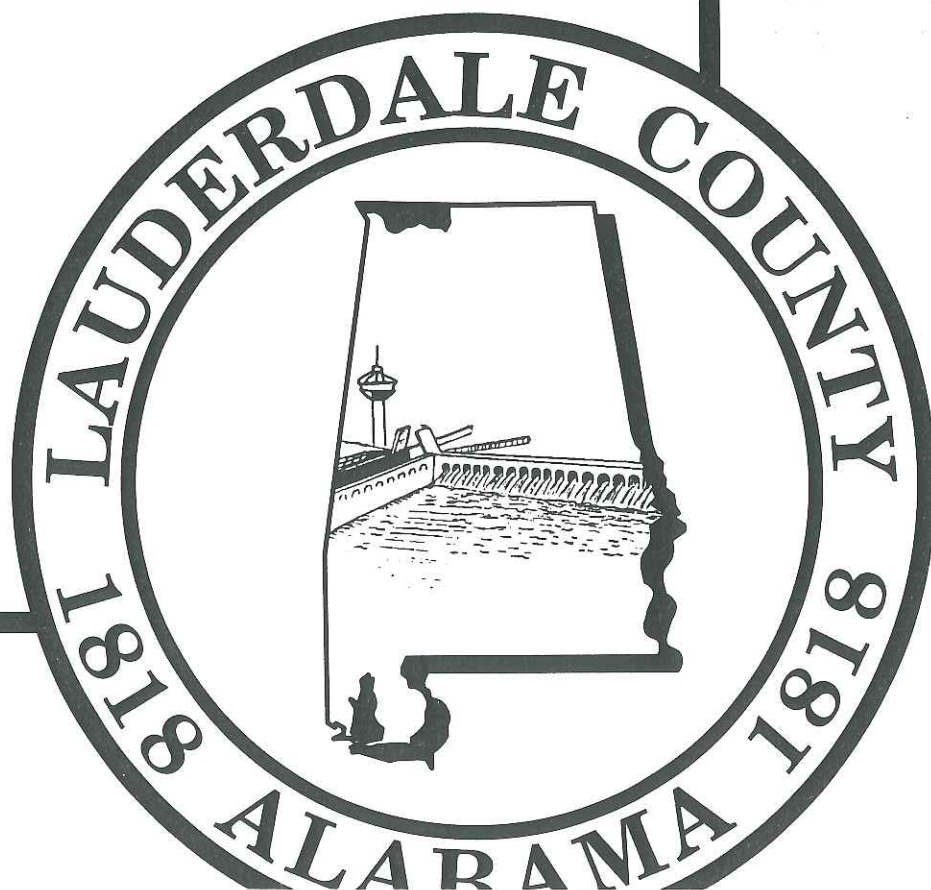


The Heritage of Lauderdale County, Alabama

LIMESTONE COUNTY ARCHIVES
310 W. WASHINGTON ST.
ATHENS, AL 35611



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Published by:
Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc.
P.O. Box 67
Clanton, AL 35046
1-800-568-1611

Printed by:
Walsworth Publishing Company, Inc.
© 1999
Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc.,
Don Mills, Inc.,
and

The Lauderdale County Heritage Book Committee

LOC #98-72640
ISBN 1-891647-16-4

Limited First Edition

ogersville since I did not have any electricity. I get half it makes and he does the work - some setup huh? I am hoping the thing will make enough to have electricity brought to the house and shop" (he did not get electricity until about 1953) "then I can get the thing jack home some day. We get two dollars for grinding a mower and I did not know there were so many of the things around here as have been coming in - one from Florence and all around. It makes them put like new and there is not another grinder anywhere around that I know of ... To buy a machine like it would cost \$475 ... I made this one from scrap iron entirely except the motor and two bearings. Not a piece of material in it or anything that cost anything save a few bolts and nuts ... I been working on it off and on for a year. I forgot, it has got a pair of door hinges in it that cost fifty cents, and a grinding wheel that cost about the same."

On Sept. 23, 1917 Johnnie married Della Mae Ezell (See Ezell for more information). At this time World War I had been declared and he had to leave for Camp Wheeler Ga. Nov. 1, 1917, returning home only twice before the war was over. After his second visit home he left home July 10, 1918, two days before their daughter was born. He was sent to France and didn't return home until July 18, 1919. Their daughter, Della Margaret, was born July 12, 1918 and she was a year old before Johnnie saw her. After John came home they lived with his mother for two years where their second daughter Eletha Irene was born on June 5, 1920. After two years they moved nearby in the house that had been built for his grandmother.

