

PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Next Meeting:
October 21, 2018 - 2:30 p.m.



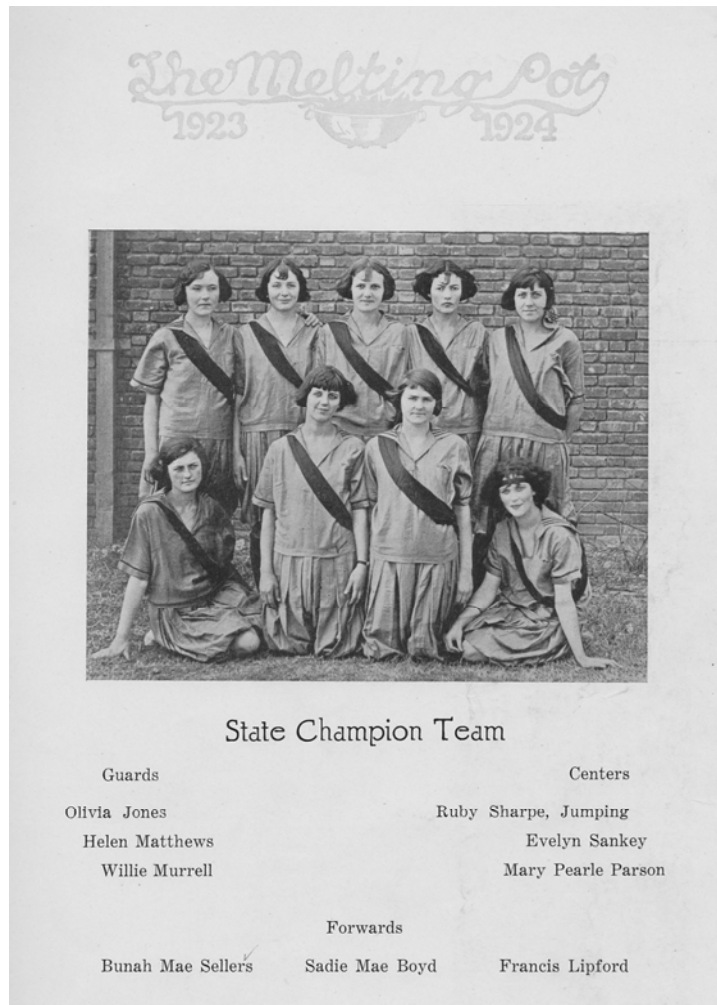
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 255 Federal Road
 Hope Hull, Alabama 36043*

Volume XXXII, Number 4

www.pintlalahistoricalassociation.com

October 2018

Ramer Girls Basketball, 1923-1924



Front Row, L to R: Francis Lipford; Bunah Mae Sellers, Ramer; Willie Murrell, Hope Hull; Olivia Jones, Ramer.

Back Row, L to R: Helen Matthews, Sellers; Sadie Mae Boyd, Sprague; Evelyn Sankey, Snowdoun; Mary Pearle Parson, Ruby Sharpe, Snowdoun.

Players identified by Ricky McLaney

2018 OFFICERS

President Gary Burton (334)288-7414
 Vice President &
 Program Chairperson Alice T. Carter
 (334)281-3708
 Secretary Karon Bailey (334)281-6239
 Treasurer Ina Slade (334)284-0337
 Parliamentarian Jack Hornady (334)396-2130
 Members at Large
 Place 1 Patsy Davis (334)220-7004
 Place 2 Daisy Anne Brady (334)398-0636
 Place 3 Brad Collins (334)734-2657
 Place 4 Alan Davis (334)270-8657

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message Page 2
 2018 October Program Page 2
The Melting Pot, 1923-1924 Page 3
 Ramer Girls Basketball, 1923-1924 Page 5
 Piano Recital Program, Pintlala School, 1968 Page 7
 In Memorium, Mary Ann Oglesby Neeley Page 8
 A Premise: Pintlala's Bibb Fork Was
 Named for George Bailey Bibb Page 9
 Pintlala Water System Page 17
 Old Settlers' Meeting Page 18

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

History is not everything, but it is a starting point. History is a clock that people use to tell their political and cultural time of day. It is a compass they use to find themselves on the map of human geography. It tells them where they are but, more importantly, what they must be. John Henrik Clarke

Chaos is always the result when our historical underpinnings are lost or abandoned. It can happen at any level of society. I think the history of Pintlala matters. If the idea of history generates a negative reaction, as it once did with me, please be careful. Life at the national level and at the local level will experience renewal when, and not before, we stop being apathetic toward the moral debt we owe those who have preceded us. Our community abounds with an abundance of narratives which enrich the culture we enjoy.

This is not an appeal to professional historians. I have great admiration for those who are. The Pintlala Historical Association exists to inspire and encourage non-professionals to take an interest in their place of residence or work. Do you know the history of the place where you live? For starters, why not attend the next meeting of the PHA and connect with a room full of history lovers? Judge Trippy McGuire will make a return trip to finish his two-part series about William Weatherford (Red Eagle). The Judge is a compelling presenter.

I hope to convene a meeting of our board very soon to discuss PHA's involvement in Alabama's Bicentennial. The ground on which we walk is saturated with historical significance. There can be no bright future without it.

Gary Burton, President

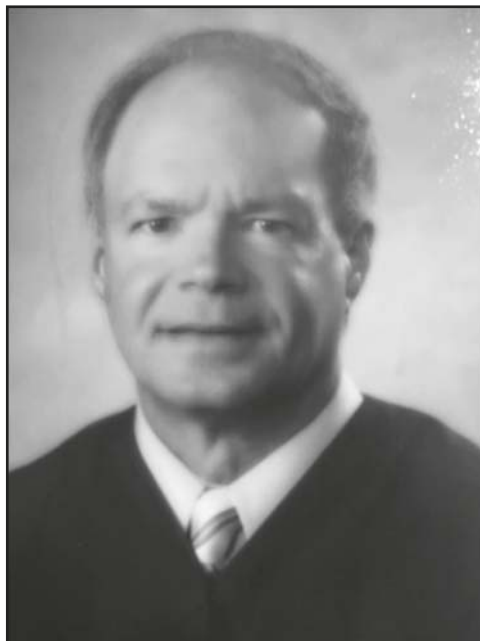
garyburton1@charter.net

October 2018 PHA Program

The Pintlala Historical Association will meet on Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 2:30 in the Fellowship Hall of Pintlala Baptist Church. Our wonderful speaker from April, Judge Frank McGuire (Trippy) will give part two of his program on Red Eagle/William Weatherford. We all enjoyed his earlier presentation so much! I hope you will invite others to come hear him in October. This is the last program for 2018. I welcome all suggestions and ideas for 2019 programs.

