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Patrick Walsh

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Augustus Peter Wetter

Patrick Walsh
HIS 300
Dr. Warlick
Fall/1990

ABSTRACT

Augustus Peter Wetter was born in Germany in 1829 and died in Pennsylvania in 1882. He came to Savannah before the Civil War and was one of the wealthiest men in Savannah for a period of time. Augustus P. Wetter was many things; he was a Civil Engineer, a planter, an Alderman for Savannah's first district and Cotton press director, just to name a few. He also held many positions on committees and boards. His life contained many triumphs and tragedies that would indicate a very full and sometimes sad existence.

Augustus Peter Wetter was born in Germany in the town of Mentz, in the Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt in the year 1829.(1) Although the researcher was unable to pinpoint the year of his arrival in Savannah, (a check of Immigration and Naturalization records and Passenger Lists, yielded no Wetters). He appears in the city in 1856 as a civil engineer under General J.E Gilmer.(2)

The researcher first found Augustus P.Wetter in June 1855 as a member of the architectural firm of Messrs. Fay, Sholls & Wetter,(3) when he bid on the construction of the Washington County Court House in Sandersville, Georgia.

Although not the successful bidder, he was hired in May 1856 by the Court to supervise the construction.(4) Wetter was authorized to draw funds as the architect in charge in December 1856. He appeared then to be working for the firm of J.T. Youngblood & Company.(5)

The court house stood until sometime in the early or mid 1860's. A new court house was built on the ruins of Wetter's building in 1868. An article in the Central Georgian on March 25, 1868 states ..."The plan that has been adopted is in some respects similar to the one upon which the former building was erected...The building will be erected upon the old foundation and much of the ruins will be made use of.."(6)

Wetter built his own house on 215 So. Broad St. (now called Olgethorpe Ave.) between 1856 and 1861. The railings

of the Wetter house became famous and are treasured landmarks today in Savannah. Local legend claims the railings were originally ordered for the State Capital in Milledgeville but were not accepted for the contract.(7) Since the timing overlaps so much, the researcher wonders, if by chance they might have been ordered for the Washington County Court House?

Mr. Wetter married Alberta Cobb Telfair on April 21, 1857 at the German Luthern Church. The ceremony was performed by the Reverend William Epping.(8) Alberta Telfair was born in 1834 in Savannah and was part of the famous Telfair family (which includes a former Governor) which was one of the wealthiest families in the South. This marriage provided A.P Wetter with four children: Edward Telfair(9), Conrad P.(10), Alberta Telfair and Meta A.

The year 1857 is also the year Mr. Wetter joined the Chatham Artillery.(11) Mr. Wetter joined the Dekalb Riflemen, who had become part of the Chatham Artillery 1st regiment as the Independent Volunteer Battalion in 1852.(12)

The next two years for Augustus and his wife Alberta brought forth their two sons: Edward Telfair Wetter was born on January 22, 1858(13). Conrad P., although no exact date of birth was found by the researcher, was born in the year 1859.(14) Daughters Alberta T. and Meta A.'s birthdays are also unknown. It is known however, that Alberta T. married Horace Gould on November 7, 1883 at St. John's Episcopal Church.(15) It is also known that Meta A. Wetter graduated

from the Chatham Academy (high school) on June 30, 1877.(16) She died the following year on September 30, 1878.

In 1859 Mr. Wetter made several important purchases. On May 13, Augustus purchased the 200 acre Sharon plantation, from his mother-in-law, Margaret Telfair. He paid \$3,000 for the land, bounded by Louisville Road and the Ogeechee Canal.(17) Just prior to his land deal with his mother-in-law, on May 10, Augustus P. Wetter sold his half in a cotton commission business with partner John C. Fraser to William Brailford of McIntosh County. No fee is indicated. (18)

On September 30, 1859 Mr. Wetter bought a forty-five year old Negro slave (warranted sound) named Peter, from a Mr. William P. Clark for \$1,000.(19)

