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A BIOGRAPHY OF JOHN MURCHISON

BY KAREN PRICE

HISTORY 300

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JOHN MURCHISON: MERCHANT FROM SCOTLAND

John Murchison was born August 11, 1793 in Lochalsh Parish in the county of Ross, Scotland, came to Savannah in 1820, and became a naturalized citizen of the United States December 18, 1829. On March 22, 1836 he married Mary Ann Summers Purse in the Lutheran Church of Ascension, and they had two children, Mary Ellen and James Wallace, who died at an early age of scarlet fever. To his family Murchison was a devoted husband and father. He also ran a grocery store on Market Square and became a successful businessman. In later years he was a stockholder to the Central Railroad of Georgia, the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, and the Augusta and Savannah railroad. He was a member of the St. Andrew's Society, the Union Society, the Union and States Rights Party, a lifelong member of the Independent Presbyterian Church, and at one time a director for the Merchants' and Planters' Bank. In 1851 he built a house on Lot 30, Pulaski Ward which is still standing at 114-116 West Jones Street. He died in Savannah August 30, 1869 of tuberculosis after having retired several years earlier. He was survived by his wife Mary Ann, his daughter Mary Ellen and her husband Cornelius D. Rogers, and their children (Mary Ellen's and Cornelius's) from whose lines may be traced living descendants of John Murchison.

John Murchison was born January 11, 1793¹ in Lochalsh Parish,² in the county of Ross, Scotland and came to America about 1820³ in search of a warmer climate that would relieve, if not cure his consumption. He first went to Nassau in the Bahamas where a Scotch colony was located, but the climate was too hot, so he moved to South Carolina.⁴ He travelled around quite a bit during his brief stay in South Carolina, arriving in Charleston on May 23, 1820 where he boarded at a Mrs. Muir's for ten days, then going to Camden on June 7 where he boarded at John Mckenzie's and worked at an establishment called Gentleman Canty's. He returned to Charleston November 11, boarded at John Ferguson's for about two weeks, and left Charleston on November 24,⁵ arriving in Savannah three days later aboard the schooner "Industry" sailed by Captain Pidge.⁶ Upon arriving in Savannah, he dined with Captain Pidge and stayed at his house for about a month. According to his diary, Murchison was a boarder in several places around town during his first six years: Mr. Lillibridge's, Mrs. Young's, Mr. McDonald's, Mrs. Wolf's, Mrs. Cunn's and Mrs. Curry's. During these years he devoted much of his to purchasing clothing and utensils to establish a household for himself.⁷

I was unable to find out who Murchison's parents were or what his life was like in Scotland except in a most indirect way through clan history. The Murchisons were part of the Mackenzie septs of Scotland having originally come to Kintail from farther South to be assimilated into the Mackenzie tribes. The Mackenzies, a prosperous clan of Celtic origin, were involved in extended feuds with the MacLeods of Lewis and the MacDonells of Glengarry, and it was through their feud

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with the MacDonells that they acquired the lands of Lochalsh (Garron and Lochalsh, the parish of Murchison's birth. The Mackenzie clan originally made their² in the old Castle of Eileen Donan, built on an island off the shore of Scotland that is little more than a jagged rock. The walls of the castle are thick and strong, the windows deeply recessed into the walls, so that it must have made for a dark, damp home in the Highlands. The Murchisons were at one time governors of the old castle. Also, a Mackenzie clansman named Donald Murchison of Auchtertyre, Lochalsh endeared himself to fellow Scotsmen through his open support of the Stewart cause, particularly through collecting revenues for the banished Earl of Seaforth despite government warnings that he should cease his activities.⁸ This Scottish heritage was always a part of John Murchison's life, as is evidenced by the fact that he never completely lost his Scotch accent in all his years as an American citizen.⁹

Once he reached Savannah, Murchison arises somewhat clearer from the vague past through newspapers and deed books from which I have learned, though only in a peripheral way, of Murchison as a businessman, a family man, a churchgoer, and an active citizen. These, then, form the natural divisions of my paper, an arrangement which may throw chronology to the winds, but which will lend a sense of logical progression and readability to sparsely distributed material.

The first record I find of Murchison in Savannah concerns his business, so I shall begin with that aspect of his life. On December 1, 1824, four years after his arrival in Savannah, Murchison advertised in the Savannah Daily Georgian for a "workman skilled in assisting to put steam engines."¹⁰ As early as 1822 he mentioned in his diary preparations being made on the store.¹¹ Construction of

steam engines was , indeed, the order of the day, providing the impetus for the industrial revolution which was already well under way by the time Murchison was born. They were used to operate cotton mills, pottery works, pumps in mines, and rolling mills where iron was shaped.¹² I cannot be sure from the article, of course, whether Murchison was having steam engines built for his own use or for sale. But in 1826 he was taking orders at his store on Market Square for the construction and repair of machinery, the work being done by the Mill Wright Business and by a Mr. McAlhpin at his foundary.¹³ An advertisement in the 1827 Savannah Daily Georgian by Stephen Mitchell for the grocery store he had recently purchased from Murchison¹⁴ leads me to believe that Murchison was operating a grocery store all along and was merely taking for these construction companies from his store. Such an arrangement would have provided him with extra profits and his customers with a convience. se?

In 1832 Murchison and J. Hersman joined themselves in business under the firm of John Murchison and Company, purchasing the stock in hand of Thomas Purse,¹⁵ a close friend and business associate of Murchison's who would become his brother-in-law in 1836.¹⁶ That the two worked closely together during these¹⁷ is evidenced by the fact that Murchison acted as Purse's attorney in 1828 during Purse's absence from the city.¹⁷ The new firm bought mostly dry goods and groceries from Purse¹⁹ to form what appears to have been a lucrative business located, once again, on Market Square, or Congress Street to be more exact.²⁰ Marine Journals repeatedly mark the receipt of merchandise by John Murchison and Company, particularly corn and flour, from Baltimore and New York.²¹ Only one month after the creation of his new business, Murchison bought a slave named Harry, a carpenter, and was able to pay \$1600 in cash for him, a noteworthy clear?

sum in those days.²² He may have purchased the slave to build fixtures for the grocery store, as he seemed to have given some attention to its promotion. In fact, in 1834 his name appeared in the papers among a list of Savannah businessmen who were assuring prospective customers that the cholera epidemic had "disappeared from the city" and that it was safe to carry on business as usual.²³ Of course, cholera does not just disappear magically from a city, so it seems these business^es were mainly concerned with encouraging customers to resume their activities even if it meant using somewhat exaggerated terms. But the cholera epidemic apparently did not cast a pall over Murchison's activities, since he made a trip to New York by ship at about this time.²⁴

For some reason the firm of John Murchison and Company was short-lived, being dissolved by mutual consent in 1835. Murchison was authorized to settle the affairs of the firm,²⁵ and a year later he was still trying to collect outstanding debts from dilatory debtors.²⁶ As Murchison continued the business on his individual account,²⁷ I am inclined to believe he bought out Harsman's share of the business. It is not very likely that Harsman would leave a profitable business into which he had invested money and time without some compensation. At any rate, Murchison showed himself to be a determined businessman by continuing in the store alone.