Alice Carter

Program Chairman



Judge Frank "Trippy" McGuire

The Melting Pot, 1923-1924**Transcribed by Alice Carter****The Melting Pot**

1923-1924

Girl's Basketball Review**PRATTVILLE**

The Ramer girls began their fight for State Championship early in December when they defeated Prattville 21 to 4. The season's regular six played throughout. These were: Sellers, Boyd, Sharpe, Sankey, Jones, and Matthews. The subs were: Lipford, Mills, and Parson.

WOMAN'S COLLEGE [Huntingdon College]

Woman's College's invitation to play on her court January 11 was accepted with the determination to give the college a close score. The College cries changed from "Roll up the Score, Varsity," to "Hold 'Em, Varsity," during the first half. Final score: College 19; Ramer 13.

PIKE ROAD

Ramer's first game for county championship was played at Pike Road January 18. Pike Road led at one time, two points. The team came to itself, however, and brought home a 36 to 8 victory.

MARBURY

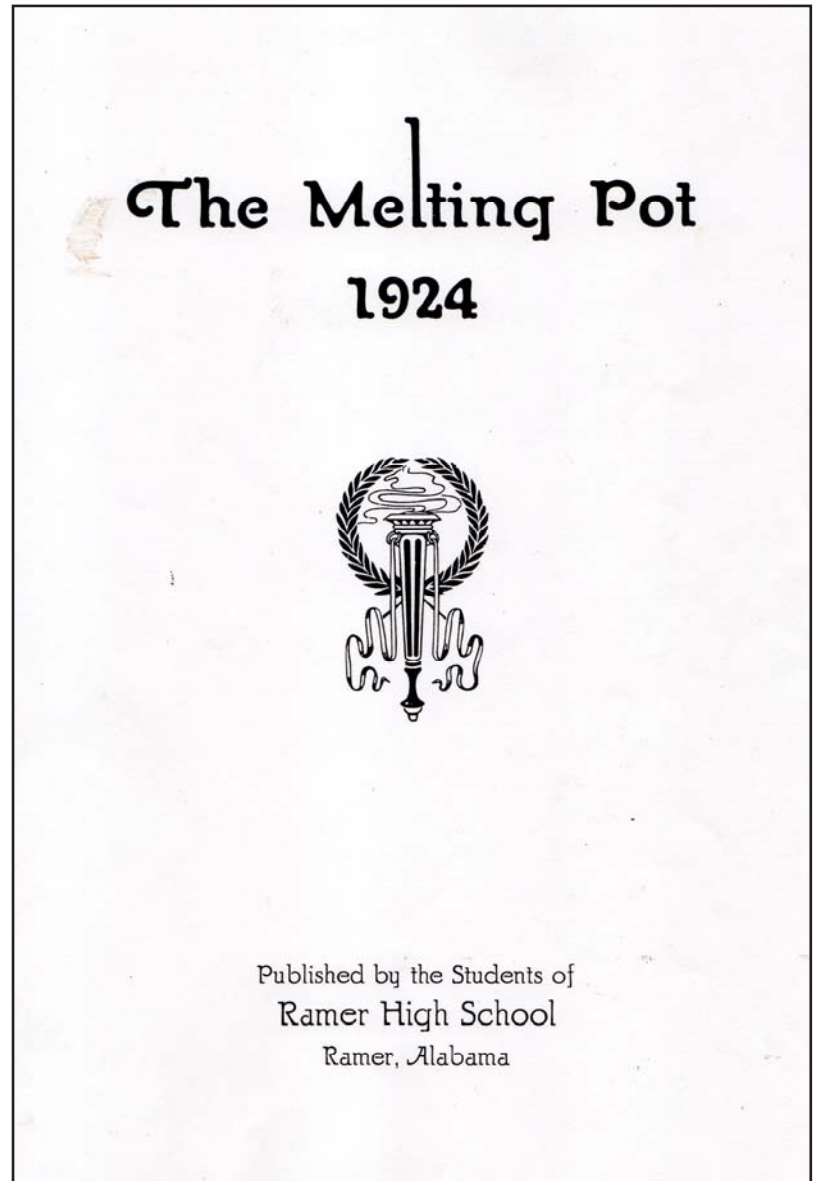
January 16 on Ramer's indoor court. The yellow-clad girls defeated Marbury 36 to 5. In this game Lipford, Parson, and Waller, played well.

LANIER

Pep was 100 per cent for the February 2 game called on Lanier's court. The team worked hard to add Lanier to Ramer's defeated list. Determined to win, every girl played her best and gave to R.H.S. one of the prettiest victories of the season. This 24 to 8 game determined county championship.

HIGHLAND HOME

In this game, played February 8, Murrell, Lipford, and Parson did well. Ramer's victory was easy—31 to 1.



PINE HILL

With one more game to win before being eligible for tournament and that game with the strong Pine Hill team, the Ramer squad prepared to play as never before. The teams met in Selma, February 15. The game was hard fought on both sides. Superior playing on the part of Lipford, Parson, and Murrell made the victory Ramer's with a 22 to 16 score.

Tournament Games

ATMORE

Every game during tournament was a hard one. Atmore came first. Ramer's playing was not normal until the second half, giving to her only a four point victory, 28 to 24.

JONES MILL [Monroe County]

The Ramer sextet went forth to play another strong team the second day of tournament. Both teams felt that the winning team would play in the finals. Every girl put her best in the game and as a consequence Ramer moved one step nearer the Silver Ball. Score 20 to 16.

LINCOLN [Talladega County]

At 8:30 on the third and last day of tournament a crowd of Ramer people were gathered together to cheer the high school girls to a semi-final victory. In this game the season's training showed as never before with the girls called "Yellow Jackets." Murmurs of admiration came from the sidelines as the ball would pass machine-like to Ramer's goal. This wonderful team play resulted in 26 points for Ramer and 22 for Lincoln.

MORTIMER-JORDON [Jefferson County]

With the team weakened in spite of having had an almost record-breaking endurance for high school girls, the last game was another true fight. Though not a Ramer player had to be removed, the playing strength of the team was not at its height. Determination and team work won for Ramer the most thrilling and exciting game of the tournament. Score 26 to 22.

Immediately after the final game the teams went with the crowd to the front campus of the college. There Howard Pill, Sports Editor, read the All-State Honor Roll. Ramer had more players listed than any team. They were: Olivia Jones, guard; Evelyn Sankey, center; Bunah Mae Sellers, forward. Then the Silver Ball, the trophy given by the Birmingham News was presented by Dr. Barnett.

