

THE HERALD

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1829, 36102

512 South Court Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

PUBLISHED AS A SERVICE TO ITS MEMBERS

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Montgomery County Historical Society

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Montgomery, AL

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We sincerely appreciate our members who make it possible for us to collect and preserve the records of our past as well as presenting programs with speakers that share their knowledge of our past.

P. O. Box 1829
Montgomery, AL 36102

NOTICE
County Archivist
Dallas Hanbury
will be the
featured speaker
at the Fall
Membership
Meeting
Nov. 4, 2018
2:30

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Montgomery County Historical Society THE HERALD



VOLUME 26 NO .2

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

ISSUE 3 - SUMMER 2018

PAT CLARK Appointed As THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Board of Directors unanimously named Pat Clark as its new Executive Director on October 10. She assumed the position on October 22. Pat is married to Montgomery native Thornton Clark.

Born in Marianna, Florida, Pat grew up in Pensacola. Most weekends included a drive to East Brewton to visit her stepfather's family and fill the trunk, then the freezer, with whatever was in season. Always a bookworm, Pat started her higher education in Pensacola, getting her BS in Biology Education at the University of Southern Mississippi. She began a teaching career that led to a Master of Natural Science from University of Oklahoma. Pat obtained her MBA at Southern Methodist University.

She began her corporate career with Williams Bros. Engineering in Tulsa, writing environmental impact assessments on water quality and water resources. Pat joined Frito-Lay in Dallas, creating and developing the environmental permitting and regulatory function to support plants located in 38 states. While at Frito-Lay, she moved up to Engineering Manager of Planning and Control. When the airlines deregulated she was then tapped to develop a corporate travel department negotiating discounts with major airlines, rental car companies and hotels. In that role she attended a symposium in New York City where she met Thornton Clark.

She ultimately moved to Time, Inc. in Manhattan as Manager of their travel department. Moving to Boston and Bain & Co., Pat worked alongside Mitt Romney, as Manager of Bain Travel. Pat then returned to environmental consulting with Rizzo Associates. After living abroad and sailing for one and a half years she and Thornton settled in Savannah for nine years. While there Pat served as President of the Savannah Symphony Women's Guild, the 500-member Savannah Women's Tennis League, and was elected to The Landings Board of Directors for a three-year term.

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Bull Fights and Hypnotism in Montgomery

By C. M. Cash Stanley
Editor, *Alabama Journal*
January 27, 1952

ARCH A. MCKINNEY is one of Montgomery's old-time residents who is full of lore about the amusements of the early days. He was born in Kentucky, has always loved horses and even today never misses a Kentucky Derby.

Being interested in amusements and sports he used to be looked up to by every man who came to town with some novelty in the form of an amusement attraction.

Upon one occasion long ago Montgomery had its one and only experience with bull fighting. An arena was built on Dexter Avenue one block below the capitol and here for a time a real bull fight was shown. But it lasted only five days. Public protest over cruelty to the bull closed down the show.

A HYPNOTIST once got a permit to hypnotize his wife and place her on exhibition in a show window on Dexter Avenue near Perry Street. She remained in the window in a hypnotic state for several days.

A popular freak exhibit brought to town in those days considered of the "shortest and tallest men in the world."

But the most unusual case of hypnotism aroused some controversy. The visiting hypnotist wanted to put a man under a spell and bury him for a week. He first approached Tilford Leak because he needed a grave and a sponsor. Mr. Leak sent him to Berto Johnson, and Berto didn't want to assume responsibility for burying a man, therefore, sent

the hypnotist to Arch McKinney.

The hypnotist proposed to put his brother under hypnotic influence, bury him with an electric light and insert a tube in the ground through which spectators could look down upon the buried man's face. A charge was made for looking down the tube.

It was all arranged. Mr. Leak agreed to have the grave dug on the vacant lot where the Public Library now stands. Berto Johnson agreed to look after advertising the attraction. McKinney assumed business management of the show.

THE peep-tube did a big business the first day. Flocks of people were willing to pay money to look down at the hypnotized man with the electric light shining in his face.

Late that night a big rain-storm broke over the city. Someone induced Sheriff Hood to play a joke. He called Mr. Leak at midnight, told him of the heavy rainstorm downtown and that he wanted to let Leak know that he, the sheriff, would not be responsible if the man in that coffin was drowned during the night by water pouring down the tube.

Mr. Leak roused some of his Negro employees and hurried downtown where the man excavated the hypnotized patient and got rid of any responsibility that might fall upon them in connection with the affair.

WHEN Judge Thomas G. Jones was presiding over the federal district court it was the custom to hold sessions from time to time in

Dothan. Dothan was a pleasant place, and the attaches of the court were glad when occasions arose to keep them there over the weekend. In such parties were usually the late George Stuart, Judge Walter B. Jones, a clerk of the court, Yetta Samford, the district attorney, the marshal and two or three others. They generally looked forward to a fishing trip on Sunday to Dead Lakes across the state line in Florida.

But they wouldn't leave Dothan on a Sunday fishing trip without first holding devotional services. One of them would read a Bible lesson, another would speak briefly on the lesson, a third would offer a prayer and then Mr. Samford would strike up the hymn: "Shall we gather at the river?" Thus the fishing trip got off to a great start.

THE late Col. Alex Troy was one of a group of close friends of Gov. Emmett O'Neal chosen to draft the law creating the contemplated new State Court of Appeals. Colonel Troy had every reason to expect that he would be appointed by the governor as one of the first three members of the new court.

The members of the group performed their task conscientiously and had no difficulty in deciding what the salaries of the new judges should be. However, when the question arose as to the salary to be paid [to] the clerk of the court, one of them, remarked:

"Suppose we make the clerk's salary \$3,600." In those days that was a good deal of money.

"That's too much for the clerk of the court," said Colonel Troy. "Twenty-four hundred dollars a year is enough for that job."

That figure was inserted in the bill being drafted and the legislature passed it. Instead of being named a member of the court, Colonel Troy was appointed its clerk.

WHEN Gov. B. M. Miller was slashing salaries right and left-

Continued on page 4

In House News

Special Donations

P.E.O. Philanthropic Educational Organization

New Members

Mr. Barry Crabb

Dr. Carol A. Doucet

Anthony and Mary Ann Gould

Will and Mary Nelms Parsons

Ms. Carrie Perkinson

Father Francis Sofie

Honors

Mr. James W. Fuller

Mr. Wm. R. Rusty Gregory

By Mr. William Thames

Rev. Gary Burton

Mr. James W. Fuller

By The Mary Ann Neeley Family

Appreciation

It is with great appreciation that we extend our thanks to two who assisted in our achieving such a successful solution to the Society's need for the ideal new Executive Director.