Indeed some of his business transactions in subsequent years regarding the purchase and sale of property are evidence of the success with which his determination met. Over the years he amassed quite a fortune in property, either purchased by him^s as security on loans. In 1864 Murchison paid \$2240 in property taxes and \$448 in soldier's tax to the state of Georgia,²⁸ amounts representing a certain amount of prosperity. The following is a list of the ^{thirteen} deeds of bar-

gain and sale on file at the Chatam County Courthouse naming Murchison as the grantee of property "for the better securing" of debts owed to him:

<u>Date of Deed</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Amt. of Prom. note</u>
12/1841	T. B. Kingsbury ²⁹	Slave, Phillis	\$257.79
7/1/1842	M. Robinson ³⁰	50 acres on Louisville Rd. 7 miles from Sav.	\$164.82-60 day note
7/2/1845	R. D. Millen ³¹	5 negro slaves	\$1500
5/7/1846	Clara Oglesby ³² Cancelled and Satisfied in Full 11/8/1847	3 slaves	\$414
10/14/1846	Edward Purse ³³	Printing Office	\$1200 -5 notes
6/4/1847	Henry Oliver ³⁴	2 slaves	\$850 -90 day note
3/10/1848	C. A. Oglesby ³⁵	4 slaves	\$256
8/25/1849	D. Robertson ³⁶ Cancelled and Satisfied in Full 12/11/1855	Lot 41, Jasper Ward	\$1000
10/11/1850	John Staley ³⁷	Lot 21 in Garden lots 3&4 West	\$1000(\$1851w/int.)
5/12/1855	Chas. Waldauer ³⁸	District 8 of Chatam	\$225.19
10/18/1855	Jas. Oliver ³⁹ Cancelled and Satisfied in Full 1/9/1856	Lot 6 Green Ward	\$1814.70
11/14/1857	E. F. Evans ⁴⁰	1 marble top center table, 3carpets, 1 oil cloth, 5 beds moss, 36 mahogany chairs, 1 sofa, 5 bedsteads, 6 looking glasses, 2 feather beds 5 pots, 5 gridirons, etc.	\$450

It is possible that these people incurred their debts to Murchison in doing business at his store; perhaps he allowed them to purchase what they needed from his store with promissory notes backed by their property. If this was not the case, he was simply loaning a lot of money to a lot of different people in the fashion of a miniature bank. In either case, his actions exemplify a generous

man attempting to accomodate those around him.

The businessman in him was active in the purchasing of property and knew how to turn a profit. The following transactions are examples of this fact:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Property</u>	<u>Amt. of purchase</u>
1/31/1838	J.M.&T.P.	H. Knapp ⁴¹	#3 Tower Tything, Decker Ward	\$6000
1/27/1846	J.M.	Geo Oliver ⁴²	Lot 12 Evensburg Oglethorpe ward, West 1/2 Lot 5 Evensburg, East 1/2 Lot H St. Gaul Oglethorpe ward	\$2750
6/23/1847	J.M.	Jno Thomas ⁴³	House on Lot 36 Jasper ward	\$587.50
3/16/1848	J.Remshart	J.M. ⁴⁴	House on Lot 36 Jasper ward	\$1200
5/1848	J.M.	J.Simpson ⁴⁵	East 1/2 Lot X Oglethorpe ward	\$500
2/27/1851	Jno.Williams	J.M. ⁴⁶	East 1/2 Lot H in St. Gaul, Oglethorpe ward	\$1200
12/15/1852	I.Wolfe	J.M. ⁴⁷	East 1/2 Lot X Oglethorpe	\$1500
8/7/1855	J.M.	Jesse Mount ⁴⁸	Lot 2 Chatam ward	\$16000

The house on Jasper, as you can see, was sold for over twice the amount originally paid for it, and although I do not know what improvements Murchison may have made on it, these figures represent a rather handsome profit in view of the short period of time he held it. Likewise, Lots H and X in Oglethorpe were sold at profits, although they were held for longer periods of time, suggesting perhaps, greater investments by Murchison during the interim.

These purchases made by Murchison suggest a very interesting facet of his business career: he always paid with cash. Even his purchase in Chatam Ward for \$16000, a very large amount for property in those days, was paid in hand to Jesse Mount.⁴⁹ I know from

X

his diary that he was not always able to do so, as he was not well settled in Savannah during his first years and had to borrow or buy on credit rather frequently. But even so, he kept a meticulous record of what he owed and to whom in an effort to see that all his bills were eventually paid.⁵⁰ And judging from the number of local people who lent the man financial support, I would venture to say that he must have been well liked and trusted. Perhaps these lean early years and the generous support of others encouraged him, once he had established his place in Savannah, to always offer support, in turn, when he could and to always pay his debts promptly. The purchases in land he made between 1838 and 1855 totaled over \$22,000, yet he never made any of these purchases on monthly installments, or promissory notes, or in any way other than cash.⁵¹ No doubt the proud Scots clansman in him considered this kind of business as essential to the keeping of his integrity and his Scottish heritage. I am certain it was such integrity that won him the position as director of the Merchants' and Planters' Bank in 1858 and 1859, one of the first banks in Savannah,⁵² to make our picture of the businessman one of versatility and completeness.

The Family Man

As mentioned earlier, Murchison boarded at several different places around Savannah during his first years here. At some time, possibly in 1832 when the firm was established, he moved into the apartment over his store on Market Square.⁵³ I suspect that he did not actually own the apartment but only boarded there. This might explain the fact that his name does not appear in the 1820, 1830, or 1840 censuses which include only the heads of households; the owner might have been listed as the head of his household, in which case

his name would not have appeared anywhere in the censuses. At any rate, living in an apartment over a busy grocery store must have been somewhat hectic and noisy, and it was probably troublesome having no place to go to be completely away from the store and its aggravations. He must have been especially burdened when he took over the running of the store after the dissolution of the firm.

