

PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Next Meeting:
April 21st—2:30 p.m.
Pintlala Baptist Church



*c/o Pintlala Public Library
255 Federal Road
Hope Hull, Alabama 36043*

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Triple portrait of (L to R): Alexander H. Phillips (Princeton College, Class of 1851), Hugh William Henry (Princeton College, Class of 1851) and William Wallace Phillips, ca. 1850s. Half-plate Daguerreotype.

Photograph courtesy of Princeton University Library

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President's Message

Reasons for the Study of Local History A Summary of Remarks Made By Gary Burton to the Montgomery County Historical Society on November 18, 2012

1. An awareness of local history creates a powerful sense of place and a riveting sense of home.
2. Local history provides a microcosm of a larger society.
3. We are given a glimpse into extraordinary lives.
4. There is often a forewarning extended to us by lives not so exemplary.
5. The knowledge of local history empowers us to make decisions which are thoughtful and not reactionary.
6. The awareness of local history puts us under a moral debt to those who created a better world for us to live in.
7. The preservation of local history and local heritage will outlast the nature of a failing memory.
8. An appreciation of local history provides resistance to the current thought which is easily detached from the past.

Gary Burton, President
garyburton1@charter.net

April 2013 PHA Program

Pintlala Historical Association will meet on Sunday, April 21, 2013 in the Fellowship Hall of Pintlala Baptist Church at 2:30. Our speaker will be the new director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, Steve Murray. He is the sixth director in the Department's 111-year history. While a graduate student at Auburn University, Murray worked as an assistant to the editor of *The Alabama Review*, the state's scholarly historical journal. When the online Encyclopedia of Alabama was formed, he became its managing editor. In 2006, Murray joined the ADAH as Assistant Director for Administration. He has been heavily involved with the development of the Museum of Alabama from its inception.

His appointment as director was met with a positive response from retiring director, Dr. Ed Bridges and the Board's search committee.

We look forward to hearing his vision for the Alabama Department of Archives and History particularly during this period of financial restraint. Please attend to welcome Steve Murray and introduce him to a section of Alabama rich in historical significance.

We encourage you to bring visitors and potential members to our meetings.

Alice Carter

PHA welcomes new members:

- Kelly and Krisitie Kiernan, Fleta, Alabama
- Dr. and Mrs. Jerry DePriest, Abilene, Texas
- Rev. Ben Matthews, Hope Hull, Alabama

Captain Hugh William Henry (1831-1916)
22nd Alabama Infantry Regiment, Company K
 by Alice T. Carter

INTRODUCTION

The following look into the life of Montgomery County resident, Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) was developed in response to an inquiry to PHA from Greg Bettcher of Minnesota. Bettcher is a Civil War historian and collector who purchased a Confederate sword at an arms and armor show in Minneapolis sponsored by the Heritage Arms Society in March 2011. Bettcher has described this particular sword as a plain U.S. Model 1850 Foot Officers Sword. He further related that these sabers were available for private purchase for ranks Lieutenant through Captain at military and fraternal supply stores and at some haberdasheries throughout the country and in the South prior to the Civil War. His research led him to Hugh William Henry, a member of the 22nd Alabama Regiment, Co. K. Bettcher was seeking any available information on Henry and was most generous in sharing information from his research files.



Various views of Hugh William Henry's confederate sword
 Note: HW Henry above the screw. Photos courtesy of Gary Bettcher.

Falconer Family

Hugh William Henry is descended on his mother's line through the Falconer family, of Scotch descent and among the earliest settlers of Montgomery County. Joshua Falconer, one of three Falconer brothers coming to the developing town of New Philadelphia/Montgomery, arrived first and was one of the first merchants in Montgomery. He was described as a "citizen of great merit" by Thomas M. Owen in his *History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography*. John and William Falconer arrived in 1817, the same year in which Andrew Dexter of Massachusetts attended a land sale in Milledgeville, Georgia and found himself lacking the necessary funds to complete his purchase of land in central Alabama. He developed an association with John Falconer who was able to aid in financing the purchase. Falconer became a one fourth owner of the original plat that is now the capitol city of Alabama. John built the first home in the new town and went on to become the first postmaster where he served from 1818 to 1834 when he resigned and paved the way for his assistant Neil Blue to succeed him; Neil was father of Matthew Blue, considered Montgomery's first historian. John Falconer never married and in the later years of his life he retired from business and lived in the home of Nancy Wilder Falconer, second wife and widow of his brother, William Falconer. John Falconer who died in 1854 is buried near the front gate of Oakwood Cemetery in Montgomery within a plot marked "Henry." Dr. Hugh William Henry and his wife Martha Falconer are buried there and are parents of Hugh William Henry (1831-1916). Inscriptions on all markers in this plot are almost impossible to read.

William Falconer settled first in the Mount Meigs area of the county and ultimately moved to south Montgomery County in the Ramer Creek section according to W. G. Robertson in his *Recollections of the Early Settlers of Montgomery County, Alabama*. Falconer became a successful planter and accumulated a large number of acres in the Ramer Creek area. He was prominent in the city as well as the county of Montgomery. He was co-owner and editor with Daniel Sayre of the *Daily Montgomery Ledger*. William Falconer's first wife was Anne Singleton with whom he fathered five children, one being daughter, Martha, born in 1811 in their home state of South Carolina. William married his second wife Nancy Wilder in 1815. The William Falconer family had been in Alabama for over ten years when in 1828, Martha married Dr. Hugh William Henry.

Dr. Hugh William Henry (1791-1870)

Hugh William Henry father of Captain Hugh William Henry (1831-1916), was born to Michael and Abigail Henry in Waterford, New York, 1791. He studied medicine either under a practicing physician or at an academic institution and earned a license to practice from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York City. Henry practiced his profession in Dutchess County, New York for five years. He was commissioned by Governor Daniel D. Tompkins as a surgeon in the Army and served the New York State troops in the War of 1812. In 1817 Henry made the journey to Blakely, Alabama near Mobile and practiced medicine for a period on the Alabama frontier before coming to Montgomery on horseback in 1818. According to an obituary for Dr. John Hazard Henry, published in the *Montgomery Advertiser* on June 21, 1906, Dr. Hugh William Henry played an important role in the history of this section of Alabama. In Montgomery he opened a drug store in partnership with Andrew Dexter and was a captain of a company of Dragoons that served as escort to General Lafayette upon his visit to Alabama in 1825. The "Montgomery Huzzars" was the first cavalry company to be established in Montgomery, incorporated January 19, 1832 with Dr. Henry as Captain. The unit was routinely referred to as "Henry's Horse Company." The unit of volunteers included some members living outside the city in the rural areas. During the Creek Indian Wars of 1836, Governor C. C. Clay chose this company as his bodyguard.¹ The *Advertiser* states that Henry was a great admirer and friend of Andrew Jackson. He married Martha Falconer in 1828 with their marriage ceremony being performed by early Baptist missionary to the Creek Indians, Lee Compere, who subsequently became the first minister at Montgomery's First Baptist Church. Compere's portrait may be viewed at the church on Perry Street. The three children of Dr. and Mrs. Hugh William Henry who survived to adulthood were John Hazard Henry, Hugh William Henry, Jr. and Martha Anne Singleton Henry (Mattie).