The old Huntsville road was a dirt road and was kept up by the men living nearby. They would work on the road a week or two or they would pay someone to do so. You had to ford the creek because there was not a bridge and often it was impassable because of flooding. There was a swinging bridge across the creek that could be crossed on foot. About 1925 the road was relocated to the present site of Highway 72 about a half a mile south of the old road. At this time Johnnie built his garage and service station on the new highway on the west side of the creek where it remained until Wheeler Dam was built and he was forced to move again.

Della Mae died March 20, 1957, and Johnnie died Aug. 11, 1974. They are buried at The Liberty Cemetery in Rogersville. *Submitted by: Tim Williams, Grandson of Johnnie and Written by Eletha Howard 344 County Road 51, Rogersville, AL 35652*

Stephen Franklin Howard

My Howard ancestors came to Alabama from Union County South Carolina. Records show Stephen Howard, my great-great-grandfather, petitioned the court in Lauderdale County, AL to sell personal property of his deceased mother on March 28, 1828. His parents were Joseph and Mary Howard. Stephen, born in 1785, married Cynthia Porter on February 11, 1835. My lineage begins with their son Charles Avery Howard born December 22, 1844. He had one sister, Lucy, born 1835. Charles Avery married Sarah E. Barnett March 29, 1863. They had 8 children: Joe B. born November 15, 1868, died July 30, 1937, Stephen Franklin born March 3, 1865, died November 3, 1884, M. Ella born February 16, 1871, died January 19, 1923, W. Andrew born February 6, 1874, died June 1, 1916, Mary Evelyn Ann Caroline born January 6, 1877, James A. born August 21, 1880, died January 13, 1948, Francis E. born 21 August, 1880, died November 19, 1880. Their son Stephen Franklin Howard, born March 3, 1865, married Dorinda C. McGee, born May 6, 1861, on November 3, 1884. They had five children: Mary E. (Manie) born 1887 died 1952, Lucy Belle born 1890 died 1976, Cynthia Etta born February 7, 1893, died July 17, 1980, Jacob Avery born 1895 died 1946, Lula Ethel born 1899, died 1982. Their daughter Cynthia Etta was my grandmother. She married Ben Sledge Butler, born July 28, 1890, on January 23, 1912. They had two children. Their son Buford Horace Butler, born November 26, 1916, died May 13, 1998, is my father. He married my mother, Pearlina Pettus, born June 12, 1915, on October 3, 1936. She is from the Pettus line in Lexington, Alabama.

My great-grandfather Stephen Franklin ran a saw mill and switchboard in Lauderdale County. He was also appointed Justice of the Peace in Lauderdale County (precinct #3) on October 30, 1877. My dad tells stories of helping his grandfather repair telephone lines when he was a young boy.

ioned remedies. She was a wonderful cook and seamstress. She made delicious Goat Stew every 4th of July holiday. This is a tradition we still continue today. They were of the Baptist faith.

My dad, Buford Horace, has a sister. Her name is Ruby Beatrice and she was born October 25, 1919. Ruby married William (Bill) Gabriel Holden July 3, 1937. Their children are Sherry June, born June 29, 1938, William Stephen, born March 3, 1942, Glenda Merle, born January 15, 1947, and Ricky Lane, born December 26, 1951. Buford and Pearlina have two children. Wanda Sue born August 21, 1940 and Brenda Gaye born November 28, 1947. Wanda (myself) married James Roy Hurn May 11, 1957 and we have two children, Beverly and Tammy. Beverly married A. Lamar Henderson and Tammy married Mark Wayne Brown. Brenda married Bobby Neal Trousdale July 31, 1965. They have three children, Mark, Stanley, and Wesley. Mark married Donna Gillis, Stanley married Jamie Wells, Wesley is in the U.S. Marines and is not married.

