Chapter II

THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT JOSIAH MEIGS

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Josiah Meigs was born in Middletown, Connecticut, on the 21st day of August, 1757, the thirteenth child of Return Meigs and Elizabeth Hamlin Meigs.

The Pilgrim Fathers had landed at Plymouth Rock only a few years before when the first of his ancestors came from England to become a member of the new colony. A little later that ancestor, Vincent Meigs, together with his sons, John and Mark, moved from Weymouth, Mass., to New Haven, Connecticut, in 1644.

For one hundred years there were tanners, curriers, shoemakers, coopers, farmers, merchants, soldiers in the Meigs family in the colony of Connecticut, some of them accumulating modest fortunes and substantial estates.

They were Puritans, but some of them were anything but puritanical. One of them came into conflict with the authorities at times. While not of a contentious disposition, they did not hesitate to express their opinions freely and in some instances they ran into trouble. It is quite likely that by inheritance Josiah Meigs came to voice his opinions in a way that brought him into conflict with superior authorities to his discomfiture.

From generation to generation they took a lively interest in civic affairs and at least one, Timothy Meigs, was a graduate of Yale as far back as 1732.

Return Meigs, father of Josiah, died in 1782, poor, if not bankrupt, according to the family records, but he had given his children some advantages. Three of his sons were soldiers in the American Revolution. The other son, Josiah, was a student at Yale during the earlier years of that struggle and was graduated from that institution in 1778.

Josiah Meigs was less than eight years old when the Stamp Act was passed and the ten succeeding years up to the engagement between the embattled farmers and British soldiers at Concord Bridge were years in which his revolutionary views were built up until at the beginning of the war he was an uncompromising foe of England.

His great-grandson, William M. Meigs, in his admirable biography of his
grandfather, says of him: "It is often said that the boy is father to the man, and the boyhood of Josiah seems to have been peculiarly calculated in point of time to lay the foundations of a character entirely American and free from any taint of colonial days. He hardly came into the world early enough even to remember the time when, in American mouths, home meant England, and from the days when he was first old enough to observe until he became a full-grown man, his native land was engaged in a desperate struggle for existence with her mother country. Feelings instilled into the human mind so early and impressed upon it for so many years are rarely rooted out, and it will be found that he always felt a bias against England and retained to the last a kind spot in his heart for France."

The life of Meigs as a student at Yale was uneventful. In his class were a number of boys who in later years became well-known in different fields of endeavor, notably Noah Webster, author of the famous dictionary, and Joel Barlow, the poet. During his stay at Yale, the college, under the exigencies of war, was carried on its work with much difficulty. His first two years were under the presidency of Napthali Daggett, the last two under the presidency of Dr. Ezra Stiles. He studied Metaphysics, ethics, history, theology, Latin, Greek, Hebrew, mathematics, frequently engaged in debates and disputations and on the occasion of his graduation delivered a philosophic oration in Latin.

The advantages of Yale in that day were regarded as excellent; compared with the Yale of today they would be relegated to the standards of secondary schools. Yet the instruction, though limited in scope, was thorough, and a number of great American minds were developed there.

Three years after his graduation Meigs found himself a tutor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Yale and the next year he was married to Clara Benjamin, daughter of Col. John Benjamin, an engineer and a soldier of the Revolution while a tutor at Yale. Meigs studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1783, but there is no record of his having practiced that profession for a number of years thereafter.

Resigning his tutorship, he became a printer and publisher, and along with Daniel Bowen and Eleutheros Dana, established the New Haven Gazette, which was
published until 1788. Those were the years in which the Confederation faded out and in its place came the United States of America with its immortal constitution. Those were the days when the great intellects of the thirteen independent states clashed in mighty debate over the many propositions looking to the establishment of a more perfect union. In the columns of Meigs' journal appeared many well-written articles and there is no doubt but that Meigs, through the columns of the Gazette, made valuable contribution to the cause. And he no doubt knew that among the great leaders who were framing the Constitution and arguing for its ratification was one of his former teachers at Yale, Abraham Baldwin, later on to be his predecessor as president of the first chartered state university in America.

He must have taken up the practice of law in 1789 for in the latter part of that year he went to Bermuda to represent certain clients in legal proceedings. He remained there five years and they were more or less tempestuous years. Under British decrees in Council American ships were brought there by British privateers and condemned, Meigs considered this robbery and it fell to his lot to defend the captives. Frequently he had to guarantee the costs out of his own funds. He succeeded in winning judgments in at least half his cases.

Josiah Meigs was not of a turbulent disposition, but whenever he witnessed anything cruel or outrageously wrong, he gave his opponents a piece of his mind and sometimes was too outspoken. It was not long until he had made any number of enemies, a charge of treason followed and he came near being convicted. His feeling against England mounted higher and higher until finally he sailed with his family to New York, arriving there May 13, 1794.

And then in a few months he was back on the Yale campus as a professor in the Yale faculty. President Ezra Stiles was the administrative head at Yale when Meigs had graduated in 1778 and he knew the ability of Meigs and his fitness for the position of Professor of Mathematics and natural philosophy. A year later it was Meigs who delivered the funeral oration of the death of President Stiles.
Meigs discharged the duties of his professorship for four years. There is no record showing that his services were unsatisfactory nor is there a definite statement as to why he left Yale in 1800, although the general belief was that his political views, emphatically expressed, constitutes the real reason. As a matter of fact, from the records of those days, one finds more or less of comment of a nature more political than pedagogical.

In view of the fact that later on his more or less radical political views were again to play an important part in his life as an educator, a brief review of the differences that arose between him and the Yale authorities will give one a better understanding of the events of subsequent years.

Meigs was an ardent admirer of Thomas Jefferson. Year by year he became more and more enthusiastic in his advocacy of democratic government and more and more opposed to the federal views of Alexander Hamilton. And he didn't mind speaking out in meeting in no uncertain words. Those were the days of the French Revolution, and while he did not view with any admiration the massacres by the revolutionists, according to his biographer, "It is very clear that Meigs took a deep interest in the course of events in France and on the whole fully sided with the revolutionary movement, despite its errors. "Had he lived in France, Meigs no doubt would have been a revolutionist.

Connecticut feeling ran high and Meigs, with his republican utterances, quickly ran into trouble with the many federalists by whom he was surrounded. This was especially true as to his relations with the Yale authorities. Timothy Dwight, president of Yale College, was a Federalist of pronounced views, and it became apparent that Meigs was in danger of losing his position as a member of the Yale faculty.

Meigs, in a letter to the Yale Corporation, re-affirmed his belief in the political principles of the party of Jefferson and admitted that he was a friend of the French Revolution, but said that he had probably spoken too freely. He retained his position for two more years, but they were years of continued trouble.
While it is not a matter of record, it was no doubt true that he lost his position on account of his democratic views and his severe criticism of the federalists.

And then he came to Georgia and had the same experience, losing his position in that state for the same reason. The story of the ten years he spent in Georgia will be told in a subsequent chapter. For more than a year after leaving the University of Georgia Meigs was without employment. Then, probably at the request of Jefferson, he was appointed an Surveyor-General Oct. 1, 1812. A year later he was appointed Commissioner of the General Land Office of the United States.

In view of his outspoken views, it could not have been surprising that Meigs should have continued throughout the years to speak his mind concerning the federalists. Just as a sample, this, concerning the Hartford Convention in his native state: "How weak! how wicked! how atrociously corrupt! must be the hearts of the Federal leaders of New England. Time will, I hope, bring them to their reason, but really their prejudices are dreadfully obstinate and perverse."

Writing to his brother, among other things he said: "The conduct of the ruling party in that state (Connecticut) during the War was absolutely rebellion against the United States, and instead of being rewarded for it they ought to be hanged." And again in the same letter: "You and I love our native state and we respect the character of the true-blooded Yankees—they are a brave, an honest and a virtuous people, and ought not to be imposed upon by designing hypocrites of any description, either of laity or clergy."

In 1819 he became president of the Columbia Institute in Washington and held that office until his death, when he was succeeded by John Quincy Adams.

In 1820 he wrote to Mr. Jefferson concerning a professorship in the University of Virginia, but that institution, then in its swaddling clothes, had no position to offer him.
Josiah Heigs had enjoyed remarkably good health, in fact had never experienced an illness up to the last few days of his life. That illness lasted only eight days, his death occurring Sept. 5, 1822.

He was a man possessed of splendid intellect, well-educated according to the standards of the time in which he lived, clean of life, and, although not a minister of the Gospel, was interested in religion and the effect it had on the lives of young people. His family life was one of devotion to wife and children. He was fond of mathematics and natural philosophy. During his later years he delivered several lectures on astronomy and made considerable research in the field of meteorology.

He is not to be ranked among the great educators of America, but it is nevertheless true that his ten years of work in Georgia had a great influence in shaping the destinies of the institution over which he presided and which today has behind it one hundred and forty-six years of magnificent history and tradition. He was practically commanded to make brick without straw. Considering all the impediments, it is but justice to say that he made a pretty good job of his undertaking.
One of the first things to be provided for the new University was an official seal. And before that seal could be provided the decision had to be reached as to the words that would be placed on the seal. And that involved the exercise of deep thought in order to adopt an appropriate motto that would represent the important undertaking, the establishment of an institution for the proper training of the youth of Georgia.

In keeping with the custom of those days the motto would be in Latin, and hence the motto of the University of Georgia was the contribution of some man of wisdom and educational training. Just who that man was is not known. It may have been Abraham Baldwin, the founder of the new institution. It may have been Josiah Meigs, the first professor and first active president. They were both graduates of Yale College and capable of originating the great motto that was engraved upon the first official seal of the University of Georgia, the seal that has never been changed during the passing of almost one hundred and fifty years. And, again, it may have been written by a member of the Board of Trustees, for there were several members who were highly educated according to the standards of those days. Be that as it may, no institution in America has a motto that more thoroughly expresses its aims and its inspiration.

"Et docere et rerum exquirere causas."

Both to teach and to inquire into the causes of things.

Back of the whole undertaking was the dominant idea of a continuing search for truth and that is the fundamental feature of any worthwhile educational institution.
To a greater or less extent the real progress of an educational institution depends on the imagination and the creative thinking of the members of its faculty. "Exquirere", research, intellectually reaching out into the unknown and bringing new knowledge into action, the refusal to be circumscribed by the thoughts and achievements of the past, however great and beneficial they may have been, the bold advance into the realm of dreams and by ability, energy and determination bringing those dreams into full fruition.

True enough that it became the first duty to teach that which was known, for there were treasures that had been secured and preserved from the mines of thought across the ages. But to make the word "docere" fully effective meant not only successfully conveying to the young and untrained minds the riches of accomplished thought and effort across the centuries, but also the creative efforts of the teacher in searching for and finding new truths, new methods and new inspiration, for research, somewhat limited in the alden days and new mounting to the heights of achievement, is naturally at the bottom of all successfully teaching. The teacher has to have the knowledge of what he conveys to the student, and to be most successful he must implant in the young mind to continue throughout life the search for truth. For the teacher, "docere" ends with the efforts he makes to convey the full meaning of the subject involved. There is no end to "exquirere." It is ever present with the successful teacher and goes on from triumph to triumph in the lives of students who catch the bright vision of what lies out ahead of them in the field of inquiry into the causes of things.
"Causas." Across the centuries the great mass of humanity has thought comparatively little about that word as applied to the thousands of things that enter into what we call life. Under the influence of educated mind, the picture changes from year to year and more and more men and women are seeking earnestly to learn the cause of things. The securing of that knowledge marks the advance of civilization. "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." Newly-acquired knowledge may in many cases be put to unworthy and detrimental use, it is true, but in the long run good will always outdistance evil, and in essence there is nothing to be feared from a knowledge of the truth.

