



THE BIRMINGHAM GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded April 15, 1959

www.birminghamgenealogy.org

<http://birminghamgenealogy.wordpress.com/>

THE PIONEER TRAILS NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2016

General Meeting for January: The Birmingham Genealogical Society will meet at 2:00 p.m. on **Saturday, January 23rd** on the fourth floor of the Birmingham Public Library (in the Arrington Auditorium). The Board of Directors will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the same room.

Please join us on Saturday, January 23rd (2:00 pm) for “How to organize your research file, both paper and electronic.” BGS members Patricia Crim-Dietlein, Gary Gerlach, Patrick Henry and Suzanna Rawlins will discuss effective and efficient organizational tools, including example directory structures, file name examples, suggestions for auxiliary programs and back-ups (how often and where to store). Please join us for this informative program!

PLEASE NOTE: The Birmingham Genealogical Society will resume monthly meetings (and monthly newsletters) effective January 2016. Also, please don't forget your 2016 Dues! Current annual dues are \$20.00/individual or \$25.00/family payable to the Birmingham Genealogical Society. Please mail to: The Birmingham Genealogical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 2432, Birmingham AL 35201

Genealogical & Historical Society News

The Alabama Genealogical Society will host its Spring 2016 Seminar on March 12, 2016 at Samford University in Birmingham AL. The theme is “It's All in the Details” presented by George G. Morgan. Topics include The Genealogist as CSI, Bring Em Back to Life – Developing an Ancestor Profile, Clues in the News and Getting Past Brick Walls. A registration form may be downloaded at <http://algensoc.org/main/SeminarFlyer.pdf>

The Shelby County Historical Society will meet on February 7, 2016 at the old Courthouse in Columbiana AL. The program will be presented by Jay Lamar, Executive Director of the Alabama Bicentennial Commission. A native of Alabama, Lamar is also co-editor (with Jeanie Thompson) of *The Remembered Gate: Memoirs by Alabama Writers*.

The Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance will host its 2016 Workshop on Saturday, April 30th in Gardendale AL. Topics and location will be announced next month.

The past is not dead. It isn't even past. --William Faulkner

Scott A. Martin, BGS Newsletter Editor



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Old Occupations - Compiled by Dan Burrows - "I put these 130 items together from many sources and used it as a handout for our local Orange County (NY) Genealogical Society." Dan Burrows - dburrows1@juno.com

Accomptant - Accountant

Almoner- Giver of charity to the needy

Amanuensis - Secretary or stenographer

Artificer - A soldier mechanic who does repairs

Bailie - Bailiff

Baxter - Baker

Bluestocking - Female writer

Boniface - Keeper of an inn

Brazier - One who works with brass

Brewster - Beer manufacturer

Brightsmith - Metal Worker

Burgonmaster - Mayor

Caulker - One who filled up cracks (in ships or windows or seams) to make them watertight by using tar or oakum-hem fiber produced by taking old ropes apart.

Chaisemaker - Carriage maker

Chandler - Dealer or trader; one who makes or sells candles; retailer of groceries, ship supplier

Chiffonnier - Wig maker

Clark - Clerk

Clerk - Clergyman, cleric

Clicker - The servant of a salesman who stood at the door to invite customers; one who received the matter in the galley from the compositors and arranged it in due form ready for printing; one who makes eyelet holes in boots using a machine which clicked.

Cohen - Priest

Collier - Coal miner

Colporteur - Peddler of books

Cooper - One who makes or repairs vessels made of staves & hoops, such as casks, barrels, tubs, etc.

Cordwainer - Shoemaker, originally any leather worker using leather from Cordova/Cordoba in Spain

Costermonger - Peddler of fruits and vegetables

Crocker - Potter

Crowner - Coroner

Currier - One who dresses the coat of a horse with a currycomb; one who tanned leather by incorporating oil or grease

Docker - Stevedore, dock worker who loads and unloads cargo

Dowser - One who finds water using a rod or witching stick

Draper - A dealer in dry goods

Drayman - One who drives a long strong cart without fixed sides for carrying heavy loads

Dresser- A surgeon's assistant in a hospital

Drover - One who drives cattle, sheep, etc. to market; a dealer in cattle

Duffer - Peddler

Factor - Agent, commission merchant; one who acts or transacts business for another; Scottish steward or bailiff of an estate.