Perhaps these were some of his reasons for joining the Independent Presbyterian Church of which he was a lifelong member.⁵⁴ Certainly feelings of cultural tradition and affection for his birth place, which were supposedly characteristic of Scotch Highlanders,⁵⁵ had something to do with his attaching himself to the church which was in many ways similar to the Church of Scotland. According to an old Church manual, the services were illustrative of Scottish ancestry in the gowns worn by the pastors and in the long table spread in the aisles which was used by the communicants at the Lord's Supper.⁵⁶ Murchison was received into the communion of the Church on September 3, 1829 by examination,⁵⁷ meaning he had already been baptized and had no letter from the church of which he was previously a member, so that his worthiness as a church member had to be decided by a group of elders who examined him.⁵⁸

Murchison met Mary Ann Summers Purse, his future wife, at Goshen Church about ten or twelve miles from Savannah.⁵⁹ She was the sister of Thomas Purse, whom I have already mentioned as the business associate of Murchison. The two were part of a family of ten children born to Thomas and Mary Jane Pilkington Purse: Elizabeth Holmes, Isabella Steele, William Washington, Thomas Pilkington, Robert Steele, James Scott, Mary Ann Summers, Juliana, Susanna Catherine, and Edward Conn.⁶⁰ Mary Ann's mother was buried in the Old Colonial Cemetery here in Savannah, while her father was buried in Charleston where the family lived for some time before the children married.

and went their separate ways.⁶¹ Mary Ann was born August 11, 1809 in Baltimore, Maryland⁶² (the 1850 census of Georgia mistakenly assumes her last place of residence, S.C., to be her birthplace) where her parents had been married on May 9, 1795. Both of her grandmothers were from Ireland, her grandfather Linkington having been born in Manchester, England.⁶³ She and Murchison were married on March 23, 1836 in the Lutheran Church of Ascension, of which she and Thomas were members, by Reverend Stephen A. Mealy.⁶⁴ In fact Thomas was a very prominent member of the church and remained so all his life,⁶⁵ perhaps explaining why the marriage took place in Mary Ann's church instead of Murchison's.

A little over a year later, August 29, 1837 to be exact, their first child was born, a daughter whom they named Mary Ellen⁶⁶ and had baptized in the Lutheran Church on October 5 of the same year.⁶⁷ Then on February 22, 1840 their son was born whom they named James Wallace Murchison⁶⁸ after the James Wallace of Savannah who was apparently a friend of Murchison's, both of them belonging to the St Andrew's Society.⁶⁹ Perhaps as a compromise, little James was baptized in the Presbyterian Church on July 19, 1840,⁷⁰ making the household two Lutherans and two Presbyterians. But Murchison did not long enjoy this comradeship with his son, for the child died of scarlet fever on June 5, 1841. (The information in the death records of the Public Health Department give the date as June 6, 1844, but I believe the stone was probably verified by his parents.) Evidently, Murchison and Mary Ann had gone to live in his apartment over the store after their marriage, as the place of address given on their young son's death certificate is Market Square.⁷¹ It must

been a sad time in that household, but Murchison still had his daughter whom he loved very much. This fact may be surmised from a letter he wrote to his "dear child" in 1845 (see appendix) in which he showed a great deal of fatherly concern that she complete her education and take care of her "delicate health". He also warns her against eating too much candy: Mary Ellen was eight at the time.⁷²

In 1851, as Mary Ellen was growing into quite a young lady, Murchison built for her and her mother a house on Lot 30, Pulaski Ward, Jones Street (presently known as 114-116 West Jones Street).⁷³ Although I did not find the deed showing Murchison's purchase of the property, I know that it was subject to ground rent, which was the city's old custom of selling property.⁷⁴ Rather than being granted the title outright, purchasers were obliged to pay ground to the city for a number of years before being given the title.⁷⁵ The tax digests first show an improvement on the property in 1852 amounting to \$4500.⁷⁶ The house he built is still standing on Jones Street, being one of the recently restored houses in Savannah. According to a great-granddaughter's account, the original house contained beautiful Italian marble mantles and ceiling plaster freizes and rosettes from which the chandeliers hung. Also, the site of the house was Murchison's second choice. He first chose the lot on the corner of Jones and Bull where Sipples Mortuary was, but Mary Ann said she would not live in such a public spot, so Murchison bought this lot further down the street and away from the crowds.⁷⁷

During these years of child rearing and house building, Mrs. Murchison was busy with a number of other activities around the growing town of Savannah. In 1841 she was instrumental in the form-

ation of the Savannah Benevolent Society, the purpose of which was to give aid to the sick and needy. In early September of 1841 she was assigned by the society the task of searching from house to house in Ward #4 by the river for those in need of aid during the winter months ahead. According to the society's first report made at this time, twenty seven families and fifty individuals had already been aided with no distinction made of "age, sex, standing, or character, (except in one or two cases, where they found it was an injury to the persons and the bounty was misapplied)."⁷⁸ In 1851 and 1853 she was elected third directress of the Female Seaman's Friend Society, a society for "accomodating" seaman and caring for the sick. In a years time, the members of the society took in 1100 seamen as boarders and lodgers, as well as taking care of the sick and shipwrecked. In a letter to the society some thankful sailors say that while women are of the weaker sex, "their generous and mighty deeds make the brightest page in human history."⁷⁹ Mrs. Murchison did indeed form a bright page by her charitable works, and especially by her work for the Savannah Free School in 1855 and 1856. She was a member of the board of direction for the Savannah Free School Society which petitioned for the grant of land on which the school was built,⁸⁰ and then she served as the second directress on the board of managers of the newly built school.⁸¹ It was one of the first free schools in Savannah, with an enrollment of ninety-five children in 1856, providing a religious education for the children as well as the "rudiments of English education."⁸²

In 1856 the Murchison household was busy making arrangements for Mary Ellen's wedding to Cornelius Decatur Rogers of Savannah. Rogers

was the fifth child of thirteen born to Elizabeth Lavinia Pelot and George Tyler Rogers, a prominent merchant in Macon, Georgia. Cornelius was born in Darien on April 2, 183 , grew up in Macon, and came to Savannah in 1855 to become a merchant.⁸³ He and Mary Ellen were married on November 19, 1856 at Trinity Methodist Church⁸⁴ where Mary Ellen and her mother had become members through the Saussy family of whom Mrs. Murchison was a devoted friend. Mrs. Murchison was a charter member of the church.⁸⁵ (For years the Murchison family attended Trinity Church in the mornings and the Independent Church in the evenings on Sundays.)⁸⁶ The wedding was an elaborate affair with several bridesmaids who had a rather bad scare when the horses ran away with their carriage, bridesmaids and all. According to family stories, Mary Ellen was very upset, and the wedding was delayed until she was certain the bridesmaids had not been hurt.⁸⁷

The Citizen

Murchison was made a naturalized citizen of the United States on December 18, 1829, nine years after coming to Savannah.⁸⁸ His life as a citizen of Savannah was an active one, involving participation in many local events, as well as the usual kind of thing required of all citizens. Among his less colorful activities were jury duty and military service. Unfortunately, the only indications I have that Murchison was ever involved in the military service are two fines levied against him, one in 1827 and the other in 1832 by the Regimental Court of Inquiry. In 1827 he was a member of the first beat company and was fined for defaulting a parade of inspection.⁸⁹ In 1832 he was a member of the third beat company and was again fined five dollars for defaulting regimental inspection and review.⁹⁰

Undoubtably these were voluntary units, probably not taken very seriously in time of peace, and more than likely Murchison was just too busy with his store to go and stand in the hot sun for hours to have the buttons on his uniform counted. The equally unpleasant task of jury duty required his time as grand juror in 1842 and 1860,⁹¹ a sign of his trustiness and integrity in the community.