Barry Crabb
Lanny Crane

Memorials

Mr. Frank R. Broadway, Jr.

By Mr. Stevenson T. Walker

Mr. E. Sam Butner

By Mr. James W. Fuller

Mr. Rusty Gregory

Mr. Dick Hodges

Mr. John Scott

Dr. Hal Weatherby

Judge John L. Capell

By Justice & Mrs. James A. Main, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Nicrosi

Mrs. Gypsie P. Capell

By Justice & Mrs. James A. Main, Sr.

Mr. William A. Hughes

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By Mrs. May L. Donnell

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Mr. James W. Fuller

Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Giles

Mrs. William B. Goodwyn, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Wm. R. Rusty Gregory

Mr. Dick Hodges

Mrs. Wallace Tidmore

Mr. Milton Howard/Smith

In Memory of Samuel Martin Engelhardt III

An oak bookcase with leaded glass panel in the door that belonged to Gov. Benjamin Meek Miller 1864 - 1944 was donated by Mrs. Samuel M. Engelhardt, Jr. and her children, Sara Elizabeth Gorman Engelhardt and Samuel Martin Engelhardt IV, in memory of her husband and their father, Dr. Samuel M. Engelhardt III.

Gov. Miller was from Wilcox Co., Alabama, was an attorney, represented Wilcox Co. in the Alabama Legislature, served as Circuit Judge of the 4th Judicial Circuit, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama and finally as Governor of the State from 1931 to 1935.

Gov. Miller was decidedly financially conservative, ideal for governing a state during the depression. It is said that when President F. D. Roosevelt visited Montgomery in the 30's and was to be entertained at the Governor's mansion, the grand meal was directed by Miss Lela Dowe of the Blue Moon Inn. The ladies assisting in the preparations found there was only one light bulb in the mansion that was moved from room to room as needed. Purchases were made for a sufficient number so that the President could see his meal.

As most of you know Dr. Sam's brother is Bonner Engelhardt and he told me of another story concerning the Governor who was Bonner's great great uncle. When Gov. Miller came to Montgomery to serve as our chief state official he brought his cow along to provide daily milk while grazing on the mansion lawn thus avoiding the need of a milk man.

The Governor was the ninth of ten children of the Rev. John Miller, pastor of the Oakhill (Associate) Reformed Presbyterian Church for 31 years.

Dr. Sam died in Montgomery on Sept. 4, 2017 and Liz moved to Charleston to be close to her children. Both delightful people, Liz from England and Sam from Shorter are missed by all of their friends.

The Society is truly pleased to receive this gift of such a fine heritage representing as fine a man as Sam.

Editor



The Gov. Miller bookcase was passed down through the family to the Engelhardts.

NEW BOOKS Mr. Nimrod Frazer

It is a back-breaking story of three U. S. Army divisions tasked with capturing with the Cote de Chattillon. During the meeuse-Argonne offensive in autumn 1918, there was a struggle to gain ground on the heavily-contested hill until Douglas McArthur's returned 84th Brigade of Alabama cotton pickers and Ohio corn growers forced their way past the Germans. The Cote de Chattillon was captured on Oct. 16 with the armistice coming on Nov. 11.

Dr. James P. Pate,

Edited, Annotated, and Introduced
The Annotated Pickett's History of Alabama And Incidentally of Georgia and Mississippi, from the Earliest Period, a work in the making for the past 20 years. This is an outstanding presentation and will be sought after by all those interested in the history of our state.

These books are available at Stonehenge.

They Shook The Hand of Jefferson Davis

By C. M. Stanley
Editor, the *Alabama Journal*
April 25, 1948

AT LEAST two Alabama men are still living who as boys shook hands with Jefferson Davis in Montgomery when the aged hero laid the cornerstone of the Confederate monument on the Capitol grounds April 26, 1886. That event occurred sixty-two years ago tomorrow.

The day has been pronounced the most momentous in Montgomery history, not only because of the 30,000 visitors who crowded into town, but because of the emotional and sentimental ties that bound the Confederate leader to Montgomery and to the people of this historic city.

Mr. Davis had taken the oath as president of the Confederate States of America on the portico of the Alabama capitol on Feb. 18, 1861. Now he was coming back to Montgomery exactly 25 years later on a mission of love, and in tribute to Confederate soldiers. His touching speech dedicating the monument was made from the same spot upon which he took the oath of office a quarter century before.

When Mr. Davis came to Montgomery to lay this cornerstone he was 78 years old. He was delicate and frail and all efforts were made to conserve his strength. His personal greetings and handshakes, so far as possible, were for veterans - the men who had fought the battles.

BUT two boys - both still living - because of singular circumstances, were greeted by the slender Southern hero and had the honor of shaking his hand. One of these boys was Judge Romaine Boyd now living in Birmingham, who was twelve years old at the time of the Davis visit, and was enabled to greet Mr. Davis through the help of a soldier uncle.

The other is Warren S. Reese, Sr., son of the mayor of Montgomery at the time of the visit, and, on the eventful day, an adolescent under twelve years of age. As the mayor's son he got into places other boys couldn't go, and Winnie Davis, the Confederate president's daughter then 22 years old, was a guest of Mayor Reese's daughter at the Reese home, 420 Alabama Street, during the visit.

JUDGE BOYD has recently written a letter in which he recalls vividly some of the events of that memorable day in Montgomery. Montgomery has plenty of citizens, both men and women, over 62 years of age who can remember the day and many of its events, but who did not have opportunity because of the frail health of the visitor actually to shake his hand and receive a personal greeting. Here is the way Judge Boyd describes the greatest day in his life:

"Birmingham, April 15, 1948.

"Dear Mr. Stanley:

"Mayor Warren Reese has, I believe, been gone these many years, but he had a son, I never met, who was about eight (8) years old in 1886, and who met Jefferson Davis [on] the afternoon before the laying of the cornerstone of the Confederate monument on Capitol Hill.

"Mr. Davis was old and very feeble and had to cut short a reception for the public and return to his rooms on the second floor of the old Exchange Hotel. Mayor Reese with his wife and small son pushed through the dense crowds in the lobby and corridor of the hotel, and when he and his wife and son entered Mr. Davis's room, a small boy of twelve years in short pants was pushed by the crowd (or so he claimed) into Mr. Davis's room as the door was closing.