Dr. Henry was a successful physician and landowner making it possible for him to accumulate large wealth for the time period. Not only did he own property in both the city and county of Montgomery also he held property in Coosa, Elmore and Bibb Counties, Alabama; was a large slave holder, and a stock holder in Montgomery Mining and Transportation Company. Cotton accounted for a portion of his wealth and even after his death, Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) lists nine bales of cotton from the Ramer Creek plantation held at Lehman, Durr & Co., mercantile brokers in Montgomery.²

After the Civil War Dr. Henry and Martha moved to Baltimore, Maryland. Life for them must have been quite different from the affluent lives once led in Alabama. Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) infers in a letter written April 3, 1867 from Ramer to Hazard Henry, that his parents lived in a boarding house in Baltimore and adds they then moved into a furnished home with his wife, Louisa Henry's family,



Tombstone: Dr. Hugh William Henry and Martha Falconer Henry, Oakwood Cemetery, Montgomery, AL. Photo courtesy of Gary Burton

the Bensons. Henry relayed that it would “prove more economical for them than boarding house life” and “much more pleasant.” Dr. Hugh William Henry died on February 12, 1870 in Baltimore, his remains were returned to Montgomery, Alabama for burial in Oakwood Cemetery. His wife Martha died on April 15, 1876 while in Montgomery on one of her yearly visits to friends and family.

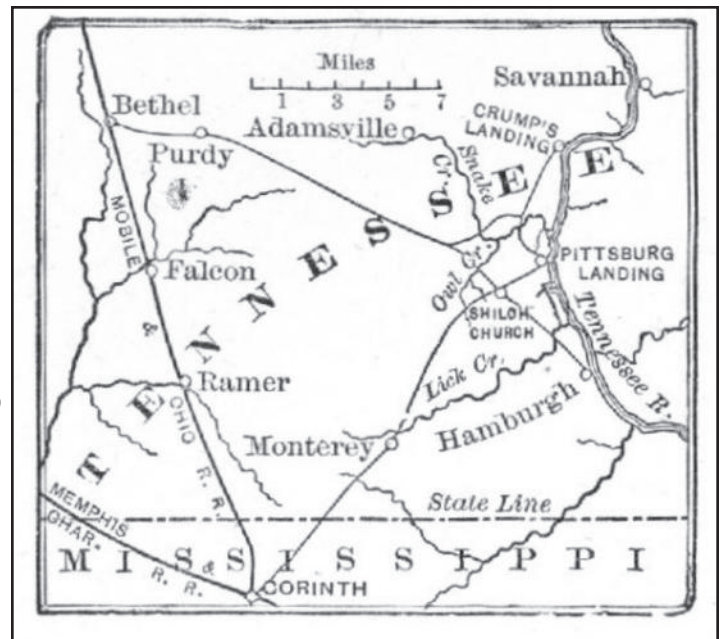
Who was Captain Hugh William Henry? (1831-1916)

Hugh William Henry was born September 8, 1831 to Dr. Hugh William Henry and Martha Falconer Henry in Montgomery County, Alabama as a member of one of the most distinguished families in this area of the state. The family lived in a home located at the corner of Perry Street and Madison Avenue for thirty seven years—when they moved to Baltimore at the end of the Civil War. During the childhood of the Henry children, Hugh and his brother John Hazard Henry (see *PHA Newsletter*, October, 2012) were educated at private schools or academies in Montgomery. Among these schools were the Franklin Institute and a mixed (boys and girls) school administered by Mr. Thomas McDougall on the upper floor of a brick building found on the southwest corner of Commerce and Tallapoosa streets. This building was home of Bell’s Tavern later known as Freney’s Tavern. Dr. W. S. Wyman³ listed his classmates, including the Henry brothers in an August 25, 1912 *Montgomery Advertiser* article. Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) himself described his Montgomery school days in an undated *Montgomery Advertiser* article found in the Buckner Papers. His first recollection of school was the Franklin Institute located on the North end of Court Square between Court and Perry streets. He described the institute as “Quite a pretentious school, equipped with maps, globes and philosophic apparatus.” Ledger entries of 1842 also found in the Buckner Papers reveal that Dr. Hugh W. Henry paid local merchants for supplies for his two sons including slates, bottles of ink, writing paper, quills, Latin Readers, Porters Rhetorical Reader, a Latin Dictionary and personal items including caps and mittens, frock coats, pantaloons, pants, shoes and a Dr. Perry for “drawing” a tooth for Hugh. At an unknown date Hugh left Montgomery to attend private school in New York state before being admitted on August 10, 1848 as a sophomore at Princeton College in New Jersey. Hugh Henry (1831-1916) graduated from Princeton in the class of 1851. Many years later his son, also Dr. Hugh William Henry, wrote for the *Princeton General Biographical Catalogue* that his father spent several years in Texas prior to the Civil War as a lawyer. Inquiries from Princeton to the son regarding Henry’s law school education were unanswered and no documentation for this schooling has been found. Three letters of various dates during the years of 1855 and 1856 from Hugh to his parents with the return addresses of Laracca and Victoria, Texas⁴ were found in the Buckner Papers. Hugh mentions in a letter dated July 7, 1856 his “small herd” and “a strong desire to see the Rancho prosper, my funds increase. I am fast losing all interest in love, politics and war.” At what point in time Henry returned to Ramer could not be found, however, the 1860 Federal Census lists him as twenty-nine years of age; living in District 2, Montgomery County, Alabama with a post office of Ramah (Ramer) and occupation listed as farmer.

