OFFICERS
OF
THE HUNTSVILLE MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1976 – 1977

PRESIDENT
Philip Mason

Vice-President
Mrs. Roy Blair

Recording Secretary
Mrs. C.H. Russell

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Wayne Smith

Treasurer
Miss Kathleen Johnston

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
DIRECTORS

Miss Sophye Lowe Young
Ezell Terry
Mrs. Richard Gilliam

Harvie Jones
Mrs. Thomas Rosborough
Elbert L. Watson

PAST PRESIDENTS

Miss Alice Thomas
Robert Smith
Joe Falt, Jr.

Dr. Frances Roberts
Mrs. Sarah Fisk
Dr. William McKissack

PUBLICATIONS

Editor
Henry S. Marks

BOARD OF EDITORIAL ADVISORS

Ezell Terry, Chairman

Dr. William McKissack
Helen Akens

Cleo Cason
Philip Mason
The Huntsville Historical Review

Volume 7    July – October, 1977    Numbers 3 & 4

Editor
Henry S. Marks

Published by
THE HUNTSVILLE-MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CONTENTS

PATENT MEDICINES AND THE COMMON FOLK
IN HUNTSVILLE AND MADISON COUNTY
DURING THE EARLY 1880’s
Marsha and Henry Marks ......................... 3

ECHOES OF THE PAST
Ran’e Pruitt ........................................ 12

NOTES AND NEWS ............................... 18

Huntsville, Alabama
CONTRIBUTORS

MARSHA MARKS is an Associate Professor of History at Alabama A & M University and a frequent contributor to the Review.

RAN'E PRUITT is the Librarian of the Henry B. Zeitler Collection of the Huntsville Public Library.
How to stay well, recuperate from illness and live happily ever after was even more of a problem during the 1880's in Huntsville than it is today. It is important and interesting to view everyday life in Huntsville, to find out how people in Madison County coped with the problems of life. One of the best ways to view earlier days is through the local newspapers, for they generally reflect what local conditions were like.

From 1881 to December 29, 1894, Huntsville and Madison County's Black population was served by the Huntsville Gazette. Charles Handley, Jr., the editor, naturally focused the editorial contents towards his patronage. Advertisers also attempted to reach this segment of the population.

A study of newspaper advertisements in the weekly Huntsville Gazette during the early 1880's reveals many a pitfall for the unwary Madison County reader. The early 1880's marked a time when the country was less sophisticated than today, yet it was supposedly a time of optimism, when mankind was thought to be able to surmount various physical and psychological barriers to the enjoyment of life. This optimism was evident in the patent medicine advertisements in the Gazette. All you had to do to stay healthy or get well was to take a few doses of whatever "medicine" was being foisted on the gullible. To us today such claims trip the light
fantastic, but in an earlier era they must have been taken quite literally, for somebody had to pay for all these advertisements. Patent medicine advertisers were out to make a profit and they could not have continued to advertise so widely and so often without large scale consumption of their products by the public.

Probably the first assumption we may make is that the buying public, including Huntsville and Madison County, still believed that illnesses were connected in some way with disorders of the blood. Remove the impurities and the patient is cured. The best way, of course, is by partaking of patent medicines, in an age when most people were not able to obtain the services of a physician on a regular basis. The makers of Kidney Wort, who advertised that their product was the only medicine in either liquid or dry form that acts at the same time on the liver, bowels and kidneys, proclaimed that we get sick "because we allow these great organs to become clogged or torpid, and poisonous humors are therefore forced into the blood that should be expelled naturally."1 The makers of New Rich Blood Parson's Purgative Pills announced that their panacea "will completely change the blood in the entire system in three months."2 Wilhoft's Fever and Ague Tonic was advertised as for chills and fever and all diseases "caused by malarial poisoning of the blood."3

