

# THE WOMEN OF THE CONFEDERACY

The Origin and History of the "Ladies" Memorial Association in the City of Athens.—History of the Confederate Monument on College Avenue.—Poem: "Gather the Sacred Dust."

## THE LADIES MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHENS

### Monument to The Confederate Dead

In 1866, just after the surrender, the members of the Soldiers' Aid Society hearing of the suggestion made by Mrs. Williams, the secretary of the Columbus, Ga., Society in a letter sent out by her society, that a day be appointed to be observed throughout the South as Memorial Day and flowers be laid upon the graves of our Confederate Dead and reorganized as the Ladies' Memorial Association with the definite object of collecting the dead bodies of our fallen brave, erecting a monument to them, and observing annually with appropriate exercises the 26th of April, as had been suggested, and upon that day laying the laurel wreaths and fresh spring flowers upon the graves of those who had so bravely stood for the principles dear to every Southern heart.

They elected their officers and began at once to do the work that had been outlined for them.

#### Officers:

- Mrs. Laura Cobb Rutherford, President.
- Mrs. Augusta Clayton King, Secretary and Treasurer.
- Mrs. Howell Cobb, 1st Vice President.
- Mrs. Young L. G. Harris, 2nd Vice President.

Mrs. Rutherford suggested to the Association that a subscription be started for a monument to be erected to all the soldiers from Clarke county, who had been killed in battle. (Clarke county then embraced what is now Oconee county.) The ladies eagerly seized the suggestion but the men discouraged it. They said they were under parole and were pledged not to aid or encourage any movement of that kind. The women said they were under no parole, so they began to have entertainments such as bazaars, May parties, plays, etc.

Mrs. Rutherford knew no such word as fail—nothing daunted her. She was nobly aided by her corps of assistants, members of the society and friends.

When the necessary funds were in hand the order was given to Mr. Markwalter, of Augusta, for the monument, a shaft of pure Italian marble.

On June 3rd, 1872, it was unveiled and dedicated—A. S. Erwin, of Athens, a prominent lawyer making the address.

The base of the monument is granite, formed by a series of steps, on which rests a tall marble column, so divided as to combine solidity and grace. Flags, wreaths and military symbols adorn the upper portions of the pedestal, while above them are urns and flowers. The names of officers and soldiers of Clarke county, who fell in the Confederate struggle, are inscribed on the lower facades. Over this section of the monument rises the main division of the column, with its imposing scroll work, containing four inscriptions one on each side. One of the fronts is simply inscribed to the Confederate Dead; the second record the name of the Memorial Association, while the third and fourth have the following inscription:

True to the Soil  
That gave them Birth and reared  
them Men;  
True to the traditions of their Revolutionary  
ancestors of High Renown  
and  
Hallowed Worth;  
Alike by Instinct and by Principle  
Oberishing the Sentiments  
of  
Home and Country  
And the Allegiance thereunto Due  
as  
One and Inseparable:  
—These Heroes—  
Ours in the Unity of Blood,  
Ours in the Unity of Patriotism  
Struggled for the Rights of States  
as Held  
By  
The Fathers of the Republic  
and  
By the Fathers, as a Sacred Trust  
Unto them Bequeathed.

On the fourth side the inscription reads:  
The measures of their years  
Suddenly completed  
In  
The fatal Issues of Battle,  
Reached the Consummation of Earthly  
Glory  
By their Death.

### Last and Holiest office of Human Fidelity

Possible to Brave Men,  
Attesting their sincerity,  
Vindicating their honor,  
and  
Sealing their Integrity,  
They won their Title  
to  
An Immortality  
of  
Love and Reverence.

The inscription was written by Rev. A. A. Lipscomb then chancellor of the University.

The monument is thirty or forty feet high. The amount paid for it was \$4444.44.

This is the monument that Henry Crady alluded to in his speech at Boston. His father is one of those to whom the monument was erected, and alluding to this fact he said, "in my native town of Athens is a monument that crowns its central hill—a plain white shaft. Deep cut into its shining side is a name dear to me above the names of men—that of a brave and simple man who died in brave and simple faith. Not all the glories of New England, from Plymouth Rock all the way, would I exchange the heritage he left me in his soldier's death, and to the foot of that monument I shall send my children and my children's children."