Farrier - A blacksmith, one who shoes horses

Faulkner- Falconer

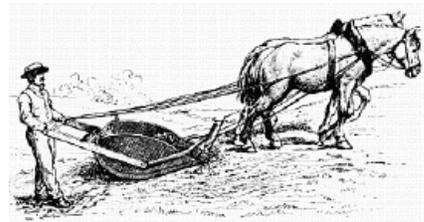
Fellmonger - One who removes hair or wool from hides in preparation for leather making

Fletcher - One who made bows and arrows

Fuller - One who fulls cloth; one who shrinks and thickens woollen cloth by moistening, heating, and pressing; one who cleans and finishes cloth

Gaoler - A keeper of the goal, a jailer

Glazier - Window glassman
Hacker - Maker of hoes



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Hatcheler - One who combed out or carded flax
Haymonger - Dealer in hay
Hayward - Keeper of fences
Higgler - Itinerant peddler
Hillier - Roof tiler
Hind- A farm laborer
Holster - A groom who took care of horses, often at an inn
Hooker - Reaper
Hooper - One who made hoops for casks and barrels
Huckster - Sells small wares
Husbandman - A farmer who cultivated the land
Jagger - Fish peddler
Journeyman - One who had served his apprenticeship and mastered his craft, not bound to serve a master, but hired by the day.
Joyner / Joiner - A skilled carpenter
Keeler - Bargeman
Kempster - Wool comber
Lardner - Keeper of the cupboard
Lavender - Washer woman
Lederer - Leather maker
Leech - Physician
Longshoreman - Stevedore
Lormer - Maker of horse gear
Malender - Farmer
Maltster - Brewer
Manciple - A steward
Mason - Bricklayer
Mintmaster - One who issued local currency
Monger - Seller of goods (ale, fish)
Muleskinner - Teamster
Neatherder - Herds cows
Ordinary Keeper- Innkeeper with fixed prices
Pattern Maker - A maker of a clog shod with an iron ring. A clog was a wooden pole with a pattern cut into the end
Peregrinator - Itinerant wanderer
Peruker - A wig maker
Pettifogger - A shyster lawyer
Pigman - Crockery dealer
Plumber - One who applied sheet lead for roofing and set lead frames for plain or stained glass windows.
Porter - Door keeper
Puddler - Wrought iron worker
Quarrier- Quarry worker
Rigger - Hoist tackle worker
Ripper - Seller of fish
Roper - Maker of rope or nets
Saddler - One who makes, repairs or sells saddles or other furnishings for horses.
Sawbones- Physician
Sawyer - One who saws; carpenter
Schumacker - Shoemaker
Scribler - A minor or worthless author
Scrivener - Professional or public copyist or writer; notary public
Scrutinier - Election judge

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Shrieve / SheriffSlater - Roofer
Slopseller- Seller of ready-made clothes in a slop shop
Snobscat / Snob - One who repaired shoes
Sorter - Tailor
Spinster - A woman who spins or an unmarried woman
Spurrer - Maker of spurs
Squire - Country gentleman; farm owner; justice of peace
Stuff gown - Junior barrister
Stuff gownsman - Junior barrister
Supercargo - Officer on merchant ship who is in charge of cargo and the commercial concerns of the ship.
Tanner - One who tans (cures) animal hides into leather
Tapley - One who puts the tap in an ale cask
Tasker - Reaper
Teamster - One who drives a team for hauling
Thatcher - Roofer
Tide waiter - Customs inspector
Tinker - An itinerant tin pot and pan seller and repairman
Tipstaff - Policeman
Travers - Toll bridge collection
Tucker - Cleaner of cloth goods
Turner - A person who turns wood on a lathe into spindles
Victualer - A tavern keeper, or one who provides an army, navy, or ship with food
Vulcan - Blacksmith
Wagoner - Teamster not for hire
Wainwright - Wagon maker
Waiter - Customs officer or tide waiter; one who waited on the tide to collect duty on goods brought in.
Waterman - Boatman who plies for hire
Webster - Operator of looms
Wharfinger - Owner of a wharf
Wheelwright - One who made or repaired wheels; wheeled carriages, etc.
Whitesmith - Tinsmith; worker of iron who finishes or polishes the work
Whitewing - Street sweeper
Whitster - Bleach of cloth
Wright - Workman, especially a construction worker
Yeoman - Farmer who owns his own land

31 August 1854, *The Jones Valley Times*

Died of consumption at his residence in Jefferson County, Alabama on August 19th, 1854, Andrew Bass in the 51st year of his age, after suffering for a great while. The subject of this notice was born in Anson County, North Carolina on July 4th, 1804 and came to Alabama with his father while a young man. A few years thereafter he became united to Miss Jane Montgomery by marriage, with whom he lived in great harmony until his death. He leaves a wife, seven sons and two daughters.

