

Ancient City Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter of the St. Augustine Genealogical Society

July 2016

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The President's Line

While Bob Burns is enjoying the summer in New England, other board members are writing for the President's Line.

This month we welcome Sue DiDomenico, our 2nd Vice President.

Greetings SAGS Members from your Membership Chair. I am filling in this month for our President who is enjoying the Massachusetts coast for the summer. Hopefully he is having more temperate weather than we are. After what was the loveliest spring in a long time, we seem to have been thrust into a super summer, rather early for northern Florida. I manage to get out in my garden or into the pool before 8:00am as I tend to melt much later than that. So I will be planning indoor, air-conditioned activities this month.

There are several favorite indoor places that can also enhance your genealogical search. I am not a local but have found interesting information regarding my own ancestors right here in St. Augustine. During a visit to the Pirate Museum I found the name Lt. Alexander Spotswood in one of the displays. The hair stood up on my neck because my 5GG is Alexander Spotswood Cotton, from Virginia. I learned Lt. Spotswood was one of the first governors of Virginia and he was noted in the museum for his efforts to capture Blackbeard. My 6GG, John "Bertie" Cotton, was a significant land owner in Virginia and North Carolina at the same time, so I like to think they were close friends and a son was named in the governor's honor. My search continues to see if they owned nearby properties or were perhaps political associates.

Another indoor resource is the St. Augustine Historical Society. In searching a Georgia family name, Elkins, I learned one branch had settled in St. Augustine. The Historical Society had several folders on the family and I discovered two generations of dentists had practiced in town and a third

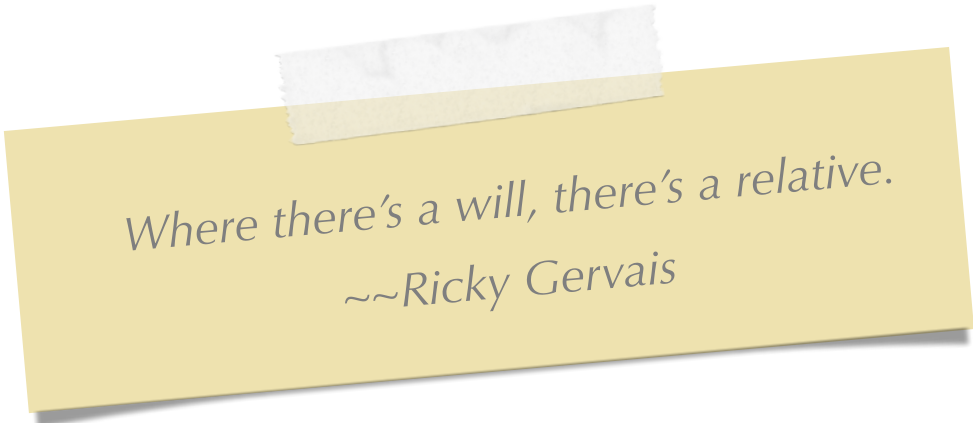
generation is still living in the old family home on Water Street. He is my 4th cousin. The Society had newspaper articles and photos even my cousin had not seen. Very cool.

It will be a good month to finally organize and save my random genealogy, that is mixed in with financial and healthcare spreadsheets, onto it's own flash drive. Maybe I'll even learn to use the "cloud" and assorted virtual storage sites.

SAGS will be on hiatus for the month of August and will return on September 10th. Jack Butler will be back to discuss DNA. It has been two years since we had a speaker on this topic and no doubt many more people have done their DNA since then. Jack was a dynamic speaker in June and we can look forward to his expertise on this subject.

Be sure to save 1:00 pm on July 9th for our annual Birthday Bash. We will celebrate 27 years of SAGS with a "Coming To America" theme. Please feel free to invite guests as there is always good food and good fellowship.

Stay cool everyone!!



