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Photocopy of one of the letters written by
Henry C. Lay to his wife from the Courthouse
prison.

Dear wife,

We have a dull time, but are
reasonably patient. I was pleased to see
man escape -

Col^l seton has been in & seemed much an-
noyed at our position - He is to be Provost
Marshal after today and will play the
Gentleman

Judge Scruggs has done
every thing he could for us, especially
with Gartin - the P. Marshall in counsel.

We have no chance of getting away
tonight, except Dr. Train who is released.
It is all an attempt to mortify &
humiliate us. Let us possess our souls
in patience.

Judge Lane sends me papers all the time
Love to all -

Yrs. affectionately

H. C. L.

AN EXCERPT FROM THE "CIVIL WAR ADVENTURES OF
BISHOP HENRY C. LAY"

By The Reverend Emmett Gribbon

[Editor's Note: Because of the tremendous influence which the Reverend Henry C. Lay had among the citizens of Huntsville during his eleven years as rector of the Church of the Nativity, his activities during the Civil War are of interest to those who are associated with the religious and cultural life of Huntsville today. The longer piece by the Reverend Gribbon covers a six year period and Bishop Lay's travels through many states. This excerpt covers only the brief span of time of Huntsville's first occupation.]

The holocausts of war have in every age uprooted and sent wandering non-combatant peoples. ...This is the story of Henry Champlin Lay, the Episcopal Bishop of Arkansas who for the years 1862 to 1866 was a...Displaced Person, and whose odyssey carried him through [14] States...twice into Federal prisons, twice across the battle lines under a flag of truce [and] in the field as a Confederate Chaplain.... In Philadelphia in the fall of 1865 he was instrumental in reuniting the Episcopal Church in the South with the Church in the North.

This narrative has been quarried from a fascinating mass of manuscripts and printed material listed in the Southern Historical Collection in the Library of the University of North Carolina as the "Henry C. Lay Papers."

Henry C. Lay was born in Virginia in 1823 and was educated at the University of Virginia...graduated with an M.A. degree at the age of 18.... At the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria he took both the first and second year courses during his first year

and entered the senior class his second year in residence...On the 10th of July in 1846 he was ordained Deacon by Bishop Meade and began his ministry at Lynnhaven parish, near Norfolk. The following May he married Elizabeth Withers Atkinson, who was also a native Virginian, and that summer accepted a call to be Rector of the Church of the Nativity in Huntsville, Alabama. Although the young couple's roots were deep in Virginia, they soon found Huntsville a real home and made many devoted friends there. Huntsville was to become a haven of refuge for Mrs. Lay and their children in time of need, and for many years they thought of it as "home" even when they lived elsewhere. Shortly after their arrival in Huntsville, Bishop Cobbs of Alabama ordained the young Rector to the Priesthood, and for eleven years he labored diligently in that vineyard.

In October 1859 the General Convention of the Episcopal Church met in Richmond, and Mr. Lay was one of the delegates from the Diocese of Alabama. ...Henry Lay was elected by the House of Bishops to be the Missionary Bishop of the Southwest, a missionary district which included the state of Arkansas and the indefinite limits of the Indian Territory to the West.

...By November 16, 1859 Bishop Lay was in Memphis headed west, but his wife, who was expecting a baby, and the three children were to stay in Huntsville until he could decide where he would settle in Arkansas and rent or buy a place to live. Arkansas had only a few Episcopal congregations and fewer clergy at this time.

...Travel in Arkansas proved to be slow, uncomfortable, and uncertain from the moment he crossed the Mississippi. ...We will not follow Bishop Lay's arduous journeys through his vast diocese except to note that he

decided to establish his residence at Fort Smith on the western border of Arkansas. ...The Bishop returned from his first trip in Arkansas and spent four weeks in Huntsville, fortunately being there when his wife gave birth to a son....

In the summer of 1860 having packed their belongings for the arduous journey, ... the Lays uprooted themselves from Huntsville and by rail, steamboat, and stage pushed through the wilderness of Zion to Fort Smith. Shortly before Christmas of that year they moved...to a house they bought in the village. Enough land went with the house so that they had room to keep pigs, chickens, and a cow and have a vegetable garden. Although unable to borrow the money needed to purchase this property because lenders were unwilling to lend amid the uncertainties of the times, a providential gift of \$500 from his cousins in Virginia enabled the Bishop to buy and move. A few weeks later the Southern States began to secede, and Southern authorities began to seize Federal forts and arsenals. Fort Smith was surrendered by its garrison without a fight on April 24th (1861). This happened while the Bishop was in the southern part of the state, and he hurried home to be sure his family was safe. Fort Smith was taken by Arkansas forces less than two weeks after Fort Sumter had fallen and the war had begun.

Two letters to his wife expressed the Bishop's sentiments of sorrow and foreboding. On April 19th. he wrote, "I am distressed as a man can be at the civil war now opening on us -- have advised the clergy to disuse the prayer for the President. I am now Southern, Secession and all that. But I could weep day and night for the misery before us and the folly that has brought us to it." The next day he wrote, "But my heart is so sad for the country. Dark days remain for us and our

children. There is little on earth to hope for now in our day. The issue is very clear--I go with my own people--and am ready, if it would do good to lay my life down in resisting Abraham Lincoln."