—Rebecca Sullivan,
Athletic Editor

Ramer Girls Basketball, 1923-1924

Alice Carter

Ramer High School produced a girl's basketball team in 1923-1924 that earned the title "Girls State Basketball Championship Team". They took the title by defeating Mortimer Jordan with a score 26 to 22. This tournament was played February 21st thru 23rd. The coach of the team was Minnie Sellers one of the driving forces behind the state girl's tournaments and a girl's athletic association. Minnie Sellers moved on to become the Director of Recreation for the city of Tuscaloosa. At one time, there was a Tuscaloosa city park named for Minnie Sellers. The Ramer team was the runner-up for State Champs in 1924-25 falling to Jones Mill with a score of 32-27. These tournament games were held at Alabama College, Montevallo, Alabama [now University of Montevallo]. The games were held outside even in the cold February weather.

Members of the Championship team were: Ruby Sharpe, Bunah Mae Sellers, Sadie Mae Boyd, Evelyn Sankey, Mary Pearl Parson, Willie Murrell, Francis Lipford, Olivia Jones and Helen Matthews. Team members named to the All-Tournament Team were: Bunah Mae Sellers, Evelyn Sankey and Olivia Jones.

Bunah Mae Sellers [Armistead] was in her Junior year at Ramer when she was a member of the Championship team coached by her sister, Minnie Sellers. Bunah Mae graduated from Ramer in 1925 and in 1929 from Peabody College, Nashville, where she majored in physical Education and Health Science. She primarily taught physical education at her alma mater, Ramer High School, for 27 years.

Sources:

The Melting Pot, 1923-24, yearbook for Ramer High School, made available by Betty Armistead, daughter of Bunah Mae Sellers Armistead

Ricky McLaney who identified the Championship team players featured in *The Melting Pot* and found on the cover of this PHA Newsletter

Information from files of the Alabama High School Athletic Association provided by Ricky McLaney

Newspaper database accessed by Jerrie Burton, 2018



CHAMPIONSHIP BASKETBALL TEAM— Members of Montgomery County High School's championship basketball team in 1924 are shown above. This old photograph was made at Alabama College after the team won the state championship. Front row, left to right, the players have

been identified as: Ruby Sharpe, Beulah Mae Sellers, Sadie Mae Boyd, Evelyn Sankey, and Minnie Sellers; second row, left to right: Mary Pearl Parson, Willie Murrell, Frances Lipford, and Olivia Jones.

The caption published in *The Montgomery Advertiser*, November 6, 1955 omitted the identification of Helen Matthews, seen on the left, between the two rows of players.

RAMER HIGH TEAM MISSES ANOTHER TITLE BY ONE GAME



—Photo by Yeager's Studio, Montevallo, Alabama.

RAMER HIGH BASKETBALL TEAM, RUNNERS-UP

Left to right, back row: Helen Mathews, guard; Sadie Mae Boyd, forward; Glennie Mill, forward and guard; Evelyn McNeil, center and forward; Miss Minnie Sellers, coach.

Front row: Dorothy Harris, center; Ruby Sharpe, center; Bunah Mae Sellers, forward; Olivia Jones, guard; Elyln Sankey, center.

April 19, 1968

- I Short Pieces** - - Jacky Todd
 Calvin Brown
 Kathy Carroll
 Sherri Messick
 Cindy Hall
- II Familiar Tunes** - - Cathy Lassiter
 Calvin Brown
 Jacky Todd
 Kathy Carroll
 Rebecca Taylor
- III Sherri Messick - Morning Song & Bells**
Cindy Hall - - - Robin Sings a Merry Song
Jeanne Henry - - Merry March & Peasant Dance
 - Dutch Dance
Kay Turnipseed - My Son John & Folk Song
Cathy Lassiter - Prayer
Carolyn Kelley - Toy Drum
Deedee Keshay - My Grandfather's Clock
Renee Suggs - - Waltz Wistful
Jane Todd - - - Country Dance
Ann Yarbrough - Mister Kangaroo & Spring Song
Rebecca Taylor - Big Bass Drum & Tune
Kay Turnipseed - The Merry Go Round
Carolyn Kelley - Fogo Stick & The Woodpecker
- IV Jane Todd - - - Silver Slippers**
Deedee Keshay - Old Fashioned Waltz
Ann Yarbrough - Red Feather & Let's March
Clark Hataway - Blue Cowboy
Pat Messick - - Kings of Canterbury
Sherrie Mathews - A Dance & Jack & Jill
Renee Suggs - - A Pretty Melody
Clark Hataway - Toy Bugle & Having Fun
Mary E. Malone - Desert Scene
Lisa Arrighi - - Long Long Ago
Allen Lassiter - Echo Minuet
Sherrie Mathews - Greensleeves

Student Compositions - - - Carolyn Kelley - - - Pittering Pattering Rain Fall
 Denise Ward - - - - Snowflake
 Pat Messick - - - - Joy
 Patricia Guy - - - - The Frog Croaks & Waltz
 Susan Chesnutt - - - Busy Bee
 Sherrie Mathews - - - Chorale

Melodies from the Masters - Lisa Arrighi - - - - Melody by Rubinstein
 Allen Lassiter - - - - Air by Handel
 Denise Ward - - - - Surprise Symphony by Haydn
 Patricia Guy - - - - Bridal Chorus by Wagner
 Clark Hataway - - - - Melody by Mozart
 Lisa Arrighi - - - - O Love by Listz
 Pat Messick - - - - Marche Slav by Tchaikovsky
 Mary E. Malone - - - - On Wings of Song by Mozart
 Denise Ward - - - - Bourree by Bach

Selections from The Album for the Young by Schumann

Felicia Lassiter - - Chorale
 Susan Chesnutt - - - Melody
 Kay Green - - - - - Soldier's March
 Felicia Lassiter - - The Reaper's Song

Minuets by Bach - - - - - Patricia Guy
 - Pat Messick

Invention by Bach - - - - Delores Ward

Sonatinas by Clementi - - Kay Green & Felicia Lassiter
 & Delores Ward

IN MEMORIUM
Mary Ann Oglesby Neeley
1933-2018



Mary Ann Neeley giving one of her memorable walking tours of Montgomery. Date unknown

PHA has lost a dear friend and supporter with the passing on August 29, 2018 of Montgomery and Alabama historian, Mary Ann Neeley. She and her husband, Aubrey, enjoyed visiting on occasion with the Pintlala Historical Association. Mary Ann was supportive of the birth of PHA in 1987. She and Ethel Tankersley Todd worked together to have Dr. Thomas Duncan's office and Pintlala's Grange Hall moved to the developing living history blocks of Old Alabama Town in Montgomery. Mary Ann was executive director of Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery from 1979 to 2003.

She authored several books including: *Old Alabama Town: An Illustrated Guide*; *Montgomery and the River Region: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*; *Montgomery Capitol City Corners*; *The Way It Was/1850-1930: Photographs of Montgomery and Her Central Alabama Neighbors*; *Montgomery in the 20th Century: Tradition & Change, 1889-2010* and her last book, *The Works of Matthew Blue, Montgomery's First Historian*.