My dad, Buford, worked for Reynolds Metals Company in Sheffield, AL for 40 years. He was an Oiler by trade. At home, he and his wife had an extensive garden out of which they sold much of their produce. This was called truck-

patching. Dad's hobby was trot-line fishing. Pearlina was also a hard worker and wonderful mother. She worked in the garden, canned fruits and vegetables, was a terrific seamstress, and worked beautiful crochet. She also made time for volunteer work for the Mental Health Association in Florence. Mom and Dad are charter members of the First Baptist Church Of Springfield. This church began in 1959. *Submitted by: Tammy Brown and Written by: Wanda Hurn, 4071 Hwy. 101, Rogersville, AL 35652* Sources: "The Howard Family", by Morris Howard, 1850 Census records, Recollections of Buford Butler



"Clockwise" Ethel (Howard) McGee, Etta (Howard) Butler, Lucy Belle (Howard) Davis

Stephen Howard

Stephen Howard came to Lauderdale County, Alabama in the early 1820's from Union District, South Carolina. He was a leader in his Howard Family. When his mother Mary Howard died in 1828 in Lauderdale County he was appointed administrator of her estate. At the sale of the goods and chattels of Mary Howard held 2 June 1828 among family members making purchases were: Mark Shelton, Obadiah Howard, Thomas Howard, Milly Bullington and Jesse Howard. The final settlement of the Mary Howard estate was recorded 7 December 1830 in Lauderdale County with six heirs: Stephen Howard, Obadiah Howard, Thomas Howard, Nathan B. Howard, Elizabeth (Howard) Steen and Jonathan Hawkins in right of his wife Silas, formerly Silas Howard.

Some researchers have stated that Mary Howard was a Keyes before she married Joseph Howard, father of Stephen Howard, who committed suicide by hanging 21 April 1821 in Union District, South Carolina. Joseph Howard was the son of Obadiah Howard and Priscilla Avery Breed. These early Howards were Primitive Baptists with a strong missionary spirit which led Obadiah Howard into Barren County, Kentucky where he and his wife

and died 25 March 1847 in Lauderdale County where he is buried at the Lexington Cemetery at Lexington, Alabama. He married about 1803 in South Carolina Lucy A.R. Elizabeth Newton born about 1785 daughter of George Newton and Ursula Whitehead. She died before 11 February 1835 when Stephen Howard married second Cynthia Porter in Lauderdale County. At Stephen Howard's death in 1847 Jason Howard was appointed administrator of his estate. The widow Cynthia Porter Howard became the purchaser of his land at a minimum price, apparently his children from his first marriage wanted her to have the property. It has been difficult to name the children from his first marriage. From early census records we know Stephen and Lucy had several sons and daughters. The following is an attempt to name them. Documentary proof for their children is lacking for most of them although circumstantial evidence is persuasive for the others.

1. Jesse Howard b 1804 South Carolina married first 30 January 1828 in Lauderdale County Cassandra Shelton daughter of Mark Shelton and Susannah Luttrell. Cassandra died before 14 November 1837 when he married second Mary Ann Harmon born 1820 Lauderdale County. Soon after this marriage they moved to Carroll County, Arkansas where their children were born. There were four daughters born of the first marriage namely: Susannah Howard married Jeremiah Stone, Catherine Howard married George Washington Cottrell, Arra Howard married Levi A. Glosup and Jane Howard married William Cole son of Samuel Cole and Nancy Cottrell (ancestors of Andrew Frank Tate, Jr.) The children of the second marriage were: John, Sarah Elizabeth, James W., Stephen and Sabrina Howard.

2. Nehemiah Howard b 5 April 1805 in South Carolina died 10 March 1887 in Giles County, Tennessee, married first Rowena Hammond 1814-1854; married second Elizabeth E. Bass. Children by first marriage: George Newton, Nany Jane, Lucy C., Joseph M., James M., Matilda, Stephen Washington, Dorcas E., Obadiah J., Louisa E., and William E. Howard. Children by second marriage: Irvin F. and Elizabeth A. Howard.

3. Elizabeth Howard born 1806 in South Carolina married Mark Shelton. (This family is listed under entry for Mark Shelton.)

4. Newton Howard b 1807 in South Carolina married Rita McCafferty. They had two daughters: Ellender Howard married James Cox and Elizabeth Howard married James Appleton.

5. Ellender Howard b. 1809 South Carolina married 1 April 1827 Robert Rust in Lauderdale County. Known children: Nancy A., Malissa, Catherine J., Hannah E. and Frances L. Rust.

6. Mary "Polly" Howard born 1814 South Carolina married 28 December 1831 Hezekiah Shelton in Lawrence County, Tennessee son of Eliphas Shelton and Betsy Luttrell. This family went to Bell County, Texas. Their children: Eliphas, James, Stephen, Lucy Ann, Mary Lear Jane, Robert, Caroline M. and Nehemiah Howard Shelton.

7. Stephen Howard, Jr. b 16 October 1817 South Carolina died 19 January 1884 in Carroll County, Arkansas married 9 November 1837 Sabrina Hammond in Lauderdale County, Alabama. Their children: Joseph N., Catharine, Nathan B., Matilda, Mary Jane, Thomas Benton, Sarah, Miles and Lucinda Howard.