Where there's a will, there's a relative.
~~Ricky Gervais

A Little Inspiration

Editorial Notes

The next time you are in the Southeast Branch Library, take a look at the *Index-Guide to the St. Augustine National Cemetery* published by the Florida Department of Military Affairs. You'll find it back in the genealogy section. It is an amazing document, providing not only an index to the graves found in the cemetery, but also a lot of historical and anecdotal information about the people buried there and their military units. This publication is more like a scrapbook than a transcribed index. For example, on the page listing several members of the 33rd Regiment, U.S. Colored Infantry, the author, Robert Hawk, also included a brief history of the 33rd. James McCormack, a British seaman, gets a description of the circumstances that led to his burial here along with a photo of the funeral formation and news clipping from the British press. Throughout this fascinating document, Hawk has included unit histories, images of insignia, news clippings, and other items to document the stories behind the stones.

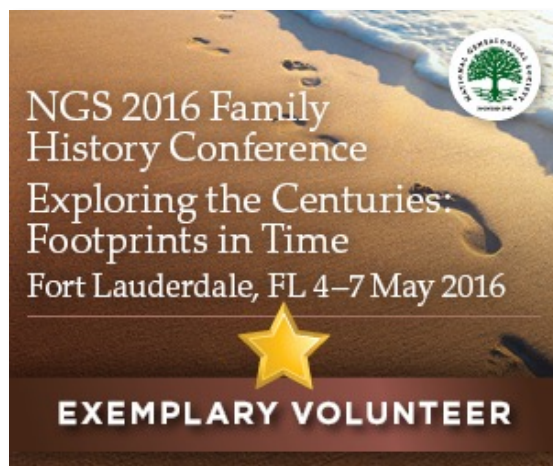
This book was put together before the days of desktop computers and appears to have been produced on a copy machine. Although it's seriously lacking in design, it would absolutely fit the historical definition of a scrapbook.

Technology gives us several advantages over the traditional scrapbook. First is accessibility. There are only a few copies of this index available and since it was "published" on a copy machine, the quality leaves a bit to be desired. Then there's searchability. I'd much rather let Google do the walking than my fingers or my tired old feet. Don't forget linkability either. A simple link gives your readers instant access to reference material, original documents, and many other types of content now available in the digital world.

Today it's easy to combine photos, anecdotes, graphics and captions into fascinating family histories. Digital storytelling not only makes it easy to build your family history one story at a time, it also provides affordable ways to share

these stories. I'm the only one in my family who finds an ahnentafel report interesting, but every one of them enjoy wandering through the various family scrapbooks I've shared with them.

Want to learn more? The SAGS Writers Group is a members-only site full of ideas, resources and tips for all kinds of family history projects. All you have to do to take advantage of this resource is stop by and look around. It's real easy to join . . . just email us at sags.publications@yahoo.com and we'll send your invitation right away.



From C. Ann Staley, NGS 2016 Conference Chair . . .

Societies like yours are an integral part of our genealogical community. With your support and volunteers from 44 other genealogical organizations from around the country, the National Genealogical Society 2016 Family History Conference May 4-7, 2016 in Fort Lauderdale Florida was a resounding success. The many hours of volunteer time that were provided helped to ensure that everything ran smoothly and that all the attendees had an exceptional experience.

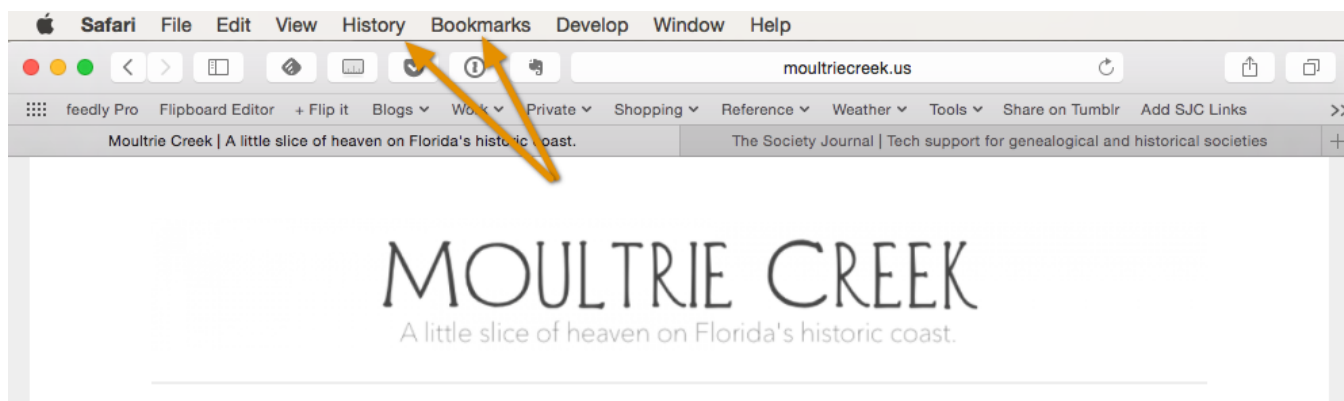
*Please, once again, pass along our thanks to **Pat Tanner** from your organization for the hours contributed to the conference. It is our pleasure to present to the St Augustine Genealogical Society the Bronze Badge – Exemplary Volunteer for providing up to four hours of volunteer time. Display it proudly on your website.*