Abraham Baldwin was a searcher for truth. He dreamed great things and through the exercise of his mind and spirit converted those dreams into reality. But he never had a special desire to teach. He tried it a while as a member of the Yale faculty and found that he was not attracted by it. He turned that task over to one whom he knew to be possessed of both the power to search for truth and to convey the truth to young minds. So, when the time came for the University of his dreams to open its doors to the young men of Georgia, he selected the man for the task and Josiah Meigs became the first professor in the University of Georgia. Now Meigs fully understood the "docere" and the "exquirere" and also the importance of the "causas."

In large measure the University of Georgia has illustrated its great motto, though its progress has for many reasons, chiefly financial, been impeded at times by circumstances not to be avoided.

It has always had professors who knew the importance of "docere." It has had several eminent faculty members who knew the importance of
"exquirere." Henry Jackson, John LeConte, Joseph LeConte, Charles F. McCay, William L. Jones, William Le Roy Broun, Henry C. White, Charles H. Herty in days now gone may be appropriately mentioned, to say nothing of members of its present faculty. Just now it is paying more attention to research than ever before in its history. Each year more and more emphasis is being laid upon its motto.

ET DOCERE ET RERUM EXQUIRERE CAUSAS.
The Spirit of the Pioneer

When the University of Georgia made its bow to the educational world in America, it came on the scene largely as a pioneer. In fact, back there it was the age of the pioneer in the aggregation of thirteen sovereign states, soon to combine through voluntary agreement to form a federated government.

A few colleges had sprung up as the original pioneer institutions of learning, such as Harvard, William and Mary and Yale. Into this select group in 1785 there came another real pioneer, the University of Georgia, the first state-supported chartered institution of its kind in America. When Abraham Baldwin launched that movement he was a genuine pioneer. He had planned something entirely new in the educational world.

And there was another pioneer that came along in 1801 when the chartered state university at last was able to scrape together enough money to open its doors to the ambitious youth of Georgia. That pioneer was Josiah Meigs.

There is a great deal of difference between a planner and an executive, quite a difference between knowing what should be done and knowing how to do it. Baldwin was the originator of the idea, but he never had any intention to teach. Meigs was the executive who was called on to make Baldwin's plans work. All honor to Baldwin, but let it not be forgotten that the work of Josiah Meigs was necessary to make Baldwin's ideas function. And nobody knew that better than Baldwin himself, who had taught Meigs at Yale and who chose him as the first active president of the University of Georgia.

Meigs was a true pioneer. His family and near relatives were not much in favor of his leaving his comfortable Connecticut home and going into what was then the backwoods country, whose inhabitants were for the most part Indians. But Meigs was possessed of a mind of his own. The new country
beckoned to him. It appealed to his adventurous spirit and he came with the determination of the pioneer to face new problems and solve them.

Fancy, if you can, the situation into which he projected himself. He knew that he was setting his hand to the low in a new field and that he had no idea of turning backward. There were few precedents to serve as guides. He knew that he would have to do practically all the teaching in the new institution, since the money was not available at that time to employ additional instructors. A curriculum would have to be decided on, the students would have to be properly taught without books, there wasn't even the beginning of a library, there wasn't a house on the new campus in which to hold classes, there wasn't a scientific instrument with which to give needed instruction in science, and there were many other problems that would arise.

It took a man of rather heroic build, physically, mentally and morally to face that kind of a situation. Thus it always has been and always will be with the pioneer.

Josiah Meigs was that kind of a man. In some respects he proved to be temperamental, but no one ever questioned his ability, his honesty or his fixed determination to go forward and in going forward to stand by his convictions. How well he succeeded is set forth in succeeding chapters of this history of the University.
High up on the list of those who made possible the University of Georgia must be written the name of John Milledge.

Abraham Baldwin dreamed of a state-supported university and put his dreams into tangible shape; Josiah Meigs was the University's first professor and second president; Moses Waddel took hold when it was in a dying condition and breathed into it the breath of life; other great educators have directed its work over a period of more than a century, but it is difficult to imagine how it could have gone forward in the face of many difficulties without the helping hand that was extended to it in 1801 by John Milledge.

His gift of 633 acres of land when the dawn of the nineteenth century was just breaking may not have appeared to those who were looking after its interests in those opening days as very significant. The land cost him only four thousand dollars. Thirty-seven acres were to be kept for all time for educational purposes. The remaining acres could be sold and converted to the use of the University. Around the infant University grew up the town of Athens, and that land ceased to be valued as mere farming land. It was surveyed and divided into lots on which from year to year residences and business houses were built and while the value of the land did not increase to fabulous sums, it did furnish an increasing income to be applied to the expenses of the institution.

From time to time lots were sold until a little more than fifty years later all of the Milledge gift had been disposed of. During that time fully one-third of the operating expenses of the University were met from this source of income. Those were lean financial years for the University. Its only income was eight thousand dollars interest paid annually by the state on the value of the original land gift by the state, as the state had taken over the land and sold it acknowledging a perpetual debt to the University. It is true the students
paid a nominal fee that amounted annually to no large amount.

The sale of the Milledge land from time to time enabled the institution to keep its head above water. Without that source of income it is difficult to see how it could have weathered the financial storms of fifty years. The University had plenty of land, but John Milledge fancied the special land lot that he bought from Daniel Wasley and presented to the University trustees as the site upon which the new University should be located. As it turned out, he built more wisely than he knew and became a patron of the new institution in far greater measure than he dreamed.

John Milledge was of old English ancestry. His father, John Milledge, was a passenger on the brig Ann which brought from England James Edward Oglethorpe and the first Georgia colonists. It appears that they landed at Charleston South Carolina, in January 1933, about a month before the landing at Yamacraw Bluff and the founding of the colony of Georgia. The father seems to have stopped at Charleston for the time being. He married the daughter of Mrs. Frances Robe, of Savannah at a later date.

The education of his son John, was started in the Bethesda School at Savannah that had been founded by George Whitefield, the celebrated evangelist who collaborated with the Wesleys. Following that education the young John Milledge studied law in the office of the king's attorney.

Then came the American Revolution and the young man, full of patriotism, joined the ranks of those who were protesting against the tyranny of George III. It is recorded of him that during the days just preceding the opening of hostilities, he was one of a company of young men, in which body were Noble Wymberley Jones, Edward Hofair, and Joseph Habersham, who broke into the office of Governor Wright and carried
off six hundred pounds of powder, some of which was probably used in the battle of Bunker Hill. Later on he was a member of the band of young patriots who attacked Governor Wright and made him a prisoner in his own home.

During the war he took part in the defense of Savannah and along with James Jackson managed to escape into South Carolina. Later on he took part in the siege of Augusta and also was among those who attempted to wrest Savannah from the hands of the British.

When the new government had been set up, he was sent to Congress as a representative from Georgia in 1792 and served as a member of the 4th, 5th and 7th United States Congresses. While there he showed much ability and his knowledge of government was such as to challenge the attention of men in leading stations. Those were the days in which he was turning his attention to the improvement of the educational facilities of his state. He had been successful in the practice of law, and, while not be rated as a wealthy man, he still had accumulated a neat and comfortable fortune.

In 1802, one year after the opening of the University of Georgia, he was elected as Governor of Georgia and in that position served until 1806. In that year James Jackson, United States Senator from Georgia, died and Governor Milledge succeeded him. He was re-elected to the Senate in 1807. His ability was recognized on all sides and in 1809 he served as president pro tempore in the Senate. In that year, however, he decided to resign from that time on until his death he lived happily in retirement.

John Milledge was twice married, first to Miss Martha Galpin, of Silver Bluff, S.C., who died in 1811. She had borne him one daughter. The next year after his wife's death he married Anne, the daughter of Thomas and Anne Graham Lamar, and to them were born three children.
At the time of the conclusion of his services as Governor of Georgia, the capital of the state, located in Baldwin county and to the little village that served as the county seat was given the name of Milledgeville in his honor. The state capital remained there until 1867, when Atlanta was designated as the capital of Georgia.

The chief residential street in Athens was named Milledge Avenue; the chair of Ancient languages in the University was named the Milledge Chair of Ancient Languages, the large dormitory for boys erected with the money donated by Clarke county in memory of the Clarke county boys who fell in World War I, was named Milledge Hall, and a four year scholarship in the University was given to his great-grandson in recent years as a token of the love and affection born to him by the University of Georgia.
Choosing the Site

Having elected a president and having directed him to consider himself the teaching faculty for the time being at least and having approved his suggested courses of study, the ruling body then took up the question of a permanent site for the University. There had been much wrangling over this question a year before and Greene county had been chosen as a temporary site, but nothing had been done towards the erection of any building there.

It now became apparent that more wrangling was in sight. Five counties were working for the location, Franklin, Hancock, Greene, Oglethorpe and Jackson. Seven ballots had to be taken before any one county had a majority of the votes. These ballots were as follows:

First ballot - Franklin 3, Hancock 7, Greene 3, Oglethorpe 2.
Second ballot - Franklin 3, Jackson 7, Hancock 9, Oglethorpe 3.
Third ballot - Jackson 10, Hancock 10, Oglethorpe 2.
Fourth ballot - Jackson 9, Hancock 10, Oglethorpe 3.
Fifth ballot - Jackson 10, Hancock 8, Oglethorpe 4.
Sixth ballot - Jackson 11, Hancock 9, Oglethorpe 2.
Seventh ballot - Jackson 12, Hancock 10.

And so it was declared that Jackson county had won the prize. The county had been named, but the exact site had not been selected. So a committee was named to look over the suitable places in Jackson county and choose the spot upon which the buildings of the new university should be erected. That committee consisted of Abraham Baldwin, John Milledge, John Twiggs, Hugh Lawson and George Walton. It was a committee of able men. Baldwin was a United States Senator, Milledge and Walton in later years to become governors of Georgia, and Twiggs and Lawson were men of high character and recognized ability.

By this time those committee members had become enthusiastic. There was no desire or inclination to procrastinate. In three weeks they reached the favored spot. It was a hot summer, but they got down to work with a will and
traveled all over the more inviting spots in Jackson county. There were few white settlements in the county. Near by were plenty of Indians. They did not think it best to choose a spot too close to the Indians and yet the final decision placed the University on ground not far from the Cherokees.

They came upon a high hill around whose base flowed the Oconee river, then a clear and beautiful stream, before the erosion of broad fields in future years had swept an abundance of red clay into its waters and thoroughly changed the color. Through a grove of cedars its waters danced over shoals for quite a distance, hence the name of Cedar Shoals.

Daniel Hasley, a shrewd man although uneducated, had bought more than a thousand acres, stretching westward from the shoals and across the top of the ridge whose elevation was fully two hundred feet above the level of the stream. Along the shoals Hasley had built a mill race in order to utilize the water power, and with that water power operated the machinery of a small flour mill, saw mill and grist mill, serving the farmers of the surrounding country. He had built a few houses near the mill on what is now Oconee street ascending almost to the top of the hill. One of these was a two-story frame building that in later years became the home of Mr. Edward R. Hodgson, one of the leading citizens of Athens in the middle of the nineteenth century. In that house it is believed the president of the new institution soon to be established lived with his family until a residence could be built on the campus. There was another house that the committee thought could be used for a schoolroom until other quarters could be provided.