"Mr. Reese greeted Mr. Davis, and his wife and small son glanced inquiringly at the small stranger, who remained silent. After a few moments conversation Mayor Reese and his wife and son left the room with the small stranger following without having spoken a word or taken advantage of an opportunity thousands would have gladly welcomed.

"IF MAYOR REESE'S son is now living he will remember the occasion I have described, though probably not the presence, after so many years, of the small stranger, who was so bitterly

Continued on page 4

**Bull Fights And Hypnotism
continued from page 2**

during the hard times of the 30's, some legal lights were in Judge James Rice's office. They were indignant about proposed cuts for the judiciary.

"Well, everybody has to help meet these times in the right spirit," said Judge Rice in his best judicial manner. "Ten per cent cut is not going to kill us."

"Ten per cent!" exclaimed one of them. "What are you talking about? He proposes to cut us 40 per cent."

"Good Lord, it'll ruin us all," exploded Judge Rice.

BILL GOLD, columnist for *The Washington Post* has written the following yarn about a well known Alabama man:

"Members of the Interstate Commerce Commission accumulate a rich store of railroad yarns in the course of their years of service. My recent item about the tooting of locomotive whistles recalled this one to the mind of Commissioner J. Haden Alldredge:

"Failure to blow a whistle may sometimes result in damage suits. I am reminded of one involving the death of a man at a railroad crossing. The lawyer for the plaintiff who was asking for damages from the railroad eloquently summed up his case for the jury in these words:

"If the engineer of the train had blew the whistle when it should have been blowed, and if the fireman had ringed the bell when it should have been rang, the dead man could have heard what he didn't see and there would have been no problem now for you and me."

THE late Sen. J. Thomas Heflin was one of Alabama's most verbose and grandiose spokesmen. Many years ago when he was a congressman he was chairman of the Indian Affairs committee. It was not regarded as a very important committee, but its members sometimes made western trips to see the

Indians. On one such trip made in a special car with private secretaries and important guests interested in Indian affairs, Mr. Heflin was called upon to address a big tribal gathering, and did it in the usual flowery language. When he finished, the chief of the tribe was called upon to respond. The big chief said only:

"Ugh! Big thunder, big lightning, big wind - no rain."

END

**Jefferson Davis
continued from page 3**

disappointed in himself that he spent a sleepless night lamenting his failure, and fearing that he would always be haunted by the ghost of a lost opportunity.

"But, so great was the disappointment of the old veterans in not getting to meet their aged war president that the next afternoon, immediately before Mr. Davis, standing on the same spot where he had stood when he delivered his inaugural address 25 years before, made a short speech to the wildly cheering multitude, it was announced that, immediately following the laying of the cornerstone, Mr. Davis would meet with the old veterans in the then Northeast corner room of the Capitol.

"And when the cornerstone ceremonies were concluded, the veterans formed in a long column of twos and proceeded to file into the Capitol; and I was surprised to see my old uncle, Britton C. Tarver, a captain in General Clanton's First Alabama Cavalry, C. S. A., in charge.

"STILL smarting from the failure of my day before, I

quickly fell in line behind my uncle and followed him until the outside door of the Capitol was reached; and there stood, with fixed bayonets, a Montgomery Grey on one side of the door and a Montgomery Blue on the other side.

"The door was only wide enough to admit two veterans at a time, and when my uncle passed through, it left me temporarily stranded; and when I attempted to enter, the soldier on my side of the door interposed his bayonet and motioned me back with the rather obvious remark that I was 'not a veteran.'

"By then I was desperate and I replied that I was the 'son of a Confederate veteran.' Whereupon the Montgomery Grey, God bless him, on the other side of the door, seeing and hearing the incident, said: 'Let's let him in': and that was how I met Jefferson Davis, a colonel of a Mississippi regiment in the Mexican war, a Secretary of War in the cabinet of President Pierce, a United States senator from Mississippi and the only President of the Southern Confederacy - and who had been shamefully manacled in Fortress Monroe after Appomattox. All of which might make a good talk to a den of Boy Scouts.

"MR. DAVIS, old and feeble, was seated two or three feet northeast of the center of the room, with prominent Confederate leaders beside and to the rear of him, including, as I now recall, General John B. Gordon, who had a bullet wound on one side of his cheek. I have often thought that it might be of some interest to future generations, if the spot where Mr. Davis sat at his last reception of Confederate veterans in Alabama and on the occasion of the laying of the

ter.

There were other minor problems that he was of great assistance in solving. One was an arbor to have arches covered with Confederate Jasmine. Sam designed a series of steel arches to cover a quiet spot with benches serving as a gateway to Mrs. Pickett's garden.

He further designed a 10 x 10 foot building to be placed on the corner of Monroe and North Perry Streets to be built of the brick and cast iron window treatments from the old Montgomery Theater (Webbers) that was later demolished.

A sketch by Sam Butner using the brick and cast iron window frame and the style to preserve the elements of the old Montgomery Theater designed to be erected on the site of the theater. Unfortunately the idea created no interest.



Sam made great contributions to the benefit of the finished product of the Figh-Pickett and was always ready for any new stumbling block and its solution during the restoration for which we are most appreciative.

Editor



Dallas Hanbury, Archivist

DALLAS HANBURY
TO SPEAK TO THE
MEMBERSHIP OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ON NOVEMBER 4TH
AT 2:30 AT
THE FIGH-PICKETT.

**Montgomery County
Historical Society**

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**County Archivist Dallas Hanbury
Will Speak at the MCHS Membership Meeting
November 4, 2018
2:30
"The Answer to Your Montgomery Family Archives"**

Mary Ann and Sam

A FEW WORDS ABOUT MARY ANN NEELEY AND SAM BUTNER ARE CERTAINLY APPROPRIATE IN THIS PUBLICATION TO SHARE HOW VERY MUCH THEY BOTH HAVE MEANT TO THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

MARY ANN OGLESBY NEELEY

In the early days of the founding of the Society it was Mary Ann who gave us her blessings and guidance. She saw no conflict of interest with her love, Landmarks Foundation.

Through all these years it was Mary Ann who gave us her support and council and would frequently share archival material that she had collected on various subjects. Without her interest, our task would have been much more difficult as she was always available to give us her guidance.