The Web Browser

Research Toolbox

Although there would be little online research without the web browser, few people appreciate its importance. Not only does the right browser improve your online experience, some can be customized to provide awesome research support tools. It is probably the most important tool in your digital research toolbox and chances are good that you may use more than one.

The browser is your window to the Internet. Every computer comes with a browser application installed. Windows computers have Internet Explorer. Macs come with Safari. Linux computers have either Firefox or Chrome. Like automobiles, all browsers have the same basic features. And, like automobiles, it's how things are arranged and styled that make it the right one for you.



First, let's take a quick tour of the basic browser components. In this example, you are looking at the Safari browser installed on a Mac computer. The application's menu shows two things common to all browsers: bookmarks and history. As you browse the Web, you will find sites you want to return to regularly. You can bookmark a site, then later just click on that saved bookmark to return to the site whenever you wish. And, as you browse, your browser

maintains a history of the sites and pages you visit. Should you decide you want to go back to one of the pages you visited earlier in your browsing session, you can look at the history list to help you find it, then click on it to return to that page. Note: If you are an Internet Explorer user, you probably aren't familiar with the "bookmarks" term. Internet Explorer uses the term "favorites".



The page title is an important reference point when browsing. It tells you the site – and frequently the page – you are viewing. In this example, I have two sites open - each identified in a separate tab. The site/page name appears in the browser tab bar. Most browsers allow you to have more than one site open at the same time and use tabs to make it easy to navigate between them. The titles make it easy to identify which is which. A change in the tab's color generally identifies the site currently displayed. Some browsers allow me to "pin" sites in the tab bar so they're always available. The tabs for pinned sites are much smaller and usually display a site icon. To move between sites, just click on the appropriate tab. Tabs are a researcher's friend. Among other things, they mean you'll never lose a screen of search results once you get in the habit of opening the links you want to explore in a new tab.

Some browsers display the address bar and search bar separately, but a growing number have combined them into one as you see in the above example. The address bar is used to manually enter a URL (web address) for a specific site. You can use the search bar to enter a search word or phrase for a particular search engine. Most browsers let you choose your primary search engine, but make others easily available.