Of the many societies around Savannah, Murchison was to my knowledge member of two. In 1830 he joined the St. Andrew's Society,⁹² formerly known as the Scotch Club in Savannah which played a notoriously important role in colonial politics.⁹³ The resulting society was made up of Scotsmen who had proven their Scottish descent in order to be eligible for membership, and its main purpose was, and is, charity, giving aid to the poor and the sick. But the society was also interested in promoting the Scottish community in Savannah and did so by erecting memorials and aiding in burial services for members.⁹⁴ In 1850 he and his friend Thomas Purse were elected members of the board of the Union Society for the ensuing year. The society donated \$100,000 in 1850 for the education and support of orphans boys⁹⁵ and eventually took over the care of the Bethesda Home for Boys.⁹⁶

In 1835 Murchison along with many other notable businessmen in Savannah became a stockholder to the Central Railroad, one of the earliest railroads to be built in the United States.⁹⁷ The railroad did not have a smooth and easy beginning, as the State Senate refused to grant it banking privileges. But Murchison and Thomas Purse, along with many other concerned citizens, were determined to see the railroad built, so they held a meeting at the Exchange on December 9, 1835, at high noon, to discuss measures to be taken

in the railroad's defense.⁹⁸ Thomas spoke out at the meeting, promising that Savannah would pay her share of the bill in constructing the railroad and was apparently quite instrumental in convincing the citizens to support the project.⁹⁹ The citizens were, in turn, successful in convincing the Senate and on December 14 banking privileges were granted, and all systems were go.¹⁰⁰

Murchison owned five shares in the company's stock for which he paid \$35 a piece,¹⁰¹ yet by 1838 they were worth \$57 a piece,¹⁰² and rose again in the next year to \$87.50 a piece to make the grand total of his shares \$487.50.¹⁰³ The road was originally planned to extend to Macon and on October 13, 1843 it reached its destination despite the Seminole War and the crawling pace of one mile of track being constructed per week. Eventually the railroad pushed its way to Atlanta.¹⁰⁴ It also provided stimulus for the growth of other railroads and forms of communication around Savannah, and again Murchison was a part of the activity, purchasing shares in the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad and the Savannah Railroad Company.¹⁰⁵ He was also part of a group of enterprising citizens who began as early as 1838 to petition for a more direct and convenient means of communication between Savannah and South Carolina.¹⁰⁶ Owning a few shares or signing one's name on a petition may not appear to be great accomplishments at first glance, but we must realize that if Murchison and others like him had not taken the concern in local affairs to invest and sign, we would have no railroads or bridges today. And no doubt only a very duty conscious and active participant in the community would be able to recognize the importance of his single voice of support to get the job done.

Murchison also did his share of work in politics through the Union

and States Rights Association of Savannah. The concerns of this party are representative of the concerns of many other southern states which would eventually grow into a causal factor of the conflict between the Union and the South. In a speech delivered by Dr. Richard D. Arnold before the Association in 1835, he voiced one of these concerns by attempting to define the powers of the state and its relationship to the sovereign national government. At the meeting held afterwards, members resolved to support the reserved rights of the state and to resist invasion of these rights. Yet they denounced the nullification doctrine, saying no state has the right to obstruct the workings of the national government except as a means of resisting oppression and that the doctrine was a deception which would gradually lead to civil strife.¹⁰⁷ What marvellous insight! And Murchison was a part of this party's activities. In the meeting of August 22, 1837 he was appointed by the chairman to a committee of twenty-six whose purpose was to select the party's ticket of aldermen candidates for the city elections.¹⁰⁸ In the September meeting he was appointed to represent his ward, Decker Ward, (Thomas Purse represented Liberty Ward) in the selection of a ticket for state senator and house representatives. Another issue was brought up at this meeting which exemplifies the tenseness between Northern and Southern relations. Those present at the meeting were outraged with governor Robert A. Dunlap of Maine who would not release two fugitives from Georgia into the custody of their new elected governor, William Schley even after Schley's written request for such. They rather amusingly pledged to support Schley and the constitutional rights of the

South "and to sweep away the cobweb sophistries of Governor Dunlap (since it is) upon the acknowledgement of our constitutional rights (that) depends the perpetuity of our glorious Union."¹⁰⁹

Later in 1850 Murchison was part of the committee which selected delegates to the Macon Mass Meeting where southern rights was the subject.¹¹⁰

Later Years

After Mary Ellen's marriage to Cornelius in 1856, they moved into Murchison's house on Jones Street with he and Mary Ann. Murchison lived to know six of his eight grandchildren, all of whom were raised in the house.¹¹¹ In order of their births from oldest to youngest they were: John Murchison Rogers, Carrie Dell, Lula Boston, Margaret Murchison, George Tyler, James Murchison, Robert McIntyre, and Ella Cornelia. (These last two were born in 1871 and 1878 after Murchison's death. See chart in appendix for dates.)¹¹² Grandmother Murchison was apparently very strict with the children, insisting that the boys always come to dinner dressed in coats, even in the hottest part of summer. The children were not lacking in discipline, as they had looking after them not only their parents and grandparents, but the old family servant whom they called "Mamma Mac."¹¹³ Sometime during these years Murchison retired from his work at the store, so he probably had plenty of time to spend around this very busy household.¹¹⁴

Also during these years the civil strife predicted by Dr. Arnold at the Union and States Rights meeting came to pass. Murchison was in his sixties by this, too old to serve in the war, but not too old to contribute money for the relief of soldiers.¹¹⁵ Everyone in the household did what he could to ease the general burden

of war. Mrs. Murchison was second directress of the Soldiers and Aid Association which provided winter clothing for confederate soldiers,¹¹⁶ Mary Ellen donated money and services to the cause,¹¹⁷ and Cornelius served as a confederate soldier. His commission was interrupted by a bad case of typhoid fever, but he returned to active duty as soon as he felt able. His health continued to fail, so he was assigned the position of clerk at the Naval Store in Savannah.¹¹⁸ Thomas Purse was mayor of the city from October 21, 1861 to October 20, 1862, and in his message to the city council he expressed the spirit of the times most eloquently:

The proportions of the revolutionary struggle in which we are now engaged to secure our independence and a place among the nations of the earth, have assumed during the current year a colossal form, and the depressing influences of the war are more or less felt from the center to the circumference of our infant Confederacy; but our soldiery, with stalwart hearts and patriotic devotion, have thus far demonstrated by their patriotism, that they fully appreciate the magnitude of the contest.¹¹⁹

During the years of 1862 and 1863 Murchison sold a good deal of his property, possibly to help the family through trying times. He sold the halves of Lot 2 Chatam Ward seperately at \$10,000 a piece and #3 Tower Tything in Decker Ward for \$12,000.¹²⁰ Perhaps¹²¹ the sadest part of the whole experience for the family was the death of little John Murchison Rogers on March 25, 1862 at the age of three.¹²² The child died of diphtheria (in the language of the family physician--putrio sore throat,¹²³ and his funeral was held at the house on Jones Street.¹²⁴

Seven years later the Savannah Morning News regretfully announced the death of John Murchison, having occurred on the evening of August 30, 1869.¹²⁵ He died of phthisis pulmonalis, a form of tuberculosis.¹²⁶ Apparently this condition, which brought him to the U.S.

many years earlier in search of a warmer climate, never completely healed itself, flaring up in Murchison's old age. His tombstone reads; "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His Saints."¹²⁷ In his will, he left his estate in trust to his "esteemed friend" Thomas Purse for the care of his wife, Mary Ann Murchison, to be passed on to Mary Ellen after her mother's death. But in a letter to Judge Wetmore of the Court of Ordinary, Thomas wrote that he had found no property belonging to the said state, as Murchison had previously deeded away all of his real estate to cover a debt for which he was trustee.¹²⁸ The debt was, in fact, one he had owed to his daughter every since her marriage to Cornelius. A few years after Mary Ellen was born, Murchison's friend James Wallace died and left Mary Ellen \$5,000 in Murchison's care to be invested by him and given to Mary Ellen when she married. For some reason Murchison never did either, and so on April 4, 1868 he gave to Cornelius in trust the following property to settle the sum with interest: Lot 30 Pulaski and the house in which they all lived, 31 shares of capital stock in the Central Railroad and Banking Company, 5 shares in Atlantic and Gulf Railroad, and 8 shares in the Augusta and Savannah Railroad Company.¹²⁹ Murchison probably already knew he would not live much longer and wanted to make sure his wife, daughter, and grandchildren were taken care of.

Mary Ann Murchison lived to attend her brother's funeral as well, as Thomas died on December 19, 1872 of "senile decay"--old age.¹³⁰ On October 10, 1878 his son donated a window to the Lutheran Church in memory of Thomas,¹³¹ and Mary Ann, no doubt, attended the memorial service. She herself died the next month, on November 28, 1878 of chronic enteritis, an inflammation of the intestines.¹³² In her

obituary she was heralded as a woman of great strength and character, an earnest Christian, a devoted wife, and an affectionate mother.¹³³

Postscript

Mary Ellen Murchison Rogers died quite suddenly on November 5, 1905 of heart failure after having been ill only a few hours. She was a devout member of the Trinity Methodist Church, in fact one of its oldest members.¹³⁴ Her tombstone reads: "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God."¹³⁵

Her husband Cornelius Decatur Rogers died May 28, 1917 of old age and was buried in his confederate uniform jacket. He was a member of Epworth Methodist Church at the time of his death, and had for some time prior been living with his daughter Ella Terry at 1912 Barnard St.¹³⁶

Their Children:

1. John Murchison Rogers died at the age of four of diphtheria.¹³⁷
2. Carrie Dell Rogers died at the age of eighty-nine without ever having married¹³⁸ and having lived for many years with her sister Lula Wilson on 38 Street.¹³⁹
3. Tallulah Boston Rogers married Horace Emmet Wilson who became a prominent attorney in Savannah through the firm Wilson and Rogers (Jas. M. Rogers).¹⁴⁰ They had one child named Rogers Murchison Wilson who married twice and had no children either time.¹⁴¹ He was a captain in the U.S. Infantry during WWI, was severely wounded near Soissons, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Croix de Guerre for his valor.¹⁴² His cousin Edgar Terry recalls his having come home on leave after being wounded near Soissons, his right arm and shoulder badly damaged by machine gun fire.
4. Margaret Murchison Rogers married James Tinley Ryder,¹⁴³

fourty years the minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.¹⁴⁴ They had three children: James Donald, Mary Ella, and Cornelius Rogers, a WWI veteran.¹⁴⁵ Mary Ella married Zebedee Lomus Chancellor of Monroe County Georgia, and they had seven children(these are the great-great-grandchildren of John Murchison): James Rogers, Reavis Floyd, Margaret Ryder, Ella Cornelia, Lula Wilson, Zebedee L. Jr., and Amma Allen.¹⁴⁶ Amma Allen Ryder married Julian Scott and is presently living in Martinez, Ga.¹⁴⁷

5. George Tyler Rogers never married and died at the age of thirty-two while fighting the Spanish-American War.¹⁴⁸
6. James Murchison Rogers married Susie Cassels of Thomasville and became a very prominent citizen of Savannah. He obtained a law degree at the University of Virginia in 1893, joined in a law firm with Horace Emmet Wilson, then entered practice with his nephew Edgar Rogers Terry, and finally in 1945 created the firm Rogers, Zeigler, Terry, and Coolidge. He was also a veteran of the Spanish-American War, a member of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina, a member of the Francis S. Barlow Camp Sons of Confederate Veterans, and was the oldest living member of the St. Andrew's Society in 1958. He was a member of the Epworth Methodist Church and a past president of the Savannah Bar Association. He died at the age of ninety after a long illness. He and Susie Cassels Rogers had one child, Ethel Cassels Rogers who married James H. Townsend¹⁴⁹ and is presently living in Miami, Fla. Their only child, Susan Cassels Townsend married Jay S. MacLaren(a Scotsman) and they have two children, Bonnie and Scott who are John Murchison's great-

great-great grandchildren.¹⁵⁰

7. Robert McIntyre Rogers never married and died at age thirty-four of tuberculosis in the same year that his mother, Mary Ellen, died (1905).¹⁵¹
8. Ella Cornelia Rogers married Edgar Poe Terry, for many years a clerk in Levy's Department Store before becoming the vice-president of Jaudon Clothing Company.¹⁵² They had two sons, Savannah's only descendants of John Murchison, Edgar Terry and George Rogers Terry.¹⁵³ Edgar Terry married Josephine Turner and is a real estate attorney, having once belonged to the firm Rogers, Zeigler, Terry, and Coolidge with his Uncle James. George Terry married Inez Procter.¹⁵⁴



This is to certify that John Munday

was on the 21st day of November 1838

admitted as a member of the S: ANDREWS SOCIETY

of the City of Savannah, Georgia

Constitution thereof. Given under our Hands and Seal of the City of Savannah this 11th day of Novr 1838.