There was another connection between Mary Ann and myself, a kinfolk bond. As a child my family would frequently drive to Prattville on Sunday afternoons to visit my father's first cousin and Mary Ann's grandmother, Nettie Oglesby. Nettie was very much like her grandchild and had a great love for the past. She created history when she invited an elderly friend who could no longer live alone to come and stay with them. Soon there was another and another in the same situation. I suppose that before long the supply of bedrooms ran out so Nettie built a one-room cabin in the front yard and then one more. As I recall that became the first nursing home in Alabama. Nettie loved history and I have no doubt that Mary Ann absolutely inherited her natural love of the past from her grandmother, and passed it on to her grandchildren. I have no doubt that Mary Ann absolutely inherited her natural love of history.

Just two weeks before she left us, I visited Mary Ann and as you might well imagine what the discussion drifted to. I believe she had answered my question before but I failed to jot it down, so I asked again when the city fathers decided to honor our city founder, Andrew Dexter by changing the name of our "main

street" Market Street to Dexter Ave. She quickly said with no delay to ponder, 1884. I have it written down now but have many other questions that her computer-like mind could easily answer. The vacancy she left cannot be filled, but it is not surprising that history is still finding a comfortable spot for her younger generation.

EARNEST SAM BUTNER

It was in the early fifties, I suppose, that I first met Sam. He had graduated from Auburn with a degree in architecture with Frank Rosa and Buddy Tiller, another architect who graduated from Georgia Tech. Those three started to work with Pearson, Tittle and Narrows, one of Montgomery's outstanding firms. After a time, Sam won the hand of one of the "loveliest of the plain" who was also declared one year, Miss Auburn, Louise Sanford.

In 1996 the Society acquired the Figh-Pickett, Barnes School House and after much-to-do proceeded to move the house to 512 So. Court from its old location at 10 Clayton St. Its move was necessitated to make way for the expansion of the Federal Courthouse.

When the house arrived on the new location but still on all of the moving supports, we realized that the house was entirely too high on the lot. Not only would you have to look up to the front door at an unreasonable height but the front steps would have extended across the sidewalk and almost into the street. My efforts in trying to get it lowered were not successful in dealing with the government because it was not easy to lower a house that weighed almost 600 tons. With Sam's support in negotiating with those in control of the move it was finally agreed upon to lowering the house almost 21 inches. Most people never knew of this frightening threat so with Sam's input we avoided a disas-

cornerstone of the beautiful monument, was marked, and, being, undoubtedly, the only living 'veteran' who could definitely locate the exact spot, I wrote Mr. John Brandon accordingly, he being then the occupant of this particular room. But Mr. Brandon had just been elected for the fifth or sixth time as one of the ambulatory state officials who swap offices every four years, and so my timing was bad. But I still think the U. D. C., might want to mark this spot with a painted star or something.

"With cordial good wishes.

Sincerely,

"ROMAINE BOYD."
2124 Highland Ave.

N.B. - In last Sunday's article referring to the death of the Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Beecher, the impression was given that his son Mr. Leonard T. Beecher is not living. Mr. Beecher and his wife Isabel Garghill Beecher are both living and are active in the civic and cultural life of Birmingham.

END



Office and hospital at 33 So. Perry St. once the office of Dr. J. Marion Sims and later that of Dr. L. L. Hill, famous for performing the first open heart surgery.

Recently there has been a number of efforts by some writers to change history and by so doing have created an atmosphere of need to destroy memorials and recognition of those prominent and long past heroes to suit some malcontente today.

Pioneer Doctor from Montgomery Dr. J. Marion Sims

By Tom Sellers, Atlanta
The Phoenix Citizen, Phoenix City, Ala

"A PHYSICIAN had little guidance beyond his own common sense; the patient fell prey to his physician's adopted theory or the seductive medical fad of the moment," wrote a medical historian, the late Dr. Felix Marti-Ibanez in his book "The Patient's Progress" (MD Publications, New York.)

It was a time of romanticism, not only in art, literature, and music, but in medicine as well. The most fashionable and romantic disease of that period was tuberculosis. Chopin died of it in Paris, Elizabeth Barrett Browning succumbed in Florence, and Keats was stricken down en route to Pisa.

So many of the romantic writers were tuberculosis [tubercular] that the disease became identified with literary genius. Byron longed to contract it; Dumas (father) wrote that it was good form to spit blood after strong emotion and to die before the age of 30; and Dumas (son) depicted the disease with unerring accuracy in his "La Dame aux Camellias."

A PHYSICIAN who became world-famous in the 19th century was Dr. J. Marion Sims who did much of his early work in Montgomery, Ala. Dr. Sims was described in a recent paper as "a woman's surgeon and more." The paper was given before the American College of Surgeons by Dr. Robert Sparkman, chief of surgery at Baylor University Medical [Medical] Center in Dallas.

Sims ventured into woman's surgery, an undeveloped field, in the late 1840s and operated on three young slave women, Anarcha, Lucy and Betsy, in a hospital he built in the back of his office in Montgomery. Each of the girls was totally incapacitated by vaginal fistulas which were complications of childbirth. Other women suffering from the same condition were also admitted, and soon it was necessary for Sims to enlarge his hospital. All the patients were kept there at his own expense.

A GOOD WAY to get rid of your nostalgia for the "good old days" is to study the medical practice our grand-fathers endured. We still think of the kindly old physicians in a Norman Rockwell-type painting, sitting at a child's bedside waiting for a fever to break, and we wonder why today's doctors don't give us that kind of treatment.

But actually the old doctors, in most cases, had nothing to give their patients except sympathy, while today, it's possible for a physician to administer a shot of penicillin and then go about his business with a fair amount of certainty the child's infection will be cured.

Surgical practice in the 19th century, and even well into the 20th, was often a horror story. I have a book published in 1856 entitled "The Principles and Practice of Modern Surgery" by Robert Druitt, fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons (the British, for some reason, call their surgeons "mister"), which demonstrates just how primitive medicine was in that era. (The book was given to me by my sister, Mrs. Hugh Byrd, of McCulloh in Lee County, after a house cleaning.)