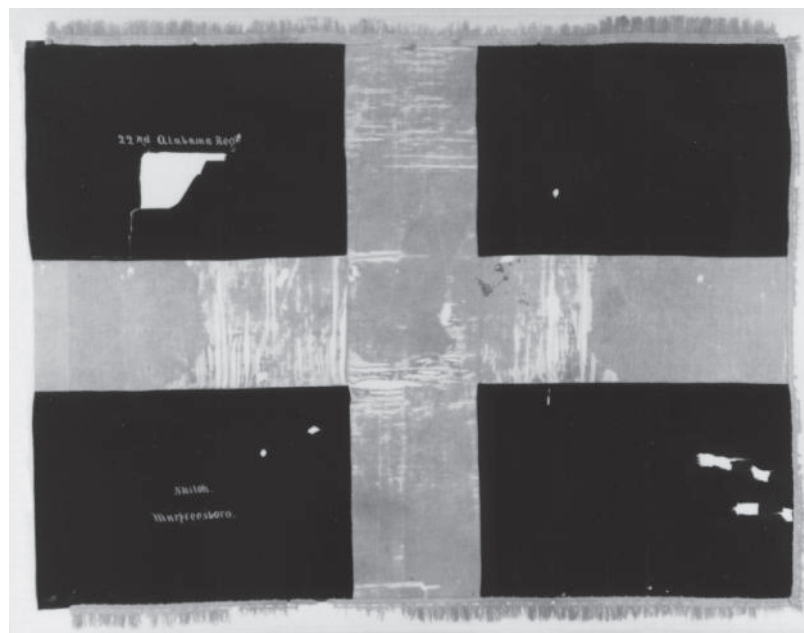
Hugh William Henry (1831-1916)—Civil War Experiences

A Civil War Muster Roll describes Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) as five feet eight and one half inches tall, of fair complexion with gray eyes and dark hair. His occupation was listed as farmer. Muster Rolls show Henry enlisting for service with the Confederate Army on October 6, 1861 at Notasulga, Alabama. He was 29 years old at the time and was joined in this act of dedication and support of the Confederate cause by other young men recruited from the counties of : Calhoun, Cherokee, Choctaw, Clarke, Mobile, Montgomery, Pike, Randolph and Walker. The group is listed as the 22nd Alabama Infantry Regiment, Company K.⁵ His cousin, Benjamin Rufus Hart, Jr. (born 1834) is listed as the Captain of this company and his brother Robert S. (Singleton) Hart⁶ is listed on the same Muster Roll as a Sergeant, age 18. Richard L. Myrick⁷ of whom you will later read, enlisted on the same date as a Lieutenant.

The history of the 22nd Alabama Infantry Regiment can be found in numerous sources.⁸ The Regiment was organized in Montgomery in November 1861. During the winter of the same year the 22nd was encamped at Mobile from where it was ordered to Corinth, Mississippi a hub for railway transportation.⁹ Henry was ordered to recruiting service for a 30 day period beginning February 17, 1862 as found in a Muster Roll. It is probable that this duty was in Troy, Alabama. From Corinth, the regiment made its way to Tennessee in time to see heavy action at the Battle of Shiloh or Pittsburgh Landing as shown on the included map for the Shiloh Campaign. At dawn on April 6, 1862 Union discovery of the leading Confederate forces, followed by forty thousand Southern troops under the command of General Albert Sidney Johnston, initiated the Battle of Shiloh. Johnston died on the battlefield becoming a footnote to history as the oldest and highest-ranking officer to be killed in the Civil War.¹⁰ On April 7 the Union troops had regrouped, regained their lost ground and forced the Confederates now under the command of General P.T. G. Beauregard to retreat to Corinth. Only three days later on April 10, 1862 Hugh William Henry takes time to pen a post-battle letter to his parents regarding his experience during the Battle of Shiloh. The letter provides an intimate look into one man's nightmare and is at the very heart of this study of Captain Hugh William Henry (1831-1916).



See website: <http://www.sonofthesouth.net/leefoundation/battle-of-shiloh.htm>



Conserved battle flag of the 22nd Alabama Infantry Regiment, Co. K; Photo courtesy of Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, AL

THE BATTLE OF SHILOH.

The following private letter from a member of the 22d Alabama, to his father in this city, will doubtless be read with interest by our readers. The writer is well known in this portion of the State:

CORINTH, MISS., April 10, 1862.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER:--I received your letter yesterday, the day after we reached here from the battlefield of the Tennessee river.

I would give anything could I be with you now, even for a few days. I have so much to tell you, and such great cause of joining in expressions of gratitude to the merciful God who has preserved us through so many dangers, and I felt dear Mother, through all those two days of danger and suffering, that it was the Lord's hand that sustained us, and his shield that was over us; and oh, when I think of the many I saw fall on my right and left, I could not but feel that the prayers of our good mothers at home had found a hearing with the Merciful Father of us all. Just think of us then, Ben, Robert, and myself, being under perhaps the most terrible fire of musketry, rifles, bombs and rifled cannon, for two whole days, nearly the whole time, and that we escaped without harm. I assure you that we are not unmindful of the gratitude we owe a Merciful Father, his protection and guidance. I wish I could give you an account of the battle. But forgive me if I pass over much of the horrible sufferings and dreadful scenes of the battlefield. The remembrance sickens me, and I know such things are not suited for you to hear of.

I will try and give you some idea though of what we passed through, that you may know what great cause we have to return our thanks to the merciful God who has brought us out of it all unharmed. Last Thursday our Brigade received orders to cook five days' rations and to march to Monterey. Owing to a delay in getting up the rations we only got two days' provisions cooked, and ^{the} balance was loaded on a wagon. The wagon overturned and we lost three days' rations. Some days we eat but a mouthful or two, and that such as we picked up in the Yankee camp, crackers, and raw ham. Of course we were half famished, and weak as water. The regiment marched out about four hundred strong. The first day we marched about twelve miles and camped beyond Monterey. That night it rained upon us all night nearly, and we were as wet and miserable as possible. The next morning it still rained, and we marched through the mud and water with a cold north wind blowing, only some three or four miles, and encamped on the side of the road in the mud. That night it hailed, rained and thundered all night long. At three in the morning we formed for an advance, the rain pouring down in torrents, and so dark that you could not see the man in front of ~~us~~ you. There we waited till daylight, when we took up the march at about 10 A. M. We formed a line of battle in front of the Yankee camp, and endeavored to draw them out by skirmishes, but it was no go. There was fighting all that day, Saturday, but our brigade was not in it.

That night we lay on our arms. The next morning before

breakfast, we advanced in line of battle on the enemy. Our Brigade, under Gen. Gladden, advanced upon a camp of Ohio volunteers. Our company was forty-two men, with non-commissioned officers. We got within one hundred yards of them before they opened fire upon us. Our company was in an open space, and they seemed to concentrate their fire upon us. ~~Our Company~~ The bullets, bombs, and cannon shot flying round us thick as hail. We were under this fire for half an hour, and lost one of our company; six killed and seven wounded. Our General lost an arm, our Major, R. B. Armistead, was killed. Col. Adams, who was next in command of the brigade was killed, and our officers fell in every direction. Our men wavered, of course, of course, under such a severe fire, but soon rallied, silenced the enemy's battery, and our artillery coming up and playing into them, we charged, drove them out of their camps, and a half a mile beyond. Here they planted some batteries and shelled us hotly, the shell frequently ~~falling~~ bursting within a few feet of us. We had formed a square, thinking their cavalry was about to charge us, but the shall soon made us deploy into line again. Our company ~~was~~ now thrown forward to reconnoitre. We went up near enough to see them very plainly, even to their trimmings. They fired on us and we returned it, with good effect, too, I think, as there was a gun left there with all the horses killed.

