

CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Orlando, Florida 32810
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Telephone
295-4092
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Mrs. Peola I. Stuart	President
Mrs. Alice E. Rupe	Vice-President and Treasurer
Mrs. Pat Dietz	Secretary

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The following letter, postmarked Tuscon, was sent, via San Francisco, to Philadelphia, and postmarked "Rec'd. in Phila. P.O. Sept. 3, 2 AM" (1868). This is reproduced here through the courtesy of Mrs. May Hebrank, one of our Charter Members.

Miss Merritt

Camp Crittenden
July 20th, 1868

My Dear Friend;

I have sad news to communicate to you, which will be as painful for me to write as it will be for you to read. My dearly beloved cousin and your dearly beloved friend William Rothernell is no more. He was killed by the hostile Apaches on the afternoon of the 25th inst. about 10 miles south of this post whilst on route from Tubac to this place. I wrote for him to come to the post and live with me. He was to come with a wagon and 6 soldiers as an escort. When they came to Morgan's Ranch he and a Mr. Osborn were so indiscreet as to stop and get some dinner. When the wagon and escort had gone about half an hour, he and Mr. Osborn jumped on their horses and galloped on to catch up. When about a mile from Morgan's Ranch a party of some fifteen Apaches jumped up from among rocks at the roadside and fired on them with arrows and guns. Osborn was shot through the leg and became separated from William, whose body was found the following day by the roadside. He was shot in the left breast and lanced in the back. We brought his body to this post and yesterday he was buried. Mr. Osborn is here and doing well. This is a sad occurrence. We were waiting dinner for him last Sunday. My wife went down the road some distance to look for him. We finally sat down and whilst eating received the news of his death. I write you this letter because William often spoke to me of you in the most affectionate terms, and for the other reason that I found some of your very kind letters in his trunk. I have been like a father to William since we sailed from New York. I was the cause of both him and Cousin James coming out here and they have both met with such sudden and unexpected deaths. I feel sad and lonely.

Another dear friend of mine, Joseph Carrell, left Morgan's Ranch on the evening of the 2nd of July. That was the last he was ever heard of. He, too, was on his way to this post. Several parties were out hunting for him but without success until after William's body was found we found that of Carroll and they were buried side by side yesterday. On the morning of the 22nd of July, Private White of my Company was killed within a hundred yards of his house. So you see one can not take too much precaution. Behind any stone or bush an Indian may be concealed. Their cowardice, treachery and cruelty is unequal by any living thing.

Shall I return your letters or shall I burn them? Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

I am very respectfully,
Your Friend
Brvt, Lt. Col. T. R. Dunkleberger
Camp Crittenden, Arizona

WE HAVE BEEN MAKING HISTORY

This is the fourth issue of our Newsletter, and since it is the final one for this calendar year, we would like to recite to you just what has been done by this infant Society:

1. We have been compiling lists and obtaining maps to aid our cemetery census program. Mrs. Eileen Willis has prepared a list of that information already on file at the Orlando Public Library and, using this list, we have begun. A census has been made of the Banana Lake Road Cemetery and a partial one made at the Church of Christ, Payola Road, Seminole County. This one we hope to complete at a later date. Mrs. Mary Jane Knisely has been making a local census and plans to do even more upon her return from vacation.
2. We were given a copy of the Oviedo Baptist Church's 100th Anniversary publication, which, while containing good historical information, had no index. Mrs. Leona L. Henkel has prepared this index, and a copy will be furnished to the Oviedo Baptist Church in appreciation of their gift.
3. Mrs. Elizabeth Allyn, as Chairman of the Historical Committee, has made great headway in preparing the record books for the Obituaries and Vital Statistics. We are receiving clippings from several non-local sources and from our summer absent members, which are appreciated. In addition to these books, Mrs. Allyn's group is assembling materials for beginning the historical files. They will begin working on these files right away, and will be pleased to have your contributions and help.
4. Most of the programs of the Society have been taped, and one interview has been recorded. This is very interesting work, and should be planned in detail.
5. Our President has spoken at various civic club luncheons, has a talk scheduled to be given in June, with another to be given later.
6. An alphabetical list of property owners is being prepared from the Tax Delinquent List of 1907, as found in the Orlando Reporter-Star, donated by Mr. Alton J. Nolle.
7. From Mrs. Mary Jane Knisely we have received a photocopy of the names of the gentlemen who came to England with William the Conqueror, as shown in her book Kings of England, published in 1846. This interesting material is available for reference.
8. We have had donated to us a copy of the first telephone directory and a copy of the first folded directory of Winter Park, as given to us by Mr. Galloway of the Winter Park Telephone Company.