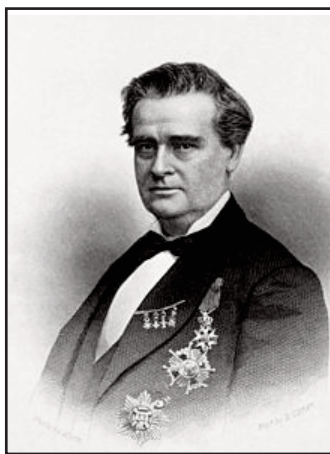
IT IS STRONG on massive bleeding by leaches and heroic medications such as mercury, antimony, opium, laudanum, and the belladonna drugs. The recommended treatment for a mad-dog's bite was to cut out the bitten part, encourage bleeding, and cauterize the raw surface with nitric acid.

And for tetanus, according to a handwritten note inserted in the book, one should "blow tobacco smoke into the wound - two or three pipes-full, it is said will be sufficient to set the wound discharging."

The early 19th century saw medicine divided into a bewildering choice of schools such as animists, vitalists, neuralists, phlogisticians and antiphlogisticians, Brunonians and anti-Brunonians.

Sick people, baffled by the conflicts in medical circles, flocked to practitioners of unorthodox therapies propounded by laymen, like the New Thought movement of Phineas Quimby, based on cure by faith; and osteopathy, whose founder A. T. Still held that drugs were futile, and all ills could be cured by mechanical adjustments of the skeleton.

Osteopathy, in fact, still thrives, as does chiropractic and naturopathy among other systems.



Dr. J. Marion Sims

SINCE no one had done these operations previously, Sims had to develop his own instruments and techniques. At first he used silk sutures when he closed after surgery but the wounds became inflamed and broke open again. Finally he had a local jeweler make him some fine wire of pure silver.

Using this as sutures instead of silk, he operated on Anarcha for the 30th time, and within a week the fistula had healed. Soon the other patients were cured by the same procedure.

"To appreciate fully the fortitude and heroism of Anarcha, Lucy, Betsy and their companions," said Dr. Sparkman, "it should be noted that they endured all these operations without anesthesia of any sort."

Sims moved to New York City and established the first Woman's Hospital in 1855. During the Civil War, because he was a Southerner, he went to Europe and had spectacular success there; among his patients were a duchess, a countess, and the Empress Eugenia of France, wife of Napoleon III.

After the war Sims returned to New York and when he died at the age of 70 he was eulogized by the British Medical Journal as a doctor who would be called "blessed" by succeeding thousands of generations of women.

Scientists and physicians such as J. Marion Sims, along with Henner, Lister, Pasteur and others, helped pave the way for the enlightened medicine of today.

End



One of Several Commerce St. Stores During the 1897 Yellow Fever Epidemic

would come to us punched full of holes. For several days I would, after handling the mail, wash my hands in Darby's fluid, and I would take some medicine recommended to me by my good friend, Jerry Harrington, of Fleming's, as what they used in Mobile. But after a few days I forgot to wash my hands or take the medicine. One afternoon I was getting a shave in Harrison's Barber Shop on Commerce Street, and a yellow fever victim was brought down the stairs just next to the shop. There was shot-gun quarantine, no trains from the South were allowed to stop, but went through with doors locked and windows down. Ferries and roads were guarded. The Spanish-American War made 1898 a bad year. It witnessed to bankruptcy of the Elyton Land Company, the founders of Birmingham. The company's one hundred dollar shares had sold in Montgomery as high as four thousand dollars. Eighteen ninety-nine was the year of [the] Boer War, there was panic in London and the bottom dropped out of stocks in this country. Nineteen hundred, 1901 and 1903 were years of strain and struggle, as credit was very restricted. Nineteen seven saw the Bankers' panic, short in duration but very severe amongst financial institu-

tions. Whilst the panic was on, the Steel Trust got the Tennessee Iron and Coal Company of Birmingham. [I believe it was Tennessee Coal and Iron Co.] It was another season of clearing-house certificates. In 1913 came the boll-weevil and the practical abandonment of the prairie farms of the Black Belt. In the two

years following, submarines and blockades took from cotton what the boll-weevil [sic] might have left. In the last years of the Great War, cotton had its chance and soared to 45 cents. Cotton lands followed cotton to those dizzy heights only to toboggan with cotton to the depths of 1920-21 deflation and depression, as severe in many cases as the present but not so widespread.

I have made no effort to refer to all the panics that have occurred in my lifetime but only to those of which I have had some personal knowledge. But it seems to me the story has been doleful enough to show that the lean years have outnumbered the years of plenty. If Montgomery could recover from the prostration of the Civil War, and in spite of all these panics, epidemics and dreadful wastes of capital, could grow as she has done in population, in resources, to become a city of progress and development, a city beautiful and delightful, why should we not look forward hopefully to overcoming the present hardships and difficulties. Old Bill and old Beck have pulled us out before, let us hope they will do it soon again.

J. K.

The Annual Spring Bar-B-Que Will Be On Thursday, May 2, 2019 at a Very Historical Location

PANICS OF OTHER DAYS

The Montgomery Advertiser
Date unknown, 1932.

Editor, *The Advertiser*:

My first recollection of cotton is of the cotton worm or caterpillar. One evening in my earliest childhood my father took me for a ride through what was then known and is still known as the Ashley plantation on the Selma road. Pointing to a cotton field my father said to me, "do you smell the worms?" I think I answered "yes", though I do not remember that I did smell them.



The notorious
Boll Weevil

But I do remember as if it were yesterday, the naked stalks, stripped of every vestige of green. Those years must have been like the recent boll-weevil years until Paris Green and other poisons put the pests to flight. Eighteen seventy-three was the year of the hard money panic - the Grant-Ward failure. I was too young to know anything about that or the yellow fever epidemic that scourged Montgomery that same year, though I do remember that my father was sick with the fever, supposed to have caught it from a neighbor whom he had nursed, as they did that in those days.

Nor do I remember much

about the cholera epidemic which a few years later almost swept Birmingham off the map. In the Fall of 1880 I went by way of Cincinnati to school in Maryland, and I recall vividly the panic-stricken crowds in the station at Decatur fleeing from yellow fever in Memphis. The platforms were filled with people and piles of bedding and baggage of every description. In the eighties I was away at school and college and don't remember anything about panics in that period, but it is very likely that decade also had its share. I went to work in a bank in 1889 and they were still talking about the failure a few years before the great international banking house of Baring Brothers, of London. It seems the financial world had not recovered from its effects. In 1893 the Cleveland panic broke upon the country with sudden and terrific fury. Banks went down like leaves before the wind. *The New York World*, an anti-Cleveland Democratic paper, carried screeching headlines, "Another Bank Gone Democratic."