Our Brigade then advanced in line up the hill, the enemy retreating, but playing on us heavily with their cannon, the shell bursting all around us and the bullets cutting down

our men now and then. We then were ordered to advance through an open field upon the enemy who were in an orchard and some old houses. We soon drove them out down ~~into~~ into a bottom, we lay down along the fence and fired for half an hour, they returning the fire. We then charged down the hill into a bottom, and lay down under an awful fire, returning it as best we could until we were ordered to cease, as we were firing on our own men.

This was a mistake, as the Yankees soon advanced and the regiments giving away on our left, we had to run for a hundred yards or more under a severe fire, many of our officers falling and losing many of our men. We soon rallied, though, and a Tennessee Regiment coming up on our right, we soon charged and drove the enemy through their ^{camps} and back to the river. When we had them completely routed, had taken all their camps, any quantity of forage, provisions and clothing, most of their artillery and five thousand prisoners. Gen. Breckinridge's brigade then pursued them and drove them on their boats.

The gunboats now opened upon us with shell and the cannonade was terrible. The shell fell ~~among~~ all amongst us, and we had to file down under the hollow to avoid the fire.--We had one poor fellow in our company struck by a shell; he was badly wounded; we carried him that night about a mile to where we encamped. We camped in their tents; they were riddled with balls, and as it rained all night they were not of much use in keeping out the rain. The Yankees threw shells at us during the night, but we slept soundly in spite of them.

The next morning before we could get breakfast we were ordered to fall in; we formed and waited; the enemy oped on us with artillery, and our company was ordered forward to find their battery. We deployed and came near being surrounded and cut off by their cavalry; we retreated however to rejoin our regiment, but could not find it as it had been moved. A Lieutenant and two men ^{who} were sent out to show us the way back are either killed or taken. Our Colonel supposed that we were all taken. We then fell in with a Tennessee regiment to support two batteries; we were lying directly between them; the rifled cannon shot, grape, and shell, which flew thick and fast within a foot or two of our heads as we lay down frequently falling amongst us. It was the most terrible cannonade I ever heard; the earth trembled, and the bushes and trees were swept all around us close to the ground.

We were ordered to charge the enemy when their fire became so severe that we were ordered to lie down. We were unable to return it, and had to lie there for a half an hour, under a fire that had we stood up we would not had a man left. I lay behind a log and I could not count the bullets as they struck it above me. The cannon balls, too, came now and then amongst us unpleasantly near. After awhile the regiment on our right gave way and we were ordered to run. The enemy were then not more than forty yards from us, and I expected that we would all be killed, as we had to run down into a hollow and up a hill, the enemy firing at us all the time. Here we lost two men wounded and probably taken prisoners.-- We then returned and ~~probably~~ found another Tennessee regiment and engaged the enemy. We fought here about

advanced again. Here it was that Gen. Breckinridge seized the colors of a Louisiana regiment and advanced at its head.

The enemy though, were too numerous and outflanked us all around. Our troops though, made a desperate stand and kept the enemy at bay until we had formed two lines of battle in the rear. They were exhausted and disorganized, and it was impossible for them to fight longer against the fresh troops the enemy were bringing in. The enemy though, seemed as well satisfied as they could be, and did not advance. In this last fight, Lieut. Myrick, our 2d Lieut, and Capt. was badly wounded, and I took him to the rear. We had to go up a hill exposed to a ^{very} heavy fire, and I confess I had but little hopes of getting him or myself out either.

Capt. Hart returned to see about Robert and the company, and I carried the Lieut. to the hospital. There they told us to go on as it was unsafe. I had to lead him about two miles before we were out of danger, and before I could get him in a wagon. I finally got him in one, made him as comfortable as possible, and then went to get something to eat in a Yankee camp. While I was eating the wagon drove off and I was unable to find it again. My regiment coming along soon, I fell in that night, we marched through mud knee deep, wading creeks and encamped at Monterey. We were unsheltered, and it poured down upon us all night, a most drenching rain which we had to lie ~~down~~ and sleep in. The next day, Tuesday, we marched in here over the worst cut up road, through creeks and bogs, the most completely exhausted set of men there ever was. Our cavalry and artillery covered our retreat, and we came back in good order considering the disorganized

condition of our troops.

Our cavalry and John C. Breckinridge's brigade are now at Monterey, and the enemy as I can learn are not advancing beyond their old lines. If it had not been for their gunboats we would have killed or captured their whole force on this side. J. C. Breckinridge fought like a lion. He is a glorious man, brave and without fear. He was dressed in a grey hunting ~~shirt~~ shirt, with a slouched hat and seemed everywhere. Our Colonel distinguished himself; got two or three wounds and had two horses killed under him. Nearly all our officers had their horses shot under them. Col. Deas was as cool as possible under the heaviest fire. He says it was much more terrible than Manassas.

We fought Ohio, Wisconsin, Missouri, Iowa and Illinois troops altogether, and I assure you they fired terribly with their best kind of weapons. The victory of Sunday cost us very dear; we have lost many a man of our most gallant officers. General Johnston fell early on Sunday ~~morning~~ morning with two wounds. In Major Armistead, we lost as gallant a gentleman as ever breathed.--He was loved by men and officers. In our Company we lost, killed, Rabon Douglas of Orion, J. H. Shaver, T. M. Greene, Fuller McLendon, W. H. Long, and Jas M. Wilson. Wounded, and come in, Henry Urquhart, David Gibson, B. S. Wilson, , Hanibal McNeil, Joe Winters, Wm. Brown, Moses Dickey. Wounded and not brought in, A. J. Eilands, J. B. McLendon, Lieut. Myrick. Missing, George Athay and Sergeant S. A. Pilley. Our Company fought well; Capt. Hart made a hero of himself; Robert was ~~was~~ as cool and calm as a man could be. Lieut Myrick fought like

fought like a noble fellow--fell fighting bravely. Goodbye,
Dear Mother, may a merciful Father spare us all to meet
once more, if not on earth in Heaven.

Your affectionate Son,

H.W.H. Jun.