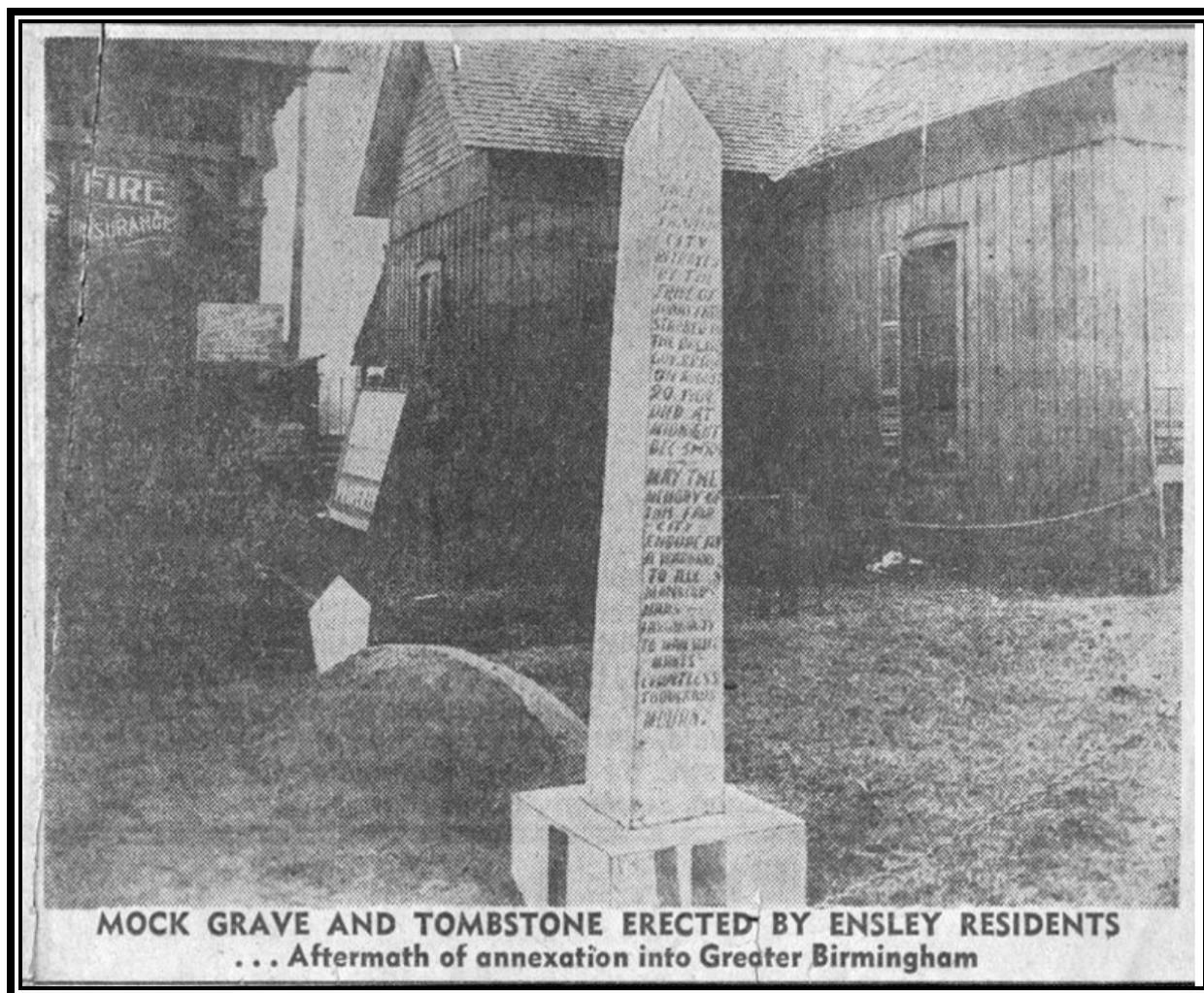
15 July 1881, *The Birmingham Observer*

Birmingham was the scene of a fire Saturday evening, the details of which were shocking. It seems that a Mrs. Bankhardt and family had for a short time been living in a dwelling house on 5th Avenue between 17th and 18th Streets, when on the evening of the burning, Mrs. Bankhardt, in order to make a fire, used kerosene, and in pouring the fluid in the stove from the can, the kerosene ignited and enveloped the unfortunate woman in flames.