The noble women of the Ladies' Memorial Association, who toiled for several years to accomplish this work had the satisfaction of knowing that the dead heroes of Clarke county at least had that honor paid them, and paid them promptly. No words written or spoken can express their written praise half so eloquently as the silent memorial of their "Love and Reverence," for our glorious dead.

The names of the Confederate Dead to whom this monument was erected are engraved upon its sides:

#### Officers:

- General T. R. R. Cobb.
- Colonel W. G. Deloney.
- Colonel S. P. Lumpkin.
- Lieutenant-Colonel James Barrow.
- Major W. S. Grady.
- Major A. A. Hill.
- Major F. Cook.
- Captain T. Camak.
- Captain W. A. Winn.
- Captain Jacob Phinizy.
- Captain I. S. Vincent.
- Captain J. H. McRee.
- Adjutant F. M. Daniel.
- Lieutenant F. Crenshaw.
- Lieutenant E. T. Griffith.
- Lieutenant W. C. Williams.
- Lieutenant T. J. Dunnahoo.
- Lieutenant G. E. Hayes.
- Lieutenant G. H. Hunter.
- Lieutenant G. J. Newton.
- Lieutenant J. W. Reaves.
- Lieutenant G. A. Delacy.
- Sergeant J. G. Bridges.
- Sergeant B. Harrison.
- Sergeant B. Mell.
- Sergeant W. L. Griffith.
- Sergeant M. Elder.
- Sergeant G. W. Redmond.
- Sergeant P. W. Bradberry.
- Sergeant J. E. Haygood.
- Sergeant G. W. Klutts.
- Sergeant J. H. Jackson.
- Sergeant J. W. Hunts.
- Sergeant M. Mooney.
- Corporal A. E. Lee.
- Corporal G. C. Graham.
- Corporal W. L. Delacy.

#### Privates:

- Aycock, J. R., Adams, W. T., Allen, S. B., Anderson, W., Adams, J. A., Aaron, S. T., Adams, T. A., Allman, Wm., Adams, L. H., Abrin, L. J., Brown, I. M., Butler, J. L., Butler, E. M., Butler, B. L., Butler, T., Biggs, J. P., Butler, I. M., Butler, D. R., Burger, A., Bradberry, C. C., Bradberry, I. E., Bradberry, J. M., Blair, E. P., Berger, I., Barber, C. A., Barrett, I. J., Biggers, W. E., Billups, C. W., Billups, T. C., Bird, L. W., Blackburn, J., Bone, J. C., Brednick, J., Bone, I. M., Britton, W. J., Brown, W. B., Carter, H. F., Carter, E., Cooper, A. H., Carlton, B. R., Chase, Wm. M., Crane, J., Cooper, Wm., Cook, D., Cook, W. F., Cook, J., Craft, E., Dean, C. W., Doster, J., Doster, F. M., Daniel, J. B., Daniel, N. J., Daniel, L. H., Dooittie, G. W., Doggett, F., Daniel, J., Daniel, N., Dixon, J., East, W., Echols, J. M., Edwards, M., Evans, J., East, S., Edwards, W. B., Elder, F. G., Elder, J. C., Fowler, C., Freeman, G., Ferguson, J. S., Freeman, H. H., Fullilove, L., Fullilove, W., Fullilove, H. P., Fambrough, L., Fitzpatrick, J. C., Gee, W. H., Giles, W. P., Griffith, D. W., Griffith, D., Gober, J. W., Glover, J., Griffith, J., Griffith, W. L., Huggins, A. M.,