The hillsides were covered with lordly trees, pine and oak and hickory. Several bold, clear springs were there whose sparkling waters descended swiftly to the river. One of these springs was near the crest of the hill in easy reach of the place where the college buildings would be erected, thus guaranteeing an abundance of pure drinking water for the professors and students of the coming years. And to make the situation more attractive was the assertion of Hasley.
that fine sand came up the river as far as the shoals.

The committee, after a thorough inspection of the land, were delighted with it. The climate was good, the drainage was excellent, the forest was beautiful and it was far removed from centers of population and through its quiet surroundings was suitable for the uninterrupted study necessary in the work of serious-minded young men in search of an education.

The University had plenty of land and no money. Here was a situation where more land was wanted and no money with which to pay for it. John Milledge, a member of the committee, solved the problem. He must have been enchanted with the place, for he bargained with Easley for six hundred and thirty-three acres, and on July 8, 1801, gave the land to the University of Georgia, executing a deed to the Trustees of the University of Georgia. The Trustees took possession of the property, authorized the construction of a residence for President Meigs and a log house for temporary use until a large and commodious structure could be erected for the accommodation of students.

For some reason the deed from Mr. Milledge was not recorded when it was signed, and more than a year later, on December 21, 1802, at a meeting of the Board of Trustees, the following statement was entered in the minutes:

"Daniel W. Easley having made a full and complete relinquishment to John Milledge, Esquire, of all right, title and claim to the lands in Clarke County whereon the collegiate buildings are erected, and the Secretary having reported that the said deed had been duly proven, it is ordered that the same be deposited in the Executive Chamber agreeably to terms of the Act of the General Assembly and it was deposited accordingly."

Nearly eighteen months had passed since Mr. Milledge had bargained with Easley for the land and buildings had been erected. Just what caused the delay in passing the title is not revealed by the record. Meanwhile Mr. Milledge had become Governor Milledge, having been elected as Governor of Georgia on November 4, 1802. On the relinquishment of all claims to the property by Easley,
Governor Milledge immediately conveyed title to the Trustees of the University of Georgia and the following deed was recorded in the official book of Clarke county on December 21, 1802. The land is described in the deed as being in Jackson County. That was true when the deed was drawn in July 1801, but between that time and the day of its recording a new country had come into existence and to it had been given the name of Clarke.

"Georgia:

This indenture made the eighth day of July in the year one thousand eight hundred and one, in the twenty sixth year of the independence and sovereignty of the United States of America, between the Hon. John Milledge of the County of Richmond, in the State above mentioned of the one part, and Abraham Baldwin, Hugh Lawson, Benjamin Taliaferro, John Twiggs, James Jackson, John Clark, Joseph Clay the younger, Robert N. Cunningham, John Milledge, Josiah Tatnall, Ferdinand Gheal, John Stewart, and James McNeil. Trustees of the University of the said State of Georgia of the other part. Whereas, the said John Milledge stands seized and possessed in his own right of all that tract or parcel of land. Containing six hundred and thirty three acres lying and being on the south side of the north fork of the Oconee River, adjacent to the Cedar Shoals thereon, in the County of Jackson in the said State, and having such boundaries as are hereinafter described, as by deed of bargain and sale to him thereof made bearing even date herewith, by Daniel W. Esaly, reference being thereunto had will more fully appear, and whereon the said John Milledge, from his desire of promoting the interest of the institution of the said University, hath of his good will and mere motion, agreed to give to the said institution, the tract of land aforesaid.

Now therefore, this indenture witnesseeth, that the said John Milledge for and in consideration of such his desire to promote the interests of the University aforesaid and for and consideration of the sum of one dollar to him paid by the said trustees or one of them, hath given, granted and released, and in and by these presents, doth give grant and release unto the said Trustees above named,
and to their successors in office all that tract or parcel of land containing six hundred and thirty three acres, lying and being in the County and place aforesaid, and bounded as follows, that is to say beginning at a Stake Corner near the said river upon the dividing line between Daniel W. Hasley, and David Cresswell, thence west fifty five chains twenty five links to a Stake, thence south thirty nine chains fifty links to a red oak, thence west sixty three chains fifty links to a corner hickory, thence north thirty nine chains to a white oak, thence east twenty three chains fifty links to a Gun- thence north sixteen chains to a Stake thence north sixty chains, east one hundred and three chains to a Stake on the river thence down the river to a hickory and pine corner, South 14 West 20 chains twenty five links to a rock Corner, thence west four chains eighty two links to a rock Corner thence west four chains eighty two links to a rock corner, thence east four chains eighty two links to another rock Corner, and thence south twenty three chains eighty links to the beginning together with the dwelling houses, fences, orchards, waters and water Courses, to the said tract of land belonging, or in any wise appertaining to have and to hold the said tract of land with all and singular the premises and appurtenances unto the said trustees and their successors in office forever.

Provided nevertheless and the true intent and meaning of this donation by the said John Milledge is for the purpose of fixing and establishing the University of the said State of Georgia on the tract of land herein before recited and for that purpose only.

In witness thereof, the said John Milledge hath hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first above written.

(Signed) John Milledge

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us:
A. Twiggs
George Walton, Judge

Recorded 21st December, 1802.

It will be noted that the deed describes the property as lying on "the south
side of the north fork of the Oconee River." Unless the writer of the deed had changed the points of the compass, the description will not fit the lay of the land, for the land conveyed to Milledge and by him to the University is on the "west" side and not the "south" side of the river.

It will also be noted that in the description of the boundaries of the land simply the words north, east, south and west are used without mentioning the degrees. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to plot the property as at some places the line would not run due north, south, east or west.

However this statement is essentially correct in terms of present day names of streets and localities. The beginning point was somewhere near the junction of Cemetery and Baldwin streets, thence west along Baldwin street to Pope street, thence South to what was formerly the vineyards of Eber von der Lieth on the hill beyond the present American Legion pool, thence West to a point on Springdale street near the old Hudgins residence, thence North in a broken line to a point some distance across Prince Avenue, thence East to a point on the river near the upper bridge, thence to Broad street near the old Dorsey house between Thomas and Foundry street, thence to the corner of Oconee and Thomas streets, thence to the beginning point.

A CANVASS FOR STUDENTS

Mr. Baldwin and the others in authority then proceeded to set in motion the movement to secure students. A professor had already been chosen and a course of study had been prescribed. Now the site had been selected. The next thing to be done would naturally be the erection of a building in which to house and teach the students. But the building would be of no use without the students. So Baldwin concluded that it would be wise to search for the students even before the building was erected. So he introduced the following resolution which was passed by the Board:

"Resolved, That the President of the University be requested to visit the different academies in the State as soon as he can do so conveniently, and to
admit as members of the University such youths as, on examination, shall appear to be qualified, directing the course of their studies under the Rectors of the respective academies, until proper buildings shall be erected for their accommodation at the seat of the University."

It is clear from the wording of this resolution that Baldwin did not consider the academies as parts of the University, as in the resolution he provides for the admission of their students, on examination, as members of the University. At the same time he does indicate that the University has a supervisory duty to "direct" their studies so that they might be ready to stand their examinations and become members of the University when the proper buildings had been erected.

Though no record has been preserved to show how many academies President Meigs visited, he must have carried out the directions in the resolution, for a number of students were soon ready to enter the University.

There were probably no students here in the remaining months of 1801, though it is possible that a few may have reported.

This meeting of the Board of Trustees adjourned June 15, 1801. Mr. Baldwin had about come to the end of his great service to the University, for at the next meeting of the Board he tendered his resignation which was accepted. He had drawn the charter, passed it through the Georgia legislature, helped sell and lease enough land to provide the money necessary for its opening, selected the man to succeed himself as president and had witnessed the organization of the new institution, now ready to begin its actual service to the youth of the State. The heavy duties of his office as United States Senator from Georgia now called for the devotion of all his time and ability to the business of national importance. George Walton was elected to succeed Baldwin on the Board of Trustees and David B. Mitchell to succeed Mr. Jackson.

On November 11, 1801, the Board of Trustees received notice from Mr. Baldwin that he had resigned his position on the Board, and on November 15 the resignation was accepted. He was to live until 1807, but those remaining years were to be
spent in the service of his state and his country as a member of the United States Senate from Georgia. No doubt he kept up with the progress of the institution that he had founded, but there is no further reference in the official records to him or to anything he did. So far as the records show, he vanished from the picture, and the institution went forward under the direction of the man whom he had selected to guide its movements along what proved to be a rather rugged pathway.

From this point on will be traced the development of the institution whose charter had been written by this man. The verdict of the years has been and will continue to be that he built far more wisely than he knew.

On January 27, 1943, the University of Georgia celebrated the 159th anniversary of the signing of the charter, and the address of the day was made by Hon. Pope Brock, a distinguished Georgia lawyer, who was graduated from the University in the Class of 1911. He made a number of references to the wisdom, the foresight and the sagacity of Abraham Baldwin, which sum up the judgment of all who measure his contribution to education by the achievements that have been made. Just a few of these references may not be inappropriate just here.

"Men often deserve to be judged by their dreams rather than by their objective achievements. Measured by this test, Mr. Baldwin is an impressive figure. He belongs to later generations even more so than his own. He projected his thinking a hundred years ahead. He created something theretofore unknown, a University to be supported and operated by public authority, a University to serve the whole people. It became the inspiration for a national system of universities."

"Abraham Baldwin revealed an insight into things to come, he anticipated society's needs and offered a solution for the disorders which dissipate the energies of a people and thwart progress. He trusted the educated mind and provided a place to foster it."

"He met what was perhaps the primary need of his day in Georgia and, in connection therewith, gave direction to an important public policy. His object was
There was but one worthwhile type of college curricula in the olden days. That was what was generally known as the classical curriculum. The educational world has traveled far in numerous directions since those days, and changing conditions and enlarged vision have entirely changed the picture. It would be foolish to attempt to maintain the position that no progress has been made. Equally foolish would be an opinion that in the world of today the study of the classics has no important part to play in the education of the youth of the world.

At the time when Baldwin drew the charter of the University of Georgia and Meigs formulated the first curriculum of the new institution, full instruction in Greek and Latin, together with ample knowledge of classic history, literature and philosophy, represented the best judgment of the leading thinkers of the world as to what constituted a real and satisfactory education.

And it was not unnatural that such should be the current decision of those days. Homer and Virgil, Socrates and Plato, Aristotle and Archimedes, Demosthenes, Cicero, Horace, Livy, Thucydides, and hundreds of other leaders of thought had dreamed dreams, had seen visions and had laid lasting foundations.

Even English, French, Italian and German literature represented the creative effect of only a few centuries. Shakespeare, Milton, Goethe and Dante had lived only a short while back and beneath practically all the literary culture and achievement of their day was the foundation of Latin and Greek.
As one looks backward over the records of the University of Georgia in its earlier days and gives only superficial attention to the Commencement programs of those years, it appears rather ridiculous to read of Latin and Greek orations or the writing of Latin or Greek poems by Georgia students. Yet such was in large measure the intellectual training of young men who in later years were to contribute much to the advancement of the new republic.