Montgomery in those days was surrounded by large and prosperous lumber plants, of which I recall the Flowers and Peagler mill near Greenville, the Milner, Caldwell and Flowers mill near Bolling, the Marbury Lumber Company at Marbury, the Tallapoosa Lumber Company at Milstead.

As construction stops at the first approach of panic this wonderful timber industry was temporarily paralyzed. Currency payments were suspended, and

clearing-house certificates were the medium of exchange. Many distressing and many amusing incidents of the inconvenience of banking in those days could be told. In 1894-5 some cotton sold for less than 5 cents. I recall that a prominent planter of Lowndes County said the damyankees could make cotton cheaper than he could, and he refused to plant a seed that season, but bought several hundred bales of futures and later sold them at a satisfactory profit. In 1896 the shadow of Bryan and free silver darkened the financial horizon. Bryan spoke to an enormous crowd in the People's Cotton Warehouse on Commerce Street, where now stands the stores of the Loeb Hardware Company and Pizitz. If memory doesn't fail me, McD.

Cain, the present superintendent of the City Water Works, was manager of the warehouse company. I went to the Palmer and Buckner convention in Louisville as an onlooker, and I have never seen an assemblage to equal that one unless it were the gathering of Louisiana sugar planters in New Orleans the following year, to acclaim McKinley, the apostle of Protection. On that trip to Louisville I borrowed twenty thousand dollars from personal friends and expressed the amount in silver dollars to Montgomery to help the bank I was working for. The Summer of 1897 was one of yellow fever panic in Montgomery and other cities in the Gulf States. Yellow flags flew everywhere. The people left in droves. Most of the stores on Commerce Street, Court Square, Dexter Avenue, and other streets were closed with signs on the front doors, "Closed till frost."

Business was dead. I did not leave and as I had to handle some of the mail in our office I offered to handle it all. Most of our mail was concentrated in Cincinnati and fumigated there. It

Horace King

1807-1885

Architect, Contractor, Bridge Builder, Curving-self-supporting Stair Builder and Office holder



We appreciate the furnishing of this article by Dr. Richard Bailey.

As an architect and engineer, King built bridges to connect cities; and as a social engineer, he established social bridges to connect the races. Through his work in Alabama and Georgia, King saw his name become synonymous with bridge and home construction. That association continued for more than fifty years.

King was born in Cheraw District of South Carolina to a dying Edmund King, a slave and a Catawba Indian. His mother was also a slave and a Catawba Indian, who along with Horace, became the property of John Godwin in 1830 at the closing of the estate of King's owner. Godwin, the son of a prosperous South Carolina business person, specialized in constructing covered bridges. Mutual respect was central to the relationship between King and Godwin, who after purchasing King sent him to Ohio to learn math to enhance his bridge building enterprise. In 1832 Godwin answered an advertisement from the board of Aldermen of Columbus, Georgia, for bids to build a four-hundred foot bridge to connect Columbus, Georgia, and Girard (later Phenix City), Alabama. Godwin received the contract for his bid of \$14,000, and he brought along a well educated Horace King as his foreman. Godwin entered into contract with city officials in March 1832; they worked on this bridge, the Dillingham Street bridge, from May 1832 to early 1833. Approaching the bridge from Columbus, a marker identifies King's contribution. Another marker, on Broad Street in Phenix City, outlines the efforts of King in the area.

As they settled near Fort Ingersoll beginning in 1832, Godwin and King began to call Alabama home. A flood destroyed a bridge they built there on 11 March 1841; it floated eight miles to Woolfolk's plantation. Godwin and King built a new structure at a cost of \$15,100. It opened as toll bridge on 21 July 1841, with repeat users paying \$10 for one year's use. This second bridge was destroyed by a contingent of Wilson's Raiders on 16 April 1865. King contracted with J. D. Gray to rebuild this bridge, which, like the

other bridges constructed by King save one, was of the Town Lattice Truss or Town Truss variety, names for Ithiel Town, a Connecticut architect, and patented by him in 1820, the bridge consisted of "a criss-cross lattice of slanting upright planks held together between horizontal timbers or cords spliced together to form a girder or truss." It was light and cheap and could be constructed in a few days. Town did not construct bridges himself but collected a royalty of one dollar for the use of his design. His agents charged a two-dollar fee to those who were found using this design without permission. Bridges built by Godwin and King helped to connect Georgia with the expanding cities to the west.

King also built the first bridge to span the Chattahoochee River at West Point in 1838. The bridge spanned 652 feet. He rebuilt this bridge in 1866 after Col. Oscar LaGrange of Wilson's Raiders burned it during the Civil War in 1865. In 1840 King restored the burned Muscogee County Courthouse in Columbus, Georgia. A prolific bridge builder, King built all of the bridges spanning the Chattahoochee River as far south as Eufaula (Barbour County) and as far north as Lafayette (Chambers County) between 1832 and the beginning of the Civil War. He constructed all of the homes in the Girard section of Phenix City and in Columbus, Georgia, between 1832 and 1848. His bridges could be found at Irwinton, later known as Eufaula, Fort Gaines, and other places. King built the first bridge to span the Flint River in Albany, Georgia, in 1858. When Alabama's new capitol burned in December 1849, King rebuilt the stairwell. Robert Jemison, a state representative, Tuscaloosa planter, and the owner of "interrelated construction and transportation businesses" had subcontracted him. King also constructed roads in western Georgia and eastern Alabama up to the Civil War.

As King's fortunes continued to rise, those of Godwin began to decline. Approaching 1846, Godwin's financial fortunes began to fall, and he was confronted with the choice of either selling King, a valuable slave

and friend (King and Godwin were nearly the same age), or manumitting [to free from slavery] him. Godwin conferred with some friends and then asked Jemison to petition the legislature for King's manumission. Jemison succeeded and Godwin was able to release King in an unusual act of kindness. Act No. 292 of the General Assembly of Alabama freed King.

It read:

An act to emancipate Horace King. That the said Horace King is hereby declared to be free and his emancipation is hereby confirmed, and the said Horace King shall not be required to leave the State of Alabama upon condition that the said John Godwin, Ann H. Godwin, and William H. Wright, or any one of them, shall enter into bond with approved security to the Judge of the County Court of Russell, in the sum of one thousand dollars, conditioned that the said Horace King shall never become a charge to the State or any county or town therein.

Approved 2nd February 1846.