Mary Ann was the mother of Cultural Crossroads, a yearly symposium, which featured speakers on Alabama history and drew audiences from across the state and beyond.

The loss of her remarkable knowledge of our state and local history simply cannot be replaced. Mary Ann was always so generous with her knowledge—never passing off questions from amateur or academically trained students of our history. She was mentor for many learning to discover roots or methods of research. She shared her vast knowledge through published books and articles, lectures, and casual walk-about talks in cemeteries or city streets. Her activism for historical preservation was of importance and continues to educate all ages.



Mary Ann pictured with her good friend and Alabama writer/storyteller, Kathryn Tucker Windham. Date unknown.

Thank you, Mary Ann Neeley!

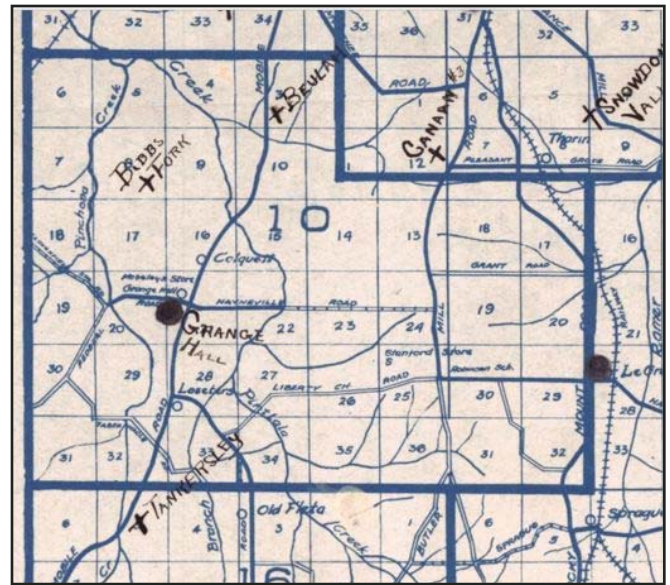
A PREMISE: PINTLALA’S BIBB FORK WAS NAMED FOR GEORGE BAILEY BIBB

(May 16, 1804 – Oct. 10, 1866)

Gary Burton

Just north of the Pintlala intersection, slightly over a half mile, Windham Road departs Highway 31 on its west side and snakes its way for two miles, bisecting private property and beautiful pasture land, terminating in the community of Bibb Fork where many black residents have lived for a few generations. It is clear that the name Bibb Fork was attributed to the region which is nestled in the fork of the Pinchona Creek to the west and the Pintlala Creek to the east.

It is the premise of this author that Bibb Fork was named for George B. Bibb whose four 1837 land patents made him the earliest Bibb family member to own property in the Fork. Land patents totaled 282.65 acres. It is more than likely that, like so many, George Bibb had squatted on the land a long time before official ownership was established. Bibb’s landholdings in the Fork were concentrated in sections 9 and 4, all within Township 14N and Range 17. Bibb owned land in other areas of



Montgomery County Map, 1920
Historical Map Archive, <http://alabamamaps.ua.edu>

| Accession | Names | Date | Doc # | State | Meridian | Twp - Rng | Aliquots | Sec. # | County |
|-------------|----------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------------|-------------|----------|--------|------------|
| AL0590__450 | BIBB, GEORGE B | 4/15/1837 | 23278 | AL | St Stephens | 014N - 017E | NW¼NE¼ | 4 | Montgomery |
| AL1590__019 | BIBB, GEORGE B | 5/15/1837 | 23349 | AL | St Stephens | 014N - 017E | W½SE¼ | 9 | Montgomery |
| AL1590__020 | BIBB, GEORGE B | 5/15/1837 | 23350 | AL | St Stephens | 014N - 017E | E½NW¼ | 9 | Montgomery |
| | | | | | | | SW¼NE¼ | 9 | Montgomery |
| AL1590__021 | BIBB, GEORGE B | 5/15/1837 | 23351 | AL | St Stephens | 014N - 017E | SW¼NW¼ | 4 | Montgomery |

Source: Bureau of Land Management

Montgomery County and beyond.

It is hard to know if George Bibb resided in the Fork. Peter Brannon wrote an article, “Near The Fork Of The Pinchona,” July 4, 1937, in *The Montgomery Advertiser*. He mentioned George B. Bibb as one among many early landholders. Then Brannon acknowledged, *Of course it must not be assumed that these above named parties lived on these lands. No doubt some of them were purchased from the Government, particularly for speculative purposes. In fact, the old settlers down in that section of the country do not recall some of*

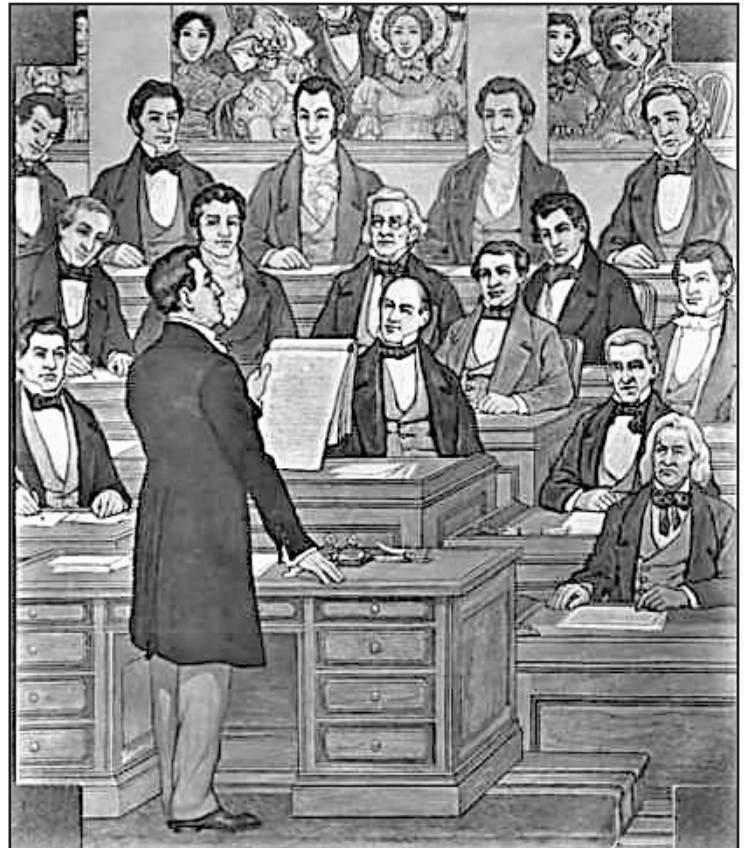
these names, but do recall others, and these original purchasers probably transferred their holdings onto those who made up the community...¹

Who Was George B. Bibb?