It took more than half a century to change the ironclad classical curriculum of the University of Georgia and furnish adequate instruction in a number of vocational fields; but no one can successfully question the quality of instruction given in those days or the effective results in the preparation of the young men of Georgia for their life work in the years that lay ahead of them.

The Yale curriculum, adopted by Meigs as a pattern for the new University over which he had been called to preside represented the very best in those days. It would in no way fit into the most effective curriculum of the twentieth century, but no justifiable criticism could be offered to it when the first Georgia students began their college training out under the lordly oaks on the new campus with the president of the new University as the only member of the institution’s faculty.

The study of the classics still has its place in the curriculum of the University of Georgia, though Latin and Greek no longer attract large numbers of students. Quite appropriately science, sociology, government, agriculture, mechanics, and other subjects that fit into the demands of our present civilization occupy the spotlight, but there is still a place for the oldtime studies, and a useful place for the development of mind and spirit and uplifted vision.
President Meigs was a graduate of Yale. He had been a member of the faculty of that institution. He had spent his younger days in the Yale atmosphere. It was natural that the curriculum of studies he proposed for the new university should be patterned after Yale.

Yet, when it is analyzed, it will be found to be quite different in several respects. He couldn't get away from the classical languages. Yale required studies in Latin and Greek during the first three years. Meigs suggested the same for the University of Georgia. But Meigs loved mathematics and science, especially science and he emphasized science more than did Yale.

The suggested curriculum for the University of Georgia is here placed side by side with a statement taken from the Laws of Yale College, published in 1800. A comparison shows that the new university was to offer just as good a course of instruction as that offered by the institution that had passed through many decades of development.

**University of Georgia**

**First Year**

- Virgil, Cicero's Orations
- Greek Testament, Clarke's
- Introduction to Writing Latin,
- Arithmetic, and Bookkeeping
- interspersed with frequent
- essays in Elocution, both before
- their respective classes in the
- presence of their Tutor, and before
- the University collected.

**Second Year**

- Continuation of languages, with two
- or three first books of Homer's Iliad,
- Horace, Algebra, Geometry, Mensuration
- of Superficies and Solids, Conic Sections,
- Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, with
- their application to Navigation and Sur-
- veying, and the ascertaining of heights
- and distances. Geography, particularly
- the astronomical part, with a frequent
- and thorough use of the Terrestrial Globe.
- Frequent essays in composition and public
- speaking, and reading should be considered.

**Yale College**

**First Year**

- The first year of their
- at the College, the students
- shall be instructed in the
- learned languages and arith-
- metic, and the study of the
- Languages shall be continued
- the two following years.

**Second Year**

- In the second year they shall
- also be instructed in
- Geography, the Elements of
- Chronology, in History, in
- Algebra and Plane Geometry.
as particularly useful during the year. English grammar.

**Third Year**
Astronomy, with the application of its principles to the determination of geographic longitudes and latitudes by observations of solar eclipses, by the eclipses of Jupiter's satellites, and by the Lunar observation. The use of the Celestial Globe, Natural Philosophy to be taught in all possible cases by experiment.

Chemistry, with actual experiments demonstrative of its principles. The outline of the Linnean System of Botany. Cicero de Oratore should be perfectly read this year, together with occasional attention to the Greek language. Logic, Priestly's Lectures of History. Forensic disputations in the presence of the Tutors, once or twice a week. Composition and essays on Eloquence.

**Fourth Year**

A comparison of the two curricula will not be to the detriment of Georgia. Measured by the educational standards of those days, President Meigs submitted a curriculum of high merit. The prominence he gave to mathematics and science is noticeable. In fact, for a half century the instruction in science at the University of Georgia compared favorably with that given in older and larger universities throughout the country and the instruction was as good then as it is today except as to discoveries made since that time, and the greatly increased laboratory facilities.

President Meigs recommended the purchase of two globes, a mercurial thermometer, a barometer, and such mathematical instruments as were usually provided for
students in surveying. He submitted the following list of books to be purchased and they constituted the nucleus of the library.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Vols.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams' Lectures</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory's Economy of Nature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cavello on Electricity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priestly on Air</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaptal's Chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldsmith's Animated Nature</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourcroy's Chemistry</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schrewdius' Lexicon</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferguson's Lectures</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin's Zoonomia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin's Phytolegia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darwin's Botanics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paley's Moral Philosophy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blair's Lectures on Rhetoric</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vattel's Law of Nations</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnycastle's Algebra</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnycastle's Mesnuration</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimmerman on National Pride</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard's Geometry</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vince on Fluxious</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simpson's Euclid</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Simpson's Conic Sections</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boyer's French Dictionary</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brings Practical Astronomy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woods' Mechanics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baretti's Italian Dictionary</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vince's Practical Astronomy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerson's Mechanics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is easy enough to discern the trend of President Meigs' mind. Of the fifty books in the list he submitted thirty-three were in the field of Science, ten in the field of Mathematics, four in the field of foreign Languages, three in English and Social Sciences. He did not seem to care much for the learned languages and as for theology he cared even less. After the coming of Moses Waddel as president of the University in 1819 and on through the administration of President Church, which ended in 1859, there was a constantly increasing number of books of a religious nature.

This was simply the beginning. Each year witnessed many additions until the number of books in the library mounted into the thousands.
THE UNIVERSITY'S FIRST SCHOOLROOM

When the University opened its doors in 1801 for the reception of students there wasn't a house on the campus. Perhaps the statement is erroneous as to opening its doors. There were no doors to open. It is a matter of conjecture as to just where those first students ate and slept and were taught by the members of the faculty. Did I say members? There were no members of the faculty. There was only one member of the faculty and he was the president of the institution, Josiah Priest.

The trustees had agreed to pay four hundred dollars for moving the president and his family from their Connecticut home to Athens and they lived up to their bargain, but when the ambitious and determined educator reached his journey's end he found no residence awaiting him and had to live in one of Daniel Easley's houses for some time until a house could be built for him on the campus.

Easley had a few houses on the country road leading up from his mill on the Oconee to the top of the hill, a road now known as Oconee Street. In fact, one of those old two-story houses stood on that street for well over one hundred and twenty-five years and was torn down only a few years since.

There were not many students to be taught during that opening year, probably no more than a couple of dozen, if, indeed, that many. They evidently had to get board with some of the few families in what could scarcely be called a community. The one-man faculty got right down to business and taught those who had come to drink of the spring of knowledge. Just where did he teach them? That is a question that cannot be authoritatively answered.

In good weather they were probably taught out in the open beneath the boughs of the lordly oak trees. In bad weather President Easley probably invited them into the crowded rooms of his abiding place.
For a small number of boys it would be hard to imagine a lovelier schoolroom than that in which they had their first recitations. At that time there were several large oak trees on the northern end of what is now known as the old campus and nearby ran a road east and west to which was given the name of Front street, now known as Broad street. About thirty feet from the road was a majestic white oak tree. It was certainly there at that time, for in the college days of the writer it was still standing, though the storms of fully three hundred years had swept over its lordly head. Right there is probably where Josiah Meigs sat upon a stool and taught the members of his first class of Georgia students as they sprawled around him on the grass. It was quite different from the classrooms back at Yale, where Meigs had taught, but it was a beautiful setting for a campus class, no noise save the twittering of the birds and the occasional grunt of some Cherokee Indian who had stolen a few yards away to stare at the newcomers and wonder what it was all about. It had about it the inspiring touch of nature at its best. It was a long distance back to Rome and Greece, but the faithful Meigs hammered into the heads of his students some knowledge of Latin and Greek and after the sun had gone down no doubt pointed out the stars and taught them something about astronomy, a subject to which he was partial.

The trustees took steps at once to provide a dwelling place for the president of the college and a house in which to teach the boys, and laid plans for the erection of the college edifice, which we now know as Old College, while the boys got their meals in the homes of a few kindly neighbors. It is not recorded that they were served any of those delicious shad that Basley had told Governor Milledge came up the Congaree to Athens. Necessarily they got no shad, for that was just a piece of salesmanship propaganda, put out to clinch the sale of the property to the governor, who gave it to the University.

In those days a house could not be built in a week or a month.
It took four years to complete Old College. While exact dates are not available, it is probable that several months elapsed before President Meigs could get into this new house and perhaps a year before a schoolroom was available for the boys.

The following paragraph appears in the minutes of the Board of Trustees under date of March 8, 1802:

"Resolved, that the President be advised to contract for putting up one or more log buildings for temporary schoolrooms at the seat of the University upon the most reasonable terms in his power."

The ubiquitous Daniel Easley was at hand whenever a chance offered to drive a trade or build a house. So he got the contract to build the new school house and could not have been very prompt in his work, for it took him a solid year to finish it, for in the trustee minutes of March 18, 1803 is this statement:

"The Board having agreed with Daniel W. Easley for erecting a wooden building at Athens, for the use of the University, to be twenty feet square and one and one-half stories high, and the Board being informed and satisfied that the same is nearly completed, Resolved, that the President be authorized to draw a warrant on the treasurer for the sum of one hundred, eighty-seven dollars and twenty-seven cents for erecting the same."

No further description of this first school building on the campus is given. It probably had one door and one window, and for lighting facilities a few tallow candles or a kerosene lamp. In the upper half-story, the few books that constituted the library and the few instruments that represented the beginning of a Physics laboratory were installed at least for safe-keeping, if not for immediate use. A couple of years later Old College had been completed, and the log cabin was put to other uses. Its exact location is not indicated, but it was probably somewhere between the Phi Kappa Hall of the present day and Broad street.
The residence for the president was soon completed. It stood about where the present Ferrell Hall now stands and was used for over forty years by making additions to it, repairing it and keeping it from falling down, until the new house for the President was built, which still stands and is known as the Chancellor House.

The University of Georgia is not the only American college that started its teaching in a little log house. In Northwest Georgia, not far from the city of Rome, several decades since there was a little log cabin in which Martha Berry taught a few underprivileged mountain children. She had a dream of service and throughout a long and useful life she worked to make her dream come true. Today Berry College is one of the best of its kind in the South and its campus of more than thirty thousand acres is the largest campus in America.

Old Josiah George was a man who did not give up easily. Teaching out in the open or in a log cabin did not deter him. He went right on planting the seed for the harvest that he had faith to believe would come in due time. That was a long way back, but the institution over which he presided has mounted the heights of success and the harvests have been bountiful.
to produce here the leaders who could solve the problems of the people of his State."

"The public policy implicit in the creation of this institution projects itself into the future."

"It is particularly worthy of note that the charter of the University of Georgia sets forth that the reason for its enactment was to provide the higher learning which would qualify its recipients for leadership."

"In short, the goals of this University must coincide with the ends and aims of the social order which it serves. Very explicitly, it was created in this spirit. The emphasis was on the kind of intellectual discipline which could preserve the new political liberty. It was a program for centuries to come."

The trustees evidently thought they had performed all their important duties for when the time for their next meeting rolled around, November 4, 1801, only five members reported. On November 5 six answered to their names. On the sixth the same six members were present, on the ninth only six appeared. On the tenth only three and on the eleventh eight. It had required six days to get a quorum. Then they remained in session three days and transacted business.

Meanwhile the committee on providing the collegiate building had been directed to proceed and make the necessary contracts. The new dwelling for President Meigs was nearing completion. What little money the Board had on hand was rapidly running out and the Board authorized the President to ask the legislature to lend the University five thousand dollars. This was done and the money was forthcoming, the State taking a mortgage on the lands of the University to secure the loan.

