted to colonel and assigned to the command of the Eighth Alabama Volunteers. He was wounded in the "Wilderness" May 6, 1864, returned home, and subsequently practiced law at Greenville until 1872. From Greenville he removed to Montgomery, where he continued in the practice. He was elected to the Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses, almost, if not entirely, without opposition.

**JOHN H. BANKHEAD**, of Fayette Court House, represents the Sixth District in the United States Congress. He was born in Marion (now Lamar) County, this State, Sept. 13, 1842. He is a self-educated man, a farmer by occupation, served four years in the Confederate Army, and was wounded three times. He represented Marion County in the General Assembly, sessions of 1865-67; was in the State Senate in 1876-7, and House of Representatives 1880-1. From 1881 to 1885 he was Warden of the Alabama Penitentiary, and he was elected to the Fiftieth Congress as a Democrat.



**JAMES L. PUGH**, of Eufaula, United States Senator, was born in Burke County, Ga., December 12, 1820, and has lived in Alabama since he was four years of age. He received an academic education, studied law, and, in 1841, was admitted to the bar. He was a Taylor Elector in 1848, a Buchanan Elector in 1856, and a Tilden Elector from the State-at-large in 1876. In 1859 he was elected to Congress without opposition, and withdrew when Alabama passed the ordinance of secession. He joined the Eufaula Rifles as a private, and in 1861 was elected to the Confederate Congress, and was re-elected thereto in 1863.

After the war Mr. Pugh resumed the practice of law. He was President of the State Convention in 1874, and a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1875. He succeeded the Hon. Luke Pryor in the Senate, taking his seat in 1880, and was re-elected in 1884. His term expires March 3, 1891.



**JAMES TAYLOR JONES**, of Demopolis, member of the United States Congress from the First District, was born in Richmond, Va., in 1832, and has lived in Alabama since he was two years old. He was graduated from Princeton (N. J.) College in 1852, and from the Law School of the University of Virginia in 1855. He was admitted to the bar in 1856, and, excepting his four years' service in the Southern Army, has practiced law ever since. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1865, a State Senator in 1872-3, and elected to the Forty-fifth Congress in 1876. He was returned to the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses, receiving in the last election the entire vote of his district.

**JAMES E. COBB**, of Tuskegee, represents the Fifth District in the United States Congress as a Democrat. He was born in Upson County, Ga., October 5, 1835, and graduated from Emory College, Oxford, that State, in June, 1856. He studied law, was admitted to the bar, and in 1857 moved to Texas. He entered the Confederate Army in 1861 as a lieutenant in Company F, Fifth Texas Regiment, and served in the Northern Virginian Army until his capture at Gettysburg. At the close of the war, he located at Tuskegee in the practice of law. In 1874 he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court; was re-elected in 1880, and again in 1886. Before qualifying under the last election, he was elected to the Fiftieth Congress.



**WILLIAM HENRY FORNEY**, present member of Congress from the Seventh District, is a citizen of Jacksonville, Calhoun County. He was born at Lincolnton, N. C., November 9, 1823, and was graduated from the Alabama University in 1844. He was a first lieutenant in the First Regiment Alabama Volunteers in the Mexican War; studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1848, and has practiced ever since. He was one of the trustees of the State University from 1851 to 1860, and a member of the Legislature, session of 1859-60. He entered the Confederate Army in 1861 as captain, and was successively promoted to major, lieutenant-colonel, colonel and brigadier-general. He surrendered at Appomattox, returned to Alabama, and, beginning with the session of 1865-6, he was in the Legislature until ousted by Reconstruction. He was elected to the Forty-fourth, Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh, Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth and Fiftieth Congresses as a Democrat.



**A. C. DAVIDSON**, of Uniontown, now representing the Fourth District in the United States Congress, was born in Mecklenburg County, N. C., December 26, 1826. He was graduated from the Alabama University in 1848, and studied law in Mobile, but never practiced. He is an extensive cotton planter in Dallas, which county he represented in the lower house of the State Legislature, session of 1880-81, and in the Senate from 1882 to 1885. He was elected to the Forty-ninth Congress and re-elected to the Fiftieth, as a Democrat.