"WE HAVE BEEN MAKING HISTORY" (Continued)

9. We are very pleased to announce that we have been given a copy machine in good working order. This was presented by Mr. Bob Brokaw of George Stuart's and is being kept at the home of Mrs. Betty Hughson, as she runs off all our publications for us.
10. Cap't. Jack Bender III has agreed to be our Publicity Chairman during the coming year, taking over the job well done by Mrs. Mary Ballenger. Notices of our meetings have appeared in the various local papers, in shopping guides, in Sanford, etc., as well as on various local radio stations.
11. Three of our members attended the workshop held in Jacksonville last October. Several excellent speakers were present, and many notes were made for future aid to our society.
12. Our first Christmas Party was given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Z. T. Stuart, establishing a lovely precedent. Tentative plans have been made for the following one, considering our increased size.
13. Our St. Patrick's Day card party, to raise funds for our requirements, was something of a success, and we may plan for others.
14. On May 29th we had a pot luck supper and genealogical workshop. Despite a severe storm we had a nice attendance, and received five new members.
15. We have built up a surname card file for a member research aid.
16. We have begun our member's pedigree chart file.
17. We have registered our Society for the Directory of Historical Societies and Agencies in U. S. and Canada, where it should appear next year.
18. We have been promised contributions for our Bible Records files, and wish to begin photocopying this material as soon as possible.
19. We have been given some very old newspaper clippings and other printed matter.
20. We have received gifts of Soil Maps and maps of Orange and Osceola Counties, which will prove most helpful to us.
21. We have produced and accepted a fine set of By-Laws. This required much hard work and we appreciate Mrs. Pat Deitz's very able efforts.
22. Through the diligent work of the interested members, our Society has grown from 15 charter members to 56 at this writing.

"WE HAVE BEEN MAKING HISTORY" (Continued)

23. Through the diligent work of the interested members, our Society has grown from 15 charter members to 56 at this writing.

We have received cooperation and help in many areas. We are grateful to all and pleased at the recognition that our Society serves in a capacity heretofore unfilled in this area. Our growth and increasing abilities will be in direct relation to the continuation of your interested support in the preservation of Central Florida records, folklore and genealogical records. We know you are pleased that your Society has flourished during the past year, and hope you will find an area in which you, too, can serve as well as be served.

ANCESTOR HUNTING OUT WEST

One of our members recently was furnished with a clipping from the magazine called Frontier Times, apparently published bi-monthly, as the clipping was dated April-May, 1970.

This publication carries an article entitled "Trails Grow Dim", in which readers' letters are published concerning the last known word of lost ancestors and relatives who were sheriffs, pioneers, forty-niners, muleskinners, cowboys, Indians, and Indian-fighters, and so on, all in the Old West.

These people do not provide "missing persons" notices nor will they print lengthy genealogical requests, they say, but they do attempt to print all letters as soon as space will permit. This is too good an opportunity to overlook, any of you who have lost a relative in the West.