The President was asked to "continue his attention to students in their rudiments at Athens, until a sufficient number, in his opinion, shall attend, to justify an appointment of a teacher, in which he be authorized to appoint one, and the Board will provide a suitable and adequate compensation." This would indicate that there were a few students in attendance at that time, November 13, 1801. Just where they put them is not known, for in March 1802 the Board passed a resolution
"that the President be advised to contract for putting up one or more log buildings for temporary school rooms."

This was done and for the first two years the students were taught in these log houses.

The erection of the collegiate building had been started. On account of more or less difficulty in getting supplies and the money with which to pay for them, the work moved forward slowly.

President Meigs had brought with him the plans of Connecticut Hall, one of the main buildings on the Yale campus and the new building for the University of Georgia was to conform to those plans. Both buildings are still standing. They look very much alike, save for the roofs. The Connecticut Hall roof is a Mansard roof; the University of Georgia building has a hip roof. The brick for the new collegiate building was made a few miles from the college grounds within the limits of the county that had been authorized by the legislature and had been given the name of Clarke, in honor of General Elijah Clarke, the Revolutionary victor in the battle of Kettle Creek, and the new town that was to be built around the University had been named Athens.

The most difficult job was getting the necessary lime and nails. Lime was especially hard to get. The greater part of the lime used in the erection of the college building was brought from the port of Savannah up the Savannah river on flatboats to Augusta and across the county by mile or ox teams to Athens. On this account it was not only hard to get but was very expensive. The lime used in the new collegiate building cost more than three thousand dollars. Some of it was brought through the Indian country from Tennessee to Athens. One bill for the transporting of lime from Augusta to Athens was seven hundred dollars.

The Trustees were not yet cured of their habit of non-attendance on the meetings of the Board for in November 1802 the same old trouble bobbed up and it took three days to get a quorum so that business could be transacted.

At this time there was reported an increase in the faculty. President Meigs was no longer the sole member. He had been authorized by the Board of Trustees to
employ a teacher if, in his judgment, the number of students made that step necessary. Evidently President Meigs thought it was more than one man could do to satisfactorily manage an institution and do all its teaching, so he told the Board that he had employed William H. Jones as a professor of Languages. The Board fixed his salary at five hundred dollars per annum.

A NEAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

The Trustees had been asking citizens of Georgia interested in Education to help the University in a financial way in order to meet necessary payments on its new buildings, and the response to the requests for aid was not very encouraging.

But on December 20, 1802, they received a real neat Christmas gift when they came into session in Louisville on that day. President Meigs handed to the Secretary a letter and the secretary read it. The faces of the Board members were wreathed in smiles. This was the letter:

"Louisville, 20th Nov. 1802

"Sir:

Impressed with a lively sense of the liberality of the Legislature and Executive of the State, in relinquishing the claim set up on the part of the State, and quieting my claim to the Estate of my deceased Uncle, Brigadier-General James Gunn, I am prompted by gratitude for those distinguished marks of public favor to fix my attention on some public institution the usefulness and influence of which it may be considered of the first importance to the happiness and independence of the people to promote and extend.

"The University over which you preside confessedly embracing those objects, I have to request their acceptance of one thousand dollars for the present, which will be paid by my esteemed friend, Major Maxwell, in the city of Savannah in ten days from this date, to any person appointed to receive the same.

"With sentiments of great respect and esteem

James Gunn

"Josiah Meigs, Esq.

"President of the University of Georgia."
It wasn't quite Christmas Day, but it was only five days away. The Trustees had been hanging up the University stocking for several months and were perfectly willing to let Mr. Gunn play Santa Claus a little early. So they sent him a copy of the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the thanks of the Board be presented to the said James Gunn for his donation, with the assurance that it shall be faithfully applied to the purposes intended; as the same will appear from the collegiate Records of the University."

In his letter Mr. Gunn had used the words "one thousand dollars for the present." That seemed to be an intimation that more might be coming at a later date. It may have been a pleasant dream for the Trustees, but it never came true. There were other men in Georgia who might have been equally as generous as Mr. Gunn, but it was many years before another gift of equal size came to the institution.

James Gunn was a nephew of Brigadier-General James Gunn, who in some way was mixed up in the Yazoo Fraud. The State of Georgia had relinquished its claim against the General's estate and that cleared the title to James Gunn's property and he was expressing his gratitude for that turn of the wheel of fortune.

**ADMISSION OF STUDENTS**

In view of the small number of preparatory schools or academies in Georgia in the opening days of the nineteenth century, the requirements for admission of a student to the University of Georgia might be justly termed quite strict. That was unquestionably true since President Meigs, who framed the admission requirements copied them almost verbatim from those at Yale College, as published in "The Laws of Yale College," enacted by the President and Fellows on the sixth day of October, 1797, and in force in 1800, in which year they were printed by Thomas Green and Son, of New Haven, Connecticut.

The following were the admission requirements submitted by President Meigs and adopted by the Trustees:
"No one shall be admitted unless he shall be found able to read, translate and parse Cicero, Virgil and the Greek Testament and to write true Latin in prose, and shall also have learned the rules of vulgar arithmetic, and shall produce satisfactory evidence of a blameless life and conversation, nor until some sufficient person shall have given bond for the payment of the quarter bills."

Those are the exact words of the Yale admission requirements except instead of "Cicero and Virgil" in the University of Georgia requirements, "Tully and Virgil" appear in the Yale requirements.

There is a remarkable similarity between the Yale and Georgia rules of government in a number of provisions, showing that President Meigs had set up a college government very similar to that of Yale.

Each institution provided for a Prudential Committee, selected from its governing body of Trustees. Such a committee existed in the University of Georgia down to the creation of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia January 1, 1932.

The four classes in the University of Georgia were for several years known as Freshmen, Sophomores, Junior Sophisters and Senior Sophisters, as at Yale at that time.

Here is a rule, promulgated by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of President Meigs that appears word for word in "The Laws of Yale College" in 1800:

"It shall be the duty of the Senior Class to inspect the lower classes and especially the Freshman Class and to instruct them therein in the customs of the College, and in that graceful and decent behaviour toward superiors which politeness and a just and reasonable subordination requires." That rule has been in the discard for a long, long time, even if it was ever really and thoroughly enforced.

Many look upon the action of upperclassmen now in requiring Freshmen to wear red caps and not walk under the Arch as being a custom of rather recent origin, while as a matter of fact it stems from a rule that can be found in the Yale Book of Laws, not the specific requirements as to red caps and walking under the Arch.
but the custom of requiring Freshmen to occupy a subordinate position.

Here is the Yale rule of 1800:

"Every Freshman shall be obliged to do any proper errand, or message, for the authority of the College, and likewise, within the limits of one mile from the College, for the resident graduates and the two upperclasses, when required; which if any Freshman refuse, he may be punished by fine or otherwise, according to the degree of the offense; provided, nevertheless, that no graduate or undergraduate shall send a Freshman on errand in studying hours. And if any graduate or undergraduate shall abuse any Freshman by sending him on any needless, unreasonable, or vexatious errand, or errands, he shall make satisfaction to the person abused, which, if he still refuse, he shall, as the case may require, be deprived of the privilege of sending Freshmen on errands, or otherwise punished."

This rule was abolished in 1804.

Yale had a rule requiring attendance on religious exercises. Georgia had such a rule until in recent years. In a way it still exists to some extent in the weekly assembly, though the addresses there are not of a strictly religious nature.

Yale had a rule to fine a student three cents for each absence from recitation and six cents for not declaiming. Georgia once had a rule imposing a fine of five dollars for exceeding a certain number of absences from recitation.

While there were points of variation, in the main the Georgia rules for the government of faculty and students in many ways resembled the Yale pattern. It was not unnatural that it should have been so, for Neige was a product of Yale and from the standpoint of a professor and an executive, that was the system with which he was familiar.

Work on the new college building was proceeding slowly and the twenty or thirty students had to be accommodated in some way, so for the time being the Trustees bargained with Daniel W. Basley to erect a wooden building twenty feet square and one and one-half stories high, and it is recorded that at the meeting of the Board on March 19, 1803, Basley was paid $187.27, the cost of the building.
The Board of Trustees met in Louisville November 9, 1803. A quorum was present. In fact, there was scarcely a meeting after 1803 when there was a lack of a quorum. The members seemed to be taking more interest in the new institution whose progress they were engaged in promoting.

They discussed the manner in which the interior of the new college building should be finished, since the walls and roof had now been completed, and a resolution was passed "that the walls and partitions shall be plastered (sic) and the ceilings (sic) overhead be finished with plank." Incidentally, the writer may remark that the lumber used in those days was first-class, for he can recall those plank ceilings as they appeared when he slept in a room in that building eighty years later and the planks showed no sign of decay and, as he writes these lines tonight in his sitting room he looks upward to a ceiling made of twelve inch heart pine that was put there when the second brick building was erected on the campus one hundred and twenty-four years ago.

At this meeting of the Board of Trustees President Meigs made his first annual report. Subsequent to that time more than one hundred and forty reports have been made to the Trustees by the executive heads of the University of Georgia, and, while reference hereafter may be made to some of the suggestions made therein, none of them will be included in full in this story of the University. But this first report will be given in full, representing as it does the very beginning of the institution. President Meigs was evidently feeling good over what had been accomplished, in fact, his feelings were much more optimistic than they were a few years later, when he laid down his work.

"Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees:

"When I left Athens, which was on the sixth day of this month, the outside walls of the collegiate Building in that place were finished, and the rafters were employed in carrying up the partition walls, which, I believe, will be finished
within ten days. The carpenter began to raise the frame of the Roof on Monday last - he has finished the window sashes, the Doors, and the shingles for the Roof; he has his plank ready and well-seasoned for flooring, and every other article requisite to the complete execution of his contract.

"Three dwelling houses, three stores, and a number of other valuable buildings have been erected on the lots on Front (now Broad) street; several other buildings I believe are contracted for, and numerous applications have been made to me for lots on the street (now Clayton street) which it has been contemplated to lay out on the North of, and parallel to Front street.

"The Students and the Citizens and Inhabitants of Athens and its vicinity have been remarkably healthy during this year, as they were in the year 1802. The Spring in the neighborhood of the college has at least not failed as to the quantity of water; and I have reasons to believe that it has increased.

"The number of Students this year has been between thirty and forty-five.

"My object has been to organize the four classes which usually constitute the Collegiate family in our literary institutions in the United States and in those of Europe. Twelve young gentlemen compose the Senior Class; they are pursuing with laudable ambition and singular industry a course of reading, study and academic exercises, which it has been expected would terminate by the first of May next, at which time it is believed they will merit the honour of the first degree, usually conferred in all regular collegiate establishments.

"The Students of the Senior Class have been subjected to peculiar inconveniences and embarrassments in their progress, from the want of Books and Instruments, as have also the students of the inferior Classes, though in a less degree.

"It is probable, from the information I have received, that the Philosophical apparatus, and a valuable, though small, selection of Books, are now on the passage from London to Savannah. This apparatus I am confident will be at least equal in real utility to any belonging to any literary institution in the United States."
Such is the actual state of things, on which it is proper you should receive information.

"I hope the Board will be able to proceed without delay to the completion and finishing of the interior of the Building, as well as to execution on their part of existing contracts: But, for this purpose, it is well-known that they have need of more active property than is now at their disposal.