Hunt, W. W., Hardigree, J., Hale, R. O., Hayes, P. W., Hinesly, Jones, J., Jackson, L., Jones, J., Johnson, H. J., Jackson, W. H. H., Jennings, S. D., Jennings, G. H., Johnson, J. J., Kenney, J. F., Kenney, I. J. N., Kidd, H. M., Kennedy, J., Kirkpatrick, W. H., Lucas, C. E., Loving, W., Lowe, W., Locklin, N. B., Moncrief, D., Moon, J. A., Murray, W., Mosly, T. J., Maxey, S. T., Maxey, H., McWhorter, W. P., Middlebrook, W., Michael, I., McCleskey, I. H., McDonald, D., McHarmon, Wm., Mason, J. R., Mitchell, L. T., Moore, R., Newton, A. C., Nunnally, G. W., Nunnally, W. C., Nabers, L., Nabers, F. L., Nabers, W., Nabers, Z., Neese, P. W., Nix, R., Owens, B. F., Palmer, L. A., Parks, B., Parrish, Wm., Pinkard, L., Plunket, W., Parman, J., Reynolds, S. A., Robertson, W. A., Royston, L. E., Roberson, T. J., Ragsdale, L., Richardson, B. B., Richardson, D., Summers, J. W., Stephenson, J. W. H., Sykes, J. M., Sykes, R., Simonton, T. J., Simonton, H., Stewart, P. W., Stewart, N. H., Spenser, W. H., Sewell, Wm., Smith, J. W., Staples, Wm. H., Teney, J., Thompson, T. J., Thompson, J., Tiller, G., Thurmond, H., Thurmond, J., Tuck, K. J., Tuck, T., Tiller, F. C., Wilcoxson, S. J., Willoughby, W., Whitehead, A., Whitehead, H., Whitehead, L. P., Wise, F., Wright, G. V., Walker, J. S., Wilson, Wm., White, H. F., Yerby, R. E.

## THE SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY

(Continued from page 2.)

The fame of Southern heroism is imperishably inscribed in the names of these patriots that the shaft bears, and ever will it testify as well to the patriotism of the loyal-hearted Southern woman, who year after year kept the memory of the Southern cause, and heroes, sacred, and who brought a fresh each year chaplets for the Confederate dead.

The Confederate Survivor's Association held her in loving esteem, and just before her death, had passed resolutions authorizing a medal to be made and presented to her, in token of their appreciation for her devotedness to the cause, and reverence for its sacred dead.

Mrs. Rutherford was always interested in the welfare of her city, and this public spirit had much to do with its advancement. Her pen was ever ready in the cause of progress. She had an abiding faith in individual powder, and industry, contending that what had been done, could be done. She exemplified this doctrine in her own varied achievements. Besides the care of a household, the education, and training of her daughters and a son, her patriotic and civic work, Mrs. Rutherford was a writer of vigorous style, and an indefatigable worker for her church, and the poor. She could bind a book with artistic ingenuity, and write a poem that would melt by its pathos, or preach a sermon by its pure and spiritual faith. Her social duties were never neglected, and so faithful was she in her church attendance, that on her daughter's wedding day, she was in her accustomed place at prayer-meeting, and then returned home after the evening service in time to receive the wedding guests.

At the age of seventy-one, after fifty years—one years of married life, ever the brave devoted helpmeet of a brave devoted husband, her spirit passed from earth to its well earned rest. The University and Lucy Cobb mourned her as their mother. The community felt the loss deeply, for her life had been closely interwoven with its growth.

In the words of the Resolutions of the "Confederate Survivors Association": "It seems fitting for us to bear testimony to her many graces of character exhibited in a long, and useful life, during which her modest worth, and loyal zeal were never more conspicuous than in her reverence for the heroic dead of the South."

Contributed by—

MISS ROCSA WOODBERRY. Savannah, Ga.

MRS. HOWELL COBB.

(By Sarah Frierson, 1897.)

The task assigned me by our honor- ed president, is undertaken with reverential awe, fearing that I may "rush in where only angels should dare to tread;" but as the calm, lovely face of my friend comes before me, she, whom from my earliest child-



CONFEDERATE MONUMENT, ATHENS, GEORGIA.

hood I was taught to love, I feel impelled to attempt the tribute, although only a bud amongst the many wreaths of lovely flowers that have been laid upon her memory's shrine.