A second assumption that may be drawn from the perusal of the GAZETTE is that the advertisements stressed the wide range of coverage of their products and their quick results. Mexican Mustang Liniment, the best of all liniments, "For Man and Beast," was "needed by somebody in every house."4 Flagg's Instant Pain Relief was "a wonderful and immediate cure for all aches and pains."5 Dr. John Bull's Smith's Tonic Syrup for the cure of fever and Ague or Chills and Fever was extolled as a "safe, certain, speedy and permanent cure."6 Lawrence and Martin's Tolu Rick and Rye, billed as "the great appetiser tonic and cough cure," was "for all diseases of the throat, chest and lungs."7 That old standby, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, "the positive cure," was "for all those painful complaints and weaknesses so common to our best female population."8 Dr. Mettaur's Headache Pills were stated as able to "cure most wonderfully in a very short time."9 Also, Johnson's
Anodyne Liniment "will positively . . . prevent (Diphtheria) . . . and will positively cure nine cases out of ten." Finally, De Bangs Pile Remedy was so good that one of their advertisements ran as follows: "$1,000 Reward for Any Case Blind, Bleeding, Itching Ulcerate or Portruding PILES that DE BANG'S PILE REMEDY Fails to Cure.""11

A third assumption that can be made is that many of the advertisements were geared to disorders of a pulmonary nature. One of the advertisements contained a testimonial letter for Dr. Schenck's Medicines, Pulmonic Syrup, Seaweed Tonic and Mandrake Pills that avowed the ability of the medicine to cure chronic bronchitis.12 A free pamphlet was also offered in the advertisement that discussed the "causes and cures of consumption, liver complaint and dyspepsia."13 Dr. Mettaur's Headache Pills were for headaches as previously noted, but "while acting on the nervous system" the pills also "cleanse the stomach of excess of bile, producing a regular healthy action of the bowels."14 Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup was said to be excellent "for the cure of coughs, colds, hoarseness, asthma, bronchitis, croup, influenza, whooping cough, incipient consumption, etc."15 Piso's Cure for Consumption was touted as "a certain and safe remedy for croup, asthma, bronchitis and sore throat, as . . . it will cure these lesser complaints, which are so often the forerunners of consumption." You did not mind taking this medicine either, for "there is no other medicine that tastes so good."16 The best medicine of all might have been Cone's Asthma Conquerer, which "dures when all other remedies fail."17 Quinine Wine was to be taken "for ague, chills, fever and all malarial attacks." It, too, was "pleasant to take."18 Dr. S. A. Richmond and Company's Samaritan Nervine "cures fits. Never fails" and was manufactured by the "World's Epilptic Institute."19

The cause of malaria had not yet been discovered, and several ads claimed a cure for this dreaded disease. One, Wilhoft's Fever and Ague Tonic, was for "Chills and Fever AND ALL Diseases Caused by Malarial Poisoning of the Blood."20
Most manufacturers did not price their wares in these advertisements, but those that did quoted from 25¢ to one dollar. Wilhoft's charged $1.00. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup went for a quarter. Naturally, Quinine Wine was purchased for $1.00 and came in a wine bottle.

But of all the advertisements, our favorites are Dr. John Bull's Sasparilla and Worm Destroyer, extolled as "The Popular Remedies of the Day." Forget the good old days, give us the modern physician.

---

1 See the first illustration from the Huntsville Gazette, June 25, 1818, p. 3.
2 Gazette, August 6, 1881, p. 4.
3 See the second illustration from the Gazette, June 18, 1881, p. 3.
4 Gazette, June 18, 1881, p. 2.
5 Gazette, July 2, 1881, p. 3.
6 Gazette, September 10, 1881, p. 4.
7 Gazette, December 17, 1881, p. 3.
8 Gazette, June 18, 1871, p. 2.
9 Gazette, June 25, 1881, p. 4.
10 Gazette, December 24, 1881, p. 4.
11 Gazette, August 13, 1881, p. 2.
12 Gazette, June 18, 1881, p. 4.
13 Ibid.
14 Gazette, June 25, 1881, p. 4.
15 Gazette, September 10, 1881, p. 4.
16 Gazette, October 29, 1881, p. 4.
17 Gazette, November 26, 1881, p. 4.
18 Gazette, December 18, 1881, p. 4.
19 Gazette, February 11, 1882, p. 4.
20 Gazette, June 18, 1881, p. 3.
21 Ibid.
22 Gazette, September 10, 1881, p. 4.
23 Gazette, December 18, 1881, p. 4.
24 Gazette, September 10, 1881, p. 4.
KIDNEY WORT

DOES WONDERFUL CURES!