When the war developed its full fury, the people of Arkansas, as did people everywhere in the South, found the old patterns of life broken up. The Bishop travelled incessantly visiting his congregations, counselling his clergy, and raising money to keep the missionary work alive. In Virginia his two brothers and numerous other relatives of his and those of Mrs. Lay's entered the Confederate Army.

He himself travelled back to Virginia in the fall of 1861 carrying with him his eldest son, Henry Champlin Lay, Jr., then eleven years old. Henry was left at a small boarding school at Mt. Laurel so that he might receive a proper education. Back in Arkansas the Bishop spent the winter of 1861-1862 in more travelling through his Diocese, but the work was discouraging. Many congregations were having difficulty paying the clergymen's salaries. One clergyman was facing bitter antagonism because he happened to have been born a Yankee. Other clergy had left to be chaplains, or just left in discouragement. One of the Bishop's special projects had ended in failure. ...

As the war drew closer to Fort Smith, the Lays were bereaved by the death of their son, Thomas Atkinson, named for Mrs. Lay's uncle, the Bishop of North Carolina. In his journal Bishop Lay records in mid-February 1862, "At 4-1/2 p.m. fell on sleep our saintly child, Thomas Atkinson." But to bereavement was suddenly added new worries and fears. On February 18th the journal records, "Today we hear that the Federal Army is advancing. Gen. McCulloch declares that

he will make his stand at Boston Mountain some 30 miles hence. Expecting to remove my family I committed little Thomas to the earth in my garden--Present Mrs. Sandels, the grave-digger, my wife and two servants. I read the service."

They had difficulty getting away. The Bishop tried to rent a stage, but failed. He preached twice in Forth Smith first on "The Disciples in a Storm," and then on February 28th, the Fast Day appointed by President Davis, on the text "Thou didst't hide thy face from me." On March 2nd. he baptized the month old child of his two slaves, John and Clarissa, and finally on the 5th the whole family including the slaves left on the river steamer "Tahlequah." After a week on the Arkansas River, they reached Little Rock.

...The Bishop believed himself quite fortunate in selling his house back in Fort Smith for \$4,500 in Confederate bonds. Having sold the house, and since he had decided to move permanently to Little Rock eventually anyway, he sent for his furniture.

...On March 29th they left Little Rock on the steamer "Notrebe" and reached Memphis three days later. After a week of visiting and church services there, they left by train. As the journal records, "We left Memphis at 6-1/2 p.m. passing Corinth on the night of the second day's battle, and with some detention reached Huntsville at midday."

...It was Bishop Lay's plan to leave his family in Huntsville while he himself went to New Orleans to administer Confirmation and otherwise assist the Church in Louisiana. ...The uncertainties of the war situation in Mississippi and Louisiana changed Bishop Lay's plans, and he decided to wait in Huntsville for better prospects. He and his family stayed with their dearest friend, a

lady of some wealth, Mrs. Mary Rice. The children called her "Grandma," and she became the cause two years later of one of the Bishops' most unusual travelling adventures. Mrs. Rice was more than happy to fill her big empty house with the Lays. When her son John had died the previous fall, Mrs. Lay had written the Bishop, who was then in South Carolina, "I think with a sort of awe, of one poor human creatures' have (sic) such affliction. A husband and thirteen children & now to be alone in her house with not one left."

On the morning of April 11th Federal forces under the command of General Mitchell swooped into Huntsville and seized the Railroad. During the rest of the month no services were held in the churches as all citizens were restrained within the picket lines. On May 2nd twelve prominent men in Huntsville were arrested and "put into confinement under guard." One of these hostages was Bishop Lay who was locked up in the Probate Judge's office. Then followed two weeks of conferences, exchanged notes, consultations with each other, and interviews with the General. General Mitchell was determined to get his distinguished hostages to sign a statement which he drew up and which read in part, "We disapprove and abhor all unauthorized and illegal war; and we believe that citizens who fire upon railway trains, attack the guards of bridges, destroy the telegraph lines and fire from concealment upon pickets deserve and should receive the punishment of death."

The hostages were just as determined that since they themselves were innocent of such hostile acts, and since the General laid no charges at all against them, they would not sign but wrote in reply, "We respectfully disclaim the responsibility of condemning to the punishment of death any of our countrymen



Madison County Courthouse,
used as prison for prominent citizens
during occupation by Federal troops, 1862



Home of Mrs. Rice, now the residence
of Henry Lee Hilson, 311 Lincoln Street

for acts, the method, motives and circumstances of which are utterly unknown to us." This statement was signed by the eleven other hostages and below their signature was added, "I subscribe to the above with the explanation that I am a citizen of Arkansas, accidentally in Huntsville. Henry C. Lay."

Having reached this impasse, General Mitchell let his prisoners have visitors, and food was sent to them by their families, but the harassment of enforced restraint continued. In one of eleven notes to his wife which Mrs. Lay kept, the Bishop wrote, "We have no chance of getting away tonight, except Dr. Fearn who is released. It is all an attempt to mortify and humiliate us. Let us possess our souls with patience." In another, "We agree to keep our counsel for the present. Your chief anxiety must be that we may behave ourselves like men and Christians. There will be a trial of moral power. We must trust in God & keep good cheer." After an interview which the twelve had with General Mitchell, Bishop Lay wrote, "He had no charges against us, he said, but arrested us to show that he would arrest anybody. He sent for us to make us use our influence to promote amicable relations between his army and our people. He proposed conditions of release to us in writing. These were considered by the whole 12, and we declined subscription. We must take the consequences. I know not what they will be. I am very quiet & easy in mind. The way of duty is very plain--and to do nothing is easy."