Address: Western Publications, Ind.
P. O. Box 3668
Austin, Texas 78704

"RESEARCH BY CORRESPONDENCE"

- GEORGIA: Department of State, Georgia State Department of Archives & History, 330 Capitol Avenue, S.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30312.
- ILLINOIS: Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois.
- IOWA: Iowa State Department of Archives & History, Historical Building, Des Moines, Iowa.
- KANSAS: Kansas State Historical Society, Topeka, Kansas.
- KENTUCKY: Kentucky Historical Society, Old State House Frankfort, Kentucky

NEGLECTED CEMETERY RECALLS INDIAN WARS

In 1853, the Florida Legislature passed an act creating a regiment of mounted volunteers to affect "the first removal of Indians of this state and for other purposes. It is noted that the exodus from Florida of the already vanishing tribes was accomplished in the next few years. One of the more heroic of these Volunteers was Sgt. Hooker, who joined the regiment while still a boy.

There seems to be no written history concerning the actual fighting activities of Sgt. Hooker, however, there has been erected a low marble monument to Sgt. Hooker in Casselberry, which leaves no doubt in one's mind that he did indeed play a part in securing the frontiers of the state and in executing the law that made it illegal for "any Indian or Indians to remain within the state".

The inscription of the statue reads: "Stephen J. L. Hooker, Florida Pvt. Florida Mounted Vols, Indian Wars, March 9, 1837 - Aug. 2, 1904". The location of this monument is on the corner of Plumosis Way and 17-92. Over the years, unfortunately, vandals and children have, in many instances carried away the marble markers of the graves of the pioneers and Indian War Veterans. The obscure burial plots are completely neglected, driven over by cars, littered with trash, and children even try to dig up the graves sometimes.

Although there are funds in the town treasury, none are used to maintain the cemetery and neither the town officials or the civic clubs or organizations deem it worthwhile to see that this final resting place of some of our pioneers and Indian fighters is not desecrated.

The Seminole County tax office has this 210 ft. square plot at the southeast shore of Lake Ellen assessed as a cemetery. As cemeteries are not taxed, there is no name connected with this plot of land on the tax records. As there is no name filed for the property, the Circuit Court has no record of it either. In turn, the Cemetery Division of the State Comptrollers office does not have the cemetery listed in the state registry, indicating that it is owned by a Church or Casselberry or Seminole County.

As many ancestors and relatives of living families in the area are probably buried here, it would seem that some civic organization or town officials might interest themselves in the restoration and preservation of this hallowed ground.

"ONCE A VIRGINIA - - - -"

The disposition to be proud and vain of one' country, and to boast of it, is a natural feeling, indulged in or not as respect to the pride, vanity and boasting inheres in him, even as to the flavor of the York River oyster in that bivalve. No distance or deportation, no trimmings of a gracious prosperity, and no picklings in the sharp acid of adversity can destroy it. It is part of the Virginia character, just as any flavor in the distinctive part of the oyster which cannot, save by annihilation, die. Patriotism with a Virginian is a noun personal. It is the Virginian himself, and something over. He loves Virginia percee and propter se. He loves her for herself, and for himself, because she is Virginia and everything else besides. He loves to talk about her. Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. It makes no odds where he goes. He carries Virginia with him, not in the entirety always. The little spot he came from is Virginia. As Swedenbord says, "The smallest part of the brain is the abridgement of it all". He never gets acclimated elsewhere. He never loses citizenship to the old home. The right of expatriation is a pure abstraction to him. He may breathe in Alabama, but he lives in Virginia. His treasure is there, and his heart also. If he looks at the Delta of the Mississippi, it reminds him of the James River "low grounds". If he sees the vast prairies of Texas, it is a memorial of the meadows "of the valley". Richmond is the center of attraction, the depot of all that is great, grand, good and glorious. "It is the Kentucky of a place", which the preacher described Heaven to be, to the Kentucky congregation.

"THE FLUSH TIMES OF ALABAMA AND MISSISSIPPI"

by Joseph G. Baldwin

first published in 1853, paper back edition
by Sagmore Press, 1957, page 92.