Because it acts on the LIVER, BOWELS and KIDNEYS at the same time.

Because it cleanses the system of the poisonous humors that develop in Kidney and Urinary Diseases, Biliousness, Jaundice, Constipation, Piles, or in Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Nervous Disorders and Female Complaints.

SEE WHAT PEOPLE SAY:

Enoch B. Work, of Junction City, Kansas, says, Kidney-Wort cured him after regular physicians had been trying for four years.

Mrs. John Arnold of Washington, Ohio, says her boy was given up by four prominent physicians and that he was afterward cured by Kidney-Wort.

M. M. D. Goodwin, an editor in Charleston, Ohio, says he was not expected to live, being bleeding by analysis, but Kidney-Wort cured him.

Anna L. Jarrett of South Dayton, N. Y., says that seven years suffering from kidney troubles and other complications was ended by the use of Kidney-Wort.

John R. Lawrence of Jackson, Tenn., suffered for years from liver and kidney troubles, and after taking "bills of other medicines," Kidney-Wort made him well.

Michael O. of Montgomery Center, Vt., suffered eight years with liver difficulty and was unable to work. Kidney-Wort made him well.

KIDNEY WORT

PERMANENTLY CURES KIDNEY DISEASES,
LIVER COMPLAINTS,
Constipation and Piles.

If it is put up in Dry Vegetable Form in tins, one package of which makes a quart of medicine. Also in Liquid Form, very Concentrated, for those that cannot easily prepare it.

If it acts with equal efficiency in either form.

GET IT AT THE DRUGGIST. PRICE, $1.00

WELLS, RICHARDSON & Co. Prop.
(Will send the dry post-paid.) BURLINGTON, VT.
WILHOFT'S FEVER AND AGUE TONIC

For Chills and Fever
AND ALL DISEASES
Caused by Malarial Poisoning of the Blood.
A WARRANTED CURE.
Price, $1.00. For sale by all Druggists.

NO FEE UNTIL CURED.

Neuralgia. Headache. Dyspepsia. Diseases of the
Liver. Kidneys. Lungs and Air Passages of long
standing. cured by Dr. JUDGE'S Oxy-Hydro-
genated Air. All diseases treated.

Send stamp for pamphlet with home references and
questions to answer. No charge for consultation by
mail or in person. Patients treated at a distance.
Dr. J. D. JUDGE & CO., 79 Beach St., Boston, Mass.
KIDNEY WORT
THE ONLY MEDICINE
IN EITHER LIQUID OR DRY FORM
That Acts at the same time on
THE LIVER, THE BOWELS,
AND THE KIDNEYS.
WHY ARE WE SICK?
Because we allow these great organs to
become clogged or torpid, and poisonous
humors are therefore forced into the blood
that should be expelled naturally.

KIDNEY-WORT
WILL SURELY CURE
KIDNEY DISEASES,
LIVER COMPLAINTS,
PILES, CONSTIPATION, URINARY
DISEASES, FEMALE WEAKNESSES,
AND NERVOUS DISORDERS.
by causing free action of these organs and
restoring their power to throw off disease.

Why suffer Bilious pains and aches?
Why tormented with Piles, Constipation?
Why frightened over disordered Kidneys?
Why end up many years or sick headschool?
Use KIDNEY-WORT and rejoice in health.

It is put up in Dry Vegetable Form, in
sams one package of which makes six quarts
of medicine. Also in Liquid Form, very Concentrated,
for those that cannot readily prepare.

If it acts with equal efficiency in either form.
GET IT OF YOUR DRUGGIST. PR. 1.00

WELLS, RICHARDSON & Co., Prep't.
(Will send the dry post-pai'd.) BURLINGTON, VT.
THE BEST OF ALL LINIMENTS FOR MAN AND BEAST.