8. Obadiah Howard born 1821 married 7 January 1840 Margaret Griffin in Lauderdale County, Alabama. This family was listed in the 1860 Census of Carroll County Arkansas. Their children were: Stephen, Lucy J., Nehemiah, Alfred A., Jason, Nancy C. and George W. Howard.

9. Jason Howard b 5 November 1823 died 23 August 1904 buried at the Sturgeon Cemetery near Grassy, Alabama married Nancy Guthrie Sturgeon daughter of John Sturgeon and Elizabeth Harkness. Their children: Joseph, Stephen Decatur; John Seth, Lucy Elizabeth, Virginia, San Francisco; Bayless Bourland, Rowena Caroline, Elias Nehemiah, Lettie Jemima, Andrew Jason and Sarah Margaret Howard.

10. Sarah Howard born 1824 married 18 September 1845 John Shelton in Lauderdale County, Alabama son of Mark Shelton and Susannah Luttrell. This family was living in Giles County, Tennessee in the 1870 Census. Their children: Tabitha A., Mary Ann, Madella, William T., Samuel C., Andrew J. and Eliza Jane Shelton.

11. Ursula Jane Howard b 30 March 1828 at Lexington, Alabama died 13 January 1897 and was buried at Lake Springs Cemetery, Dent County, Missouri, married 20 July 1848 John Newton

erdale County, Alabama son of Hardin Howard. Their known children: Stephen A., William H. and Martha J. Howard.

13. Charles Avery Howard born 22 December 1844 died 7 September 1891 married first 29 March 1865 Sarah E. Barnett died 28 April 1881; married second Julia White. Children by Sarah Barnett: Stephen Frank, Joseph B., Mary Eliza, Andrew Woodrow, Mary Evelyn Ann Caroline, James R. and Frances E. Howard. Children by Julia White: Dee Witt, Jesse, Huldah and Arabella Howard. Submitted by: Andrew Frank Tate, Jr., Pinehaven Shores, 1155 County Road 110, Rogersville, AL 35652.

Sources: Historic Southern Families, Vol. 13, by Boddie, Howard Family by Morris Stanley Howard, Census Records of Lauderdale County, Alabama, Census Records of Giles County, Tennessee, Family Records of Mrs. Curtis Risley, Pryor, OK, Family Records of Mrs. Muriel H. Barnett

Capt. John Thomas Humphrey

and the Humphrey Family

John Thomas Humphrey, born in Alabama in 1827, was a member of one of Waterloo, Alabama's oldest families. He was the son of James Humphrey who came to North Alabama from Kentucky. James Humphrey arrived in the old town of Waterloo some years prior to 1847, possibly around 1830. James Humphrey was a businessman and early land owner whose sons, John Thomas Humphrey and Wood (Woody) Humphrey, born in 1829, and their descendants shaped the history of Waterloo.

Waterloo's location on the Tennessee River sparked its growth as a busy river port town. This was in the steamboat era, an era known for its riverboats, both passenger and transport vessels that steamed the river ways to major ports.

As a young man, John Thomas Humphrey became a steamboat clerk in his father's business at Waterloo Landing. He developed a love and understanding of the Tennessee River and its treacherous

waters known as the Shoals. He soon became a skilled steamboat pilot capable of safely navigating the turbulent sucks and whirlpools of the river at Muscle Shoals. Business boomed. By 1854, his steamer, the "B.B. Barker" ran the distance from New Orleans to Waterloo and on to Paducah, Kentucky.

But by 1862, a tragedy unfolded which ultimately ended the young life of Capt. John Thomas Humphrey at age thirty-five. At the time, our country was in the grip of the Civil War. Confederate and Union vessels ran the supply routes along the Tennessee River to the ports. A union supply vessel, the



Sarah Adeline White Humphrey, Captain John Thomas Humphrey 1848

U.S.S. Cottage, was fired upon from the hills above Waterloo. The Union gunboats returned fire and shelled the town. In his article in the "Shoals Heritage" titled, "Area's elder men joined homespun militia force", William L. McDonald relates the incident; "On Aug. 2, 1862, when Waterloo's prominent Riverboat Captain John Thomas Humphrey showed up at Eastport, he was immediately arrested and charged with the high crime. Humphrey at the time was serving as pilot of another Federal supply boat, the W.P. Packard. Because of Humphrey's knowledge of the Tennessee, especially the perilous