The legislature forced King to pay the security bond, nevertheless. Indeed, that King remained in Alabama proved advantageous for King, Godwin, and the state. As a free man, King enjoyed freedom of movement. He used his freedom to build more bridges and houses. In the process he became a wealthy man. In 1850 he owned \$300 in real property. King also owned slaves. Most of all, however, he used his time to build a reputation as an outstanding citizen. As for Godwin - who died on 26 February 1859, thirteen years after manumitting King - his fortunes had continued to decline with the decline of the Girard-Mobile Railroad. As a show of respect, King honored Godwin's burial expenses and later cared for the widow and children, giving the widow his primary residence and moving into one of his smaller houses. As a sign of their friendship, King constructed a monument in honor of Godwin at a cost of \$600. The conspicuous stature still stands in the Godwin family cemetery on Crawford Road in Phenix City. It reads:

John Godwin

born October 17, 1798
died February 26, 1859

This stone was placed by Horace King in last remembrance of the love and gratitude he felt for his lost friend and former master.

In many ways, Robert Jemison took the place of Godwin in helping King to secure business. A member of the House Ways and Means Committee, Jemison landed a contract for King to rebuild the staircase in the burned state capital in Montgomery. King placed an unsuccessful bid on Madison Hall on the campus of The University of Alabama. He later helped Jemison with one of the largest undertakings in antebellum Alabama, the construction of the Alabama Insane Hospital, completed in 1860, on the eve of the Civil War. In 1834, a year earlier, Godwin and king had constructed a bridge spanning the Black Warrior River to connect Tuscaloosa and Northport. They rebuilt this bridge in 1852. It had been destroyed by a tornado in 1842. King rebuilt it again in 1872. This time it had been destroyed in 1865 by Union forces. King's respect for Jemison sprang from mutual respect. In 1854 Jemison said of King: "He has worked for me while bond & free. I have never dealt or settled with a more correct and honest man of any colour."

When the Civil War began, King financially supported Godwin's son who was an "artillery captain in the Confederate army." Also during the war, King himself built bridges for the Confederacy. In a telegram to Columbus Major John Bozeman, John Gill Shorter, one of Alabama's wartime governors (1861-63), asked, "Is Horace engaged, if so how long, if not tell him I want him on this river." Bozeman replied in his telegram, "Horace is driving [a] pile slow down on the Apalaccola [sic] river ... will be back in a few days." As part of the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee river system, the Apalachicola River was of vast importance to the commerce of the area before the war, and during the war, it served as an important line of communication for the Confederacy. King also built a rolling mill in 1863 at the request of James H. Warner, chief engineer for the Confederate navy. He supplied "logs, treenails (wooden pegs), large oak beams, oak knees, and 15,630 board feet of lumber for the construction of the confederate gunboat, Jackson."

When the war ended, King continued to build bridges. He built the upper wagon or factory bridge at the present site of the 14th Street bridge in Columbus for \$15,000. King also built two railroad bridges for \$18,000 each. He built these bridges as a free man. Though warranted for five years, the bridges stood twice as long.

As a sign of the times, King began to participate in political affairs in Alabama. William Hugh Smithy, supervisor of voter registration and who, in 1868, became Alabama's first Republican governor, appointed King as a registrar in 1867 to enroll voters for Alabama's first postwar election; John Keffer, head of the Union League in Alabama, recommended King to Smith, calling him, "Horace King - Colored man, Bridge builder- lives near Columbus." When the Constitutional Convention of 1867 closed, the black and white citizens

Tablets continued from
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FIRST CABINET OF THE CSA

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Vice President

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TILLMAN FORD LEAK	ROBERT JAMES MCCREEY
SOLOMON MEERTIEF	PAUL SANGUINETTI
WILLIAM WESLEY POWERS	JOHN CAMPBELL
WILLIAM F. POWELL	FATHER ABRAM J. RYAN
HOLMAN FREEMAN	

Ex. Dir. Pat Clark
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In 2006, the Clarks made the decision to settle in Montgomery, where Pat got involved in Alabama state history, serving as Capitol Tour Guide and Coordinator for the Alabama Senate. In addition, family and friends helped Pat visit and learn about city, county and state historical sites, where she developed a true appreciation for Montgomery's varied and rich history including Civil War to Civil Rights and beyond. Having gotten deeply involved in Montgomery community activities, she is looking forward to joining in the Historical Society's on-going efforts to preserve and enhance Montgomery County's historical legacy.

Lanny Crane

End

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 MAJ. JOHN GIDEON HARRIS
 DR. WILLIAM WALLACE ANDERSON
 DR. WM. MONROE BRYANT
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 COL. WM. SABB GOODWYN
 CAPT. LEY LEGERE CROFT
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 JOHN GREGORY THOMAS
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 FRANCIS MARION SEARCY
 WILLIAM C. SMITH
 NICK M. BARNETT
 MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH WHEELER
 CAPT. JOHN L. COBBS
 LT. BENJIMAN F. PRINGLE
 REV. AUGUSTUS WOODFIN D. D.
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 JAMES JARVIS COOKE
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 JAMES HENRY JUDKINS
 CAPT. ELLIS PHELAN
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CAPT. JOE ALLEN
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 WILEY FOSHEE
 CHARLES A. ALLEN
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 WILLIAM W. WILKERSON
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 JESSE M. CARMICHAEL
 WILEY M. PENN
 JERE N. WILLIAMS
 SAMUEL RILEY KELLY
 GEORGE W. FULLER
 HENRY C. SMILIE
 JACOB LYMAN COOK
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 JONATHAN HARALSON
 MRS. SOPHIE GILMER BIBB
 CAPT. ALEX BOYD ANDREWS
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 SPENCER CRAIN MARKS
 LT. CHARLES POOLE
 LT. SAMUEL HOUSTON BROWN
 JOHN WRIGHT HICKS
 DR. JAMES YOUNG BOYD
 LT. LEWIS A. MORGAN

Horace King
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of Russell County drafted King to run for a seat in the legislature. On King's standing in the community, Rev. F. L. Cherry, a contemporary of King, wrote that "Horace King stood [as] a central figure before both races by whom great things were expected of him. And it must be acknowledged by all that he sustained himself in this hour of trial in a manner worthy of a wise and prudent man. He was conscientious in all he said and did, having at heart the good of the whole country. Extremists of both parties were greatly surprised and disappointed, but the political element, which was the final potent factor in successful reconstruction of the State of Alabama on a solid prosperity, now recognized his position and policy as the wisest one."