James Oglethorpe Mayor

John Munday



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.



State of Georgia,

CHATHAM COUNTY.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, Greeting:

John P. DeLoach

John P. DeLoach

Clerk of the said Court, do hereby certify and make known, that at the Court, held at Savannah, in and for the County aforesaid, in the Term of *December* aforesaid, before the Honorable *John P. DeLoach* Esquire Judge of the said Court, that *John P. DeLoach* an Alien, and subject of the King of Great Britain did petition the Court to be admitted a Citizen—and having, in all things, complied with the law in such case made and provided, the said *John P. DeLoach* was accordingly admitted a Citizen of the United States of America, having first taken and subscribed in open Court, the Oath of Naturalization.

John P. DeLoach
Citizen of the United States of America, having first taken and subscribed in open Court, the Oath of Naturalization.

John P. DeLoach
GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the said Court, this *10th* day of *December* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *thirty* five and in the *10th* year of the independence of the United States of America.

John P. DeLoach
John P. DeLoach

to not sending any notions at this time
to fear you might be tempted to indulge
your appetite too much; as you will rest
that living then and here are on
different scales - Tell Mother that I do
think I shall be able to visit Montgom-
erly directly and you must make your own
arrangements regarding the time and oppor-
tunity to return home - I will be satis-
fied as that may suit your views - and now
my dear child I conclude wishing you
earthly peace & prosperity through life and
to be prepared at length to be received into
the Kingdom of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ
and remain

Our affectionate Father

John Archibald

Jarumab 24th May 1845

Dear child

I was very glad to find
your first attempt at letter writing
well received by your Mother, and to learn that
Mother and yourself were both improving
health and strength since I parted with
you. I am sorry that your delicate health
has been so impaired. You being so much
from school, and if the Lord pleases
I have your life & bestows upon you better
things. I am very anxious that you will
improve every opportunity hereafter
to improve and advance your education.
Write to Mother for me and tell her I have
been well since I came home. I had
taken one dose for the last two days
and feel to day a great deal better.
Our Aunt Mabella and both the girls
- well. Aunt had to sit up the night
for last night Mr Swanton who has
been quite sick, but is thought to be a
little better this morning, and Cousin
and Josie had been well since yesterday
this Mother will receive a basket of
clothing, and as you have so many
articles than already. You must excuse me

STATE OF GEORGIA.

No. 2451

April 18 1867

RECEIVED of John Merchison

the sum of Twenty
two hundred forty Dollars

being the amount of the Property
tax payable by him for the year 1864 year ending

186

A. H. Hays Collector

\$ 2240 =

North District

STATE OF GEORGIA.

No. 2452

April 18 1867

RECEIVED of John Merchison

the sum of Four
hundred forty eight Dollars

being the amount of the Property
tax payable by him for the year ending

186

A. H. Hays Collector

\$ 448 =

North District

John Murchison + Mary Ann Buse
1/11/1793 - 8/30/1869 8/11/1809 - 11/22/1878

MARY Ellen + Cornelius D. Rogers
8/29/1837 - 11/5/1905 4/2/1835 - 5/28/1917

James Wallace
2/22/1840 - 6/5/1871

John Murchison
14/1858 - 3/25/1862

Carrie Dell
1/28/1854 - 12/8/1948

Tallulah B. + Horace E. Wilson
1/5/1861 - 7/27/1942 5/23/1859 - 12/18/1934

Margaret M. + James T. Ryder
12/29/1863 - 6/1/1938 9/30/1861 - 8/18/1928

Rogers M. Wilson + Marie Crawford - 2nd wife
2/7/1891 - 7/31/1929 1891 - 1949

Jos. D.
7/25/1845

Cornelius R.
12/27/1896 - 2/23/1928

Mary E. + Z.L. Orr
6/16/1874 - 2/11/1910 7/19/1961

Amma Allen + William Scott

6th

over

George T.
1/31/1866 -
4/4/1898

James M. + Susie Cassels
9/19/1868 - 9/28/1958 10/29/1875 - 7/6/1935

Robert M.
6/7/1871 - 6/22/1905

Ella C. + Edgar P. Turner
2/7/1878 - 1/22/1948 8/24/1882 - 3/24/1935

Ethel Cassels + Jas. H. Townsend
3/14/1908 -

Edgar R. + Mary Jos. Turner
12/4/1909 - 12/10/1909

George R. + Inez
12/16/1903
Roch.

Susan Cassel + Jay S. McLaren
2/4/1942

Gonnie
Scott

ENDNOTES

1. Grave marker in Laurel Grove Cemetary, Lot 342.
2. Manuscript by Amma Scott, great-great-granddaughter of J.M. and family historian. p.26. Kept by Edgar Terry of Savannah.
3. "Obituary" Savannah Morning News, 31 August 1869, p, 3, c. 2. Also from Manuscript by Amma Scott, p. 26.
4. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p. 26.
5. Memorandum Notebook by John Murchison for years 1820-1822, and 1826. pp.1-3. Kept by Edgar Terry.
6. Ibid., p. 3 and from "Ship News: Port of Sav." Sav. Dly Gn., 28 November 1820, 2/5.
7. Memorandum Notebook by J.M., pp.4-21.
8. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.29.
9. Letter written to me from Mrs. Ethel Townsend, 485 NE 92 St., Miama Shores Fla., a great- granddaughter of J.M. also interested in family history. Letter dated 24 July 1977.
10. "Wanted" Sav. Dly. Gn., 1 December 1824, 2/4.
11. Memorandum Notebook by J.M., p. 17.
12. World Book Encyclopedia, I.v. "Industrial Revolution" by Frederick Dietz.
13. "To Planters and Mill Owners" Sav.Dly.Gn., 17 October 1826, 3/1.
14. "grocery store" Sav.Dly.Gn., 9 October 1827, 3/1.
15. "Notice" Sav.DlyGn., 6 March 1832, 3/1.
16. Marriage Licenses on record at the Chatam County Court of Ordinary, Vol for May 12, 1830-July 3, 1837, license #1817. Also Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.24.
17. "Notice." Sav.Dly.Gn., 3 July 1828, 3/2.
19. "Notice." Sav.Dly.Gn., 6 March 1832, 3/1.
20. "To Rent." Sav.Dly.Gn., 2 November 1833, 2/4.
21. "Marine Journal." Sav.Dly.Gn., 18 March 1833, 2/6; 4 November 1833, 3/1; 26 September 1834, 3/1; 26 November 1834, 2/4; 16 March 1835, 3/1; 13 May 1835, 2/6; 14 November 1835, 2/6; 11 June 1835, 2/6.
22. Deed Book 2R, p.185, dated 14 April 1832. Located at Chatam

County Superior Ct.