"Since the period of the American Revolution numerous attempts have been made in various parts of the Union, and particularly in the middle and southern states to found and establish colleges; most of which have unfortunately proved abortive. It would be a subject of deep regret to every lover of his fellow men, if such should be the fate of the institution which is in a peculiar manner entrusted to your care. You have in less than two years done much, if you compare the effects of your labours with those of the directors of the ancient similar institutions of William and Mary in Virginia, Cambridge in Massachusetts, and Yale in Connecticut. None of those colleges have more than 200 students, though they have been in existence from 100 to 170 years.

"I regret that so little attention has been paid to the support and encouragement of the different county Academies. Their situation demands attention. On very many accounts it is to be wished that they may be furnished with teachers able to qualify the youth of the State (by teaching particularly the learned languages) for admission into the Collegiate family at Athens.

"Permit me to suggest whether a union of the funds and resources of two, three or more counties, might not produce a respectable academy in such United District.

"I have also to request your attention to the importance of erecting a Building at Athens for the purpose of public worship and the public exercises of the Students.

"Such a Building should be spacious enough to accommodate on the lower floor as large an assembly as usually meets for public worship, and on the upper floor it should contain apartments for the Library, for the Philosophical and Mathematical
apparatus, for the meetings of the Board of Visitors and Trustees, and for the preservation of their papers and Records.

"It would probably be the best economy to erect such building of Brick, since there is a fair prospect of a wagon Road through the Western Country to South West Point, which will enable you to procure lime at a moderate expense in comparison with that which has been already incurred for that necessary article.

"The activity and industry of the Directors of literary institutions in the other states - the immense County opening to our view between us and the Pacific Ocean - the want of Education for the bare purpose of reducing new Countries to pleasant fields - and particularly the absolute and indispensable necessity of the diffusion of learning and science among any people who wish to be either politically or religiously free; concur in inciting you to perseverance in that laudable progress you have already made in the execution of the important trust committed to your wisdom and prudence.

"I am, Gentlemen,

"Very respectfully yours,

"J. Meigs."

THE UNIVERSITY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

President Meigs had evidently pointed out to the Trustees the need for a Grammar School as an increasing number of boys were seeking admission who were not sufficiently prepared to go on with their work in the University. So the Trustees resolved unanimously "that the Prudential Committee be authorized and directed to erect and establish at Athens, as soon as the state of the funds will permit, a Grammar School for the purpose of qualifying youths for admission into the University, and for furnishing the means of acquiring a good English education, and that the said school be under the special superintendence and direction of the President."

Six months later nothing had been done towards providing this Grammar School. This delay was not due to negligence or indifference. The money was not in hand.
with which to erect the building. But the Trustees on May 31, 1804, got busy and resolved, "That the Prudential Committee or a majority of them do proceed immediately to contract with some person or persons, to erect a framed building one story high with two brick chimneys and underpinned with brick or stone, for the purpose of accommodating the grammar school; that two lots, each one acre, be reserved for the above purpose, and the building placed on one of them in such situation as the aforesaid committee may think most eligible, and the funds, or so much thereof as may be necessary for that purpose, arising from the sale of the vacant lots, be and the same is hereby appropriated for erecting the aforesaid building."

The committee carried out these instructions speedily and in a little less than six months, on November 9, 1804, reported to the Trustees that "a contract had been made with Daniel W. Easley for the building of a house for a Grammar School on the square of the University, for the sum of one thousand and forty-three dollars and that according to the terms of the contract Mr. Easley hath erected the said house of the dimensions specified in the order of this Board. That the same is well built and completed except glazing and hanging the doors, which will be done in a few days." It was reported that eight lots in the town of Athens had been sold in order to get the necessary amount of money with which to pay for the new building. Shrewd old Daniel was making some extra money out of the University aside from the land he had sold to Governor Milledge.

The exact location of the building is not mentioned, other than that it was built "on the square of the University" which corresponds to the old campus block bounded by Broad, Lumpkin, Baldwin and Jackson Street. Tradition has it that the new Grammar School building stood somewhere in the rear of Old College about where the Strahan House and the Law Building now stand.

The Grammar School was fairly well patronized. At one time in later years it had seventy pupils enrolled, though that number was far in excess of the number that attended during the administration of President Neige. Fees were charged the
pupils in the Grammar School and its expenses were met with the sum of money thus received. It was not a popular place, for the students in the University held themselves above the Grammar School boys and at times treated them unmercifully. The Grammar School was finally used as a method of discipline. For lack of attention to his studies or failure in his work a student could be banished to the Grammar School as a punishment and the students considered such as a disgrace. The Grammar School went out of its existence in 1829, when the attendance of students in the University had increased to a point where the school was not so badly needed as it had been. And then, too, the Grammar School had become so unpopular as to bring about a clamor for its removal.

THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS

May 31, 1804

The University of Georgia had been in operation almost three years and those in charge were fully satisfied with its progress, even though it was not all that its founders had predicted or desired, beset as it was by many different situations incident to a new institution with inadequate financial support that was blazing a new path through the educational forest.

The time had come for its first graduates to be sent forth. President Meigs had done all the teaching of the members of his class. They were distinctly his product and he presented them with great pride on this first Commencement occasion. The program of exercises had been prepared with great care and the boys and their relatives looked forward to this first graduation day with the keenest anticipated pleasure.

These exercises were held on May 31, 1804, a day full of sunshine and some foreshadowing of summer heat. The question arose as to where the exercises should be held. There was no room large enough to accommodate more than thirty or forty people. The new college building was still under construction. So, through necessity, it was decided to hold the Commencement exercises out in the open beneath the trees. The trees were not close enough together to fully keep out the
rays of the sun, so an arbor was built and covered with leafy boughs. It was just in front of the eastern end of the unfinished college building, in the space in front of the present library building.

Under this brush arbor the graduating exercises were held, presided over by President Josiah Meigs and in the presence of the members of the Board of Trustees. A large number of people gathered to witness something the nature of which most of them could only surmise. They had not the slightest idea that they were taking part in exercises of historic nature, and yet they were witnessing the delivery of diplomas to the first graduates of the oldest chartered state university in America. There is no record of those who made up that first commencement audience, but probably on the outskirts of the crowd there were a few Cherokee Indians, for their hunting grounds were not far distant from the campus. The absence of one man was noticed, General Elijah Clarke for whom the new county had been named and whose brilliant son, Gibson, was the first honor man of the class and delivered the valedictory address. General Clarke had died a few years prior to that time. RKKK xxxxxxlyxx, a distinguished Georgian who was soon to be elected Governor of Georgia, was there to witness the graduation of his two sons, Thomas and Jared.

The commencement exercises were opened with prayer by the Reverend Mr. Marshall. William H. Jackson, second honor man of the class was given the honor and the privilege of delivering the salutatory oration.

Jas. Irvin  

Mr. Irwin was the next speaker. The subject of his oration was "The Advantages Possessed by the United States over the Governments in Europe."

Thomas Irwin spoke in praise of Virtue and the necessity of expressing it by Example.

The graduating class was not without its poet for Augustin Smith Clayton read a poem descriptive of the means by which the lands on the Oconee were obtained. He described the former possessors and contrasted them with the present owners and made a prediction of the future greatness of the institution. Just wmaa was in the poem cannot be told for no record of it was kept.
Presumptively it was a comparison between Wild Indians and cultured white men. But old Daniel Hasley, the miller, was also a former possessor of those lands, a rough but cunning old fellow who was pretty sharp on a trade, and John Milledge, a governor of Georgia, was on the other end of the bargain. There is little probability, however, that the comparison was between Hasley and Milledge.

Back in those days dialogues were to be found on all programs. They furnished much fun and served to break the monotony of too many and too long speeches. They are no longer found on commencement programs, but in those times they served their purpose well. So now came a dialogue between Negroes Williams, Jackson and Harris. Just what jokes they pulled, whether they made any sly references to the faculty (President Meigs) or whether their lines had already been censored is not recorded.

Then came an oration in gratitude to France for her assistance during the Revolutionary War and at the time of the cession of Louisiana, delivered by James W. D. Jackson.

Next was an oration by Robert Rutherford on the dignity of man and an exhortation to attain to a knowledge of the Arts and Sciences. Then followed an oration in praise of a representative government and the sciences by William Williamson.

By that time in all probability the audience was ready for more fun and Jared Irwin, James W. D. Jackson, Robert Rutherford and Augustin S. Clayton put on a dialogue.

 Ebenezer Harlow (Cumming), Bachelor of Arts, Hampden Sidney College, who had been awarded the Master of Arts degree, ad eundem, gave a disquisition on .

 Gideon Clarke, first honor, delivered the Valedictory address and the Commencement of 1834 was over.

 It should be noted that A. L. Hull in his alumni catalogue, published in 1906, lists Williams Rutherford as a graduate in this first class, explaining that he had completed all the work but was ill during examination week. The minutes of the Board of Trustees place him among the graduates in the Class of 1807. It
may have been that he was graduated as of the Class of 1804 but that is not
recorded in the minutes. In essence he was a graduate of the Class of 1804.

The graduating class of 1804 was made up of young men of strong mentality as
evidenced by their achievements in after life. Just how much of their success
was attributable to their college training cannot be determined, but if there is
anything of value in a college education it must have been a strong and determin-
ing element in their lives. That training of course in largest measure came to
them through the ability and energy of Josiah Meigs, for in those beginning years
he was the faculty of the University, at first the only member and a little later
on assisted by one professor and one young tutor.

The life story of each of these graduates is at this time recorded and as
a start on the long, long record of the achievements of the sons of the University
of Georgia, it is a record of which the University even after the lapse of nearly
a century and a half may well be proud.

It is doubtful whether the available records show the names of all the
students who attended the University in its earlier years. The names of all those
who graduated are recorded, but it is not likely that every boy who was in at-
tendance graduated. Hence the list will of necessity be incomplete, and it will
be impossible to record the achievements of all, but for the first few years the
life story of each graduate will be given insofar as available records make it
possible. Thereafter only those lives of outstanding prominence can be so described
in detail.

GIBSON CLARK

Gibson Clark was a son of General Elijah Clarke, soldier of the American
Revolution, commanding the Colonial forces at the battle of Kettle Creek, for whom
the County of Clarke, wherein had been located the University of Georgia, was
named. Just why the old general put an "e" on the end of his name or why his sons
left it off is one of the mysteries that have defied research. John Clark, a
brother of Gibson, was Governor of Georgia and one of the central figures in the
bitter factional fight between his supporters and those of Governor George M. Troup.

Gibson Clark was probably born in Wilkes county, Georgia. As he entered the University of Georgia in 1801 as one of its first students, he must have been born about 1784, the year in which Gov. Hall first suggested an institution for higher learning in Georgia. He was a young man of brilliant intellect, was the first honor student in his class and was class valedictorian. He chose law as his profession and was a graduate of the Litchfield Law School. That school in Connecticut was at that time probably the best law school in America and many Southern boys attended there. He became a practicing attorney in Lincoln county, Georgia. In 1810 he was elected to the lower house of the General Assembly of Georgia and served as such for a period of four years. In 1814 he was elected as a state senator and served two years. For the next nine years he practiced his profession and in 1825 was chosen as Solicitor for the Okmulgee Circuit.