George Bailey Bibb was the son of William Wyatt Bibb who was the first governor of the Alabama territory and retained the governorship when Alabama became a state in 1819. Because of the prominence of the Bibb family, and because of George B. Bibb's early ownership of land in the Fork, it seems like a reasonable premise that Pintlala's Bibb Fork was named for George B. Bibb.

William Wyatt Bibb (1781-1820) was a U.S. senator and member of the "Broad River Group," wealthy Georgians who settled in what would become Alabama around the turn of the nineteenth century. When the Alabama Territory was divided from the Mississippi Territory in 1817, President James Monroe, upon the advice of Secretary of Treasury William Crawford, appointed William Wyatt Bibb territorial governor. That April, Bibb and his wife joined thousands of others in the land rush known as "Alabama fever." The Bibbs traveled to Alabama to settle briefly at the territorial capital of St. Stephens on the Tombigbee River.² The territorial governor's wife, Mary Ann Freeman Bibb, had been known as the "Belle of Broad River." George B. Bibb was born on May 18, 1804 and was thirteen years old when he and his eight-year old sister, Mary William Bibb comprised the First Family of the Alabama territory.

While still in Wilkes County, Georgia, young George must have been a favorite of his grandfather, Holman Freeman, Jr., a veteran of the Revolution, who died in 1817, having remembered the young boy in his will: *I give to my beloved boy George B. Bibb One Negro named Peace as a token of my affection for him and of his Remembrance of me and it is my desire that he may not part with him.*³ One would be justified in wondering if the slave, Peace, accompanied the Bibb family as they made their home in the Alabama territory.



Gov. Bibb Presiding at the Constitutional Convention, Huntsville, June 5 – August 2, 1819
Source: Unknown

Governor William Wyatt Bibb was influential in shaping the new constitution for the state of Alabama, having presided over the Constitutional Convention meeting in Huntsville. He also worked tirelessly for the first State capitol to be located in Cahawba, a dream which he did not live to see.

While riding near his plantation in Autauga County, Governor Bibb was thrown from his horse, bruising his head and kidney. He spent much of early 1820 bedridden and in *as much pain . . . as ever fell to the lot of any man*. The 1819 Constitution provided that a governor who was no longer able to serve was to be replaced by the president of the state senate, which meant that Bibb's brother, Thomas, became governor of Alabama in 1820. William Wyatt Bibb died on July 10, 1820, at the age of 39, leaving behind his wife and two children. George was sixteen years old.

George's father, Governor William Wyatt Bibb (Oct. 2, 1781 – July 10 1820), and eventually his mother, Mary Ann Freeman Bibb (Mar. 9, 1788 – Apr. 29, 1856) were buried in the Bibb Family Cemetery near Coosada, Elmore County.

Information about George B. Bibb is scant. His sister, Mary William Bibb Scott (Jan. 9, 1809 – Jan. 9, 1837), married Alfred Vernon Scott. She, too, is buried in the Bibb family Cemetery. George's first marriage was to Charlotte Caroline McGehee (Mar. 5, 1814 – Jan. 10, 1837). Officiating the marriage on March 18, 1832, was Rev. Peyton Bibb, an uncle. The Reverend Bibb is credited with the founding of the Robinson Springs United Methodist Church, Elmore County, in 1828. The 28-year old groom and the 18-year old bride embarked on a very short journey. In less than five years, Charlotte died at age 22 and was buried in the McGehee Cemetery in Hope Hull. She was the daughter of Abner and Charlotte Mildred McGehee. The couple had no children.

The second marriage for George Bibb also produced no children. He married Catherine Mary Stoutenborough (Sept. 1824 – Apr. 1893) of Carlowville, Dallas County. Exactly when George moved to Carlowville is a conundrum difficult to resolve. We know, however, that he obtained a land patent in 1850.

Two Letters

Two letters from George Bailey Bibb are transcribed here.

A letter written from Auburn Hill on February 12, 1845 to E.S. Sayre, esq. in Montgomery. The letter is not only difficult to read in its original form, but it is also hard to understand. It seems to be an attempt to resolve a financial matter. Bibb makes note that his Post Office is Richmond (Warrenton), Dallas County, near Carlowville. Because of the challenging nature of the handwritten letter, it is not presented here.⁴

George B. Bibb wrote a more compelling letter to Albert Pickett who was gathering materials which would be used in his forthcoming history of Alabama. Bibb sadly explains that materials related to his father's life and public service as Alabama's territorial Governor and the state's first Governor, while once collected and stored, could no longer be located. The letter to Pickett references a lost letter(s) from Pintlala's Sam Mannac. The Bibb letter, dated August 5, 1847, is presented here in transcribed form.⁵

ALS George B. Bibb¹ to AJP 5 Aug 1847
MSS Book 1 No. 5

5th Aug. 1847 --

Mr. A. J. Pickett --

Your esteemed favor of the 14th July is received -- I appreciate very highly your kind ~~w~~ wishes ~~h~~ in the history you have commenced, to notice in a complimentary manner the character and Services of my Father. And I much regret that it is out of my power to afford you much light as regards my fathers correspondence -- his public acts are upon records and I suppose are accessable to you in the state records -- There were many letters of great interest written by himself and replys from others in my profession some years ago -- but in my frequent moving they have been lost. I had a large bag of copies of correspondence and replys when I left M^{rs} Jacksons which from your letter I presume are destroyed. Among them were ~~may~~ many that would have been interesting for you to have seen and which if not lost I should be pleased for you to have. Among the letters were many from M^{esses} Mannac, Crawford, Calhoun, Macon² and other distinguished ~~gen~~ politicians and ~~his own letters~~ copies of his own to them. I cannot sufficiently express my regret to you that they are lost, and that it is out of my power to furnish you with them. And I know of

¹ George B. Bibb was the only son of Gov. William Wyatt Bibb (1781-1820), only governor of the Alabama Territory and first governor of the State of Alabama. Prior to being appointed Governor of the Alabama Territory by President James Monroe in 1817, he represented Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1805 to 1813 and then in the Senate from 1813 to 1816.