For more than a third of a century the Mexican Mustang Liniment has been known to millions all over the world as the only safe reliance for the relief of rheumatic and pain. It is a medicine above price and praise—the best of its kind. For every form of external pain the

MEXICAN

Mustang Liniment is without an equal. It penetrates flesh and muscle to the very bone—making the continuance of pain and inflammation impossible. Its effects upon Human Flesh and the brute creation are equally wonderful. The Mexican Mustang Liniment is needed by somebody in every home. Everyday brings news of the agony of an awful scald or burns subdued, of rheumatic, muscular, or nervous, or a valuable horse or ox saved by the healing power of this

LINIMENT

which specially cures such ailments of the whole body as:

Rheumatism, Swellings, Stiff Joints, Contracted Muscles, Burns and Scalds, Cuts, Bruises and Sprains, Poisonous Bites and Stings, Sores, Ulcers, Festerings, Cattle, Horsel, Nerve Nipples, Caked Breech, and indeed every form of external disease. It heals without scar.

THE BEST OF ALL LINIMENTS FOR MAN OR BEAST.
In this issue of the Review, we are pleased to reintroduce a series of articles entitled "Echoes of the Past: Old Mahogany Table Stories," that were begun in the July, 1974 issue of the Review. First published in The Huntsville Democrat beginning in October, 1909, the articles were written by Virginia C. Clay. She and her sister, Suzanne Clay, owned and published the Democrat, which they inherited from their father, John Withers Clay.

"Echoes of the Past" contains stories of family and social activities of early Huntsvillians, and provide an insight into the culture of anti-bellum Huntsville. The articles were based on stories told by members of the Clay family as they sat around the old mahogany table, which first belonged to John Haywood Lewis, Virginia's maternal grandfather in 1825. As the mahogany table was passed down to Virginia, with it came stories of the prominent social life of early Huntsville.

Family tradition provides the background for the stories. During the 19th century, the Clays had been one of Huntsville's most prominent and interesting families. Virginia's grandfather, Clement Comer Clay, moved to Huntsville in 1811 and quickly became an important politician. He served in both the Alabama Territory and State Legislature. He was chairman of the committee to draft the Alabama Constitution and became the first Chief Justice of Alabama. Later he was elected Governor and U.S. Senator from Alabama.

Two of governor Clay's sons were prominent leaders of their day. Clement Claiborne became one of the most distinguished voices for Southern Rights in the U.S. Senate during the 1850's. He later served in the Confederate Congress and was imprisoned with Jefferson Davis for conspiracy in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. John Withers, the author's father, was editor of the Democrat for over 40 years until his death in 1896.
These stories told by the mahogany table are gathered here and there, and told by members of the family; many have tradition only as authority, the stories coming down thru the ages like the Norse Sagas. The early Ahbamon Indians kept a record of the important events of their tribe's history with a string of pearls, it is said, and each of the pearls had a story of its own that was told to each generation of the Red Man's tribe. The thought is a pretty one, and the mahogany table stories shall be like pearls: Some of them are perfect; others may be dimmed by the years and tears of memory, but if they are not all as some believe or recall, there is still a pearlaceous tinge, and a hundred years from now they will be still on the string of uncertainty, along with the Cook-Peary controversy. A History, says Webster, is a "record of facts." History, said Dr. Watts—who knows his subjects, "is necessary to Divines." Neither the Democrat nor the table can boast of the divine afflatus, and will accept every pearl that is free from skeletons. For it is our intention to present these stories.

"Written not on tablets of stone but on fleshly tablets of the heart."—as did St. Paul in II Cor. ii-3.

Even Noah Webster is not without a doubtful historiographer: There is now a story told that the famous dictionary man was a great stickler for the correct use of English, and when his wife one day caught him kissing her pretty Irish maid, she exclaimed: "Why, Mr. Webster, I am surprised indeed!"

"My dear, why will you use English words so incorrectly? You are very incorrect—in this little instance. You are the person astonished and I am the one surprised!" Was the wise answer of the sage.

Thus, was the wife's mind diverted entirely from the little osculatory indiscretion of her learned spouse—so the story goes.