He was well-versed in the details of government and took his place among many distinguished men in opposition to the federal tariff. Meanwhile he had moved into Henry County, from which county he was sent as a delegate to the Anti-Tariff Convention in Milledgeville in 1832. In 1834 he is found taking interest in the educational affairs in Henry county, serving as a trustee of Henry County Academy, McDonough, Georgia, in 1834.

In 1836 he was a member of the Electoral College, supporting Van Buren for the presidency. He still took keen interest in everything that militated against the tariff and in 1839 was for a second time a member of the Anti-Tariff Convention. He died in Mississippi in middle age about 1840.

AUGUSTIN SMITH CLAYTON

Augustin Smith Clayton was a native of Virginia, having been born in Fredericksburg November 27, 1783. He was a resident of the Old Dominion only one year, for in 1784 his parents moved to Richmond County, Georgia. He received his pre-college education in Augusta, Georgia. In 1783, the year in which he was
born, the General Assembly of the State of Georgia, among its first acts after the independence of the state had been acknowledged by Great Britain, granted a charter to Richmond Academy in Augusta. Having graduated from that institution, young Clayton entered the University of Georgia in the fall of 1801 as one of its first students.

He was endowed with literary talent and was especially fond of debating. He was the founder of the Demosthenian Literary Society of the University of Georgia. There has been much wrangling over the question as to exactly when that society was founded. Some say 1801, others 1803. The preserved records give no answer. The latter date is probably correct, as the University had barely started its work in the fall of 1801 and a beginning student would probably not have succeeded in the organization of a society in two or three months after entering the University.

President Washington visited several places in the South in 1791 and among others Richmond Academy, that had attracted national attention even though only eight years old. Young Clayton, a seven year old boy, was attending the Academy, and in a declamation contest had won a prize. President Washington delivered the prizes to the happy winners and in the hands of Augustin S. Clayton he placed a copy of "Sallust" that became one of the most valued possessions of the young boy and in after years of his children and grandchildren.

After graduating from Richmond Academy he became a student in the University of Georgia, made a fine record there and was a member of the first graduating class in that institution in 1804.

Judge Thomas P. Carnes was in those days one of the leading jurists of the state. He was judge of the Superior Courts of the Circuit and held the first court ever held in Clarke county in 1801. Young Clayton had made up his mind to study law and he was fortunate in securing the consent of Judge Carnes to direct his legal education. He was admitted to the bar during a session of the court in Washington, Georgia, in 1806. He may have had method in his madness in selecting Judge Carnes as his teacher, for on December 20, 1807, he was married in Augusta,
to Miss Julia Carnes, the accomplished daughter of his preceptor. Nine children blessed their union, of whom the youngest, a daughter, Augusta, became the wife of Dr. William King, and their daughter, Julia Carnes King, became the wife of Henry Woodfin Grady, the great Southern editor and orator.

Augustin S. Clayton first located in Franklin county in the little town that was called Carnesville, in honor of the Judge, but after practicing there one year he moved to Athens where for the remainder of his life he was an honored citizen. Although but twenty-seven years of age and a citizen of Clarke County for only two years he was, in 1810, elected as a member of the Georgia legislature from that county and served during the years 1810, 1811, and 1812. For fifteen years it is said that he was the only lawyer living in Athens. In 1812 he was made Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia and in 1816 became a member of the Board, serving in that capacity until his death in 1829.

In 1813, 1814, and 1815 he served as Clerk of the Georgia House of Representatives.

In 1819 he was elected Judge of the Superior Courts of the Western Circuit, serving as such six years. In 1826 he was sent to the State Senate for two years, and in 1826 was again elected as Superior Court Judge and held that office until 1831. By this time he was taking a more or less active interest in politics and in 1828 was a presidential elector on the Democratic ticket of Jackson and Calhoun. In politics he was a consistent states-rights Democrat.

In 1831 Wilson Lumpkin resigned his place in Congress and to the vacancy thus created Augustin S. Clayton was elected. He was re-elected in 1833 and served until 1835. He retired from public life at that time.

Judge Clayton was not only a great lawyer; he was also a polished writer and was much interested in the industrial development of his state. As a young man, at the request of the Georgia legislature, he had compiled all the laws of the state from 1800 to 1810. He also prepared a volume "Forms for Justices of the Peace and other Public Officers." This book was of great value to those officers and was among the first of its kind published in the South. He was the author of
the satire, "The Mysterious Picture by Wrangham Fitzramble" and also published "Georgia Justice." He was the reputed author of Crockett's Life of Van Buren.

He became interested in the cotton mill industry and was the moving spirit among those who organized a company in 1827 and built a cotton mill on the Oconee River four miles south of Athens, known as Georgia Factory, which was one of the first cotton mills built south of the Potomac river, if not indeed the very first. He was also interested in railroad building which, of course, was then in its pioneer days. There were only two or three railroads in the United States and the Georgia Railroad, built from Augusta to Athens and later on extended from Union Point to Atlanta, was one of them. Judge Clayton was chiefly responsible for securing the charter for the Georgia Railroad in 1836.

After his retirement from Congress in 1835 he practiced law again in Athens and the surrounding country until 1838. In that year he was stricken with paralysis and on June 21, 1839, died at his home in Athens at the age of fifty-six years. The county of Clayton was given its name by the State of Georgia in his honor and the street in Athens on which he lived so many years bears his name. His residence was a rambling one-story wooden structure with about eight or ten rooms and stood on the north side of Clayton street about half way between Jackson and Thomas streets.

JEPTHA VINING HARRIS

Jeptha Vining Harris was a native of Elbert County, born April 27, 1762. His parents were well-to-do farmers in that section and able to give their son the best educational advantages. He entered the University of Georgia in 1801 and was among those who organized the Demosthenian Literary Society in that institution.

A few months after his graduation he married Sara Hunt, an attractive Alabama girl and brought her to his Elbert County home. Twelve children were born to them, and one of his daughters, Sarah, born in 1814, married Tinsley White Rucker, a well-known planter in Elbert county. Two of their sons, Jeptha V. and Tinsley W. Rucker were graduated from the University of Georgia in the Classes of 1866 and 1872, respectively.
Jeptha V. Harris became an able lawyer and also had extensive agricultural interests in Elbert County. He represented that county in the Georgia legislature in 1811 and 1812 and in 1825 was elected to the State Senate. Later on he moved to Athens and lived there until his death.

During the war of 1812 he was a Brigadier General, 1st Brigade 4th Division, Georgia Militia and later on became a Major-General. During the Indian War he was a Colonel in the national army.

He served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia from 1832 to 1856. He died at his home in Athens December 5, 1856. Harris street in that city was given its name in his honor.

He was very much devoted to the University.

Six of his sons were graduated from the University of Georgia:

James Walton Harris, Class of 1825
William Littleton Harris, Class of 1825
George Hunt Harris, Class of 1825
Jeptha Vining Harris, Class of 1836
Elijah Wills Harris, Class of 1839
Eugene Upson Harris, Class of 1846

Jared Irwin was the son of Governor Jared Irwin, who in his early life lived in Burke county, Georgia, but afterwards in Washington county. His father was a faithful soldier in the War of the Revolution and was Governor of Georgia under whose administration the order was issued to destroy all the papers of the infamous Yazoo fraud.

Young Irwin, after graduating in 1804, at the University of Georgia, attended the University of Pennsylvania, from which institution he received the degree of M.D. He was a planter and physician in Washington county for several years and was killed in 1836 in a battle with the Indians.
Thomas Irwin was the second son of Governor Jared Irwin. After his graduation in 1804 he studied law and was admitted to the bar in Washington county. In 1807 the University of Georgia conferred on him the degree of Master of Arts.

At the fifth commencement of the University of Georgia, July 4, 1808, Mr. Irwin read the Declaration of Independence as part of the public exercises of that day. Jared Irwin, governor of Georgia at that time and a member of the Board of Trustees, was present at the meeting.

Thomas Irwin was cut off in his youth, dying on November 23, 1809, at his father's residence in Washington county, in the twenty-third year of his age.

William Henry Jackson was the son of Governor James Jackson, who in front of the state capitol in Louisville, Georgia, used a sun-glass with which to draw fire from heaven to ignite the pile of papers containing everything connected with the infamous Yazoo Fraud.

He was born in Savannah, Georgia, June 3, 1786 and entered the University of Georgia at the age of fifteen, graduating four days before he reached his eighteenth birthday. He died August 8, 1875, in the ninetieth year of his life.

In the University he ranked high as a student, winning second honor in the graduating class and delivering the salutatory address at commencement. He married Mildred Lewis Cobb in 1808. Their son, James, became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. While in college William Henry Jackson helped organize the Demosthenian Literary Society.

He was a great lover of nature and devoted the greater part of his life to farming. His life was typical of the old-time Georgia planter. He lived in Jefferson county a while, then moved to Savannah, but in a short time returned to Jefferson county, where for a number of years he lived upon a farm near Louisville.

He manifested a lively interest in public affairs, was a representative from
Chatham county in the Georgia legislature in 1813 and from Jefferson county in 1817 and 1818, as well as serving in the State Senate in 1821 and 1822. From Jefferson county he moved to Athens and spent the latter half of his life in that city.

On his place in Athens stood a beautiful oak tree and he delighted from time to time to sit beneath its leafy boughs and enjoy hours of meditation. As the years rolled by his love for that tree grew and grew, and he began to think of the time when it might shelter his loved ones after he had passed on. So he conceived the idea of deeding the ground on which the tree stood to the tree itself. Of course, he knew that a legal and binding deed could not be made to the tree itself, but he relied on the tender sentiment embodied in the transfer of title to guarantee the observance of the terms of the gift.

A deed was drawn up conveying to the old oak tree eight feet of land in all directions in fee simple forever, the consideration being the love and affection he bore the tree. The deed naturally could not be recorded in the deed book of Clarke county, but he showed it to quite a number of his friends establishing the fact that he had thus transferred the title to the land to the tree itself.

That old oak tree, that stood on the corner of Dearing and Findley streets, Athens, Georgia, thus became the first tree in the world to own itself and for a full century it was the only tree in the world that had that distinction. In recent years a number of trees throughout the nation have been given this sentimental distinction. The old tree survived its donor sixty-eight years. Two heavy sleet storms broke several of its largest limbs and decay did its work at its roots. Great care was taken to preserve it by building up the soil around it. Through the interest of Mr. George Foster Peabody, of New York, granite posts linked by iron chains marked off its titled possessions and inside the enclosure was placed a marble tablet on which were carved the words of the deed. In 1943 those living in that neighborhood heard a loud crash early one morning. They rushed out to see what occasioned the noise. The old tree had utterly collapsed.
William H. Jackson, throughout his long life, was devotedly attached to the University of Georgia. In 1822 he was named as a member of the Board of Trustees and served as such forty-two years, resigning in 1864 when he had reached the age of seventy-seven.

**JAMES WAYNE DELTON JACKSON**

James Wayne Delton Jackson is the way it stands on the records. Later on it appears as "James D." Jackson, and then it becomes simply "James" Jackson. But all three refer to the same man. He was a son of Governor James Jackson and a brother of William Henry Jackson, also a graduate of the University of Georgia in the Class of 1804. He was born in Savannah, Georgia, December 20, 1787, entered the University in 1801 at the age of fourteen and graduated before he was seventeen.

He was a member of the Georgia House of Representatives from Jefferson county 1810 and 1811. He served for a while in the War of 1812 as Captain of the Jefferson Hussars, 1st Cavalry, Georgia Militia. He must have entered the teaching profession about that time though there is no available record touching his life for a few years.