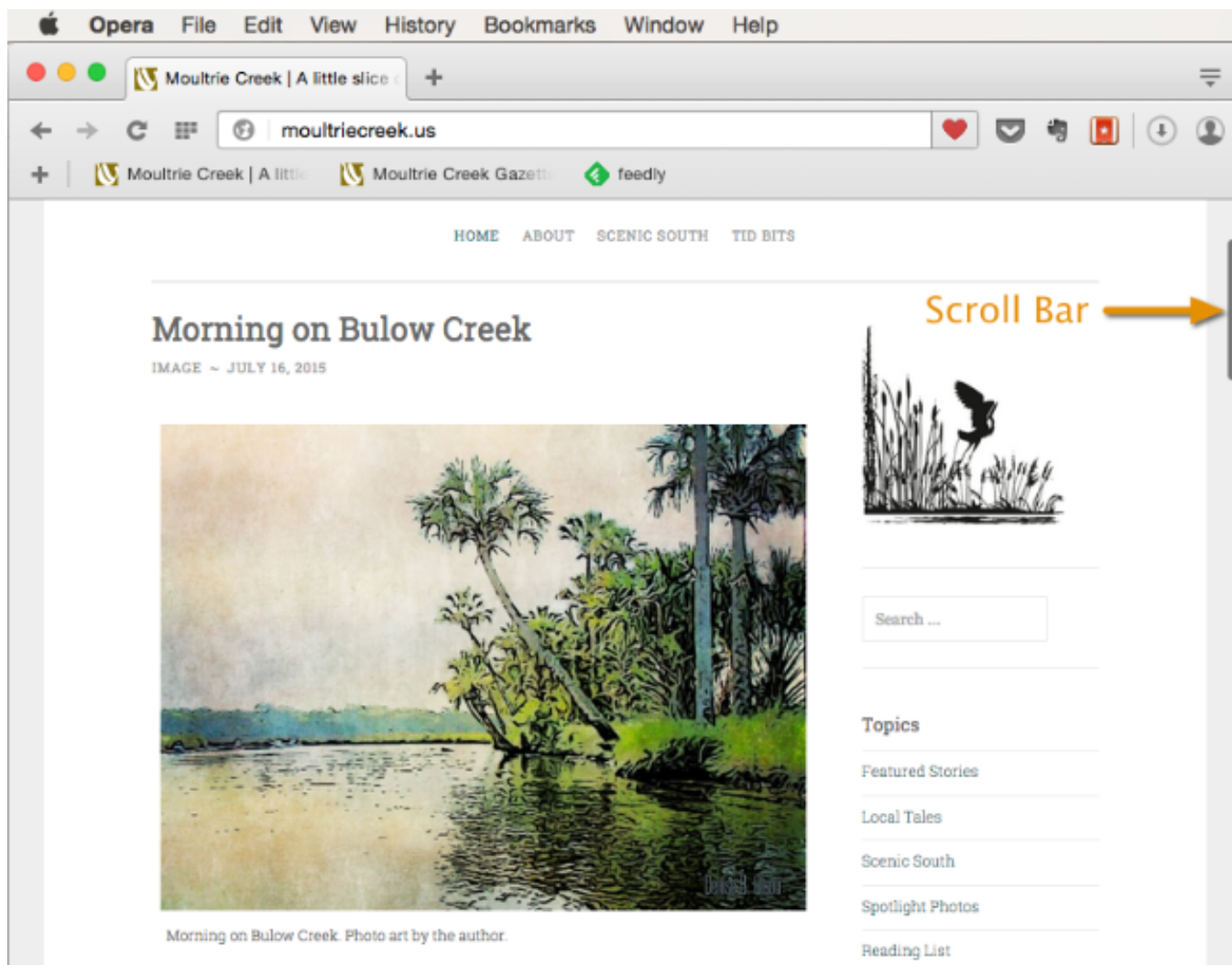
Often you'll find additional tools in line with the address/search bars. You'll probably see two buttons with icons facing left and right. These are the back and next buttons. If I click on a link to visit a new section of a site, then decide I want to return to the original page, I would just click the back button – the icon pointing to the left. A click on the next button – triangle pointing to the right – would take me to the new section again.

When you open a web page in your browser, the site delivers a snapshot of the site as it appears at the time you requested the page. Some sites are constantly adding new content and to see if any additional content has been added to the current page, you will need to "refresh" the page. The circular arrow icon shown at the right of the address box in the Safari example above is the refresh button. Other browsers may have it as a separate button on the browser's toolbar.

Every browser has a home page. This is the first page that appears when you start the browser app. You can choose the site you prefer as your home page. For example, if the first place you want to go when you get online is your Facebook page, you can make that your home page. You may see an icon that looks like a house in your browser's toolbar. This is the home button. Click it and you'll be taken directly to your home page.

Earlier I discussed the ability to create a bookmark to make it easy to return to a useful site. (Reminder: Internet Explorer users work with favorites instead of bookmarks.) Many browsers have a bookmarks bar like the one you see here so you can easily access your saved pages. In this case there are so many bookmarks that most have been arranged within folders. The titles with the down triangle icon immediately after them indicate it's a folder. Click on the triangle icon to display that folder's contents.