² "...Mannac, Crawford, Calhoun, Macon ..." refers to Sam Manac, William H. Crawford, John C. Calhoun, and Nathaniel Macon. Sam Manac was half-breed Creek and owned a well-known tavern several miles south of Montgomery along the old Federal Road. He was the nephew of the Creek chief Alexander McGillivray and accompanied his uncle to New York in 1790 to meet with George Washington. William H. Crawford was a U.S. Senator from Georgia, serving from 1807 until 1813 when he resigned and became Minister to France. William Wyatt Bibb was elected in 1813 to complete his Senate term which expired in 1816.. At the time Bibb was in Congress, John C. Calhoun was a congressman from South Carolina and then became Pres. Monroe's Secretary of War in 1817. Nathaniel Macon of North Carolina served in the House from 1791 to 1815 and in the Senate from 1815 to 1828.

no other made to excite your complementary notice of his history than the to rely upon the records of the country – All his correspondence and rephs had been recd by me and placed to themselves – and not calculating that they would be called for I have neglected them too long as it appears to remove them from M^{rs} Jacksons – My mother is now absent at the north – when she returns if she had in her possession any papers that would be interesting for you to have they will be cheerfully forwarded to you –

Yours respectfully

George B. Bibb

[Postmark]

[postage]

MONTGOMERY Ala. Aug 14 5

[Address]

M^r A. J. Pickett / Montgomery / Ala

[Endorsement]

from George M. Bibb / of Coosa Coty

George B. Bibb in Carlowville, Dallas County

It is challenging to know just when George Bibb made his residence in Carlowville. While his second wife, Catherine Mary Stoutenborough, would outlive him by many years, she must have witnessed that George was quite entrepreneurial late in the decade of the 1850s. He was registered for a land patent in Dallas County, April 1, 1850. Thomas Bibb, an uncle of George, had acquired several tracts of land near Marion Junction.

Two advertisements were featured in The Cahaba Gazette. Note that in one advertisement George is mentioned as an attorney.^{6 7}

Notice.

ANY responsible person disposed, either alone or in copartnership, to establish a Steam GRIST and SAW MILL, at an eligible location owned by myself, on mutual satisfactory conditions, can make application to me.

GEORGE B. BIBB.

Carlowville, Feb. 11—2m

The Cahaba Gazette, February 25, 1859

KNOXVILLE WARE-HOUSE.
THE undersigned, having purchased the above Warehouse, will be prepared to receive Cotton on storage for shipment, on the **FIRST** of **SEPTEMBER**. A share of public patronage is respectfully solicited. The charges for storage on Cotton and up Freight will be the same as those at Benton.
W. A. HALL.

REFERENCES.
 Col. R. P. McCord, John Dudley, sr. Daniel Rast, Esq., Gen. Robinson, Lowndes county; Hon. J. M. Calhoun, George B. Bibb, Esq., Dr. J. Martin Lee, Dr. W. B. Townsend, Dallas county; Boykin & McRae, Rives, Battle & Co., Patrick Irvin & Co., Mobile, Ala. (1ept9-tjy60)

The Cahaba Gazette, September 23, 1859

The Confederacy And George B. Bibb⁸

As a private citizen, perhaps practicing law, George Bibb, in his late fifties, was never involved in the war. While he managed to keep his distance in Carlowville from the front lines of fighting, foodstuffs and materials were conscripted under Confederate law. In the immediate aftermath of the war, George B. Bibb sought the help of Alabama's provisional Governor, Lewis E. Parsons, in appealing to the President, Andrew Johnson, for pardon and clemency. He supports his case citing

his responsible citizenship and also cites examples of refusing to support the Confederate cause. Interestingly, the document with the amnesty pledge (August 11, 1865) conveys vitals concerning George B. Bibb's appearance:

Florid complexion, gray hair, blue eyes, 5 feet-8 inches tall.

Vouchers exist which confirm George Bibb's defense that his only aid to the Confederate cause was yielding to the impressment of Bibb's possessions.

He was paid \$200.00 for a barrel of pork in August 1863.

Bibb was paid \$2500.00 for one first class artillery horse (\$1500) and another first class artillery horse (\$1000)

One four horse wagon team and driver employed in hauling for "Mitre and Mining Bureau" at Montevallo, Al. Six days, \$3600.

Before pleading for pardon and clemency from President Johnson, it was necessary to obtain the Governor's support. The letter to the provisional Governor and ultimately to the President were similar but with a few exceptions. An official agent wrote the letter on Bibb's behalf. It was signed by George B. Bibb himself. Comparing the reasons for justifying the pardon and clemency in both letters is an interesting exercise. In the letter to Governor Parsons, these reasons for advocating clemency for George B. Bibb emerge:

He was never under arrest at any time.

He was never involved in the taking of Fort Morgan or the Mt. Vernon arsenal.

He never served on a vigilante committee.

No one was hanged because of his influence.

He was never engaged in hunting (humans) with dogs.

Never an advocate of the order for secession (January 11, 1861)

In appealing for pardon and clemency from *His Excellency, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States*. Bibb, as a basis for his plea, refers to the President's Amnesty Proclamation of May 29. George B. Bibb took the official Amnesty Oath which is attached.

He then cites his reasons which are paraphrased here:

He was never arrested.

None of his property was ever been taken by the U.S. Government.

There are no proceedings pending for conspiracy or treason.

He never advocated for the right of secession, but acquiesced to the secession movement.

He never served in the confederate Army.

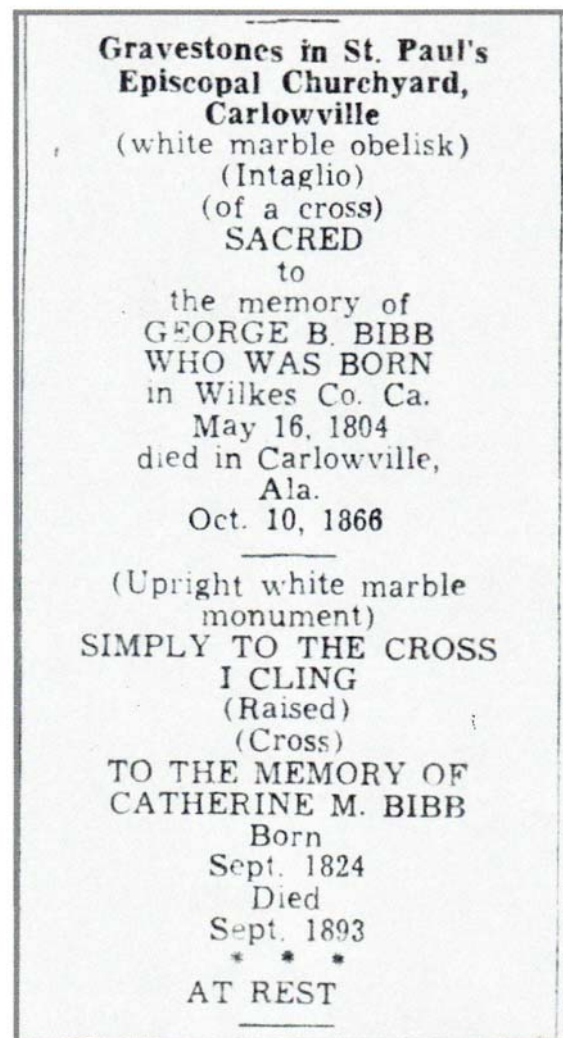
He never sought to hold a Confederate Civil office.