The old mahogany table promises to astonish some but surprise very few.
Grimes in the Twenties: Frye From 1847 to 1872:

A home-coming of the old portraits would be great fun and an occasion of general rejoicing and like a gathering of the clans, suggested the Mahogany Table the other day. Many portraits of interest of those now, "gathered to their fathers", have been gathered by the progenitors of the third and fourth generations and carried off to other states to hang on the up to date walls. There were two of Frye's best portraits sent to Waco, Texas, when those of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Lewis were carried out there, and they are in the home of Gabriel Winter, a great grandson: and in Memphis is a portrait of the Fackler Girls, Sallie (Mrs. Pynchon) Elvira (Mrs. Nichol) and Gypie (Mrs. Terry), also painted by Frye, ad libiturn with regard to pose and dress. They were all children, but Sallie Wears a gown of plum colored velved en traine, and is seated in a velved chair in the woods; Elivira and Gypie are in white gowns, with pink and blue sashes: the latter carries a guitar, which she never did play on. It is a beautiful fiction in art from nature. Mrs. W.T. Morris, (Leila Lacy), has in her Virginia home the group portrait by Frye of the three Lacy girls, Fanny, Leila and Lulu, the daughters of Mr. Theophilus Lacy. In Canton, Mississippi, New Orleans and Georgia are portraits of the George Steele Family owned by Sue Steele, (now Mrs. Hoffman), Angelo Steele and daughters of Ellen Steele Tracy. In Canton, Mrs. Hoffman has a Grimes portrait of her Father, George Steele; Grimes also painted a portrait of Mrs. Steele but a turban of the artist's imagination, was placed on the head, that the original did not think becoming, and she never wore, so she destroyed the canvas.

Speaking of the Steeles said the Old Mahogany Table, George Steele had an unusual history, and one that reflect credit on his name for ambition, energy and thrift. His grandfather lived in Virginia nad was an extensive painter, owning several farms; he married the second time a gay young widow who fell heir to most of the property of the old man, his son lost his by a security debt, and moved down to Madison County, Alabama with Mr. William Fleming and "Aunt Sallie" Fleming about 1817-1818 when George was just 18 years old, and only lived a short while after arriving here. In 1823 George Steele married Eliza Weaver, daughter of Matthew W. Weaver, also a Virginian. They had Seven Boys and girls and the family was a happy one. George Steele became a famous contractor, architect and builder, and he knew the
business from the making of the brick to giving the artistic finish in fancy fresco to the interior walls.

He had an airy castle idea of an old Virginia farm that was owned by his Grandfather Steele, and it was his pet sentiment to reproduce the buildings, and raise stock on his Alabama "Fancy Farm." He was unfortunate in the consummation of his dream of Fancy Farm with its fine stock, but in 1837-1838 there arose at the foot of Monte Sano a mansion of three stories, magnificent rooms in the center of an Oak Grove, if not as his fancy painted, yet home with a thousand sweet memories of its grand old rooms, ever filled with happy guests, the flower garden with its gorgeous array of blossoming plants, a fine orchard. While George Steele was accumulating wealth for his family and friends to enjoy, there was no decay of ambition; his children were given the best collegiate education, and his hospitality was princely.

There fourteen rooms in Oak Place mansion; a large brick stable and the servants houses of brick.

In the stately old palor, in 1846, was a memorable gathering of the patriotic young soldiers who were going to the Texas frontier and join the ranks with others who had the Revolutionary vibrations inherited and tingling in their veins to fight with Mexico. It was a tearful parting with sweetheart; and many a lover was moved tell his love and win the promise from his dulcinea to consummate their pledged troth at the marriage alter, when the war was over.

And here were married the Steele girls, Sallie to R.H. Winter in 1857; Ellen to E.D. Tracy in 1858; and Sue to C.C. Shackelford in 1866.

The Mahogany Table looked brighter with a dozen or more social memory lights shining from its heart;

How A Presidential Election Was Celebrated In March 4, 1845, Oak Place The Scene Of Historic Occasion

Let me tell you of one great feast of soul at Oak Place. It is an old story to the oldest citizens remarks the old Mahogany Table.

As another Presidential election and inauguration has made history during the past year, the minds of the elder voters revert to the great campaigns and elections of the past, with old and new methods compared.