On August 3, 1860, Mr. Wetter purchased 4,795 acres in Bryan County in the Village of Riceborough and the Town of Darien known as Mt. Hope Plantation from Henrietta G. Rodgers (of New Haven, Ct). Mr. Wetter paid a total of \$9,000 for this property.(20)

A.P Wetter left for Fort Pulaski on March 14, 1861 to join the DeKalb Riflemen. A detachment of the Republican Blues, under Captain J.W Anderson, left at the same time. (21). Augustus is now listed as a Captain, and is referred to as such on and off, throughout the rest of his life. Although Mr. Wetter was Captain of the Dekalb Riflemen for a number of years, he was assigned to other duty after their incorporation into a battalion of sharpshooters.(22) The researcher believes Captain Wetter came straight back to the

City of Savannah, where he carried on his business.

On November 2nd of the same year, Captain Wetter transfers the Mt. Hope Plantation and a lot (#28) on the corner of Joachim and Farm Streets in Savannah along with twenty-four slaves, to his wife, Mrs. Alberta C.T Wetter. The fee given was \$5.00.(23)

The year 1862 held a sad and disturbing incident for the Wetter family. It seems that the body of Mrs. Alberta Wetter's relative, a Mrs. Haig, was stolen from its vault on Sharon Plantation. Neighbors alerted the Wetters on or about Christmas day, that the vault had been forced open and the body, along with a silver plate that had been resting on the coffin, were missing. Captain Wetter, in a letter to the editor of the Savannah Morning News offered a large reward for the conviction of the desecrators.(24) The researcher found no documents that resolved the situation. It seems that the vandals were never found.

A.P Wetter added to his property holdings in November, 1863. This time Mr. Wetter acquired 896 acres known as "Crow Lane" in Bryan County on the Big Poplar and Deep Creek swamps. Mr. Wetter paid John W. Anderson \$2,100 for this piece of property.(25)

On and off in 1864, Mr. Wetter sold meal for the same rates as city stores(26) and evidently gave some of the money to charity. One day after a particular sale on December 5, the Savannah Morning News acknowledged a \$1,000 contribution from Captain A.P Wetter for the benefit of the poor of Macon.

The newspaper stated that A.P Wetter's "acts of public and private benefaction are well known in this community."(27)

Another facet of A.P Wetters' benefaction is seen in 1865. He returned to Germany, where he planned to establish agencies for the emigration of Germans to form colonies in, and till the soil of south western Georgia.(28)

1865 was also the year A.P Wetter was nominated for Alderman to the Democratic ticket for Savannah's First District, which he respectfully declined.(29/30)

In May of 1866, A.P Wetter was selected for the second panel of the Grand Jury for the present term of court. This honor must have been overshadowed when on July 28, his wife, Alberta, died. Her funeral was held at the Wetter home on the corner of South Broad and West Broad Streets at three P.M.(31)

A.P Wetter seems to have had a watershed year for his business transactions in 1867. February business transactions looked very favorable for Augustus. On February 2, He acquired a 1/4 part of the lot on the south east section of Map F, Middle Oglethorpe Ward, in exchange for a debt owed by Alexander H. Sadler. The fee was \$1.00. Wetter then returns the property to Mr. Sadler in exchange for a mortgage of \$275/yr for three years at which time the entire principle was due.(32) The very next day (February 3) The Central Rail Road and the Banking Company of Georgia exchange a tract of land with Wetter called the "Right of Way" and lands on the estate of Margaret Telfair for the fee of \$5.00.(33)

Five days later on February 8, Wetter purchases 1,696 acres in Bryan County known as Hickory Hill Plantation, from Isaac D. LaRoche. In the same transaction, he acquires a portion of a plantation known as "Egypt", property of the late Thomas Harden. These lands border on the lands of Mr. Wetter (Mt. Hope Plantation to the Midway River). The fee was \$5.00.(34)

In early December, Wetter and twelve other partners, doing business as Cotton Press Company, acquired wharf lot #5, of Eastern Wharves, with 164'.4" on the Savannah River and 270' in depth to the back of Bay Street. The seller was Daniel H. Baldwin of New York. The price for the building, equipment, land, tools, etc. was \$52,000.(35)