# GENERAL INDEX.

A	PAGE.	PAGE.	PAGE.
Abercrombie, James J.	741	Bibb County	109
Abernathy, Dr. Robt. T.	431	Birmingham	741
Adams, John T.	406	Blair, Dr. Hugh W.	419
Aiken, James	359	Blakey, David T.	604
Ala. Polytechnic Inst.	114	Black, Wm. B., M. D.	330
Alles, C. H.	349	Bledsoe, Nathaniel M.	186
Alexander, William J.	118	Blount County	108
Allen, Wm. Wirt	621	Blue, Jas. Howard, M. D.	636
Allen, Rev. W. T.	220	Boardsman, Volney	372
Allen, Lucius L.	117	Bohnd, Rev. J. M., A. M.	218
Allen, Thomas R.	539	Bone, James H.	280
Almon, Edward B.	436	Booker, Edmund W.	625
Alston, Joseph J.	336	Booker, Parham N.	627
Andrews, A. S., D. D., LL. D.	567	Borders, Samuel K.	115
Anniston	450	Boswell, Harry R., M. D.	458
Arnitz, George	343	Bowles, Edmund D.	700
Armstrong, Rev. Thomas	327	Boynton, Wm. N.	464
Armstrong, James	94	Boyd, Frank, Jr.	677
Armstrong, Wm. P.	687	Bradfield, John, M. D.	211
Arnott, C. A.	89	Brandon, John D.	263
Arnold, L. W., M. D.	310	Brewer, Samuel B.	183
Arrington, Thos. Mann	647	Brooks, Wm. M.	590
Atala	500	Brooks, W. T.	697
Athens	72	Brothers, Samuel D. G.	492
Aufburn	113	Brown, Jesse E.	97
Autauga County	180	Brown, Rev. Milton P.	94
Avondale	533	Brown, Cecil	456
		Brown, Wilson E.	422
		Brown, Newburn H.	335
		Brown, Jeremiah H.	219
		Brown, Hugh H., M. D.	729
		Brown, W. L., A. M., LL. D.	150
		Brown, William B.	163
		Brown, Wm. G.	373
		Bruce, John	672
		Bryce, Dr. Peter	332
		Buck, Samuel H.	265
		Bulford, James M. C.	336
		Bulford, A. F., M. D.	117
		Bullock County	184
		Burch, Marus Champ	334
		Burison, Dabney A.	45
		Burke, Julius L.	389
		Burke, Malinda C.	617
		Burr, William H.	461
		Burtwell, James	318
		Burtwell, John R.	318
		Butler county	225
		C	
		Callahan, William F.	200
		Calhoun County	111
		Calhoun, John C.	543
		Calhoun, John H.	193
		Calhoun II, John M.	180
		Calwell, Geo. B.	93
		Campan, W. J.	563
		Campbell, William P.	312
		Campbell, Archibald	281
		Campbell, C. H.	183
		Carmichael, John C.	227
		Carr, Hinton E.	174
		Cartwright, C. B., M. D.	229
		Cartwright, M. T.	44
		Castleman, James W.	342
		Cawthon, Alex. W.	625
		Centre	129
		Central Belt	58, 107
		Chambers County	118
		Chambers, George W.	166
		Chambers, Wm. Len.	645
		Chapman, Reuben	220
		Chapman, Reuben	252
		Cherokee County	128
		Child, Dr. Duff	543
		Chisholm, Dr. Edmund S.	534
		Chilton, Wm. P., deceased	630
		Chilton, Wm. Parish	643
		Chilton County	125
		Choctaw County	182
		Church, Stewart	332
		Clark, Courtney J., M. D.	612
		Clarke County	231