For a while visitors were allowed the hostages, but in two notes the Bishop wrote, "I do not think it would be well for you to come here, much as I would like to see you." And, "I don't like to see ladies come. Lucy [his seven year old daughter] might be alarmed at the bayonets around us." The

General decided to be more stringent with his uncooperative captives, and so Mrs. Lay received one day a scrap of torn yellow paper on which in familiar handwriting she read, "I am in solitary confinement. Alone yet not alone. Open notes from you may pass. In the morning send clean clothes, looking glass, shaving things, brush, etc. Some writing paper. God bless & keep & comfort you all. The room is clean & airy."

The prisoners were allowed renewed opportunities for conference with each other, and they finally decided they were willing to condemn illegal acts of war in general terms. They had made their protest, but continued imprisonment would do no one any good. The General accepted their watered-down statement, and after thirteen days of confinement released them.

Three weeks later Mrs. Lay had a "confinement" of her own, but a different and a happier kind. On June 3rd. she gave birth to her seventh child, a boy weighing eleven pounds who was given the name of Beirne, the family name of Huntsville friends. The happiness of Beirne's safe arrival was soon overcast with sorrow when on July 5th the journal records, "our little daughter Lucy died," and next day "was buried at 6 p.m. Mr. Banister officiating."

[Editor's Notes: In October Henry Lay travelled to Virginia on personal and church business. The other eleven citizens confined to the Courthouse were: William McDowell, William Acklen, A. J. Withers, George P. Beirne, William H. Moore, Samuel Cruse, J. G. Wilson, Thomas S. McCalley, Gus L. Mastin, Stephen W. Harris, and Dr. Thomas Fearn. From time to time, other prominent citizens were held in jail, the most prominent of whom was former Governor Clement Comer Clay.]

UNION PAPER, THE HUNTSVILLE REVEILLE,
PUBLISHED IN OFFICES OF THE HUNTSVILLE
DEMOCRAT, 1862

Recently Patrick McCauley, editor of The Huntsville Times, received an interesting transcript of the diary of Daniel E. Finn who was attached to the 10th Ohio Regimental Band during the Civil War. His granddaughter, Mrs. Rosemary Hughes, who furnished the manuscript, reports that it is a part of a series of diaries which he kept throughout the war.

Since J. Withers Clay, the editor of The Democrat, had to flee Huntsville when the federal troops arrived on April 11, 1862, (see Huntsville Historical Review, Spring-Fall 1989) without taking his press with him, it is evident that his print shop was available for use by the federal forces. The following excerpt from the diary covers the period from May 12 through July 25, 1862.

Monday, May 12. Travelling by train to Huntsville.

Saturday, May 26. Went to town to meet the Regiment. Gen'l Mitchell went out to meet them also. Played "Hail to the Chief" when Col. Lytle came up. Our boys were glad to see the band. Played "Gary Owen". Gen'l Mitchell the band with a few appropriate words thanking them for the severe duty they performed routing the enemy completely and returning safely to camp. Capt. O'Dowd was left with a small detachment as provost guard and the rebel cavalry made a dash for them, but he was too sharp for them for he had his men posted so that they picked off the rebels so well and fast that they soon retreated leaving behind them some prisoners and horses beside the dead. They were out seven days without tents and looked quite fatigued. Two of our men were taken prisoner.

Wednesday, May 28. Over 700 prisoners parolled, arrived from Chattanooga. They presented a sorrowful appearance being ragged and nearly starved while in the hands of the rebels.

Thursday, May 29th. Went to town. Met a large number of the Shiloh prisoners. Talked to some of them. Some of their narratives were truly heartrending. One man who put his head out the window at Tuscaloosa was shot dead. Their meat was thrown in thru the windows.

Friday, May 30. This morning all the Shiloh prisoners, about 1500, left for Nashville with a wagon train containing cotton and 200 men from the 10th Reg. under the command of Major Moore.

Saturday, May 31. Col. Lytle read a dispatch to the guards that Corinth had fallen. Gen'l Mitchell ordered a National salute to be fired close to the camp of the 10th Ohio. Went to the 2nd Ohio whom we serenaded. Col. Harris was much pleased and invited us into his quarters where we participated in some of the best Applejack ever.

Wednesday, June 5. This morning went into town for Guard Mount and then to Loomis Battery where we played at a sword presentation to Capt. Loomis by his company. He read a dispatch that Jeff Davis was driven in and Pope was after the fleeing rebels at Corinth so closely that they hadn't time to burn their bridges after them.

Thursday, June 12. Had dress parade at which several persons who were court martialed were arraigned and their sentences read, among the most prominent were Capt. Marmion and Lt. Steitz, each fined \$100.00.

Friday, June 13. After playing at Guard Mount went into town to see Mr. Gaddis who is about starting a paper in the Office of the HUNTSVILLE DEMOCRAT. Promised him I would help him. Was all thru the office. The last paper issued was on the 9th of March. The type was removed and the hand presses partly taken off and stowed away in the 3rd story. Played at Headquarters.