In December of 1868, A.P Wetter is appointed as a delegate to attend the Agricultural and Emigration convention held in Macon.(36) The researcher realizes that Wetter has an extreme interest in helping other citizens, and tries very hard to help. This desire to help others is exemplified by his undertakings in 1869 and 1870 to help other German immigrants. A.P Wetter appears on the committee to make a report on the advantages of the port of Savannah for the proposed line of steamships to run between the North German Confederation and some port in the South East.(37)

Captain A.P Wetter, as of June, 1870, was the president of the German Immigrant Aid Society. Its purpose was to assist immigrants with counsel, to protect them against imposition, to point out to them available lands, to

facilitate their finding employment, to procure food for, and to make arrangements for cheaper means of transportation.(38)

It is in November, 1870 when A.P Wetter and seven other men are granted (by the State legislature) a charter for the establishment of The Southern Bank of the State of Georgia. (John Screven, E.C Anderson, John McMahon, Thomas Arkenwright, T.R Mills, John Flannery and Eugene Kelley are the other people involved). The authorized capital of the bank will be \$5,000,000.(39) All eight men were appointed directors of said bank by virtue of the charter granted.(40)

Earlier that year, A.P Wetter was selected to fill an unexpired term of the Alderman for the First District after Alderman D.T Scranton died. This time he accepted. Captain Wetter was unanimously elected for the post.(41) In October A.P Wetter was elected on the municipal ticket to a term as Alderman for the First District.(42)

A.P Wetter was very active in society and business in 1871. In October he was named to the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Savannah.(43) In June he was elected to the Board of Directors of the Industrial Association by the stockholders.(44) Finally, in July, he is named as the Director of the Tyler Cotton Press Company.(45)

Augustus stayed politically active for the next year. In 1872 He was again appointed to the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Savannah.(46) He was also named as an alternate to the committee to select delegates to attend the National Democratic Convention in Atlanta.(47) He was

also elected to be the Agent for the Tyler Cotton Press Company.(48)

Up until this point in his life, it certainly seems that A.P Wetter was indeed a very influential and rich gentleman. After 1872, though, something goes terribly wrong. The researcher could not find the specific circumstances of the losses that Captain Wetter goes through, although the losses are great. It is likely that the Civil War and its effect on the economic destruction in the south as well as the freeing of the slaves must have had serious impact on a plantation owner. Without help on his land and the impact of the aftermath of the war, it is very likely these factors contributed to his economic collapse.

In 1873 he resigns as Alderman (along with Alderman Brunner) for very undefined reasons.(49) On July 10, 1874, his fifteen year old son Conrad dies.(50) In the year of 1875, everything comes crashing down upon Augustus Peter Wetter.

Many times in 1875 holdings of A.P Wetter were sold before the Courthouse door in Chatham County. On separate occasions in April and May, personal belongings were sold.(51/52). Also in April, Sheriff John T. Ronan was forced to auction off the Tyler Cotton Press Co.(53) Added to this was the loss of a lawsuit by A.P Wetter to William H. Tyson for the amount of \$6,925.66 with interest and court costs.(54) He also experienced the loss, through fire, of his barn on Mt. Hope Plantation in Bryan County.(55)

Unfortunately for Captain Wetter, his problems with the law would grow in the years after 1875. In both February and March 1876 judgements was rendered against A.P Wetter for rent.(56/57) These actions culminated in the foreclosure on his mortgage in December 1877.(58) Then on September 30, 1878, his daughter Meta dies at age seventeen.(59)

The year of 1879 saw the loss of A.P. Wetter's "fine furniture"; auctioned off by Blume and Demure.(60) Wetter still tried to keep a semblance of his old life in order. In 1880 he was once again appointed to the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party, just as he would be again in 1882.(61/62)