DID YOU KNOW THAT:

Before 1788 the boundaries of Virginia extended to the Ohio River? What is now West Virginia was in Virginia and only became West Virginia as a direct result of the Civil War when Virginia cast its lot with the Confederacy and the settlers west of the Alleghanies formed a separate government loyal to the Union! The old areas of Augusta County, Virginia took in the counties of West Virginia's Pendleton, Hampshire and Hardy. So many times searchers in early Virginia will need to check the above West Virginia Counties, also Greenbrier, Kanawha, Nicholas, etc.

The following is the first of a series of names of members and the surnames they are researching. This information will aid you in assisting your fellow members. Remember the names and when you are reading make notes to pass on to these people.

Mrs. Jerri Hoch: Aird/Ard, Hamby, North and South Carolina and Georgia.

Mrs. Louise McDaris: Spainhour/Spainhower, etc:
Sewell, and Wingard - Alabama and North Carolina.
Sisk - North Carolina
Estes, North Carolina and ?.
Rider - Pennsylvania, North Carolina and ?.

Mrs. Marion Schuneman: Howard - Grafton, Vermont and Holden, Massachusetts.
Stoddard, Holmes, Davis - Grafton, Vermont.
Taylor - Hartford, Connecticut.

FOR THOSE SEARCHING INDIAN RECORDS

Check the Family Puzzlers, beginning with No. 81, May 15, 1969, which has an article concerning a Kendall Lewis (1781-18__), who was a "Citizen of Four Nations", as he married a chief's daughter. He served as an interpreter to Big Warrior, Chief of the Upper Creeks, whose capitol was Tuckabatchee, near Ft. Toulouse, Interesting article.

Same publication, March 26, 1970, has an article on page 9, concerning the Cherokees, and "The Henderson Roll", Cherokee Census of 1835. Another source cited there, also.

MAKING WAY FOR PROGRESS?

Although Florida boasts the oldest city in the United States, there are very few homes extant which ante-date the beginning of this century.

One of these is located at Palm Bay in Brevard County; now threatened with demolition by the march of progress. It was built in 1873, the oldest existing structure south of Rockledge.

It was in that year that John and Bridget Cohecy arrived from Cleveland with their two children, John, Jr. and daughter Belle. Theirs was a rugged life as supplies had to be brought in by sailboat from Titusville. On one such trip John, Sr. was killed in a storm which suddenly erupted on the Indian R-ver.

The young widow continued to reside there and was watched over by boat captains on the river, who always responded to her call for help when she ran up her white flag. Twice a year Indians from the south came through bringing her deer meat, turkeys and ducks. Eventually she married a Mr. Minor who came to live on a nearby citrus grove.

The house is now used as a study hall for a Florida Institute of Technology fraternity which has been anxious to restore and preserve it. The Brevard County Historical Commission is also interested in seeing that it is not destroyed.

But we are afraid it seems destined to go the way of the ducks and alliga-ors.

from: Orlando Evening Star, March 5, 1970

On February 17, 1864, a law was passed by the Confederate Government, requiring the Southern people to turn in their paper currency and to buy long-term bonds at 4% interest. If by April 1, 1864, bills of large denominations (\$100 and up) were not turned in and bonds bought, the holders would suffer a further reduction of their paper currency, to at least 1/3 of face value. Small bills, one, two and five dollars, would each be exchanged at the rate of three old dollars for the purchase of two new dollars.

Jubilee, by Margaret Walker, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1966.

NOTES TO REMEMBER:

Even if you feel almost sure that your ancestor left no will, do check probate records as to administration under local law. The debts of the deceased would have to be handled, possibly by the widow, or minor children would have to be cared for by the court. Local laws differ, so determine just how these matters were handled in the courts which apply.

Do not be surprised if you find the name of your Aunt Mary is given in records as being "Molly" or "Polly", or for Martha, that the name "Mattie" is used, "Patty" often was used for Martha, Patience and Patricia, thereby adding such confusion to family records.