Sunday, June 15. Bought the New York Illustrated News. After taps an order came for a detail of 30 or 40 men to go into town to hunt for the redoubtable John Morgan. They made a foray on a livery stable, found two horses without owners and patrolled the town all night but did not come across the veritable John.

Monday, June 16, 1862. Played for Guard Mount in town and then by request the Star Spangled Banner at the raising of the flag over the door of the HUNTSVILLE REVEILLE and afterward went to work on it. Was the first type I set for over a year. It went very well. It was a novel sight to see men with spurs on their boots running in and out, a musket and cartridge box in a corner and compositors in uniform in a printing office. There were two compositors from Loomis Battery, one from the 3rd Ohio and 2 from the 10th Ohio.

Tuesday, June 17. Went into town this morning and waited for some time before being summoned before the paymaster. Col. Burke by common consent drew all our Government pay. Had dinner at the hotel.

Thursday, June 19. The general topic of conversation in camp all day is the band. Went to town to attend a meeting in Col. Burke's office. He told us that the officers had come to the conclusion that while a few objected to the tax the balance resolved to

keep the band if it should cost them half their salary. That the band was identified with the regiment and it would be too great a sacrifice to lose it.

Wednesday, June 25. Worked all day at the REVEILLE. At the invitation of Lt. Hickey took dinner at the hotel. Gaddis at the REVEILLE got a note requesting him to leave as soon as possible for the rebels were going to be here in a few days. He sent back inviting them to come on. Heard our forces were shelling them at Chattanooga.

Sunday, June 29. Worked all day at the REVEILLE. A great many rumors about Mitchell, his Division the 10th and 42nd Regiments were going to leave here and go to Virginia.

Monday, June 30. Worked on the REVEILLE. Learned that Gen'l Mitchell tendered his resignation. A great many surmised that this was done because Gen'l Buell wanted to cut up his division. Heard that the rebels were firing salutes at Chattanooga. Quite a number of strange men and officers of Buell's army in town.

Wednesday, July 2. Bought a quire of paper to print circulars for a picnic on the 4th of July.

Friday, July 4. Played the National airs at Reveille this morning. At 12 O'clock Loomis fired a National salute of 34 guns. Rumors that Richmond was taken and the city on fire. Had my daguerotype taken.

Sunday, July 6. Went to work on the REVEILLE, had dinner at the Venable Hotel. The news from McClellan was looked upon by some as favorable while others took it quite the reverse and mourn the loss of a son or brother who fell in the 4th Alabama, a regiment raised in this town.

Friday, July 11. Capt. Gaddis extended an invitation to all the REVEILLE hands to take supper with him at the Venable Hotel. The flag that recently adorned the office was taken down and presented to him by the Typographers in a neat speech by Reed and answered by Capt. Gaddis who invited us into his room after supper where was awaiting two bottles of champagne. Here with, sentiment and humor prevailed for some time in which Mr. Spencer participated. Thus ended the last hours of the REVEILLE.

A HOUSEWIFE'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE OCCUPATION OF HUNTSVILLE, PART II

[Editor's Note: This segment of the Diary of Mrs. W. D. Chaddick, whose husband was the minister of the local Cumberland Presbyterian Church and also a Colonel in the Confederate Army, covers the period from May 18 through July 10, 1862. A number of events which she reports are also described in the other articles which appear in this issue. In succeeding issues, additional installments of the diary will appear.]

May 18. One of the prisoners at the church has died. Major Moore of Cincinnati permitted the prisoners to follow him to the grave without a guard or any Blue Coat except himself. A large concourse of ladies and gentlemen also followed in the procession. Gen. Mitchell and some of his staff were observed to ride out where they could view it. He subsequently told Mrs. E____, who called upon him for business, that it was a political demonstration on the part of the ladies of Huntsville.

Col. Harris, with Lt. Rhinehart and others, were assigned this week under flag of truce to effect the exchange of prisoners. They proceeded at once to headquarters. Their noble bearing produced quite a sensation among the citizens. Col. Harris told Gen. Mitchell that he could exchange them till he was ready to cry "enough!" It appears that we took 160 prisoners at Bridgeport.

Mrs. Cowan called for me to accompany her on a visit to Gen. Mitchell. Consented very reluctantly. He received us very politely, and promised to assist Mrs. Cowan in going to Corinth on his way to Memphis. Talked politics to me and complained bitterly

of the vindictive feelings entertained by Southerners toward the North.

This week also brought another horse panic. Nearly all of the carriage horses about town were taken. They called to examine Old Henry, but pronounced him too clumsy for cavalry. A great many ladies called on the general to solicit their horses back again, which in most cases was granted.

May 25. There has been some fighting at Shelbyville, between our cavalry and the forces sent up from this place, which is reported to have been disastrous to the latter. Many wounded have been brought down, but we are in ignorance as to the facts. Certain it is that there were six burials in one evening, and two or three every day for several days.

May 26. Went out with Sue (mother of John R. Fordyce, Hot Springs Ark.) to spend the day with old Mrs. Lowry. My first visit to the country since the Federals came here. The 33rd Ohio Regiment, Col. Moore, were camped opposite. Some of the men informed Mr. Lowry that Capts. Byrd and Chase were at Decatur, and that Col. Moore had been sent down to receive them.