Last stop on our tour is the scroll bar at the far right side of the browser window. Web pages operate more like ancient scrolls than paged books. The scroll bar lets you "roll" the text up and down to read. You can drag the highlight up or down to adjust your view. You can also use the up and down arrow keys on your keyboard to scroll through a web page.



Just because a browser comes with your computer, it doesn't mean you are stuck with it. Like most applications, each has its own idiosyncrasies and you may want to "test drive" different browsers to find the one that best fits your research style. It's not unusual to have more than one browser installed on your computer. I currently have three installed on mine. One works better for research, while another has features I find handy when I'm building web sites. The third makes my "social" browsing a lot more fun.

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Chronicling America

In the Archives

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

ASK A LIBRARIAN DIGITAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY CATALOGS

Search Search Loc.gov GO

The Library of Congress > Chronicling America

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE **Humanities**

CHRONICLING AMERICA
Historic American Newspapers

Search America's historic newspaper pages from 1836-1922 or use the U.S. Newspaper Directory to find information about American newspapers published between 1690-present. Chronicling America is sponsored jointly by the [National Endowment for the Humanities](#) and the Library of Congress. [Learn more >](#)

Search Pages Advanced Search All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922 US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present

All states + from 1836 to 1922 + enter one or more search words GO

Pages Available: 11,004,936 [Print](#) [Subscribe](#) [Share/Save](#) [Give Feedback](#)

100 Years Ago Today: June 24, 1916 (89 issues)

Norwich bulletin. (16pp.)
Norwich, Conn.

The Donaldsonville chief. (4pp.)
Donaldsonville, La.

The daily telegram. (12pp.)
Clarksburg, W. Va.

- [About Chronicling America](#)
- [About the Site and API](#)
- [Recommended Topics](#)
- [Help](#)

More Resources

- > [National Digital Newspaper Program](#)
- > [NDNP Award Recipients](#)
- > [Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room](#)
- > [Ask LC Newspaper & Current Periodicals Librarian](#)
- > [Historic Newspapers on Flickr](#) (part of the LC Flickr Commons photostream)

Many of the commercial archives have realized the importance of historic newspapers in genealogical research. It's great to watch as more and more newspapers are being digitized and made available to the public - even if it will cost us to access them. Fortunately, there are a number of public archives also

working to protect and share historic newspapers. At the top of this list is the Library of Congress and [Chronicling America](#).

The Library of Congress and National Endowment for the Humanities are working with state and local agencies and institutions to build and index newspapers from around the country. At the site, you will find information about the collection and selected digitized pages. In the example below, notice the button titled US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present. Click it to view the newspapers included in the collection. You'll notice a small Subscribe icon on that page. Click it to receive updates on new additions to the collection. You can choose to have those updates delivered via email or as a news feed.

The Advanced Search tab makes it easy to define what you are looking for. Here you can choose the state and even the particular newspaper to search. You can select date ranges and language too. The fields for search criteria are self-explanatory. When you are ready, click the Search button.

Search Pages
Advanced Search
All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922
US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present

Select State(s):

- Piedmont
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont

Or Select Newspaper(s):

- The Suffrage daily news. (Helena, Mont.)
- Sugar planter. (West Baton Rouge [i.e. Port Allen, West Baton Sullivan republican. (Laporte, Pa.)
- The Sumpter miner. (Sumpter, Or.)
- The Sumter banner. (Sumterville, S.C.)
- The Sumter watchman. (Sumterville, S.C.)
- The Sun and New York press. (New York [N.Y.])
- The Sun and the New York herald. (New York [N.Y.])

Select Year(s)*

Newspaper pages are available for newspapers published between 1836-1922*

from to

Or Date Range

from to

close X

Limit Search: only front page or Specific page

Language

Enter Search

...with **any** of the words: ...with **all** of the words: ...with the **phrase**:

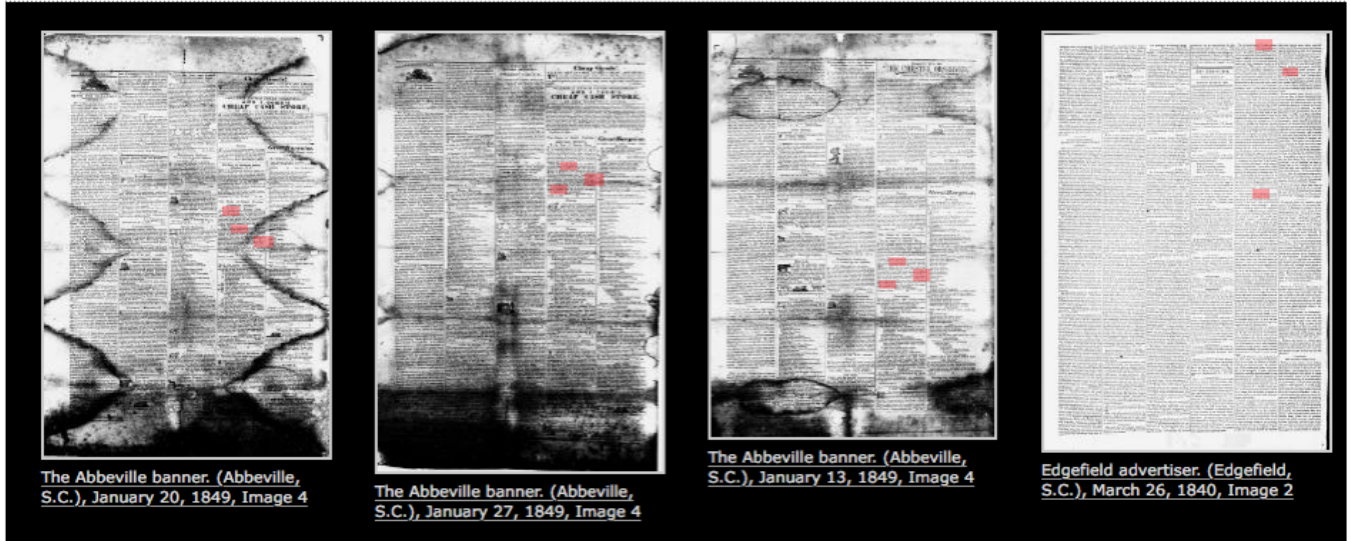
...with the words: within words of each other

Here's an example of what your results might look like.

Results 1 - 20 of 48 | 1 | 2 | 3 | > Jump to page: GO View: Gallery List

48 results containing "Gervais OR Turnbull"

Show only front pages Sort by: Relevance Results per page: 20



The Abbeville banner. (Abbeville, S.C.), January 20, 1849, Image 4

The Abbeville banner. (Abbeville, S.C.), January 27, 1849, Image 4

The Abbeville banner. (Abbeville, S.C.), January 13, 1849, Image 4

Edgefield advertiser. (Edgefield, S.C.), March 26, 1840, Image 2

Click on any image to view it. You'll notice your search terms are highlighted.

Edgefield advertiser., March 26, 1840, Image 2
About [Edgefield advertiser. \(Edgefield, S.C.\) 1836-current](#)