The only aid rendered to the Southern movement was in cotton loan and material contributions, and only because sentiments were violent and extreme.

Just why George B. Bibb distanced himself from the Secessionist Movement may be difficult to understand. It may be as simple as dreading the disunion of states. After all, his father had governed as the Alabama territory had become the twenty-second state to be admitted into the Union (December 14, 1819). George B. Bibb's father had worked hard at a time when being part of the Union was essential to the growth and development of Alabama. It was also a matter of standing with all the other States which were united too. While it is pure conjecture, George B. Bibb had grown up in a political family which saw the necessity of the Union. Perhaps he saw his father's work being undone by the Secessionist movement.

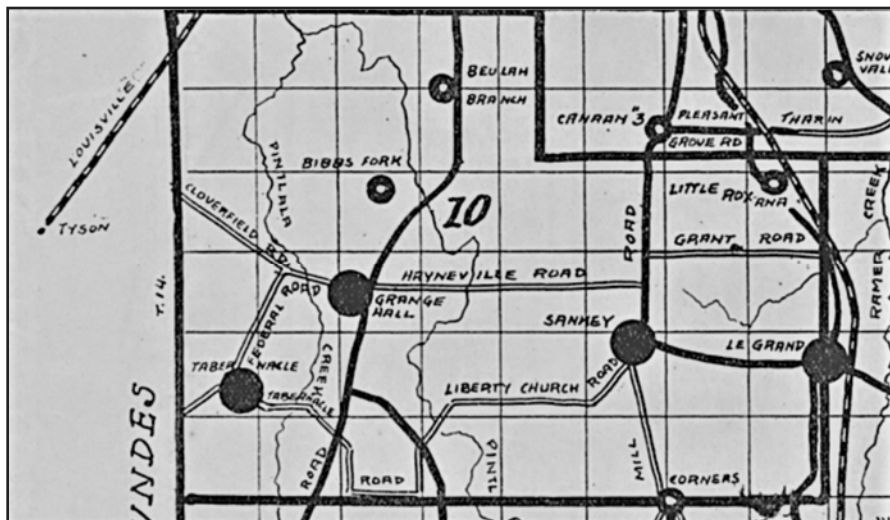
Final Resting Place

The 62-year span of George B. Bibb's life had witnessed Alabama as a territory, a state, and a state ravaged by the Civil War. He had lived through the many locations of the territorial and state capitals: St Stephens, Huntsville, Cahawba, Tuscaloosa, and Montgomery.



AN EARLY COUNTY MAP

The 1920 map mislabels the creek to the west. The creek should be named *Pinchona* and the one to the east is Pintlala Creek. The map also indicates a small school house in the Fork which accommodated black students. Janie Bell James, a life-long resident of Hope Hull, recalls attending the school before moving to a higher grade level housed in a similar structure, Harefield School, near Cloverfield Road.



Montgomery County, 1918
Historical Map Archive, <http://alabamamaps.ua.edu>

Bibb Fork Through The Eyes of Davis And Margery Henry

No one can speak with as much imagery and richness of culture about Pintlala's Bibb Fork than Davis and Margery Henry. Almost a century has past since the Henry family began farming the land which they now occupy. For decades this family has set high standards for raising cattle and dairy farming while serving as role models for good citizenship. The century mark will be reached next year, July 2019. Davis Henry's father, James P. (J.P.) Henry, Sr., bought the first tract of land in Pintlala for the family.

While there were no descendants from George B. Bibb's two marriages, there were plenty of Bibb relatives who figured into the conveyance of property as documented in the abstract of title belonging to Davis and Margery. What was known as The Bibb Place in 1921 was conveyed through Frederick L. Bibb, William G. Bibb, James Porter Bibb, Mrs. C.P. Bibb, Mattie Bibb Edmondson, William T. Edmondson, Jr. The abstract indicates that James Porter Bibb was the sole executor of the estate of Martha Dandridge Bibb, deceased. Over time The Fork certainly had attracted relatives of George B. Bibb.

Pasture lanes and farming trails provided passage to and within Bibb Fork for many years. According to Davis Henry, the creation of Windham Road was a WPA project. Davis and Margery have inspired the start-up of the Bibb Fork oral history project, recording the voices of many residents and others with knowledge of life and work in the Fork. Many stories abound which bring vitality and richness to Pintlala's heritage.

NOTES:

1. *The Pintlala Historical Association Newsletter*, October 2012, Vol. 26, p.5.
2. <http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1416>
3. Wilkes County, Georgia, Will Book, p.57.
4. Alabama Department of Archives and History, Letter: George B. Watts to E.S. Sayre, Watts Family Papers, 1829-1958, LPR 237, Series B Correspondence, 1829-1909, Business Correspondence, 1844-1900, Box 2.
5. ADAH, Letter: George B. Bibb to A.J. Pickett, Pickett Family Papers, 1779-1937, LPR 185, Box 1, Section 1 of A.J. Pickett's "Letters From Various Distinguished and Well Informed Persons." This letter can be found online: <http://digital.archives.alabama.gov/utills/getdownloaditem/collection/voices/id/2989/filename/3042.pdf/mapsto/pdf>
6. <http://www.newspapers.com/image/237392474> *The Cahawba Gazette*, Friday, February 25, 1859, p.3
7. <http://www.newspapers.com/image/237393751> *The Cahawba Gazette*, Friday, September 23, 1859, p.3
8. Fold3.com is the source for all military citations in this paper.

Pintlala Water System



Mary Lillian Rosier

The End Of The Rainbow—Water

Editor, The Advertiser:

As Mr. Motisi, engineer for the Pintlala Water System, told the crowd at the community meeting on June 25th at Pintlala School, "At the end of the rainbow — will be WATER."

Water for all to use is more important to people in rural areas than a pot of gold. Water — fresh and clear, plentiful in supply, flowing at the turn of a faucet — is what some have dreamed of and never thought they would see in certain rural areas. This liquid gold lies so deep underground in the southern areas of Montgomery County that deep wells are an expense many cannot afford. Water, in these communities, is not taken for granted as it is today the same problem it has always been — a dire necessity and hard to get.

As a newcomer from the city, having bought property in this section with plans to build, I was astounded that so many people had survived for so long with no water source at all, hauling all drinking water, and bathing and washing clothes in ponds and creeks. But the end of the much sought after rainbow is in sight — there is a way to attain water for all the community. How? By community support.

In 1967 a group of interested citizens surveyed the area and obtained enough signed petitions to apply for a Farmers Home Administration loan to build a community water system. At that time, enough community interest was shown to apply for the loan but not enough support given to place the project in a high priority for accomplishment.

In recent months, those first interested have been joined by others in a vigorous campaign and a second survey made which verified the fact that the people in even greater numbers do want to support

a water system. An organization was formed late in May and the next step of the project has been started — collection of water meter fees (\$25 per meter).