Came home in the evening and hastened over to the college. Major McDonald and Capt. Means had heard nothing of the report, but, while sitting in the yard in conversation, Fannie D_____ came by and said the train had come in and one of the cars had a white flag on it.

In a few minutes, they rode up and, in a moment, were surrounded by a crowd of women, all asking questions about Corinth and their friends. As usual, I was doomed to disappointment, they not having seen my "better half," he having been on outpost duty

when they visited his camp. They left my letter for him but brought no sweet solace in return.

Came home and wrote him another long letter, not guarded in speech like the former, but indulged in freedom as in days of yore. Oh, what delightful sensations were experienced as we closed the seal! But the gentlemen were on parole of honor and afraid to take it, unless I gave promise for it to be read in case of necessity. So I entrusted it to one of their servants. Wonder if he ever got it. They all left for Corinth the next day.

June 2. This morning, we were startled by the booming of cannons on the public square and learned conflicting reports as to the object. Some said Richmond and Jeff Davis were taken. But it turned out to be for the death of Major General Smith of the Federal army, who was wounded in the Battle of Corinth (Shiloh) and has since died. There has been a report that Corinth is evacuated by our troops. If true, our confidence in Beauregard leads us to believe that is all right.

June 9. There has been some cheering news from Virginia the past week. Something of the kind is needed to revive our drooping spirits, prisoners as we are. We hear no news but such as comes from the enemy, and that is rarely ever favorable to our side.

There has been some fighting the past week between Gen. Mitchell's men and our cavalry in Jackson county, the result of which is unknown to us. The Federals brought down a great many wounded men, most of whom have since died.

The smallpox has broken out in the army here in the last few days, so that we are

literally visited by "pestilence and sword." The yoke is very galling. One day we are buoyed up with hope, and the next, sunk into a state of despair, fearing that the day of deliverance is a long way off.

We heard yesterday that the enemy had gained a great victory at or near Corinth, and that our army was nearly destroyed. We don't believe it, yet feel sad and fearful.

We heard a day or two since that the Federals had burned the house of Mrs. Dillard in Jackson. A story was also circulated to us of her son. A soldier asked for some meat, and he accompanied him to the smoke-house and cut it for him.

When the soldier said it was not enough, young Dillard then gave him the knife and told him to cut it for himself. After the soldier had put down his gun for that purpose, the son seized it and told the other that he was his prisoner. The soldier sent up a loud cry for help, Dillard threatening all the time to bayonet him if he did not hush.

A struggle ensued, in which the Federal was killed and Dillard taken prisoner and carried to Stevenson. Some whisky, deeply drugged with laudanum, was given the guards by Dillard's friends. They partook of it, and naturally enough fell into a deep sleep. Dillard escaped and joined Sterm's cavalry, with which he is now doing service.

Dr. Sheffey vaccinated the children and servants yesterday. We are having strange weather for June--the nights and mornings are cold enough for fires, and the days exceedingly warm. Heard this morning that Mrs. Patterson was under arrest for attempting to convey improper news to her husband.

Gen. Mitchell seems to consider his sojourn among us as permanent. He desires to rent a furnished house, and is going to bring his family here.

Mrs. Cox Turchine has been at Athens with her husband, and when the Athens ladies called upon her, she declined returning their visits, upon the ground that she was among them with her husband as an enemy. Certainly smacks of good taste on her part. They are now in Fayetteville. It is said that she takes long rides in the country every day, accompanied by a guard of soldiers and mounted upon Connie Watkins' famous riding pony.

Mrs. Col. Norton is now at Athens, her husband being provost marshal. The Athens ladies called upon her and she is delighted with the place, contrasting it very unfavorably with Huntsville, where she received little or no attention. Col. Norton was a great favorite here, always acting the gentleman in his discussions with the citizens and, had he not been here as an enemy, he would have been most hospitably treated.

June 10. Certain it is the enemy have not yet discovered the whereabouts of Beauregard since the evacuation of Corinth. Gen. Mitchell, upon being interrogated, replied that he had probably "gone up a spout." We have had a great victory at Chickahominy, near Richmond, but learn with the deepest regret of the death of my old friend, Gen. Hattose. Today, we have received the usual amount of bogus news from the Federals. Richmond, Memphis and Fort Pillow have fallen--we disbelieve the two first, but fear there is some truth in the last.

June 11. Last night, the guard discovered 50 or 60 negroes at the depot, armed with Enfield rifles, drilling. They were dispersed and some of them taken to jail. Col. Burke, the provost, seems disposed to make the negroes keep their places. Nearly all the troops here are leaving for Chattanooga. Rumor says there has been fighting there, and the Rebel troops have gained a victory.

A funeral procession is passing. A flag is thrown over the coffin. Must belong to the artillery, as there is a cannon in the procession. The band of music from headquarters is playing a dirge. These funeral processions pass two or three times a day of late, and sometimes there are two coffins in the hearse at the same time. When a member of the cavalry dies, his horse is led in the procession, as chief mourner, with the blankets and accoutrements of the deceased through over him, which looks inexpressibly sad.