By the summer of 1882, Augustus Wetter's failing health forced him to travel to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where his son and daughter looked after a critically ill Wetter.(63) He died in Harrisburg Pennsylvania, on September 8, 1882.(64) His remains were transported back to Savannah by train and arrived on September 11. Captain Augustus Peter Wetter's funeral was held at the Independent Presbyterian Church at three P.M. on September 12, 1882. The Chatham Artillery was the Honor Guard and fired the customary salute at his internment at Sharon Plantation.(65)

A.P Wetter's son Edward Telfair went on to be appointed by President Cleveland as U.S Consul at Tamatave, Madagascar in 1892. He later became principal at Hernando High School, in Brooksville, Florida. He died of kidney failure in Savannah hospital on June 6, 1908.(66)

Augustus Wetter was indeed, for a short period of time, one of the richest men in Savannah. His acts of generosity to the poor and his willingness to help the German immigrant make him an especially noteworthy character in Savannah's rich history. He was an engineer, architect, planter, merchant, politician, businessman, philanthropist, community leader, and father. A truly varied and successful career for anyone.

Still, some very important facts about his life before he came to Savannah and the complete outline of his tragic financial downfall are still missing. These areas could be studied further to get a more complete overview of the man whose obituary in the Savannah Morning News of September 8, 1882 read in part....

"His genial, social nature attracted around him many warm friends, and the news of his death will occasion unfeigned regret among a large circle." (67)

CITATIONS

- 1 Savannah Morning News, 9 Sept. 1882
- 2 Ibid
- 3 Washington County Courthouse notes, June 1885, p182
- 4 Ibid, 5 May, 1856, p189
- 5 Ibid, 2 Dec. 1856, p198
- 6 Letter to Ken Thomas-State Hist. Press Officer, from Jo Cummings
- 7 Savannah Revisited, A pictorial History, p153
- 8 Chatham County Marriage Records, 1851-1866, Book D, Folio 278
- 9 1860 Census, Chatham County
- 10 Ibid
- 11 Savannah Morning News, 9 Sept. 1882
- 12 Vertical File, Chatham Artillery
- 13 Savannah Morning News, 7 June, 1908
- 14 1860 Census, Chatham County
- 15 Chatham County Marriage Records
- 16 Savannah Morning News, 30 June, 1877
- 17 Deed Record Book, Book 3S, Superior Court Records of Chatham County, Georgia.
- 18 Ibid
- 19 Ibid
- 20 Deed Record Book, 3V, Superior Court Records of Chatham County, Georgia.

- 21 Savannah Morning News, 14 March, 1861
- 22 Savannah Morning News, 9 September, 1882
- 23 Deed Record Book, 3V, Superior Court Records of Chatham County, Georgia
- 24 Savannah Morning News, 25 Jan. 1861
- 25 Deed Record Book, 3W, Superior Court Records of Chatham County, Georgia.
- 26 Savannah Morning News, 5 Dec. 1864
- 27 Savannah Morning News, 6 Dec. 1884
- 28 Savannah Daily Herald, 31 July, 1865
- 29 Savannah Daily Herald, 7 Nov. 1865
- 30 Savannah Daily Herald, 24 Nov. 1865
- 31 Savannah Morning News, 28 July, 1866
- 32 Deed Record Book, 3Y, Superior Court Records of Chatham County, Georgia.
- 33 Ibid
- 34 Ibid
- 35 Deed Record Book, 3Z, Superior Court Records of Chatham County, Georgia.
- 36 Savannah Morning News, 10 Dec. 1868
- 37 Savannah Morning News, 7 July, 1869
- 38 Savannah Morning News, 6 July, 1870
- 39 Savannah Morning News, 15 Nov, 1870
- 40 Savannah Morning News, 28 Nov. 1870
- 41 Savannah Morning News, 24 May, 1870
- 42 Savannah Morning News, 13 Oct. 1870
- 43 Savannah Morning News, 4 Oct. 1871