23. "A Card" Sav.Dly.Gn., 22 October 1834, 2/4.
24. "Passengers." Sav.Dly.Gn. 15 September 1834, 3/2.
25. "Dissolution of Copartnership." Sav.Dly.Gn., 8 August 1835, 3/3.
26. "Notice." Sav.Dly.Gn., 6 July 1836, 3/3.
27. "Dissolution of Copartnership." Sav.Dly.Gn., 8 August 1835, 3/3.
28. Receipts to John Murchison from State of Georgia, November 18, 1864. Kept by Edgar Terry.
29. Deed Book 2Z, p185, dated December 1841. Located at Chatam County Superior Ct., as are the following deeds.
30. Deed Book 3A, p. 222, dated 1 July 1842.
31. Deed Book 3C, p. 326, dated 2 July 1845.
32. Deed Book 3D, p.219, dated 7 May 1846.
33. Deed Book 3D,p.387, dated 14 October 1846.
34. Deed Book 3E, p.241, dated 4 June 1847.
35. Deed Book 3E, p. 549, dated 10 March 1848.
36. Deed Book 3G, p.53, dated 25 August 1849.
37. Deed Book 3G, p.455, dated 11 October 1850.
38. Deed Book 3O, p.97, dated 12 May 1855.
39. Deed Book 3O, p.387, dated 18 October 1855.
40. Deed Book 3R, p.14, dated 14 November 1857.
41. Deed Book 2W, p.74, dated 31 January 1838.
42. Deed Book 3D, p.53, dated 27 January 1846.
43. Deed Book 3E. p. 274, dated 23 June 1847.
44. Deed Book 3E, p.124, dated 16 March 1848.
45. Deed Book 3F, p.140, dated May, 1848.
46. Deed Book 3H. p499, 27 February 1851.
47. Deed Book 3K, pp.435, 15 December 1852.
48. Deed Book 3O, p. 275, dated 7 August 1855.
49. Deed Books 2W, p.74; 3D. p.53; 3E, p.274; 3F, p.140

3F, p.140; 30, p.275.

50. Memorandum Notebook by J.M., pp.1-21 and especially p.9.

51. Deeds Books 2W. p.74; 3D, p.53; 3E, p.274; 3F, p.140; 30, p.275.

52. "Merchants' and Planters' Bank." Sav.Dly.Gn., 18 December 1858, 2/4-5. And "Merchants' and Planters' Bank." Sav.Dly.Gn., 7 February 1859, 1/1.

53. Letter from Mrs. Ethel Townsend, 7/24/77.

54. Ibib.

55. Ian Charles Gargill Graham, Colonists From Scotland, (Ithaca, New York: American Historical Association, Cornell University Press, 1956), pp.106-107.

56. Manual of the Independent Presbyterian Church of Savannah, (Savannah: The Morning News Print, 1890), p.6.

57. Records of the Church Minutes of the Session, vol for 1828-1851, located at Independent Presbyterian Church. In section on "communicants received."

58. This one I owe to Mrs. Eleanor Exley of Sav., member and associate archivist at Independent Presbyterian Church.

59. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.26 and Letter from Mrs. Townsend.

60. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p24.

61. Ibid.

62. Ibid., and from Laurel Grove Cemetary General Index to Keeper's Record Books, 1852-1938, vol 2, compiled by workers of W.P.A., 1939 listing Mary Ann Murchison; and from Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate of M.A.Murchison in year 1878.

63. Manuscript by Amma Scott, pp.23-24.

64. Marriage licenses at Chatam County Ct. of Ordinary, vol for May 12, 1830-July 3, 1837, license #1817.

65. Chronological History of Lutheran Church of Ascension, Mildred Gardleman, information given over the phone, no page no.

66. Georgia Census 1850, Chatam County, Rhea Cumming Otto, 1975, p.74 and Grave marker in Bonaventure Cemetary, Section A, Lot 158.

67. From Mrs. Gardleman, Lutheran Church of Ascension archivist, records of baptism.

68. Grave marker in Laurel Grove Cemetary, Lot 342.

69. St. Andrew's Society, Sav.Ga., 1950. Reference at

asked
Chatam
new book

Gardleman

Georgia Historical Society, p.69 and a later page in the alphabetical list of members.

70. Records of Church Minutes of the Session, vol 1828-1851, in register of bapisms, located at Independent Presbyterian Church.

71. Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate for James Wallace Murchison in year 1844. And Grave Marker in Laurel Grove Cemetary, Lot 342.

72. Letter from J.M. to Mary Ellen Murchison, dated 24 May 1845, sent from Sav. to Montgomery. Kept by Edgar Terry.

73. Ward Book in section on Pulaski Ward, project 15, Carey Engles, 1971. Wards listed alphabetically in stacks at G.H.S.

74. Deed Book 4A, p.184, dated 4 April 1869. Chatam County Ct. Superior Ct.

75. From Edgar Terry, real estate attorney of Sav.

76. Ward Book in section on Pulaski Ward as cited above.

77. Letter from Mrs. Ethel Townsend.

78. "The Savannah Benevolent Society." Sav.Dly.Gn., 7 September 1841, 2/4.

79. "Female Seaman's Friend Society." Sav.Dly.Gn., 29 January 1851, 2/4 and 21 February 1853, 2/3.

80. "Savannah Free School Society." Sav.Dly.Gn., 6 January 1855, 2/1.

81. "Savannah Free School." Sav.Dly.Gn., 9 January 1856, 2/1.

82. Ibid.

83. Manuscript by Amma Scott, pp.6-7.

84. Marriage Records Abstracts, Chatam County, Ga. 1851-1866, Historical Research Project. Also Marriage Records vol for 1851-1866 at Chatam County Court of Ordinary, p.214.

85. Letter from Mrs. Townsend.

86. Ibid.

87. Ibid.

88. U.S.A. Naturalization paper for J.M., dated 18 December 1829. Kept by Edgar Terry.

89. "Regimental Ct. of Enquiry Executions." Sav.Dly.Gn., 9 February 1827, 2/6.