The Federal mails were seized yesterday between here and Nashville. The mischief, as usual, was laid to Morgan and Charge.

June 16. The enemy have been driven back from Chattanooga with considerable force. There has been quite a dearth of news for the last few days, owing to the cutting off of the mails. News has reached us of a glorious victory in Virginia which is truly cheering. We are still in suspense as to the whereabouts of Gen. Beauregard's army, and the welfare of those we hold most dear to us.

The Yankees have heard some doleful news. They have some long faces today and keep very quiet. Gen. Mitchell's family have arrived--furniture, bed, table linens and piano were taken from the hotel to furnish the Lanson Clay house for their reception.

The statuary and pictures were also taken for that purpose from the Calhoun place. There was a rumor last night that Van Dorn, Price and Breckinridge were advancing on Nashville by way of Chattanooga. Heaven send it may be true!

June 19, 1862. Two nights ago, some Federal prisoners, confined in the jail, set it on fire and damaged the building considerably. They said "they would not be confined with negroes, neither did they come here to be put in jail."

Some of the enemy who came here Abolitionists seem to have had a great "change come over the spirit of their feelings." They say that the negro women live like ladies, compared to the poor women of the north, and that they outdress the better class; that the negro men dress better than the poor men of the South, and are a lazy, impudent, no-account set, and they didn't know how Southern people put up with them.

In many instances, the soldiers have treated the blacks in such a manner that the latter have had quite enough of their Abolitionist friends. Others, however, are familiar with them, and some of their officers visit the kitchens and chat familiarly with the women. Many of the negroes have refused to work for their masters and are constantly going to the Federalists.

A rumor this evening that Beauregard's army has gone to Charleston. The Yankees say that he blew a bluff into the Mississippi a few days since. He is a great "boogerboo" to their army.

Great anxiety is felt by friends as to his present locality, and certain it is that

his late movements have non-plussed General Halleck and the Lincoln cabinet terribly.

Rumors of another great battle and victory by the Confederates in Virginia and General McClellan killed. When is our great suspense to be relieved and the truth to be known! What would we not give this moment to set eyes on a Rebel newspaper!

June 20. Spent the day in the country at Mr. James Robinson's. Saw a Federal regiment go up the railroad about 11 o'clock. Two others passed up the night previous. Wonder where they were going.

On my return home, found a letter from Tennessee assuring me of the health and welfare of my friends and little Davie at Lebanon--a letter! It was brought by a Yankee officer--Lt. Dick of the First Kentucky Cavalry.

This has been rather an eventful day. Miss Lallie Matthews and Miss Row Webster were arrested this morning and carried before Gen. Mitchell for having attached Confederate flags to their grace hoop and playing with them when his soldiers were passing. Quite a spirited interview took place.

The general asked Miss Matthews if she were a Rebel. She replied that she was one "over and above board." Then he retorted, "How dare you tell me this in my tent?" When the audience was over, he said to them, "Women, go home and behave yourselves. Henceforth, I shall keep an eye on you and know all that you do!"

Saw a Federal account this evening of the Battle of Seven Pines before Richmond. The slaughter was terrible. How many brave hearts have fallen! O, when will this dreadful war be over! And how many weary days,

weeks and perhaps months will lapse before we can know who of our friends are among the slain!

We are very carefully guarded here so that we know nothing that is passing without, and very little within. All that we hear is rumor, rumor, rumor, with her thousand tongues. And we might add, a very small quantity of bacon.

June 21. The train was again fired into in Jackson county today, and 10 men killed and three or four wounded. A gentleman up there sent Gen. Mitchell word that he need not be punishing private citizens for these things, that he knew the Jackson county people had suffered too much already, and that he (Mitchell) had burned the house of a widow a few days since, and the men of Jackson intended to avenge it. He said they had formed themselves into two bands for that purpose and, as they were cut off from the army, they intended to stay there and aggravate him all they could.

When the news reached General Mitchell, he sent up a body of men with orders to burn every house in Jackson near the railroad between here and Stevenson.

They were met by the other party under flag of truce, saying that they (the Confederates) had about 50 Yankee prisoners in their hands and, for every house burned, they would hang a man. Whereupon, the general countermanded the order.

June 25. An order has been given today that, if the stockholders of the new hotel do not take the oath of allegiance to the U.S. within three days, the hotel will be taken into the hands of the Federalists. Also provisions are forbidden to be brought to

town, or passes given, except on the above conditions.

Heard today that James Dassion was killed in the battle of Richmond. Also General Martin.

June 26. This has been the most delightful morning of the season, for it has brought happenings to some. Mr. Fifer brought me news from my husband. He also brought me a letter, but, falling into the hands of the Federalists yesterday, he had to destroy it. A matter to be regretted, yet it is happiness to know that he is well and safe, after being kept so long in a state of most agonizing suspense.

As we are so soon to be cut off from provisions, ordered Uncle Tom to shell some corn and take it to the mill. He went to the provost marshal for a pass, and was told to bring an order from his master. He went to C. W. for that purpose and got one. On presenting it, he was told to tell his young master to come there.

The master refused to go, so Eddie was sent, with instructions to "state the case politely and ask Col. Burke for a pass." He was kindly received by the latter, and told to come after dinner and he should have one. In the meantime, C. W., not knowing Eddie had been and reconsidering the matter, presented himself at the office. No one was there but the clerk, who told him to sign the oath and he could get one, at the same time talking very nicely to him.