- 44 Savannah Morning News, 27 June, 1871
- 45 Savannah Morning News, 12 July, 1871
- 46 Savannah Morning News, 28 July, 1872
- 47 Savannah Morning News, 13 June, 1872
- 48 Savannah Morning News, 5 July, 1872
- 49 Savannah Morning News, 18 Dec. 1873
- 50 Savannah Morning News, 10 July, 1874
- 51 Savannah Morning News, 4 May, 1875
- 52 Savannah Morning News, 18 May, 1875
- 53 Savannah Morning News, 6 April, 1875
- 54 Savannah Morning News, 20 Nov. 1875
- 55 Savannah Morning News, 7 Dec. 1875
- 56 Savannah Morning News, 16 Feb. 1876
- 57 Savannah Morning News, 2 March, 1876
- 58 Savannah Morning News, 8 Dec. 1877
- 59 Savannah Morning News, 30 Sept. 1878
- 60 Savannah Morning News, 30 Oct. 1879
- 61 Savannah Morning News, 26 June, 1880
- 62 Savannah Morning News, June, 1882
- 63 Savannah Morning News, 11 June, 1882
- 64 Savannah Morning News, 9 Sept. 1882
- 65 Ibid
- 66 Savannah Morning News, 7 June, 1908
- 67 Savannah Morning News, 9 Sept, 1882

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Chatham County death records, Chatham County Health Dept.
Records Dept: 1832-1909 Drawers 3, 5, 9

Chatham County Marriage Records, 1851-1866, Book D, Folio 278

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microfilm roll 2108-4

Deed Record Books 3S Pages 226, 234, 438

3V Pages 121, 423

3W Page 59

3Y Pages 324, 279

3Z Page 421

Immigration and Naturalization index, GHS

Informal Minutes Washington County Court, Milledgeville, Ga.
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Wills, Appraisals, Liens, Chatham County Court House, Probate Court, Folio Ref. Wetter

Chronological Facts

Significant dates in the life of A.P. Wetter

- 1829 Born in Mentz, Germany
- 1855 Listed as a civil engineer with Gen. J. E. Gilmer in Savannah
- July 1855 Architect in Savannah, bids on Washington County Court House
- May 5, 1856 Wetter selected as supervisor (architect) of construction of Sanderville Court House
- Apr 21, 1857 Marries Alberta Cobb Telfair at the Luthern Church. Ceremony performed by Rev. Wm. Epping
- 1857 Joins the Chatham Artillery
- Jan 22, 1858 Son, Edward Telfair Metter is born
- 1859 Son, Conrad Metter is born
- May 10, 1859 Sells his half of his partnership with John C. Fraser to William Brailford
- May 13, 1859 Purchases 200 acres "Sharon" plantation from Mother-in-law on Ogeechee Canal and Louisville Road
- Sept 30, 1859 Purchases a slave named Peter from a William P. Clark for \$1000
- Aug 3, 1860 Purchases 4795 acre "Mt. Hope" Plantation from Rogers family of New Haven, Ct. for \$9000
- Mar 14, 1861 With the Dekalb Riflemen - Capt. Wetter leaves for Fort Pulaski with Republican Blues.
- Nov 2, 1861 Transfers "Mt. Hope" Plantation and property in Savannah plus 24 slaves to wife.
- Nov 6, 1863 Purchases 896 acres in Bryan County called "Crow Lane" from John Anderson for \$2100
- Dec 6, 1864 Is recognized for \$1000 donation to the poor of Macon
- July 13, 1865 Departs for Germany to establish agencies for the emigration of Germans for settling in south Georgia

Nov 7, 1865 Named as Alderman to Democratic ticket but on Nov 24th, states he cannot serve

May 30, 1866 Selected for 2nd Panel of Grand Jury

July 28, 1866 His wife Alberta dies

Feb 2, 1867 Acquires a one-fourth part of a lot on map F in Middle Oglethorpe Ward.

Feb 3, 1867 Exchanges land of a "right-of-way" and 20 acres with the Central Rail Road and Banking Company of Georgia.

Feb 8, 1867 Purchases 1696 acres in Bryan County known as "Hickory Hill" Plantation from Isaac LaRoche. Also acquires part of a plantation known as "Egypt". These properties expanded his Mt. Hope plantation.