Image provided by: University of South Carolina; Columbia, SC

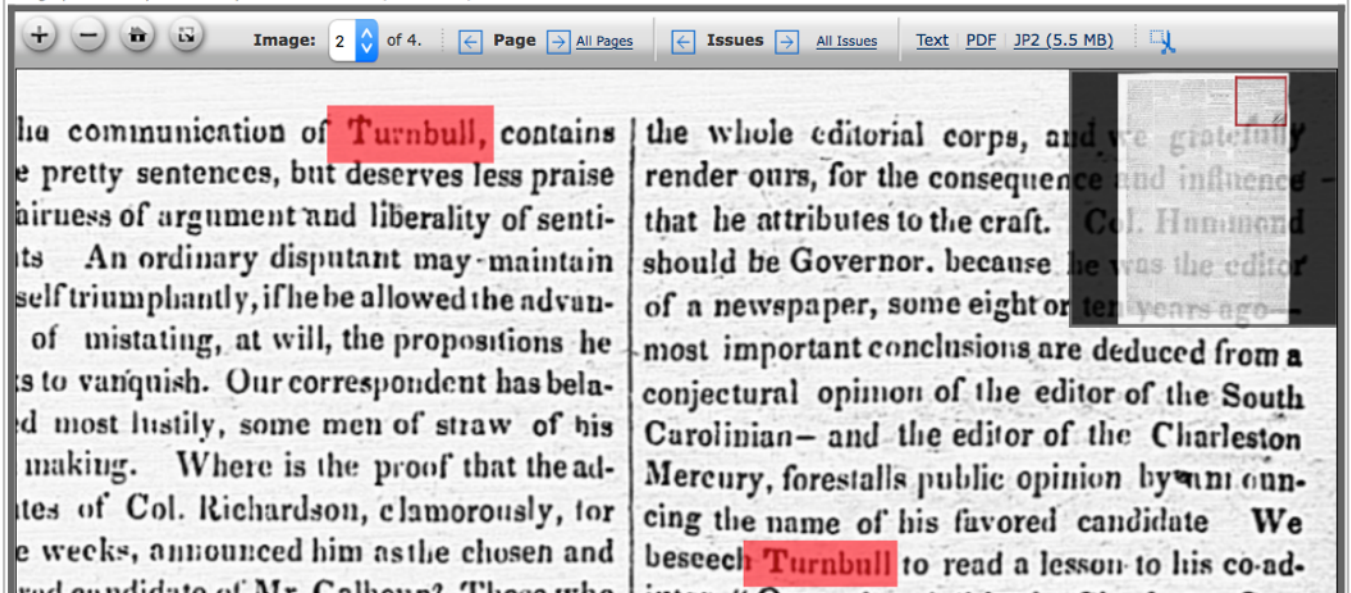


Image: 2 of 4. Page All Pages Issues All Issues Text PDF JP2 (5.5 MB)

lia communication of **Turnbull**, contains the pretty sentences, but deserves less praise for the fairness of argument and liberality of sentiments. An ordinary disputant may maintain himself triumphantly, if he be allowed the advantage of mistating, at will, the propositions he sets to vanquish. Our correspondent has belabored most lustily, some men of straw of his making. Where is the proof that the attacks of Col. Richardson, clamorously, for several weeks, announced him as the chosen and preferred candidate of Mr. Calhoun? Those who the whole editorial corps, and we gratefully render ours, for the consequence and influence that he attributes to the craft. Col. Hammond should be Governor. because he was the editor of a newspaper, some eight or ten years ago—most important conclusions are deduced from a conjectural opinion of the editor of the South Carolinian— and the editor of the Charleston Mercury, forestalls public opinion by announcing the name of his favored candidate We beseech **Turnbull** to read a lesson to his co-ad-

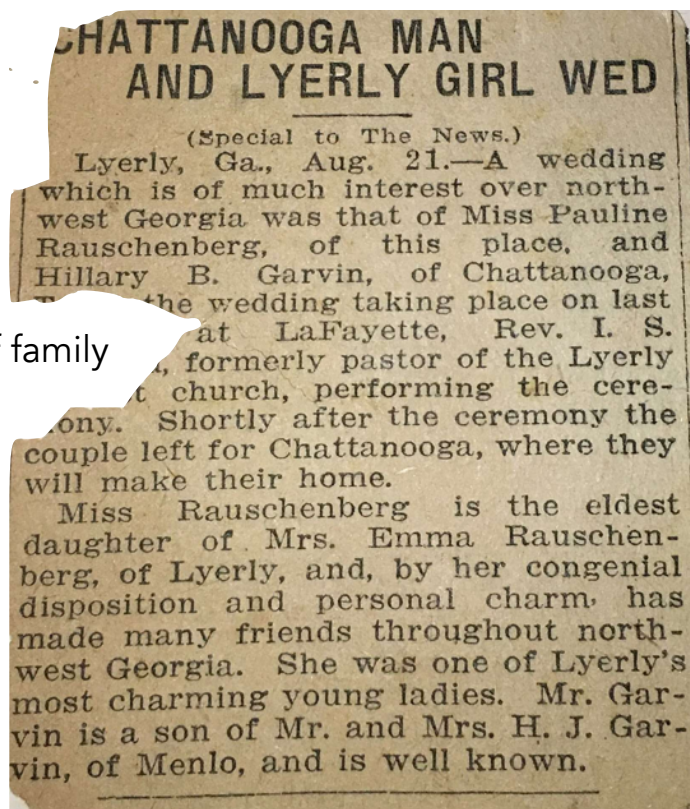
The toolbar at the top of the image helps you move around the page. The plus and minus buttons will zoom in/out so you can read the content. The Image item shows how many pages (images) are in this particular newspaper and allows you to browse the other pages. The Page item does much the same thing. The Issues item allows you to browse the next or previous issue of this newspaper.