Of course the honor was declined. Dinner being over, Eddie went according to appointment, but unfortunately found no one there except the said clerk. On hearing his name, the clerk said to him, "O, yes! Your brother has been here, and I intend to report

him severely for his conduct this evening. Go home and tell him to come to me immediately." Of course, this honor was declined also.

June 28. Mr. Stone of Nashville called this morning at the request of Mrs. Elliott of Nashville. He has been sent south by Governor Johnson for refusing to take the oath and is waiting for a pass from Gen. Mitchell. Generals Buell, McCook and Johnson, with a part of their army, arrived this evening. Their destination not known, but supposed to be Chattanooga. Rumors that Gen. Buell is to succeed Gen. Mitchell at this place.

June 30. Heard today that Mr. Hope Turney had been brought in a prisoner, suffering with rheumatism and nothing to sleep on. Although an entire stranger, resolved to go and see him. Sent for Mrs. Mayhew to accompany me and we went to the courthouse to get a pass, which was reluctantly given. Found all the gentlemen glad to see me, practically all, and particularly Mr. Turney and Mr. Hollin, a relative of Sue and Jennie, and more particularly an imprisoned Yankee with whom we had a conversation, and who became a warm friend. He had been suffering with typhoid fever, had been much neglected, and a few words of kindness and sympathy won his heart at once.

News came today confirming the death of Gus Mastin, also of another great victory at Richmond.

July 1. Visited the prisoners again today, carrying them all some dinner, including the Federalist, who is from Ohio. Found Mr. Turney not so well. Came home and sent him a bed, which was kindly furnished by

Mrs. Harris. The neighbors also assisted me in providing the dinner.

Heard today of another glorious victory at Charleston. Mrs. Mayhew and Mr. Stone took tea here. The latter leaves in the morning under flag of truce for Chattanooga, having got a pass from Gen. Buell.

Gen. Mitchell left last night for Washington. It is rumored that Gen. Buell did not approve of the course he had pursued toward the citizens here and his management of things generally, and that the former had resigned and gone to Washington to be court-martialed. Wonder if it's true. News from Richmond confirmed.

July 4. All is quiet. No booming of cannon disturbed the quiet of our slumbers this morning to celebrate the National Independence. The Feds wear long faces today owing to the news from Richmond.

(Noon.) They have just fired 34 guns. And say the news is not so bad as they thought.

Miss Maria Robinson spent the day with us, bringing a nice present of apples and butter. Mr. Matt Keite made me a present of a nice load of hay. Bless his kind, generous heart!

Dr. Nedman called this morning at the request of Mr. Turney to get me to find him a private house at which to stay. Dr. Fearn has partly promised. Mr. Turney is suffering terribly from inflammatory rheumatism, and the doctor is trying to get him paroled.

(Night.) Sue and Eddie are gone out to Mr. Robinson's. A little after night, our ears were greeted with tremendous shouts from

the direction of the camps. What can it mean?

July 5. Quite sick this morning. After breakfast, Mrs. Mayhew came in to tell me that she was heartsick, that a little after the shouting last night, a Federalist came running down to her house to tell her that his colonel had just read out to the regiment that Richmond had fallen, the Rebel army was all cut to pieces and had fallen back eight miles from the city, that all the officers had been requested to read the above to the Federal regiments, posted here. Don't believe a word of it.

Such is the crying resorted to keep up the spirits of the soldiers.

Mrs. Gen. Norton called to tell me of an opportunity to write to W. D. (her husband). Eddie has come home and says there are 15,000 of Buell's troops camped on the creek back of Mr. Robinson's. Reported to be on their way to Chattanooga.

They have taken the seminary today for a hospital. Truly this neighborhood has its share of them.

The Mitchells (Gen. Mitchell's family) are left here in the care of Mrs. Judge Lane. They seem to be enjoying themselves in the enemy's country. Yesterday, they took a trip to the mountain. Dashed by here in two carriages, with Yeate Lane and Mrs. Clemens, right in front of the funeral procession of a poor soldier who was shot while on picket duty.

July 6. The bad news from Richmond is not yet confirmed. It is really tantalizing the state of suspense we have to remain in before we can get the truth. Wash Donegan brought me a letter from Dave this morning.

These letters, so rare, are getting to be priceless treasures. Little Dave is well and happy. They have not heard a word from me, although I have written some three weeks since.

July 7. Sent a letter today by Dr. Dement to W.D. Also one through the kindness of Major Moore to Cincinnati to Dave. News of the great victory at Richmond fully confirmed. Everybody looks happy except the Feds, who wear long faces. Confederate money going up. Mr. Turney has been moved to Judge Lane's, which will prevent his friends from visiting him.

July 8. Gen. Smith takes Gen. Mitchell's place here, and thus far has been more indulgent to the citizens. We went to see Mr. Turney this morning, but was refused admittance.

July 9. Dr. Hudson and Mr. Holland took tea with us. Informed us that nine houses have been burned in Jackson county today. Our cavalry in that region is annoying them dreadfully. A large amount of cotton has been taken and destroyed today between here and Fayetteville by our cavalry.