--From Mrs. M. L. Kirkpatrick's Scrapbook, Vol.
1, pp. 223-224. 11

A brief review, based on Brewer's regimental histories of military efforts put forth by the 22nd Alabama, is summarized here in attempt to track the whereabouts of Hugh William Henry after his heart rending letter of April, 1862. From December 31, 1862-January 2, 1863 the 22nd Infantry Regiment went on to see action in Kentucky at the battles of Mumfordsville and Perryville and then back into Tennessee for the Battle of Murfreesboro or Stones River. Muster Rolls list Henry as promoted to Captain on December 13th, 1862. By early September, 1863, the 22nd was involved at the Battle of Chicamauga in northern Georgia where the Confederate troops under the command of General Braxton Bragg claimed a tactical victory. The Regiment went to Missionary Ridge in November 1863 where they suffered lightly. The troops spent the winter in Dalton, Georgia where 272 men were claimed by sickness and weather. Spring of 1864 they were active in the campaign from Dalton to Atlanta. May 25-26 of 1864 the regiment was engaged in the Battle of New Hope Church with Muster Rolls listing Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) wounded on May 29, 1864. The extent of his injuries are unknown. Today the New Hope battlefield is held in private hands and is located just off Interstate 75 in Georgia. As part of the Atlanta Campaign in July, 1864, the 22nd Regiment received sever losses at the Battle of Jonesboro. The regiment then moved back into Tennessee under the command of Lt. General John Bell Hood where they suffered severely at the Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864. After the bloody battle of Franklin, Hugh William Henry became the commander of his regiment for a short period upon the loss of the regiment's commanding major. As a part of the Franklin-Nashville campaign the efforts at Franklin resulted in devastating losses to troops and their leaders. At the end of this campaign, the Army of Tennessee commanded by General Hood retreated into Mississippi as far southwest as Tupelo with nearly half the men with which it began the campaign. The Franklin-Nashville campaign destroyed the Army of Tennessee as a fighting force for the remainder of the Civil War. Today much of the Franklin battlefield has been lost to commercial development. During the Battle of Nashville, December 15-16, 1864, Henry was taken prisoner of war along with what was left of his regiment and its leader General Edward Johnson on December 15 as listed on Muster Rolls. According to prisoner records maintained by the Center for Historic and Military Archaeology at Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio, Henry arrived at Johnson's Island Civil War Prison Depot on December 20, 1864 and was released on either June 16 or 20, 1865 (different dates on different Muster Rolls) by General Order No. 109 A.G.O. (4). Henry was among a group of prisoners taken



Sketch: Johnson's Island Confederate Prison Depot as produced by a prisoner; located at yahoo.com., Johnson's Island Prison, Image Results

to Louisville, Kentucky for parole. Johnson's Island Prison was in existence for a little over three years and approximately 10,000 to 15,000 men, primarily Confederate officers, were processed into the prison. During Henry's imprisonment at Johnson's Island, 3224 prisoners were incarcerated at one time in January, 1864. The U. S. Army had leased 40 acres of the island from owner Leonard B. Johnson with intentions of establishing a prisoner of war depot. The prison site was fairly well isolated in Sandusky Bay, Ohio, 2.5 miles by boat from the town of Sandusky. Only 12 prisoners are known to have successfully escaped from Johnson's Island prison. The prison was decommissioned in September 1865.

Post Civil War Years

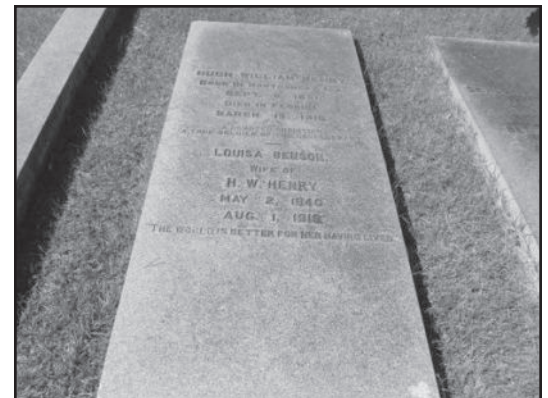
As of October 19th, 1865 Henry was back in Ramer as documented in a letter written to his brother Dr. John Hazard Henry just a few weeks before his marriage. The letter is a defense of the southern states actions as described in these words: "I am glad that we labored fully to defend ourselves & do not regret the cost." The brothers had differing political viewpoints. Hazard was an early organizer of the Republican Party in Alabama. Only five months after his release from Union captivity, Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) married Louisa Benson on November 2, 1865 at age 34 years. She was the daughter of Judge Nimrod and Catherine Goldthwaite Benson of Montgomery. Ten days after his marriage on November 18, 1865 Henry writes again to his brother and expresses his wish that Lou (his wife) will be happy. His health has not been good, racked with chills and that he "was rather sick of Ramer." He asks his brother to write to them, but through his mother as they had "no post office here now." A letter to his parents dated December 19, 1865, Ramer, again describes his health as poor due to suffering chills, nausea, vomiting and weakness so great that he was unable to sit up for any length of time. He expressed gratefulness for their apples, lemons and citric acid, which he had received. He further fears that a Christmas visit from him will be impossible due to the poor condition of roads and his sickness. I am under the impression that his parents might have still been in Montgomery at this point. On April 3, 1867 a letter to his brother, Hugh asks Hazard if he would allow Mary (Hazard's wife) to go to Baltimore to visit their father and mother. This establishes that the parents of Hugh and Hazard have left Montgomery and are living in Maryland. Additionally he states that his own wife, Lou, will be going to Baltimore to visit her parents, the Bensons, who have taken a furnished house for seven months; the Henrys are staying with them which Hugh felt a better and more economical arrangement than a boarding house. He is looking for persons to lease the Ramer property and expresses his concern of hiring "negro" labor at a fair price. Life just seemed to have been rather unsettled for all of the family.

Hugh Henry (1831-1916) and Louisa moved from Montgomery County in an undetermined year, but judging from dates of letters the move must have been between April and June of 1867. (A letter of March 8, 1870 from Hugh to Hazard, states that he occupied the plantation for two years after the war). By June 6th of 1867 he writes to his parents from Waynesboro, Virginia, located in the Shenandoah Valley,¹² regarding a letter received from them. He was glad that his father was improving and that they were comfortably settled at Abingdon.¹³ He apologizes for not sending weekly letters, but their lives in Waynesboro are so quiet that he has nothing to write. He promised to write all of his friends in Alabama, but has failed to keep that promise. He believes that his family is in a good location as there is little sickness in families nearby. He doesn't think he will like the style of the farmer's life in Waynesboro, but hopes to adjust and would prefer the climate to be several degrees warmer but concedes that one cannot find all things desirable in one place. He admits to the advantages of school, churches, mills, nearness to a terminal road, pure clear running water, productive soil, a quiet, plain, orderly people with more morality and religion than any community he has ever been associated with, but does wish for "a good southern family near us." He describes the joys of fatherhood to "Hugh" who was born September 6, 1867. The 1870 and 1880 Census lists the family living in South River, (located in Waynesboro) Augusta County, Virginia with HWH (1831-1916) giving his occupation as farmer. In later years, son, Hugh William Henry, III writes for the Princeton Alumni Office that his father served as a Magistrate in Augusta County from

1869 to 1898. Expenses for the move to Virginia, loss of financial gain from the plantation in Alabama, and general monetary losses for his father all take a toll on Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) who sums up his financial situation in a line from a January 15, 1870 letter to brother, Hazard "I have lost hope of making money." The 1900 census shows that Hugh William Henry and Louisa were living in the Dan River District (Pittsylvania County) of Virginia with their son and his family. Henry now age sixty-nine, listed his occupation as capitalist.