Dec 3, 1867 Along with his partners, he acquires a Wharf lot, bldgs, tools and equipment bordering on the Savannah river backing up to Bay Street.

Dec 10, 1868 Wetter selected as a delegate to attend the agricultural and emigration convention in Macon.

July 7, 1869 Wetter named to committee to report on making Savannah a suitable western port for the use by federation of North Germany.

May 24, 1870 Appointed to fill unexpired term of Alderman for the First District.

June 21 1870 Wetter named President of German Immigrant Aid Society.

Oct 13, 1870 Elected on municipal ticket to term as Alderman for First District

Nov 28, 1870 Made a director of Southern Bank of the State of Georgia

Oct 4, 1871 Named to the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party of Savannah

June 27, 1871 Elected to Board of Directors of the Industrial Association by stockholders

July 12, 1871 Named as a director and manager of Tyler Press Company

Mar 26, 1872 Named as a Judge of Yacht race

June 13, 1872 Wetter is named as an alternate to the committee to select delegates at the National Democratic Convention in Atlanta.

July 5, 1872 Elected as Agent for Tyler Cotton Press

July 28, 1872 Wetter appointed to the Executive Committee of the Democratic Party in Savannah and Chatham County

Dec 18, 1873 Resign as Alderman for the First District

July 10, 1874 Son Conrad dies at age 15

Apr 6, 1875 Property of Tyler Press Company auctioned off by Sheriff

May 1875 Loses judgment to William H. Tyson in amount of \$6925.66 with interest and court costs.

May 4, 1875 Wetter's personal property auctioned off by Sheriff

Feb 16, 1876 Judgment against Wetter for unpaid rent

Mar 2, 1876 Judgment again for unpaid rent

Dec 8, 1877 Foreclosure on Wetter's Mortgage

Sept 30, 1878 Daughter Meta dies at age (aprox 17)

Oct 30, 1879 Furniture sold at auction by Blum & Demure

Jun 26, 1880 Appointed once again to Executive Committee of Democratic Party

June 1882 Appointed to Executive Committee of Democratic Party for the State of Georgia

July 1882 Wetter travels to Bethlehem, Pa. for reasons of ill health. He is under the care of his son and daughter but his condition is critical

Sept 8, 1882 Wetter dies in Harrisburgh, Pa.

Sept 11, 1882 Wetter's body arrives in Savannah by train

Sept 12, 1882 Wetter is buried from the Independent Presbyterian Church at 3:00 P.M. The Chatham Artillery is the honor guard and fires the customary salute at his internment at Sharon

P.S.

June 6, 1908 Son Edward Telfair Wetter dies of kidney failure in Savannah hospital

PROPERTY

May 10, 1859

Recorded Book 3S - Page/226

Augustus P. Wetter sells his half of his partnership with J. Fraser in the cotton commission business to Mr. William Brailford of McIntosh County. No fee is indicated.

May 13, 1859

Recorded Book 3S - Page/234

Augustus P. Wetter purchases 200 acres from his mother-in-law M. Telfair for the amount of \$3000. The property bounded by Louisville Road and the Ogeechee Canal is known as the Sharon Plantation

September 30, 1859

Recorded Book 3S - Page/438

William P. Clark sell a negro slave named Peter, about 45 and warranted sound for a price of \$1000 to Augustus P. Wetter.

August 3, 1860

Recorded Book 3V - Page/121

Augustus P. Wetter purchases from Henrietta G. Rogers (widow of David M. Rogers of New Haven, Ct. who died on 12/18/59 and George M. Ives and Charles F. Hillgen (guardians of Julia Rogers) David Rogers's daughter:

4795 acres in Bryan Co. in the Village of Ricebrough and Town of Darien known as Mt. Hope Plantation for the amount of \$9000.