July 10. This day has been made memorable by the departure of the family of Gen. Mitchell. Joy go with them!

NEW MARKET CELEBRATES ITS HISTORY

On September 17, 1989, a host of descendants of New Market pioneers and other interested citizens joined the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society in celebrating the dedication of two new markers--one being for the town of New Market and the other being for Mount Paran Cemetery.

The formal dedication was held at 2:00 p.m. in the New Market Presbyterian Church, with Dr. Thomas Wren, president of the society, presiding. The invocation was given by the Reverend Don L. Schultz, pastor of the New Market Baptist Church. Dr. John Rison Jones, vice-president, commented on the significant contributions of the people in the area, and introduced the Honorable Joe W. Davis, former mayor of Huntsville, who gave the keynote address. Joe, a native of New Market, is a direct descendent of Samuel Davis who donated the land for the Mount Paran Cemetery.

Special patriotic music for the occasion was performed by the Alvin Dreger ensemble. Mrs. Wills Johnston, song leader, and Miss Rosemary McCrary, pianist, also participated. Hostesses at the church program included Mrs. W. H. Gray, Miss Lucille Hereford, Mrs. George K. Jones, and Mrs. J. E. Walker, Jr.

After the formal ceremony, the group walked across Winchester Road to a location on the property of Miss Rosemary McCrary and Thomas R. McCrary, Jr. where Harvie P. Jones, another New Market native, unveiled the marker for the Town of New Market.

From the town site, the group then moved north on Winchester Road to the site of the road leading to Mount Paran Cemetery, where James E. Davis, Jr., another descendent of Samuel Davis, James Record, a native of New

Market and former chairman of the Madison County Commission, and Mrs. Dunnuth Moorefield, chairman of the Mount Paran Cemetery committee, all participated in unveiling the Mount Paran marker.

A reception at the New Market school cafeteria climaxed the activities of the afternoon. Two tables covered with Army-Navy cloths and centered with lovely arrangements of flowers held punch bowls of lemonade and trays of old-fashioned tea cakes. Members of the New Market Friendship Club who served were Mrs. Pickett Esslinger, Mrs. Wayne McFarlen, Sr., Mrs. Thomas McCrary, Sr., and Mrs. J. E. Walker, Jr. Serving as general chairman for the occasion was Mrs. Jesse Henry, recording secretary of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society.



Historic Markers
New Market, Alabama

CITY OF MADISON, ALABAMA,
HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION
OCTOBER 15, 1989

The historical marker for the City of Madison was dedicated by the Madison Station Historical Society in the Roundhouse Park in downtown Madison on Sunday afternoon, October 15, 1989. The marker program was an Alabama Reunion event.

The marker names the first public officials elected by the citizens to serve Madison. Madison was incorporated on November 30, 1869, and the first public officials elected were: Mayor William R. Johnston; five aldermen--William Barham Dunn, first depot agent; Thomas J. Clay, first postmaster; George W. Martin, first merchant; James Henry Bibb, planter; and Dr. George Richard Sullivan, physician.

Participating in the program were Ms. Pat Brown, President, Madison Station Historical Society; Percy B. Keel, 2nd Vice President; unveiling of the marker--Joe Allen Brewer, great grandson of George W. Martin; reading of the inscription--Marian Johnson, wife of Robert Wiggins Johnson who is the grandson of Judge Robert Emmett Wiggins, Justice of the Peace in Madison and also the great nephew of William B. Dunn; dedication of the marker--Pat Brown; accepting of the marker--Dr. Frances C. Roberts, member of the Alabama Historical Association Marker Committee. Speakers included Mayor Teague Cuddeback, Commissioner Grady Abernathy, and State Representative Tom W. Butler.

Special guests included Dr. and Mrs. James R. Record, members of the Madison City Council, Dr. Thomas Wren, President of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, former Madison Mayor Burwell L. Wilbanks, and descendants of the early settlers of Madison.

Music was furnished by the combined choirs of the Madison Baptist and Methodist Church choirs, under the direction of Dr. Delbert Bailey.

Following the program, refreshments were served under the Roundhouse.



Marker located in Roundhouse Park,
Madison, Alabama

If you know of someone who may be interested in becoming a member of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society, please share the application form below:

HUNTSVILLE-MADISON COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P. O. Box 666
Huntsville, AL 35804

Membership Application 1989-90

Name _____

Address _____

Telephones: Home _____ Work _____

Individual: \$7.50 Family: \$15.00

My check for \$ _____ payable to Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society includes a subscription to The Huntsville Historical Review and all the Society's activities.

Signature

The purpose of this society is to afford an agency for expression among those having a common interest in collecting, preserving and recording the history of Huntsville and Madison County. Communications concerning the organization should be addressed to the President at P.O. Box 666; Huntsville, Alabama 35804. Manuscripts for possible publication should be directed to the Publications Committee, at the same address. Articles should pertain to Huntsville or Madison County. Articles on the history of other sections of the state will be considered when they relate in some way to Madison County. All copy, including footnotes, should be double spaced. The author should submit an original and one copy.

The **Huntsville Historical Review** is sent to all members of the Huntsville-Madison County Historical Society. The annual membership is \$7.50. Libraries and organizations may receive the **Review** on a subscription basis for \$7.50 per year. Single issues may be obtained for \$4.00 each.

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