A lot of people have worked extremely hard to make this project a success. Visits, phone calls, letters, radio announcements, posters in local stores, community meetings are some of the methods taken to inform the people of the current drive. But some may have not heard for some have not responded. The community needs the support of all that are interested now.

This water system is being planned to serve as many people as it is financially feasibly possible to reach. It strictly depends on community support. The area proposed for service begins at I-65 and US 31 intersection in Hope Hull, and extends South on 31 almost to Davenport. It branches out and includes the McLean Road, the McGehee Road, the cross roads extending in both directions at Mosley's store in Pintlala, Tabernacle Road, Tabernacle Loop, the Bibb Forks community, several miles of the Pettus Road and the Letohatchie Road and various side dirt roads extending from main roads.

If you live or own property in this area and want to know more about this community water system, contact the undersigned or one of the officers of the organization. They are Mr. Fred Sellers, Fleta (President), Mr. Charles B. Meadows, Pintlala (Secretary-Treasurer), Sgt. O. E. Sharp, Fleta (Vice President) and Mr. Sam Whigham, Pintlala and Mr. Wallace Bush, Hope Hull, Directors. In addition, the owners and operators of local stores are actively participating.

MRS. J. D. ROSIER

Letter to the Editor of *The Advertiser* from Mary Lillian Rosier and published in *The Montgomery Advertiser*, Wednesday, July 1, 1970, page 4

Transcribed from *Montgomery Advertiser*, Thursday, August 17, 1911, V. LXXXII, Issue: 229, page 3.

Old Settlers' Meeting

Col. W. A. Gunter Delivers Address
On "Lessons of the Past"

History Regarding First Settlers of the Lower End of Montgomery County Brought Out as Result of Annual Gathering Held Wednesday

More than 1,500 men, women and children gathered in a great natural oak grove near Ada in the southern part of Montgomery County, Wednesday, on the occasion of the third annual picnic and historical meeting of the Pintlala Old Settlers' Association, organized three years ago for the purpose of collecting and publishing the history and records of the early settlers of the Pintlala section of Montgomery County and their descendants. More than 200 of the first families residing in this district were people represented by descendants at the meeting yesterday. There were people present from practically every town within a radius of the miles from Ada, many coming from Luverne, Highland Home and Troy. About fifty from Montgomery attended.

The chief address of the day was made by Colonel W. A. Gunter of Montgomery, himself a native of the Pintlala district. Colonel Gunter's subject was "Lessons of the Past." He drew a picture of the early Grecian civilization and showed the evolution of society with the characteristics attending each succeeding age, bringing the thought down to the present age. Those who heard the address consider it to have been a masterful expose of the subject, which Colonel Gunter chose.

Professor Barnes Presides

The general session in the morning was presided over by Professor J. M. Barnes, President of the Association, Rev. [E.] J. Dunn pronounced the invocation at the opening of the meeting.

After Colonel Gunter's address dinner was served and there was an abundance of all the appetizing edibles characteristic of the rural districts of Montgomery County.

During the afternoon a round table was held, presided over by Dr. Thomas M. Owen, Director of the State Department of Archives and History. This part of the program consisted of the exhibition of a large number of Indian relics, relics of the pioneer days, war relics, the exhibition of old family records; and then came a series of inquiries as to the location of further historical data, regarding such questions as to who was the

first settler in the Pintlala section, the first preacher, teacher, tanner, miller, blacksmith and the like.

During the course of these inquiries it developed that the Pintlala section of Montgomery is one of the strongholds of the Primitive Baptist Church in Alabama and has been since the founding of Old Bethel Church in 1819, this being the first church of any denomination in Montgomery County, and one of the first in the entire state.

List of Settlers Read

Mr. Barnes presented a list of the old settlers of the Pintlala section and their descendants for correction and additions.

A vote of thanks was extended to Colonel Gunter in appreciation of his address. Dr. Owen made an address for which he also was tendered a vote of thanks.

The following officers of the association were unanimously re-elected:

Professor J. M. Barnes, Montgomery, President; Walter Boyd, Ada, Vice-President, and W. J. Sellers, Fleta, Secretary and Treasurer, An Executive Committee was provided, consisting of the three officers just named and five others, W. R. Watson, Dr. Thomas Duncan, John Bledsoe, H. H. Norman and F. M. Moseley.

Among the Montgomery people who had attended the meeting were Professor J. M. Barnes, Professor E. R. Barnes, Dr. M. L. Kirkpatrick, F. M. Moseley, Professor H. B. Halbert, T.A. Brannon, Colonel and Mrs. W. A. Gunter and their daughter Mrs. Darrington Semple of New York, Dr. Thomas M. Owen, Miss Tocoa Cozart, Joe Calloway, Mose Stuart Sr. and Miss Mattie Rives.

The committee in charge of arrangements for the meeting were as follows:

Committee:

Committee on arrangements— Dempsey Boyd, Sprague; J. P. Anderson, Ada; J. T. Boyd, Ada; and Edgar Duncan, Fleta.

Finance Committee— Walter Boyd, Sprague; Walter B. Watson, Mount Carmel; William J. Sellers, Jr., Fleta; W. V. Bell, Ada; Cleveland Sellers, Sellers; George W. Boyd, Sprague; Justice Jordan, Highland Home; John Bledsoe, R.F.D., Sellers; William Luckie, Hope Hull; C. B. Stanford, R. F. D. Snowdown, and George Dean, R. F. D. Sprague.

Ladies Committee on Dinner and Refreshments—Mrs. William W. Sellers, Chairman, Sellers; Mrs. Walter Boyd, Sprague, R. F. D.; Miss Ella Roy Mizelle, Strata; Mrs. Dr. Richard Garrett, Sellers; Mrs. W. T. Sellers, Jr., Fleta; Mrs. Walter R. Watson, Mount Carmel; Mrs. William Norman, Fleta; Mrs. Dr. Thomas Duncan, Fleta; Mrs. Andrew Bledsoe, Bethlehem; Miss Lucy Jordan, Highland Home; Mrs. Dr. M. B. Kirkpatrick, Montgomery; Mrs. W. V. Bell, Ramer; Mrs. Charles Stanford, Snowdown; and Miss Augusta Ekwurzel, Sprague.



**PINTLALA HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION**

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

████████████████████
NEXT MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2018

2:30 P.M.

PINTLALA BAPTIST
CHURCH
████████████████████

Join the Pintlala Historical Association

Please mail completed form & dues to:

**Pintlala Historical Association
Ina Slade**

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone (Home & Office) _____

E-Mail Address _____

Areas of Interest _____

If you are interested in genealogy, please indicate family surnames _____

\$15.00 Annual Dues