The death and subsequent burial of his father in Montgomery's Oakwood Cemetery was discussed in a letter to his brother on March 8, 1870 from Waynesboro, Virginia. He advises Hazard that he has written to a Capt. Williams a listing of all property in his father's estate and its condition as far as he knew. He requested that Williams value the property at actual cash value on the market and to leave to each heir of the estate the option of selling or holding all shares. He and Hazard had agreed to make certain that their mother receive the larger share in order that she would be able to live comfortably and that their sister, Mattie, be cared for through her share of the estate.

The census for 1910 shows the Henry family living in Lake Weir, Florida in the home of their son Dr. Hugh William Henry and his wife Bettie McDannald. Captain Hugh William Henry's death was described as sudden in an obituary appearing in the March 14, 1916 edition of *The Ocala Evening Star*. This obituary provides details regarding Henry's life. We learn that Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) served as Chaplain of the United Confederate Veterans Camp either in Lake Weir or nearby Ocala. Just as his Falconer ancestors in Alabama had been, he too was a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church¹⁴. Captain Henry's body was returned to Montgomery, Alabama for burial in Oakwood Cemetery. Services were held at First Presbyterian Church, Montgomery, of which his mother was one of its first members. His wife Louisa Benson Henry survived and continued to live with her son in Florida until her death August 1, 1919. She is buried in the same vault as her husband in Oakwood Cemetery. A moving tribute, reproduced here, to Hugh William Henry by Frank S. Roberts was published in the *Confederate Veteran Magazine*, June 1916.



Tombstone: Captain Hugh William Henry and wife Louisa, Oakwood Cemetery, Montgomery, AL. Photo courtesy of Gary Burton.

On the night of March 13, 1916, at his home, in Lake Weir, Fla., the spirit of Capt. Hugh William Henry, Sr., suddenly took its flight. His remains were taken to Montgomery, Ala., where he was born September 8, 1831, and were interred in Oakwood Cemetery. His casket, draped with the Stars and Bars, was followed by an escort of his old comrades, the bugle sounding "taps." And there he sleeps, "after life's fitful fever," another of God's noblemen gone to his reward after a life of devotion to his God and his duty.

Captain Henry was among the first of the South's young men to volunteer in the defense of her rights. Joining the 22d Alabama Volunteer Infantry, C. S. A., he was made a captain of one of its companies and participated in all of its engagements under Gens. A. S. Johnston, Bragg, Joseph E. Johnston, and Hood, except for a short time while on recruiting duty at Troy, Ala. He was in command of the regiment after the battle of Franklin, Tenn., November 30, 1864, where the major, in command at that time, was killed in a charge by the regiment. The remnant of the regiment was captured at Nashville, Tenn., December 16, 1864, along with its brave division commander, Gen. Ed Johnson.

It was not my privilege to know Captain Henry personally; but our correspondence, begun two years ago, continued within two weeks of his death. His letters were full of trust in his Heavenly Father, devotion to principle, and the justice of the cause for which he, like the thousands of our brave men of the South, gave four of the best years of their lives and other thousands their lives in defense of

the cause they believed to be right. One of his letters gave the details of his capture at Nashville with Gen. Ed Johnson, their confinement in the penitentiary at Nashville, and when they were called up for entraining for Johnson's Island, in a most interesting way.

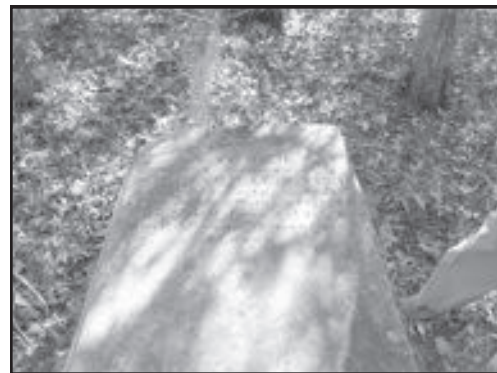
[From tribute by Frank S. Roberts, Washington, D. C.]¹⁵

Falconer/Henry Plantation

The Alabama Cemetery Atlas lists the Falconer Cemetery in T13N, R18E, Sec. 2 of Montgomery County. Additionally it names the cemetery as the Henry Plantation Cemetery with William Falconer the first to be interred there. William executed his will on May 16, 1840 only weeks prior to his death on June 7, 1840. The will was probated on November 20, 1840 and Falconer specified among several provisions that Nancy Wilder Falconer, his second wife, be awarded, for the length of her natural life, his home plantation of 1073 acres of land including buildings found

there. His daughter Martha Henry, mother of HWH(1831-1916), was awarded personal property. A deed filed by her son, HWH(1831-1916) and his wife Louisa Benson Henry on March 21, 1883, awarded to Walter brothers, Duncan C., Truss B., and Jesse B., a plot of 719.37 acres known as the Falconer Plantation for the sum of \$5000. The deed stipulated that the Henry's reserved the one-half acre used as the Falconer Family Cemetery at the rear of the residence for interments and entry for maintenance. From this information the assumption can be made that Martha Falconer Henry must have left a portion of Falconer property in the Ramer settlement to her son, who in 1883 was living in Virginia. Twenty-seven years later on March 28, 1910 another deed reflects that Duncan C. Walter and others conveyed to Jesse Walter by warranty deed 460 acres described as being a part of the Henry Place. This action confirms that the Henry/Falconer property in the Ramer area had indeed passed from the hands of the once distinguished families. A written recollection compiled by Ramer resident and property owner Neil Cowles around the 1970s or 80s and based on property abstracts held by him after his

purchase of over 1000 acres of Falconer property from the Walter brothers around 1925, provides a good description of the home site. Cowles recalls the presence of the family cemetery, church, school and another unknown building. Cowles further recalls a stagecoach station a bit to the south of the Falconer home and the existence of a bunkhouse and blacksmith barn near the old stage road. Evidence of this road near the Falconer Cemetery can be seen today by a sudden drop-off of the cemetery plot. Neil Cowles son, Dewitt, a current resident of Ramer, remembers from his childhood the evidence of a home near the cemetery. He recalls the sight of corner pillars of a home and the remains of chimneys. There are no known images of the Falconer home but if it were true to homes of the same era in rural Montgomery County it was probably rather plain, not the image some have of two-story-columned southern plantation homes. Around the year



Tombstone: William Falconer, grandfather to HWH, first person interred at Falconer Cemetery, Montgomery County, AL. Photo courtesy of Gary Burton.



Probable site: Falconer/Henry home near Falconer Cemetery, Montgomery County, AL Ricky McLaney and Alice Carter study the landscape. Photo courtesy of Gary Burton.



General view Falconer Cemetery, Montgomery County, AL. Photo courtesy of Gary Burton.