November 2, 1861

Recorded 11/18/61 in
Book 3V - Page/423

Augustus P. Wetter transfers the Mt. Hope Plantation (4795 acres) and lot #28 on the corner of Joachim and Farm Sts in Savannah along with 24 Slaves

Isolah	William	Emma	Providence	Kingston
Floretta	Harold	Sam	Molly	Martha
Hercules	Harriet	Ellen	Louisa	Margaret
Isabella	Binah	Phyllis	Moses	Peggy
Wallis	Adam	Diana	William	

....to Mrs. Alberta C. T. Wetter, his wife for \$5.00

November 6, 1863

Recorded December 2, 1867
Book 3W - Page/59

Augustus P. Wetter purchases 896 acres known as "Crow Lane" in Bryan Country on the Big Popular and Deep Creek swamps from John W. Anderson. The fee was \$2100

February 2, 1867

Recorded 2/23/1867
Book 3Y - Page/324

Augustus P. Wetter acquires a one-fourth part of the lot on the South East lot on Map F, Middle Oglethrope Ward, in exchange for a debt owed by Alexander H. Sadler. The fee was \$1.00 Wetter then returns the property to Sadler in exchange for a mortgage of \$275/yr for three years at which time the entire principle is due.

February 3, 1867

Recorded Book 3Y - Page/279

The Central Rail Road and the Banking Company of Georgia exchange a tract of land with Augustus P. Wetter called the "Right of Way" and lands on the estate of Margaret Telfair (his wife's mother) for the price of \$5.00

At the same time a tract of land is granted to John Triharedet which was purchased from the Rev Thomas Hutchings consisting of about 20 acres.

February 8, 1867

Recorded Book 3Y - Page/279

Augustus P. Wetter purchases from Isaac D. LaRoche 1696 acres in Bryan County known as the "Hickory Hill Plantation." At the same time he acquires a portion of a plantation known as "Egypt" late of property of Thomas Harden. These land bordered on the land of Weller (Mt. Hope Plantation to the Midway River). The fee was \$5.00

December 3, 1867

Recorded Book 3Z -Page/421

Wetter and his partners Villalonga, Charles Olmstead, William Wood, Charles Stubbs, Alfred Hartridge, Charles Hardee, Robert Eravin, John Gardner, Charles Way, S. Page Edmonds, William Sison, and William Gordon doing business as Cotton Press Company acquire Wharf lot #5, of Eastern Wharves, with 164'.4" on the Savannah River and 270' feet in depth to the back of bay street. The seller was Damal H. Baldwin of N.Y. The price for the building, equipment, land, tools etc was \$52,000

PROFILE

Augustus Peter Wetter

Born: Mentz, Germany 1829

Immigrated to U.S. Date and Port Unknown

Savannah resident At least from 1855 on
215 So Broad Street
425 West Oglethorpe Ave (same as above)
"Wetter House" built circa 1856-1861

Marriage: Alberta Cobb Telfair
April 21, 1857
German Lutheran Church

Children

Edward T. Wetter	Born	JAN 22, 1858
	Died	Jun 6, 1908
Conrad P. Wetter	Born	? 1959
	Died	Jul 10, 1874
Alberta T. Wetter	Born	? ?
Married Horace Gould		Nov 7, 1883
	Died	? ?
Meta T. Wetter	Born	? ?
Graduated Chatham Academy		Jun 30, 1877
	Died	? 1878

Died: Harrisburg, Pa. Sep 8, 1882

Buried: Sharon Plantation Sep 12, 1882

CAREER

Profession

Firm

Civil Engineer

Gen J.E. Gilmer

Architect

Fay, Sholls & Wetter
J. T. Youngblood Co.
Sandersville Court House

Profession

Firm

Politician

Alderman - First District Savannah
Exec Dir Savannah Democratic Party
Delegate to Democratic Nat'l Conv.

Businessman

Cotton Press Co.
Tyler Press Company

Community Leader

Director of Bank of South Georgia
Judge of annual Yacht race
Delegate to Agriculture/Immigration
Convention

Soldier

Captain, Dekalb Riflemen
Chatham Artillery

Planter

Sharon Plantation
Mt. Hope Plantation
Crow Lane Plantation

Philanthropist

Donor to Macon poor
President German Aid Society
Known in community for generosity