A little northeast of Huntsville, and nestled at the foot of Monte Sano, and shadowed by its lofty cedar-grown heights, almost hidden by a grove of majestic oaks, that surround it is one of those fine old residential representatives of seventy years ago. It is big, with a refreshing air of hospitable thoughts intent pervading its entire architecture, massive stone porches, broad halls, and elegant rooms, said Gath, in a letter to the Philadelphia Times, large enough to drive a team thru, and famous as the scene of lavish hospitality in days gone by.
So effectually do the oaks shield the old mansion, that one must drive up to its portals, ere aught but the verdure of the trees and grandeur of the mountains is revealed.

Captain George Steele, the owner, architect and builder of this monument of that beautiful past, was a politician, honest as the day and a good Democrat.

During the Presidential campaign of 1840, Capt. Steele picked out among a fine stock, a splendid ox that had never worn a yoke, named him Van Buren, and said he intended to celebrate the election of the next Democrat President with a grand free barbecue, and serve Van Buren ox roasted whole.

He was doomed to disappointment, Van Buren was defeated. Nothing daunted, Capt. Steele kept the ox on fattening diet, and in four years celebrated the inauguration of a Democratic President, when James K. Polk was received by a triumphant and happy party in the White House.

The ox had grown in grace and luscious physical proportions and he was slaughtered for the feast given at Oak Place in March 1845.

Four thousand citizens from Madison and adjoining counties and States with pleasure accepted the generous and courteous invitations, scattered broadcast to Whig and Democrat alike, and partook of the Van Buren ox, stall fed and roasted whole.

All kinds of vehicles, from the lowly ox cart to the elegant carriages drawn by dashing teams were brought into requisition to bring the poor, the rich, the high and low, welcomed alike.

Long tables were arranged under the majestic oaks. On the center table, was a magnificent cake pyramid, four feet high, surmounted by a figure of President Elect, James K. Polk. This pretty conceit in confections Captain Steele ordered from Nashville, sending his own team to insure its safe delivery.

The barbecuing was the work of Mr. Smoot, an artist in that line, and Van Buren went thru the barbecuing process for twenty four hours. With his handsome horns highly polished he presented a very luscious spectacle, stuffed with turkeys. There were pigs and lambs barbecued, hams boiled and their accompaniments in jellies, sauces and bread without stint; ice cream and cake, and immense cutgrass bowls of syllabub.

Matthew Weaver Steele, the gallant young son of the host, just home with College honors, delivered the address of welcome and Clement Claiborne Clay, a handsome young lawyer and a future statesman was the orator of the day.

Every man present received a hickory cane cut from Monte Sano, and the most prominent citizens were presented with canes highly polished by the well known slave, Charles Peck, and adorned with silver ferules and heads of gold or silver, engraved with name of receiver and the date. Mr. Steele's daughter, Mrs. S.S. Hoffman, still has several of the canes, and in the Old Home is the silver head of the cane inscribed with the name of John H. Lewis. After the speech-making, feasting and handshaking, a string band of the best picked banjoists, guitarists and fiddlers, from the plantation slaves, in happiest mood, played the Reels, Jigs and
other dances, and in the grand old rooms, aristocrats and Democrats cut the pigeon wing, dang Auld Lang Syne, danced the Old Virginia Reel in gayest mood.

Few are left, sighed the Old Mahogany Table, who recall those happy hours, the majority are "beyond the Sunrise, who joined hands on that occasion, in which a social scene was presented in Huntsville, such as was never enjoyed before, and never attempted since.

Ah! the instruments are shattered, and the strings are snapt in twain, and the fiddlers are forgotten, and will never play again.