		Clark, Thos. H.	612
		Clayton, Henry de La Mar	519
		Clay County	127
		Clatsop County	134
		Clements, M. K.	594
		Clopton, David	613
		Cloud, Robert	436
		Cobb, Rufus W.	166
		Cobb, James E.	772
		Cochrane, Dr. Wm. A.	533
		Cochran, Jerome, M. D.	634
		Cochrane, William G.	539
		Coker, John B.	715
		Collier, John	228
		Collier County	231
		Colley, John R.	38
		Colliott County	161
		Coleman, Phares	565
		Coleman Augustus A.	562
		Coleman, Daniel	87
		Coleman, Frank	296
		Coleman, Thos. W.	196
		Coleman Wiley	187
		Collins, Daniel M.	188
		Collier Brick & K.	629
		Columbiana	162
		Comer, Braxton B.	195
		Compton-Jordan C.	671
		Comuch County	332
		Comer, Jos. C., D. D., S.	315
		Constitution Adopted	41
		Constitution, del. to	42
		Cooper, Evelyn B.	439
		Cooper, Saml. J., M. D.	433
		Cooper, William	432
		Cossa County	123
		Corcoran, Geo. M., M. D.	211
		Cotton Belt	180, 224
		Covington County	234
		Cowan, James H.	59
		Cox, Edward W.	78
		Craig, Ben. H.	657
		Craig, Geo. H.	671
		Crenshaw County	234
		Crofts, Daniel	741
		Crofts, Harvey H.	541
		Crow, James M.	316
		Crook, John M., M. D.	194
		Crook, James, Jr.	195
		Crook, Emmett F.	198
		Cross, John M.	286
		Cross, Plains	119
		Cross, Dr. Wm. C.	533
		Cross, Thos. J., Sr.	168
		Cullman	378
		Cullman County	133
		Cullman, John G.	383
		Curry, Willis W.	461
		Curry, Burwell J.	282
		Curtis, Robt. M.	341
		D	
		Daily, Jacob F.	119
		Dale County	234
		Dallas County	159
		Dalrymple, A. C.	772
		Davis, Nicholas	378
		Davis, Lawrence R.	82
		Dawson, N. H. R.	663
		Day, L. W.	264
		Dean, Wm. H.	198
		Deatur	321
		De Forrest, Henry S.	157
		De Kalb County	135
		De Loach, Wm. R.	219
		Dement, John J., M. D.	268
		Denopdis	194
		Denson, Wm. H.	35
		Dickey, Leonidas C.	564
		Dill, Joseph M.	728
		Dinnick, Joseph W.	627
		Disque, John H.	314
		Dixson, Jno. L.	119
		Dowds, Daniel L.	339
		Dr. Rose, John W., A. M.	361
		DuBoise, Rev. Robert M.	458
		DuBoise, Wm. S., M. D.	163
		Dumas, Jen. T.	165
		Duncan, John W.	446
		Duncan, William T.	285
		Dunbar, Robert H.	503
		Dunklin, Daniel G.	229
		Dunlap, Robert A. D.	361
		E	
		East Birmingham	753
		East Lake	774
		Echols, Wm. H.	285
		Echols, James F.	544
		Edmondson, Wallace R.	743
		Edwards, Wm. H.	182
		Edwards, J. A.	474
		Elliot, James M., Jr.	369
		Elliot, Amos Merrill	169
		Ellis, Gordon C.	708
		Ellis, Dr. Robert A.	518
		Elliot, William M.	132
		Elmore County	192
		Enslin	134
		Erskine, Albert R., M. D.	219
		Erwin, John	188
		Escambia County	191
		Etowah County	174