If you find something on a page that you would like to keep, you can choose to capture this page as transcribed text, a PDF document or an image file. Click the scissors icon quickly capture the area of the page currently visible on your screen. It can then be downloaded or printed.

Newspapers are great resources for social news - engagements, marriages, births, obituaries and more. Small town papers often tell you who's visiting and the latest society news. Even big city papers offer social news from nearby small towns. The advertisements and legal notices are often full of useful information. It may be hard work finding these goodies, but they provide a look into the personal side of our ancestors that vital records cannot.

Engagement and wedding notices like this one can also provide names of family and friends to help you move your research along.

If you're looking for more than just vital records, *Chronicling America* is a great place to start.



The Society Page

July can only mean two things . . . Independence Day and St. Augustine Genealogical Society's anniversary. Join us Saturday, July 9th, for our anniversary party. The festivities will begin at 1:00pm at the Southeast Branch Library on US 1 South.

The society is providing fried chicken for the festivities and members are bringing side dishes, salads and desserts.

If you want to learn more about Roots Magic, you might find Randy Seaver's [Genea-Musings blog](#) very useful. It's full of reports from the San Diego Genealogy Society's Roots Magic User Group. Each report includes step-by-step instructions and screen shots.

You have until July 4th to take advantage of [Findmypast's](#) free access to an impressive collection of records. It's purpose is to help American researchers learn more about how their ancestors came here.

Reminder, there will not be a member meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 10th. We will publish an August issue of Ancient City Bulletin.

Officers

President

Bob Burns

1st Vice President

Open

2nd Vice President

Sue DiDomenico

Secretary

Pat Tanner

Treasurer

Neda Makin

Committees

Research

Open

Networking

Open

Programs

Judy Parrino

Communications

Bernadette Patruno

Publications

Denise Olson

Library Liaison

Joan Lucian

Webmaster

Debbie Bateman

Archivist/Historian

Rosemarie Quintero

Facebook

Sue Gill

Society Services

The Research Help Desk supports our members with research assistance either at meetings or via email. Members can complete a research help request form at any meeting or email your request to Sue Gill at suecarl@aol.com. The Research Committee will respond with suggestions on search options and sources.

Members with research experience are encouraged to volunteer on the Research Committee.

There are a number of ways SAGS members can connect online. These include:

- [SAGS Online](#) - The society's public web site and records archive.
- [SAGS Facebook Group](#) - This is a public group and once you join, you can set it to notify you when items are posted to the group. It's a great place to share useful research resources, ask questions or share a success story.
- **SAGS Mailing List** - The mailing list is used to keep members informed on upcoming meetings, announcement and other activities. To join, send an email message to SAGS-L-request@rootsweb.com with the word **subscribe** in the subject line and in the message body. You will receive a return message asking you to confirm your subscription. Follow the link included in the message. Once you confirm you will receive a welcome message providing instructions for using it.
- [SAGS Publications Library](#) - This online library is open 24/7. Here you will find current and past issues of the Ancient City Bulletin along with other society publications.
- [SAGS Writers Group](#) - This blog supports our writers group.

Publishing Guidelines

We accept articles related to genealogy, family history and research methodology from our members for publication in the Ancient City Bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as an electronic file in either rich text format (.rtf) or MS Word (.docx) format via email to sags.publications@gmail.com. Please keep formatting to a minimum as the article will need to be styled to match the Bulletin's design. The article title should be on a separate line at the top of the page with the author's name listed immediately below. Photos included as part of the article are welcome, but please also send a copy of each photo as a separate file. Captions are always welcome and please include the photographer's name for proper credit. Including a list of sources is also encouraged.

Articles will be edited for grammar and style and any edits will be reviewed with the author prior to publication.

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