Maybe it's all for the best, that it is out of style, said the old Mahogany Table Cheerily, to serve such feasts as that served at Oak Place. With my appendix gone I don't believe that ol Van Buren would set well on my constitution, to use a vulgar expression, pardon the frequent references to my lost appendix bit it is a fact that everybody who has once had one, loves to talk voluminously about the dear departed help'em eat, and I am not different from others, save in the quality or the appendix cut out my middle. Sobs the head of the Mahogany Table.
NOTES AND NEWS

BOOKS

SOUTHERN GENEALOGY AND HISTORY IN THE HERITAGE ROOM:
A BIBLIOGRAPHY has been compiled by the Heritage Room staff of the Huntsville-Madison County (AL) Public Library, the bibliography will serve as a guide to the books in the Southern States section of the department. Arranged alphabetically by state and author, the bibliography will be a useful tool for researchers in Southern genealogy and history. States included are: Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Alabama. The price for this 80-page, paper cover book is $3.75. Price includes postage and handling. It can be purchased from THE HERITAGE ROOM, HUNTSVILLE-MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, P O BOX 443, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA 35804. Payment must accompany personal orders.

DEserters!

We all know what Sherman said about war. Many men on both sides of the Civil War did their utmost to escape the front lines, to avoid the many dangers of shot and shell. Deserters were sometimes caught and punished by death. From time to time deserters were advertised for in the home newspapers of both sides. Four such men were sought in advertisements which ran in the Daily Huntsville Confederacy during the latter part of 1863. These ads ran constantly from September 24. They ceased sometime between December 24 and January 23, 1864. The ads are reproduced here as mementos of the war.
Deserter—$30 Reward!

I WILL pay a reward of Thirty Dollars for each of the following named deserters from Company A., Snodgrass's Alabama Regiment, if delivered to me in camp, or lodged in jail, so that I can get them:

H. A. Hinkle, aged 24 years, 6 feet high, sallow complexion, light hair, blue eyes. Resides near Vienna, Madison county, Ala.

John M. Lee, aged 24 years, 6 feet, 9 inches high, fair complexion, light hair, blue eyes. Resides in Madison county. Ala.

M. J. Strong, aged 24 years, 5 feet, 11 inches high, sallow complexion, dark hair, blue eyes. Resides in the Big Cove, Madison county. Ala.


Camp on Big Black, Miss., June 15, '63.

June 30.—w4t.

Deserter—$30 Reward!

DESERTED from Company A., Snodgrass's Alabama Regiment, in the Army of Mississippi, about 31 years of age, 5 feet 10 inches high, dark hair and complexion. He was enlisted near Fort Hudson, La., March 30, 1863, and resides near Maysville, Ala. I will pay Thirty Dollars for his apprehension and delivery to me, or his lodgment in any jail, so that I can get him.

Part of a map by Thomas Kitchen published in the "Annual Register" for 1763.
Part of a map published by the "Universal Museum or Gentleman's or Ladies Polite Magazine of History, Politics and Literature for 1762."
Part of a T. C. Bradford Map of Alabama, 1838, from the Historical Collection, Huntsville Public Library
Part of a Map of Alabama, 1840, from the Historical Collection, Huntsville Public Library
Part of a Johnson's Map of Georgia and Alabama, 1863, from the Historical Collection, Huntsville Public Library
Part of a J. H. Colton Map of Alabama, 1855, from the Historical Collection, Huntsville Public Library
Part of a S. Augustus Mitchell Map of Georgia and Alabama, 1872, from the Historical Collection, Huntsville Public Library
The Huntsville Historical Review is sent to all members of the Huntsville Historical Society. The annual membership is $5.00. Libraries and organizations may receive the Review on a subscription basis for $5.00 per year. Single issues may be obtained for $1.00 each.

Correspondence concerning contributions, editorial matters, and gifts should be sent to Henry S. Marks, 301-2 Terry Hutchens Building, Huntsville, Alabama 35801.

Responsibility for statement of facts or opinions made by contributors to the Review is not assumed by either the editor, Board of Editorial Advisors, or Huntsville Historical Society. Questions or comments concerning such matters should be addressed to the authors.

Permission to reprint any article in whole or in part is given, provided credit is given to the Review.

The editor and Board of Editorial Advisors are primarily interested in articles and documents pertaining to Madison County. Articles on the history of other sections of the state or area will be considered when they relate to Madison County. All copy, including footnotes, should be double-spaced with the footnotes typed on separate sheets at the end of the article. The author should submit an original and a carbon.