Enlow	196	Gruber, Samuel H.	340	Hudnson, Wm. E.	718	Kirk, James T.	439
Evans, Whitney T., M. D.	462	Gunnels, Egnel P.	115	Hudson, Thomas	713	Kirkman, Samuel	313
<b>F.</b>		Guntersville	329	Huey, Benj. M.	713	Kirksey, Foster N.	231
Falk, Louis M.	345	Guttery, George H.	177	Hughes, Joseph R.	350	Kittrell, Robert N., M. D.	382
Falkner, Jefferson M.	296	<b>H.</b>		Hughes, Robert F.	122	Knight, Wm. Newton	570
Farmer, John T.	318	Hagler, Wiley A.	529	Humes, Milton.	264	Knox, James C., M. D.	462
Fayette County	149	Hale County	235	Hunt, Oscar R.	362	Knox, Alex. B.	463
Ferguson, Frederick S.	764	Hale, Elms	131	Hunt, Ben P.	275	Knox, Samuel L.	463
Fennell, Dr. J. W.	293	Hames, Wm. M.	652	Hunt, George W.	286	Knox, John B.	464
Fisher, John H.	441	Hammund, John D.	691	Huntsville	243	Knox, John B.	731
Florence	288	Hanner, Daniel T.	592	Hunt, R. C.	59	Kolla, Reuben F.	620
Flynn, P. H.	337	Haneock, James.	317	Hunter, Quincy C.	421	Kunipae, Dr. Geo. E.	106
Flynn, John	373	Hanna, Sarah	320	Hutchens, James M.	279	Kyle, Robert B.	254
Forest, Dr. Wm. E.	328	Hannah, A. J. W.	320	Hutcheson, Wm. G.	696	Kyle, Osceola, Jr.	333
Forney, Wm. H.	772	Harrison, Jonathan	672	<b>I.</b>		Kyle, James A.	56
Foster, Ira R.	509	Harrison, Wm. E., M. D.	310	Inge, Richard, M. D.	567	<b>L.</b>	
Foster, Henry Bacon	543	Harding, Joseph	694	Insane Hospital.	516	Laird, Dr. Orville D.	122
Foster, Dr. David L.	529	Hargrave, Capt. A.	525	Inzer, John W.	158	Lake View	753
Foster, Sumner B.	526	Hargrove, Andrew C.	531	Isbell, Thomas L.	667	Lamar County	142
Foster, Felix W.	477	Harris, D. T.	342	Isbell, Robert H.	66	Lane, James H.	153
Foster, Dr. Shep W.	530	Harris, John P.	101	Isbell, James	455	Lane, Charles P.	264
Fowlkes, A. M.	659	Harris, James P.	101	<b>J.</b>		Lane, Rev. M. H., D.D.	490
Franklin, Chas. H., M. D.	188	Harris, Dr. Geo. M.	267	Jackson, James M., M. D.	463	Landman, George P.	286
Frankle, A.	286	Harris, Joseph W.	120	Jackson, James K.	635	Langdon, Chas. C.	615
Franklin, Wm. R., Jr.	70	Harris, John G.	623	Jackson, Wm. M.	309	Larned, Wm. S.	483
Franklin County	162	Harris, Christopher C.	331	Jacksonville	488	Lauderdale County	50
Frazier, J. A., D. D., S.	717	Harris & Watkins, H. Co.	342	Jackson County	92	Lawrence County	66
Frazier, John A., D.D.S.	715	Harrison, Geo. P., Jr.	710	Jackson, James	435	Lay, Wm. P.	374
Freeman, H. S.	393	Harrison, Dr. Wm	393	Jasper	173	Lee, Wm. D.	571
Frey, Andrew C.	339	Harvey, John C.	568	Jefferson County	141	Lee County	143
Friedman, Bernhard	547	Hayes, Robert H., M. D.	187	Jehonson, William C.	540	Leach, Sewall Jones	538
Frierson, Rev. Martin L.	315	Hays, Asa B.	385	Jervis, J. D.	332	LeGrand, Milton Paul.	644
Fulmer, S. L.	389	Hedges, W. W.	337	John, Joseph R.	675	LeGrand, John C., M. D.	487
Furness, John P., M. D.	684	Helena	164	John, Sam'l W.	673	Leiper, James Thos.	162
<b>G.</b>		Henderson, Charles	727	Johnson, Jos. H., M. D.	458	Lewis, Rev. J., Jr., D.D.	559
Gaboury, Joseph A.	439	Henry, Albert G.	394	Johnson, William P.	596	Liddell, Daniel	364
Gadsden	350	Henry, Patrick	69	Johnson, John A.	285	Limestone County	71