2000, William Belser owner of a 120 acre portion of Walter Brothers property which included the Falconer Cemetery sold his acreage to Douglas Woodruff of Montgomery. These 120 acres are currently used as a country retreat and hunting site for Woodruff. The cemetery is not fenced off or protected from outside influences in any way. It does show the ravages of time, but is a picturesque tribute to early Montgomery County settlers.

From the many letters that I read in researching Hugh William Henry his writings give me the impression of a thoughtful man especially toward his family. He was loyal and faithful to his father by working diligently to settle his business affairs and estate. Most of the post-war correspondence from Henry found in the Buckner Papers was centered on paying taxes, renting or selling property in the family's holdings in Alabama. Perhaps a bit of disillusionment may have resulted from his war experiences and the changes brought on by Reconstruction in the south. Landowners across the south were just never the same again-financially or emotionally. It is regrettable that Captain Hugh William Henry's Confederate saber is no longer in his home state, but we can be consoled by the fact that it is owned by someone interested in history and its preservation. Mr. Gary Bettcher's interest in Henry assuredly prompted this brief study of Hugh William Henry from the very rural Ramer area of Montgomery County to Princeton University and beyond.

Endnotes

1. Beale, Jesse D. and S. H. Phelan, assisted by M. P. Blue, Esq. *City Directory and History of Montgomery Alabama*: T. C. Bingham & Co. Printers and Binders, 1878. Accessed: Google Books, 3/23/2013.
2. Mary Elizabeth (Stay) Buckner Papers, 1818-1923 available on microfilm only through the Tennessee State Library and Archives. (403 7th Avenue North, Nashville, TN 37243, 615-741-2764, reference.tsla@tn.gov.) There are two reels of microfilm that comprise the Buckner Collection. Mary Elizabeth Stay Bucker was the granddaughter of Dr. John Hazard Henry, brother of Hugh William Henry (1831-1916). The accounts, correspondence, diaries, genealogical data, legal documents, newspapers, and miscellaneous items give insight to the Falconer and Henry families of Montgomery, Alabama.
3. Dr. W. S. Wyman was professor of Latin at the University of Alabama, President of the University of Alabama, 1901-1902 and frequently contributed articles to the *Montgomery Advertiser*.
4. Laracca and Victoria, Texas are used as return addresses on three letters written by Hugh William Henry (1831-1916) to his parents. Victoria is found on current maps of Texas, located less than 50 miles inland from the Gulf of Mexico. Laracca, however is not found on current maps. Henry states in one of his letters that Laracca is "only 12 miles from Victoria." Texas State Library was unable to identify a town, community or ranch called Laracca in Victoria County. Sheron K. Barnes, Special Collections Librarian at Victoria College, University of Houston-Victoria Library suggests that Laracca may have been an early name for Port Lavaca in Calhoun County. It is my belief that Laracca is a "lost town" possibly washed away by a hurricane or just "dead."
5. Members, 22nd Alabama Infantry Regiment, Company K from Alabama Department of Archives and History:

22nd Inf. Co.K

Alexander, John
Carlsle, J.J.
Carter, James H.
Casey, L.
Clardy, David S.
Clemens, J.J.
Coffey, Aaron A.
Coffey, —
Collins, A.J.
Cone, E.B.
Cone, Jesse T., Sgt.
Craig, Andrew J.
Crawell, J.H.
Culley, —
Daniel, J.
Davis, Allen
Day, Isaac W., Sgt.
Day, J.K.
Day, J.N., Sgt.
Deamus, J.H.
Dick, W.H.H.
Dickey, W.M.
Douglas, Reuben
Cain, G.W., 1st Lt.
Campbell, Cornelius W.

Campbell, John B.
Carlsle, J.J.
Carter, James H.
Casey, L.
Clardy, David S.
Clemens, J.J.
Coffey, Aaron A.
Coffey, —
Collins, A.J.
Cone, E.B.
Cone, Jesse T., Sgt.
Craig, Andrew J.
Crawell, J.H.
Culley, —
Daniel, J.
Davis, Allen
Day, Isaac W., Sgt.
Day, J.K.
Day, J.N., Sgt.
Deamus, J.H.
Dick, W.H.H.
Dickey, W.M.
Douglas, Reuben
Cain, G.W., 1st Lt.
Campbell, Cornelius W.

Fickel, O.B.
Foster, C.Mc.
Jordan, J.A.
Keen, J.O., Sgt.
Key, Samuel, Cpl.
Kirkney, —
Knighton, John F.
Kyzer, S.S.
Laurence, —
Leonard, John O., 1st Lt.
Lester, Alexander
Lockey, James H.
Lockey, Joseph H., 2nd Lt.
Long, Wm. H.
Masseeidine, William D.
Massingall, Aaron G.
Mathews, W.M.
Mayo, J.M.
McClelland, Andrew J.
McClellen, Sam'l M.
McClendon, Bryant W.
McLendon, Jasper T., Cpl.
McLendon, —
McLindon, Joseph F.
Measles, Alfred
Milorm, Joseph T.
Misseldine, John
Misseldine, William D.
Misseldine, J.K.
Missildine, Joseph J.

Missildine, Robert F.
Mitchell, Wiley
Moore, C.C., 2nd Lt.
Moore, Frank
Moore, M.F.
Mosely, W.S.
Myrick, R.L., 2nd Lt.
Norris, Q.S.
Orear, A.
Packer, Joseph E.
Pendergrass, —
Petty, J.H.
Pilly, Stephen A., Sgt.
Pope, James M.
Price, J.M.
Raburn, A., Sgt.
Ratton, —
Redmon, Clement
Redmon, N.A.
Redmon, Wm. P.
Renfro, A.B., 1st Lt.
Reynolds, R.H.
Riley, J.M.
Rotton, M.B.
Sankey, S.L.
Sawkey, T.L.
Scott, Seaburn S.
Sharer, A.J.
Sharer, Jas. H., Cpl.
Shaver, J.A., Cpl.
Short, D.
Sikes, J.J., Music.
Simpson, M.C.
Stanton, J.A.
Sledge, J.A.

Sledge, J.M.
Slough, Abram
Smith, J.J.
Smith, John
Snow, Frank D., Music.
Spear, —
Spear, John Bird
Stokes, A.J., Sgt.
Straughan, F.M.
Stubbs, D.F.
Stubbs, William M.
Stubbs, Wm. Fred
Suggs, W.
Swanford, J.B.
Taylor, W.
Tedder, W.
Thames, Wm.
Thomas, Chas.
Thomas, David G.
Thomas, Richard Coleman
Tidwell, Gazzam
Trammell, Harrison
Trammell, William
Turner, Robert
Underwood, A.J., Sgt.
Underwood, Mathew
Urquhart, W.H.
Wall, J.H., 2nd Lt.
Wall, Tho. J.
Waters, John

Wefelder, J.J.
Welsh, J.
Whatley, Andrew J., Sgt.
Wheeler, Willis J.
Wilkins, C.C., Sgt.Maj.
Wilson, —
Wilson, B. Taswell
Wilson, James N.
Wilson, R.H., Sgt.
Wilson, Tho. N.
Winters, Josiah J.
Wood, L.H.
Yarbrough, L.M., 2nd Lt.