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27 September 1956 *THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS* “Many Ensley Folks Recall That Day Back In 1909 When Town Was Buried”

Two score and six years ago the town of Ensley was buried – or at least that’s what folks in 1909 had in mind. The story of the burial ceremony began in 1909, when Ensley, then an incorporated town, was annexed into greater Birmingham by an act of the Legislature. Bitter opponents of the annexation move, most of whom have passed on, decided to erect a tombstone and grave, to tell the world officially that Ensley had lost its independence. The mock grave and tombstone were erected in the front yard of J.R. Perkins real estate office, where today stands the Ensley branch of the First National Bank, at Avenue E and 19th Street. Inscribed on the tombstone were these words: “Here lies the remains of Ensley, once a fair and prosperous city. Betrayed by the Tribe of Judas, and fatally stabbed in the back by Governor B.B. Comer on August 20, 1909, died at midnight December 31, 1909. May the memory of this fair city endure as a warning to all mankind that man’s inhumanity to man still makes countless thousands mourn.” Although the tombstone and grave have long since been whisked away, some of the old-timers still recall the heated debate over the annexation and the burial ceremony. P.A. Eubanks, a longtime resident of Ensley, recalls, “It just appeared all of a sudden one morning. It must have been erected during the night.” As to the length of time the grave remained intact, Mr. Eubanks said, “It remained there for nearly two years before it was torn down.” Among others remembering the occasion are J.R. Goodwin, H.S. Meader and O.S. Mackey. All will tell you that residents of Ensley fought bitterly to keep their independence. One thing is certain, Ensley did not die on that cold December night in 1909. Today, 46 years later, Ensley’s bustling industries, busy shopping district and modern buildings are typical of a growing and prosperous community.



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NOTES ON REV. ROBERT BAILEY (1802-1868)

(From the Notes of Will Franke, Bailey file, Will Franke Collection,
Special Collection Department, Samford University Library – transcribed by descendant Scott Martin)

Rev. Robert Bailey professed religion at a camp-meeting in McMinn County TN one mile below Athens September 1824 and joined the Cumberland Presbyterian Church called “Jerusalem.” Robert Bailey and his wife returned to Alabama fall of 1827 and attended the Shiloh camp meeting. In 1829 they were charter members of the New Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church (organized 1 March 1829). Rev. Robert Bailey was also elected a ruling elder. Rev. Robert Bailey was the first elder to represent the New Hope CP Church in the old Alabama Presbytery. He was present at the meeting held at Shiloh, now Leeds, Tuesday, October 3, 1829.

Rev. Robert Bailey was instrumental in the formation of the Bold Springs Cumberland Presbyterian Church, organized 1843. He was also the church’s first pastor. His name is on the cornerstone of Bold Springs Presbyterian Church near Lake Purdy in Shelby County AL.

The Rocky Ridge Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized 5 June 1854 by Rev. Robert Bailey and Rev. Emberson Acton. Rev. Robert Bailey’s wife, Polly Ann Bailey is listed as a charter member. Henderson Bailey is admitted December 1868. The first church was constructed across the road from the present location of the church at the intersection of Altadena, Old Rocky Ridge and Acton Roads.

Rev. Robert Bailey was also the first pastor of Acton Memorial Presbyterian Church, now Altadena Valley Presbyterian Church, PCA, on Caldwell Mill Road, Birmingham AL.

Rev. Robert Bailey was also a blacksmith and wagon builder, he made shoes, wagons, made his own nails for horseshoes. Had a shop and plenty of tools. Henderson Bailey was with him when he married the Hooker woman. Lived about where new Florida Highway crosses the Valley Road.

Hail Bailey once said he ran a wagon made by Robert Bailey for twenty years before he ever had to carry it to shop. Sometimes he took as much as six months in driving spokes. He had no teeth – they always cooked him biscuit. He never took money for preaching – sometimes presents, socks, etc. Albert Vandergrift said he would come up to St. Clair County to preach, and when he would ride up he would say, “Sister, now don’t cook your biscuit too hard.” “Rev. Bailey, how do you know we are going to have biscuit?” “Oh, you always have biscuit when the preacher comes.”

Rev. Robert Bailey died in Cahaba Valley at or near Bold Springs and is buried at Old New Hope – Rev. Bailey preached at New Hope CP Church. The death of Rev. Robert Bailey is recorded in the Minutes of The Alabama Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church 1855-1887. It reads: “We have been advised of the removal by death, of two of our beloved co-laborers in the great harvest field, viz: Rev. Robert Bailey, of the Elyton Presbytery, and Rev. J.M.B. Roach, of the Alabama Presbytery. The former fell asleep in Jesus at his residence in Shelby County, Alabama, on the 6th day of August 1868, A.D. His life and talents, from early manhood, had been earnestly consecrated to the great Master’s work. Many, very many, will rise up to call him blessed, in the great day of final reckoning, as having been turned to righteousness by his faithful, persevering energies.”

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