Gadsden Land & Imp. Co.	352	Henry, Samuel	372	Johnson, Dr. William R.	634	Imbry, Robert B.	431
Gadsden, Franklin A.	156	Henry County	236	Johnston, Wm. F.	480	Lathe, Benjamin F.	142
Gardner, John D.	125	Herbert, H. A.	771	Joiner, George A.	667	Lathe, James H.	582
Garth, Wm. W.	770	Hernon, Harry T.	198	Jones, George W.	690	Litcheich, Wm. W.	531
Gary, Dr. Thomas P.	685	Herrin, Samuel H.	386	Jones, Wm. R.	547	Livingston	216
Gaston, Thomas B., M. D.	637	Hertzberg, Herman	376	Jones, Thomas G.	680	Lottin, Rev. G. A., D.D.	453
Gaston, Zeph.	226	Hicks, Marcus L.	364	Jones, Rev. Amos B., A. M., D. D., L.L. D.	273	Lollar, John R.	177
Gay, Simon	628	Hicks, David W.	437	Jones, Henry C.	255	Lomax, Tennent	631
Gayle, John	574	Higgins, William F.	118	Jones, George P.	298	Lomax, Tennent, Jr.	698
Geneva County	235	Hindman, Samuel	458	Jones, Alex. W.	679	London, Alex. T.	699
Gibson, Carleton B.	491	Hine, William A.	88	Jones, James T.	712	Loudens County	322
Gibson, William B.	742	Hines, Joseph M.	313	Jones, James T.	710	Lowry, Samuel H., M. D.	269
Gilbreath, Montgomery	397	Hill, Dr. Luther L.	643	Jones, L. S.	675	Loyett, Prof. J. A. B.	272
Gilbreath, Emmett	397	Hill, Alonzo	527	Jones, Robert T.	710	Ludke, Wm. P.	319
Gilbreath, John	397	Holt, S. Thomas H.	85	Jordan, David C.	97	Ludwig, Bernard F.	277
Gill, Wm. G., M. D.	329	Holton, James M.	563	Jordan, Wm. C.	625	Lundemann, Guido	440
Gill, Wm. P.	700	Hoffman, J. K., M. D.	81	Joseph, C. W.	315	Lupton, N. T., A. M., M.D., L.L.D.	150
Gillspee, John F.	703	Hogan, Samuel M., M. D.	186	Joseph, Edwin B.	645	Lusk, Lorenz D., M. D.	602
Gist, Paul, M. D.	159	Hogan, William	375	Joseph, Wm. F.	639	Lusk, John A.	788
Godfrey, Edgar W.	326	Hogue, Wm. F.	712	Judge & DeGraffenreid	198	Lyon, Geo. Gammes	192
Godthwaite, John R.	740	Hogue, Cyrus D.	711	<b>K.</b>		<b>M.</b>	
Governors, List of.	56	Hollingsworth, Wm. P.	676	Karter, John H.	388	McBride, J. E.	458
Grubham, Hamilton C.	678	Hooper, Rev. T. W., D.D.	678	Keenan, James E.	158	McCart, M. F.	186
Grubham, James H.	712	Hooper, Mallett C.	334	Kelley, Arthur H.	43	McCartney, Charles C.	182
Grubham, Edward A.	692	Holt, Wm. J., M. D.	634	Kenan, John R.	974	McCart, Charles R., M. D.	729
Grant, Leonidas W.	493	Holt, Samuel D.	692	Keeney, John R.	544	McCallan, Eliza D.	171
Greene County	195	Holt, Edward R.	679	Kennedy, John R.	543	McCallan, Robt. A.	79
Greene, James T.	157	Holtzclaw, James T.	645	Ketchum, Dr. George A.	238	McCallan, Thos. N.	618
Greensboro	749	Hopkins, Devereux	221	Keyes, George P.	430	McCullough, A. W.	274
Greenville, Edward G.	696	Horton, James E.	83	King, Frank R.	105	McCullough, A. W.	274
Greeneville	225	Houghton, Wm. R.	562	King, R. R., M. D.	105	McCurvey, Thos. C.	528
Gregory, Edward G.	696	Houston, John H.	712	King, Edmund Rush	542	McComell, W. K.	666
Griffin, Charles A., A. M.	559	Houston, George Smith.	72	King, Porter	598	McDonald, Gordon	181
Grubbs, Dr. L. Healy	328	Houston, Samuel D.	74	King, Godshy, M. D.	685		

















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