Editorial Comment

As most of those history-mindeds know, the state capitol building was constructed when Montgomery became the capital city in 1846 and the capitol building completed in 1847. Unfortunately the new structure burned in 1849 and it was our own, John P. Figh, contractor, who was hired to build a new capitol, completing it in 1851.

A few years earlier in 1845, Mr. Figh contracted to build a new structure for the Presbyterians on the first block of Adams Street. The new handsome brick building erected in 1845, made it currently the oldest church structure in Montgomery.

The first wood structure for worship was rolled to the back of the lot and for many years served as the Sunday School until it was demolished for a new addition after 1900.

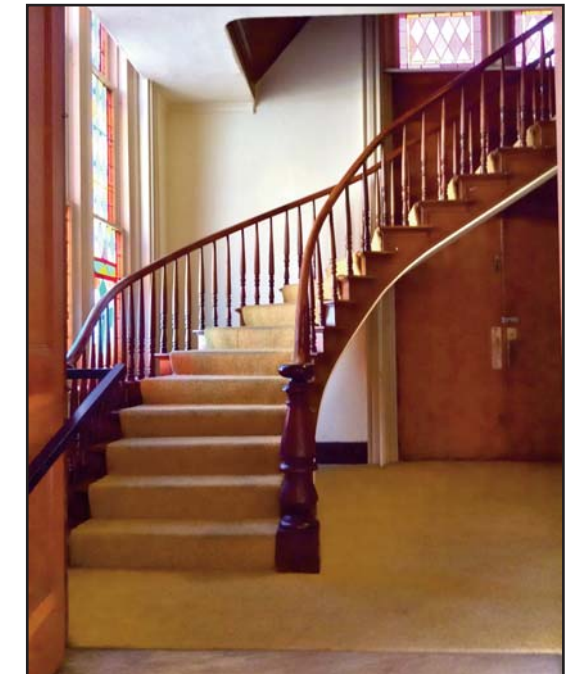
It is supposed, and with good reason, that Mr. Figh apparently hired Horace King by reputation to build the curving stair, not wall supported, to reach the sanctuary balcony. As the design is so similar to that in the capitol today, and in comparing the two stairs, one could almost see King's signature on the one at the church.

The construction of such a unique fixture is not one that can be done by even accomplished carpenters but only by a specialized craftsman familiar with the stress and load so that the stairs weight is evenly distributed throughout the structure.

Photographs of the two are shown on the right both by Contractor John P. Figh.



Self-supporting curving stair in Alabama State Capitol - built in 1851
 Photo furnished by Tommy Giles



Self-supporting curving stair in old First Presbyterian Church at 52 Adams Ave. in 1845

THOSE MARBLE TABLETS

IN MONTGOMERY'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

on High Street

By Gary Burton

The recent renovation of the downtown public library, the Juliette Hampton Morgan branch, [on High Street] was much needed and ushered in a new era of library services. Spatial changes created an openness throughout the complex, but especially on the second floor where three large marble tablets seemed to suddenly appear in full view on the south wall. In addition, two smaller panels accompanied them in 1959 when the building was new and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts occupied the second floor.

For many years the marble tablets have been difficult to see due to books and high shelving which obstructed their view. Today they are in plain sight. In 1988 the Museum moved to the Blount Cultural Park leaving both floors to the Montgomery City-County Public Library. Since its inception in 1930, the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, until 1959, had been housed in the abandoned Central High School, a one-time school for girls. [Also known as Lawrence St. School.]

The three tall tablets memorialize the names of Confederate ancestors who were engaged in the Civil War [as well as some citizens of note]. The marble memorials were used by the Museum as fundraisers for the Confederate Room [at the old school building]. The Museum already had a Pioneer Room. Consequently, for a gift of money (\$5.00) and/or significant memorabilia, families would have the names of their Confederate ancestors inscribed on the marble tablets. During 1938 *The Montgomery Advertiser* chronicled the tremendous public response to the fundraising effort. In the same year the Confederate Room was created and work on

the tablets began.

Two tablets filled up quickly because of the public response with money and artifacts. Response to the third tablet was more challenging. It is surprising to learn that the campaign which began in 1938 did not end until 1954. It may be that World War II brought the fund drive for the Confederate Room to a standstill. Mrs. Files Crenshaw, chairman of the Confederate Room committee, was 78 when she died in 1956, two years after the three tablets were completed and installed in the former Central High School. The 16-year appeal for memorabilia and money may have been difficult to re-start especially when many in the previous generation had died. The delay may have been in the production and/engraving of the marble. One can only wonder.

Five years later in 1959 all the marble panels were removed from the former Central High School, and installed in the new building with the public library occupying the first floor, having relocated from the Carnegie building which had been the library's home since 1905. Until 1988 the second floor was home to the Museum of Fine Arts where the panels can be clearly seen today.

This article first appeared in the journal of the Pintlala Historical Association and was written by Rev. Gary Burton, a member of the library board as well as a position on the Historical Society's board, and it is republished here with his permission with appreciation. A few years ago there was a suggestion to move the library to the building formerly occupied by the Pizitz department store at Court Square but the idea was quickly abandoned. With that thought, working efforts to see if the tablets might be moved satisfactorily resulted in the discovery that they were installed during the construction of the building and in a fashion that any attempt to move them would result in the tablets being destroyed. Then the whole idea proved to have been without merit.

We are including the names on the tablets on the next page that reflect those of old Montgomery families of years gone by, now extinct, as well as those whose families still have descendants here.

Editor

Names on the Public Library Marble Tablets

Memorials to Citizens of Montgomery or Confederate Veterans

CADER M. SMITH
E. M. WILLIAMS
JOSEPH CARR GIBSON
DR. R. FRASER MICHEL
CAPT. JOS WARREN HUDSON
HENRY BELFIELD DUGGER
CAPT. PIERRE D. COSTELLO
CAPT. RICHARD W. GOLDTHWAITE
CAPT. CHAS. SUMMERS VIRGIN
CAPT. WILLIAM KNOX
LT. JOHN WOODARD SIMMONS
LT. ADOLPHUS S. GERALD
JOSEPH ALLEN BOOTHE
COL. W. A. JOHNSON
LT. THOMAS J. BETTIS
JOSHUA O. KELLY
DAVID D. UPDEGRAFF
LEOPOLD SHULEIN
CAPT. CHAS. WORD HOOPER
WM. SUMMERFORD WEST
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Wm. HOUSTON DISMUKES
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