90. "Notice." Sav.Dly.Gn., 14 May 1832, 3/2.
91. "Superior Ct." Sav.Dly.Gn., 12 January 1842, p. 2/3. and Daily Morning News, 10 April 1860, 1/1.
92. St. Andrew's Society, Sav. Ga., 1950, p. 69. Ref. at Georgia Historical Society. Also The original document of membership.
93. Ian Charles Gargill Graham, Colonists From Scotland, section on the society in Savannah.
94. St. Andrew's Society, pp.40-41.
95. "Union Society." Daily Morning News, 24 April 1850, 2/2.
96. William Harden, History of Savannah and South Georgia, 2vols (Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1913), p.498.
97. "The Railroad." Sav.Dly.Gn., 4 June 1835, 2/3.
98. "Town Meeting." Sav.Dly.Gn., 9 December 1835, 2/3.
99. "Death of Honorable Thomas Purse." Sav. Morning News, 19 December 1872, 3/2.
100. Thomas Gamble, Myer's Annual Report for 1900, City of Savannah, p.174.
101. "Bank Reports." Sav.Dly.Gn., 25 May 1837, 2/5.
102. "Bank Report." Sav.Dly.Gn., 2 June 1838, 2/4.
103. "Bank REport." SavDly.Gn., 10 May 1839, 2/4.
104. Thomas Gamble, Myers Annual Report, p. 170 and p.193.
105. Deed Book 30, p.386, dated May 1869. Chatam County Superior Ct.
106. "Communications Between this City and the Nothern Bank of the River." Sav.Dly.Gn., 8 September 1838, 2/2.
107. An Oration delivered before the Union and States Rights Association by Dr. Richard D. Arnold and An Account of the Proceedings of the Association on July 14, 1835. Sav. Printed by Thomas Purse. Georgia Pamphlets vol 4, pamphlet #14.
108. "Union And States Rights Meeting." SavDly.Gn., 22 August 1837, 2/6.
109. "Union and States Rights Meeting." Sav.Dly.Gn., 26 September 1837, 2/3.
110. "Macon Mass Meeting." Daily Morning News, 20 August 1850, 2/3.

111. Letter from Mrs, Townsend.

112. 1870 Census of Sav., p.148 of third section, twenty-first sub district, August 15, H.J.McDonald, Asst. Marshal. Grave marker in Laurel Grove, Lot 342 for John Murchison Rogers. Grave markers in Bonaventure Lot 158. Interview with Edgar Terry, great-grandson of John Murchison. Letter From Mrs. Townsend. Manuscript of Amma Scott.,p.11.

113. Letter from Mrs. Townsend.

114. "Obituary." Sav Morning News, 31 August 1869, 3/2.

115. "Aid for the Troops." Daily Morning News, 8 August 1863, 1/2.

116. "Soldiers And Aid Association." Daily Morning News, 3 August 1861, 2/2.

117. Daily Morning News, 6 April 1863, 2/1.

118. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.7.

119. Thomas Gamble, Myer's Annual Report, pp.256-257 and p.9.

120. Deed Book 3V, p.198, dated November 27, 1862 and Deed Book 3V, p.485, dated 27 November 1862.

121. Deed Book 3V, p.186, dated January 7, 1863.

122. Grave marker in Laurel Grave, Lot 342.

123. Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate for John M. Rogers in year 1862.

124. "Funeral Notice." Daily Morning News, 26 March 1862, 2/3.

125. "Obituary." Savannah Morning News, 31 August 1869, 3/2.

126. Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate for year 1869(certificates are filed by year.)

127. Grave marker, Laurel Grove, Lot 342.

128. Will Records, File #444, Chatam County Ct. of Ordinary.

129. Deed Book 4A, p.184, dated April 4, 1868, Chatam County Superior Ct.

130. Vital ^{Records} ~~Records~~, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate in year 1872.

131. Mildred Gardleman, archivist for the Lutheran Church of Ascension.

132. Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate in year 1878.

133. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.26.
134. "Obituary." Sav. Morning News, 6 November 1905, 5/7.
135. Grave marker in Bonaventure, Section A, Lot 158.
- 136 Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.8.
137. Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificate in year 1862.
- 138 Grave marker, Bonaventure Cemetary, Section A, Lot 158.
139. Interview with Edgar Terry, 20 July 1977.
140. Sav City Directory of 1905, Wilson's name appearing in alphabetical list of residents. "Obituary." Sav Morning News, 6 November 1905, 5/7.
141. Interview with Edgar Terry.
142. Grave marker in Bonaventure, Section A, Lot 158.
143. "Obituary." Sav. Morning News, 6 November 1905, 5/7.
144. Grave marker in Bonaventure, Section A, Lot 158.
145. Interview with Edgar Terry.
146. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.8.
147. Letter from Mrs. Townsend.
148. Interview with Edgar Terry.
149. "James Murchison Rogers, Attorney, Dies at Ninety " Sav. Morning News, p. 9, B!O.
150. Interview with Mrs. Townsend.
151. Grave marker in Bonaventure, Section A, Lot 158 and Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, vol for 1905. Random order.
152. Sav. City Directories for 1905-1913. Listed under Terry, Edgar P. Alphabetical listing.
153. Sav. City Directory for 1924 under Terry listing.
154. Manuscript by Amma Scott, p.11.

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Marriage License Records. vol for May 12, 1830-July 3, 1837. vol for 1851-1866. Book P, Book 2Z's.

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Compiled by workers of W.P.A.

Bonaventure Cemetary, Section A, Lot 158.

Laurel Grove Cemetary, Sav. Ga. General Index to Keeper's Record Books, 1852-1938, vol 2, 1938. Compiled by workers of W.P.A.

Laurel Grove Cemetary, Lot 342.

Vital Records, Chatam County Health Department, Death Certificates in years 1862, 1869, 1872, 1878, 1905.

Deed Books, Chatam County Superior Ct.: 2R, 3Z, 3A, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F, 3G, 3O, 3R, 4V, 2W, 2D, 3H, 3K, 3V, 4A, 3L.

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Ward Book containing Pulaski Ward at G.H.S.
^{^this is the french spelling - sorry!}

Interview with Edgar Terry, great-grandson of John Murchison, 20 July 1977.

Letter from Mrs. Ethel Townsend, great-granddaughter of John Murchison, 24 July 1977.

Memorandum Notebook by John Murchison for years 1820-1822, 1826.

Letter from J.M. to Mary Ellen Murchison, 24 May 1845.

Manuscript by Amma Scott, great-great-granddaughter of J.M.

Harden, William. History of Savannah and South Georgia, 2 vols, Chicago and New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1913.

Gamble, Thomas. Myer's Annual Report for 1900, City of Sav.

Georgia Pamphlets vol 4, pamphlet #13, Printed by Thomas Purse

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