6. Lt. Hugh William Henry implores his mother to pray for himself, Ben and Robert.

These two members of the 22nd Alabama, Co. K are brothers Benjamin Rufus Hart (1834-1864) and Robert Singleton Hart (1843-1916) sons of Benjamin R. Hart (1811-1849) and Nancy Singleton Hart (1813-1868). The Hart brothers were cousins of Hugh William Henry through their respective mother's relationship as sisters (daughters of William and Nancy Falconer). Benjamin and Nancy Hart are buried in the Falconer Cemetery, Montgomery County, Alabama. It is believed that Benjamin Rufus Hart was buried on the battlefield at Ezra Church during the Atlanta Campaign. It appears from census records that Robert Singleton Hart survived the war and made his way to Kentucky; became a physician; died in 1916 and is buried at the Pisgah Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Pisgah, Woodford County, Kentucky.

7. Richard L. Myrick son of William B. and Catherine Waller Myrick was born in 1837 in Montgomery County, Alabama. This family lived on a farm on Pintlala Creek about two to three miles west of Sprague on the Pintlala Creek. Richard attended Irving College in Warren County, Tennessee. He returned to Montgomery County and became a doctor in Ramer, Alabama and a member of the Ramer Lodge, Number 243, F. & A. M. In 1861 he enlisted in the Confederate Army, 22nd Alabama Infantry, Company K. *The Heritage of Montgomery County Alabama*. Clanton, Alabama, 2001, Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc. p. 245.

8. This regimental history is based on the records of Willis Brewer in *Alabama: Her History, Resources, War Record, and Public Men from 1540 to 1872*. Montgomery, Alabama: Barrett & Brown, Steam Printers and Book Binders, 1872. Accessed at: <http://www.archives.state.al.us/index.html>

9. The Regimental flag of the 22nd Alabama was captured during the Battle of Chickmauga by men of the 121st Ohio Infantry in 1863. The flag was returned to the State of Alabama in 1972 and received conservation treatment in 1992. Alabama Department of Archives and History website, Online Digital Collections, *Documenting The Civil War Period Flag Collection At The Alabama Department Of Archives And History* by Robert B. Bradley.

10. Smith, Derek. *The Gallant Dead: Union and Confederate Generals Killed in the Civil War*. Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2005, p.vii. Accessed at Google books, 4/4/2013.

11. The letter of April, 1863 written by Captain Hugh Henry was discovered as a footnote in the book *Shiloh and the Western Campaign of 1862* by Edward O. Cunningham, p.205. The letter as it appeared in the Montgomery Advertiser may be accessed at the Alabama Department of Archives and History in the file: Public Information and Subject File: Civil War and Reconstruction: Campaigns, Battles and Raids: Battle of Shiloh Box #SG01132, Files 13 and 14.

12. Waynesboro, Virginia is described on the website wikipedia.org as being in the Shenandoah Valley area of Virginia. After the war a site near the town became the junction of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway and the Shenandoah Valley Railroad, giving the town the nickname of "Iron Cross."

13. This location is possibly Abingdon, Maryland a town 25 miles NE of Baltimore.

14. The Falconer family provided material support for the local Providence Presbyterian Church at Legrand, Alabama, not too distant from the Falconer plantation on the Hanchey Mill Road near Ramer. HWH's (1831-1916) grandmother, Nancy Falconer is mentioned in "Brief History of Providence Presbyterian Church" in a cookbook published in 1992 by the women of the church. Providence Church was originally established in 1828 on Old Hayneville Road on the site of the current Sharpe Cemetery. Some years later members decided to rebuild the church approximately five miles east of this location near Robertson's Crossroads. The cookbook lists three ladies, including Mrs. Nancy Falconer, as faithful members of the building committee. This second Providence Church was dedicated in 1854. The church moved once again to its present location atop a picturesque hill on the corner of U.S. Highway 331 and Old Hayneville Road in 1895.

15. http://www.confederatevets.com/documents/henry_fl_cv_06_16_ob.shtml



Providence Presbyterian Church, Legrand, AL.
Photo courtesy of Gary Burton

Sources:

Brewer, Willis. *Alabama: Her History, Resources, War Record, and Public Men from 1540 to 1872*. Montgomery, Alabama: Barrett & Brown, Steam Printers and Book Binders, 1872. Accessed at: <http://www.archives.state.al.us/index.html>.

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Bettcher, Greg. Files, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2012.

McLaney, Richard. Files, Sprague, Alabama, 2012.

Princeton University Archives. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. Princeton University Library. 2012 and 2013.

Phone interview with Dewitt Cowles of Ramer, Alabama, 12/3/2012.

http://search.yahoo.com/search;_ylt=Aj1ktiDB.ly0JeykRVAiWDBvZx4?fr=yfp-t-200-s&toggle=1&cop=mss&ei=UTF-8&p=ancestry.com

<http://www.johnsonsisland.org/index.htm>

Pictures:

Saber, (providence church, Gary has) falconer cemetery, oakwood cemetery, Muster roll/ADAH, flag imae

My appreciation to: Ricky McLaney, PHA member, who arranged with Mr. Woodruff for Gary Burton and me to see the Falconer Cemetery and photograph it, copies of abstracts, maps and notes; Dewitt Cowles for sharing his early memories of the Falconer property; Mary Ann Neeley for assisting with early Montgomery history and attempting to teach me to pronounce Falconer as FAULKNER!; Gary Burton who acted as photographer for this project and collaborated in the research phase; to Laurie Sanders, PHA member, whose early inventory of the Falconer Cemetery, was easy to read versus the aged tombstones; Phillip Taunton, Sexton, Oakwood Cemetery, Montgomery, AL, Dr. Norwood Kerr, Alabama Department of Archives and History and Bob Bradley, Curator, Special Collections, Alabama Department of Archives and History. I am grateful to these two gentlemen for their time, patience and vast knowledge.

Suggested reading:

Any of the websites associated with battles in which Captain Henry participated.

Website for Carnton Plantation, Franklin, Tennessee

Carnton Plantation once the largest field hospital in the area served hundreds of Confederate wounded and dying soldiers. Today it is open for tours with proceeds aiding in upkeep of the house and cemetery. The plantation was owned by the McGavock family and after the war, John McGavock reserved two acres of land adjacent to the family cemetery as the burial site for nearly 1,500 Confederate soldiers killed at the Battle of Franklin. Today it is the largest privately owned military cemetery in the United States.



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