Miss Mary Ann Lamar, was the daughter of Zachariah Lamar, one of Baldwin county's most influential and wealthy citizens. She was born in Milledgeville and lived there until the death of her father, when she came to Athens to make her home with her uncle and guardian, the Rev. Jesse Robinson. After a brief young ladyship, at the age of seventeen, she was wooed and won by one of Georgia's favorite and most illustrious sons, Howell Cobb, a son, whom Georgia was ever proud to honor; and right here, if allowed the digression I should love to say, that of "Georgia's great Triumvirate," Cobb, Toombs, and Stephens, Howell Cobb, was the "noblest Roman of them all."

They were married in May, 1835, by the Rev. Elijah Sinclair, at the home of her uncle, an old ante-bellum mansion, which stood on the site where our court house now stands.

This marriage is said to have been "the most fortunate event of Gen. Cobb's life, producing the best influences upon his subsequent career." Gifted with a rare intellectuality, which was cultivated by the highest culture, she was always his truest counsellor, and helpmeet, in every sense of the word. Rejoicing with a pardonable pride, in the honors thrust upon him and sharing his sorrows with the unwavering devotion of her true womanly heart.

A fine conversationalist, noted for her high bred refinement, and elegance of manner, she was his pride in the splendors of Washington City life, where for years she was an ornament to the highest circles of society. She was also the good Samaritan there, her deeds of love and kindness are still remembered and to this day, her name is spoken of with reverence and love. She was a Christian of the highest and purest type, devoted to her church, modest, retiring, unostentatious and tolerant, she truly exemplified the charity that thinketh no evil." She was a devoted mother, whose precept and example were in fullest accord with the teachings around her fireside. A true and loyal friend, her broad sympathy and generous hospitality were proverbial—certainly the best of everything she had in life, belonged to her friends; and her deeds of charity were numberless.

Peculiarly Southern in every thought and feeling, she loved the South and the Confederacy as only a Southern woman could love it; therefore she was patriotic to her hearts' core, giving freely and lavishly of her time, her talents and her abundant wealth; and were she living today would be one of our chapter, an inspiration and a blessing—urging us by word and deed, never to forget—

"The warriors tried and true,  
Who bore the flag of a Nation's trust,  
And fell in acute tho' lost, still just,  
And died for me—and you!"

Came they from hovel, or princely hall,  
They fell for us, and for them should fall  
The tears of a Nation's grief.

We care not whence they came,  
Dear in their lifeless clay!  
Whether unknown or known to fame,  
Their cause and country, still the same,  
They died—and wore the gray."

Entering with fervid zeal into all

of the hopes and ambitions of the Confederacy, she shared its adversities also, and with others had the baptism of sorrow. An idolized brother, Col. John B. Lamar, of Macon, Ga., a chevalier Bayard, without fear and without reproach, laid down his gallant life at Crampton's Gap, and her heart bowed in submission to this crushing sorrow.

Thus briefly and imperfectly have I given you a sketch of the life of this noble and gifted woman, who lived her allotted term of three score and ten years amongst us, "where none knew her but to love her, none named her but to praise."

May the benedictions of that beautifully rounded life rest with and upon each one of us. On November 27th, 1889 "God's finger touched her," and she now sleeps with her illustrious dead, beside the waters of the "dimpling Oconee," sharing with him, his last resting place; as in life, so in death they are not divided.

We have not said "Good-bye" to her, but in the lovely radiance of a brighter clime, where none shall ever die, we hope to say, "Good morning."

#### PAULINA THOMAS ADAMS.

Secretary Soldiers' Aid Society. Miss "Pina" Thomas, as all Athens people best knew her and loved her, was the daughter of Stevens Thomas and Isabella Hayes. She was born in Athens, Feb. 18, 1843, and was educated in Athens. She attended the Grove Academy, now the building used as the Roman Catholic church, and later Lucy Cobb, graduating in 1861.

She was greatly beloved by teachers and classmates, and had an unusually receptive mind, quickly responding to all lines of instruction. She mentions her studies in her Journal as Geometry, Chemistry, Moral Philosophy, Theology and French. Poetic by nature she frequently gave expression in poems dedicated to those she loved, or to express some beautiful religious or patriotic sentiment.

She was naturally of a religious turn of mind, and when in 1869 she became convinced it was her duty to make a public confession of faith—that humility, so characteristic of the true Christian, made her feel her unworthiness, and the struggle in her heart to overcome this feeling and openly profess her Master made her delay for a time and she became morbid upon this subject.

Her pastor was Dr. Nathan Hoyt of the Presbyterian church, and her friend and adviser was the beloved Thos. R. Cobb in whose home she was a daughter.

From 1859 she kept a Journal and into the pages of that journal she poured out her very heart's thoughts, never thinking that any eyes than hers should ever read those pages. Yet the Journal is so neatly and carefully and truthfully written as if she were willing for the world to see it—an index of her own life and character. Oh, that there were more such consecrated young Christian lives as hers! The world truly was made better by her having lived in it.

One item in her Journal runs thus: "Today our Sunday School teacher asked us to examine ourselves as to our besetting sins." Oh! I scarce know where to begin my list is so long.

"My most prominent faults, I think, are pride, selfishness, jealousy, uncharitableness, unbelief in Jesus. Oh, can any one have a darker catalogue of sins?" Some words of Judge Jos. Henry Lumpkin brought her to a closer examination of self and to a final surrender of her life to Christ.

Then at another time she describes her trip to Charleston, S. C., and the impression made by her first view of the ocean. Many beautiful things were brought into her life by this trip.

Then she describes a picnic, in April—a leap-year picnic, and the joy that it brought to her. The students then were much as the college boys today, and the young people were truly happy together in their fun. She gives the books she is reading and so naturally and truthfully criticizes them and the lives of the heroes and heroines there presented. The Last Days of Pompeii gave her great enjoyment—"the characters 'were so true to nature—so high-minded, and the love of Glaucus and Ione so beautiful."

Then she begins to read the two "sensational novels" of the day, Adam Bede and Beulah. She thought Adam Bede was fine, but was somewhat disappointed in it after the flattering newspaper criticisms, but Beulah she thought the most interesting novel she had ever read—exhibiting remarkable talent and portraiture of character. Beulah herself she thought too cold—she could admire but never love her. "She hasn't enough softness and gentleness of character to make a womanly woman—she is too self-reliant and independent. Dr. Hartwell, her lover is so manly—I envy her the possession of such a husband."

She gives an account of Miss Lucy Ware's marriage. She was a school-mate and friend.

Then comes the excitement of the outbreak between the North and South, and the news that Georgia had seceded. She tells of Gen. T. R. R. Cobb's speeches on secession and how it stirred people's hearts.

In 1861 the ladies of Athens met to form a Soldiers' Aid Society and Mrs. Myrtis Franklin was made president. Mrs. Stevens Thomas her mother was one of the Directresses and she was made secretary. She was very loyal to the South and was ever ready to defend her when the principles for which she stood were questioned.

In 1866, October 3rd, she married Rev. W. H. Adams, of Charleston, S. C. Mr. Adams was born at the north and during the war naturally had sympathized with the north. It was sometime before she could bring herself to the point of accepting him on this account—but finally her love for him and confidence in his integrity of character overruled all objections, and the marriage was one of great happiness.

She died in New York June 10, 1876 after ten years of married life. Her body was brought back to Athens to be buried in the family burying ground. Rev. W. C. Lane preached her funeral sermon.

#### MRS. SUSAN GOLDING AND MRS. SARAH HUNTER.

Not all of Southern chivalry and heroic valor was poured out in blood upon Confederate battlefields during the war of the sixties.

Wives and mothers turned back from sad farewells to homes bereft of their rightful protectors—realizing that the army of our brave soldiers was insufficiently equipped for war with its horrors.

Cut off from every source of help from the outside world, by a military cordon whose violation would be the death sentence.

Then with love that never falters and wisdom that only woman could devise "The Soldiers Aid Society"

(Continued on Page 7.)