In 1827 he was elected Professor of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry and Geology in the University of Georgia. He resigned the chair of Natural Philosophy in 1842 and was succeeded by Charles F. McCay. He retained the chair of Chemistry until 1850, when he resigned after having been a member of the University faculty for twenty-seven years. At that time that term of service was the longest to the credit of any member of the faculty, though in later years several members of the faculty have served over fifty years and one (Professor Charles H. Strahan) has a record of sixty-two years continuous service.

Concerning the services of Professor Jackson as a member of the University faculty more will be written later. He died in 1857, having rounded out his three score years and ten.
ROBERT WALTER RUTHERFORD

Robert Walter Rutherford was the son of Col. John Rutherford, who had come from South Carolina and settled in Wilkes county, Georgia, in 1763. He was born April 1, 1786, in Wilkes county (that part of the county now being Warren county). In 1790 his parents moved to Washington county and settled near Sandersville.

Schools in which Latin and Greek were taught were very few in Georgia, but Mr. Hamilton Posey was teaching in such a school near the Rutherford home and in 1799 young Rutherford entered that school. On March 4, 1802, he entered the University with some advanced credit and graduated two years later.

He chose law as his profession, read law for a while in the office of Judge Skrine, of Sandersville, and then studied under Judge Reeve at Litchfield, Connecticut. In 1807 he returned to Georgia and began the practice of law in Milledgeville. In that town in 1808 he married Elizabeth Howard.

Miller, in his "Bench and Bar of Georgia", tells the following story concerning Robert Rutherford: "At a session of the legislature, Jones, a small man, complained to Robert that Scott, a tall, strong man, had challenged him to a sword fight. Robert told General John Scott that he must fight Jones with pistols or he (Robert) would fight in place of Jones. The fight was called off."

But Robert Rutherford was not destined to live long. In 1822 he contracted malarial fever and died in his thirty-seventh year. He was an ardent member of the party of Thomas Jefferson, then known as the Republican and later on as the Democratic party, but he never sought office or permitted his friends to use his name as a candidate for any office.

WILLIAM WILLIAMSON

Nicajah Williamson moved to Georgia in 1768 and settled on a plantation in Wilkes county. William Williamson was one of his five sons. One of his sisters became the wife of Governor John Clark. Judge Garnett Andrews said that William Williamson was the first white child born in Wilkes county. In his younger days...
he served in the State Militia and was active in protecting the Cherokee Indians
and filled several positions during the years when adjustments of differences
with the Cherokees took place. He represented Twiggs County in the Georgia
legislature in 1819 and 1821, was later appointed agent of the State and sub-
commander of the Guard for the protection of gold miners in the county of
Cherokee and for assisting in the enforcement of the laws of the state. He
served as a member of the state legislature from Cherokee county in 1832 and
again in 1847. In 1848 he was named as principal keeper of the state penitentiary
and filled that position until 1851.

THE SKIES BRIGHTEN

Three years had passed since the opening. They had been three years of
steady work and earnest effort. Lands had been leased and sold and were continuing
to be leased and sold. There was no surplus money floating around, but nevertheless
the financial obligations had been fairly well met. The new college building had
not been completed or paid for but it was well on the way. No great number of
students had enrolled, but the attendance was fully up to what could be expected
for such a young institution with so small a population upon whom to call for
support.

But with the first graduation exercises over and the graduates having left for
their homes the Trustees felt rather jubilant and expressed their satisfaction
by inscribing in the minutes the following statement: “The Board has with pleasure
and satisfaction beheld the great and rapid improvement in science of the students
at the University, and felicitate themselves on the prospect of the institution
becoming conspicuously and eminently useful to the community.” The sun was
shining, the skies were brightening and everybody connected with the University
was elated. Dark days would come and they would be darker than those through which
the institution had already passed, but just then the outlook was fine.

President Keigs had done a good job and an addition of five hundred dollars
was made to his salary, raising it to two thousand dollars per annum.
Addin Lewis was appointed as a tutor in the University at a salary of eight hundred dollars.

It was decided to appoint a Master of the Grammar School at a salary of six hundred dollars per annum.

A drive was inaugurated to get more money. The five thousand acre tract of land in Hancock county was sold for twenty thousand dollars payable by instalments, one of which in the sum of four thousand dollars had been received. The Grammar School building was soon to be completed and ready for occupancy, and the new college building was nearing completion. Thus the year between the commencement of 1804 and that of 1805 was a period of much satisfaction and enthusiasm.

The trustees were looking forward to still further development of the service of the University to the youth of Georgia and felt themselves able to make an addition to the faculty when the Board met on May 29, 1805.

Very few institutions in the United States up to that time had paid any attention to the teaching of the French language if, indeed, any of them had done so, but President Magie had a leaning towards France and wished to add French to the studies required in the University over which he was presiding. So he recommended that a professor of the French language be appointed and the Trustees adopted his recommendation.

The Trustees minutes show that Monsieur Petit, of Savannah, was unanimously appointed Professor of the French language on May 29, 1805. As a matter of fact his name was Petit de Claville. It is believed that he was the first professor of French in any American college. His salary was fixed at four hundred dollars, but it was agreed that "when the funds of the institution shall warrant an increase in salary and the labours of the Professor shall merit it, the Board will make an adequate compensation." His salary was increased at a later date.

THE CLASS OF 1805

The graduating class of 1805 was small in number, only four members receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the annual commencement.
The closing exercises were held on May 29, 1805, with the following program:

Prayer by the Reverend Hope Mall.

A salutatory oration in Latin by Wilson Bird.

An English oration by Gabriel Mathis.

A Forensic disputation on the question: Have moral causes a greater influence in the formation of national character than physical causes? By Gabriel Mathis, Stephen W. Harris, Rowland Thurmond and Wilson Bird.

A humorous dialogue between the same persons.

An English oration by R. Thurmond.


Valedictory address by Stephen W. Harris.

Evidently, as the class consisted of only four members, the same persons appeared several times. As practically nobody in the audience knew any Latin, it is not recorded how many went to sleep while Bird delivered his salutatory. It will be noted that a regular debate was mixed in with the orations and the dialogue was called upon to excite the risibilities of the audience.

The exercises of the day were concluded with prayer by the Reverend Abraham Marshall.

JAMES WILSON BIRD

James Wilson Bird was born in Alexandriá, Virginia, March 4, 1787. His father moved to Georgia and established a large iron works in Warren county at the Shoals of the Ogeechee. In his early life James Wilson Bird carried on this work successfully. On February 1, 1820, he was married to Frances Casey, of Savannah, by Rev. William Cooper. Later on he moved to Sparta, Hancock county, where he lived until his death on November 26, 1866, at the ripe old age of eighty-one. He devoted almost his entire life to agriculture, having large plantations in several counties in Georgia, and living the typical life of a Southern gentleman of the ante-bellum days. He graduated as second honor man in his class.
Stephen Willis Harris was born in Virginia in 1785, the son of Sampson and Susannah Harris. While he was yet a small boy, his parents moved to Georgia and when he had reached college age he was entered as a student in the University of Georgia one year after that institution began its work in training the youth of the state. He possessed a brilliant mind and came to graduation as the first honor man in his class. He chose law as his profession, and at an early age was admitted to the bar on January 19, 1806. He was married to Sarah Hernion Watkins, of Prince Edward County, Virginia. A few years later he moved to Eatonton, Georgia, where he lived until his death in 1827. Nine children were born to Judge and Mrs. Harris. Sampson W., his eldest son, graduated at the University in 1826; and his son, Hugh M., graduated from that institution in 1860, and his son, Yancey, was a matriculate in the Class of 1892; and his son, T., was a matriculate in the Class of (?), a total of five generations represented as students in the University of Georgia.

In 1813 Stephen W. Harris was elected as Judge of the Superior Courts of the Okmulgee Circuit, a position he filled for three years. He became a Trustee of the University in 1820 and served until his death in 1827.

Concerning the other two graduates, Rowland Thurmond and Gabriel Mathis, the records disclose nothing further than the fact that Thurmond lived in Jackson county and at once time was a private soldier in a cavalry company commanded by Captain George Reid.
TWO INDIAN STUDENTS

Not until after the War of 1812 are there any records extant that reveal the names of students enrolled in the University other than the names of those who graduated and upon whom the degree of Bachelor of Arts was conferred. This period of time covered the administration of President Meigs and a few years of the administration of President Brown.

Numerous traditions have come down concerning those days on the campus, some of which may be without foundation and others that appear to be correct.

One of these is the story that during the first few years there were several full-blooded Indians enrolled as students. This seems to have been thoroughly authenticated by Dr. Henry Hull, who was born in 1798, lived in Athens during the time of President Meigs and afterwards served as Professor of Mathematics in the University from 1830 to 1846.

The lands of the Cherokee Nation extended from North Georgia down to within a few miles of Athens. In fact, there is a point on the road to Lexington near the Oglethorpe county line known for years as "Cherokee Corner" and a granite marker has been placed there by the daughters of the American Revolution.

It was nothing uncommon for Indians to stray into the little town of Athens and mix and mingle with the few college boys who had entered the new institution. They looked in wonder upon the conduct of the boys. Just what they thought about it all can only be conjectured. Some were Cherokees and some were Creeks.

Now President Meigs had had experience down in Bermuda with semi-savages, and he made up his mind that he would do some experimenting with
the Indians. His experiment yielded no satisfactory results, but he had the satisfaction of making the experiment.

Dr. Hull himself saw and talked to some of these redskins, and among other things had this to say in his written record of the history of Athens: "Two boys, Joe and Ben Marshall, held out longer than the others. They were much petted by the President and were popular with the students on account of their superiority in all athletic sports. They made very unsatisfactory progress in their studies."

The Indians didn't take to the University life. It was too confining for them. Books had no attractions for them if they could get hold of liquor or ramble through the woods hunting game. They soon went back to their wigwams.

Later on Dr. Hull saw these two Marshall boys. They were then middle-aged men and seemed to have forgotten all about their college experiences. Dr. Hull said: "I saw them both in 1835——spent the night at Joe Marshall's home in the Creek Nation, but did not see him until after breakfast next morning. He had grown very fat and stupid, remembering nobody he had ever known in Athens, except Mr. Meigs and Mr. Thomas, and could not recall any of the students. That, however, might have been owing partly to the fact of his being very drunk the night before. He was a pure Indian in dress and habits and seemed not to have profited at all by his intercourse with with the whites. His brother, Ben, on the contrary, whom I met a few days later in Columbus, was well-dressed and had shrewdness enough to select for his reservation the barren hills opposite Columbus on which now stands the town of Girard."

The story has come down that dozens of Indians always made it a habit to come to University commencements, looking on the exercises with awe and consternation, hanging around on the outside of all crowds and generally going back home good and drunk.
The new collegiate building having been completed, the trustees thought the time had come to give it a name, so on May 31, 1805 the Board of Trustees passed the following resolution:

"Resolved unanimously, That the present college building at Athens be hereafter denominated and known by the name of Franklin College."

As there were other small buildings on the campus at that time that had been erected for the temporary accommodation of the students, constituting a part of the physical equipment of the institution, the conclusion is inevitable that the name "Franklin College" applied only to a building. It could not have taken in the whole institution.

The minutes of the Board of Trustees for a number of years thereafter show that the words "university" and "college" were used interchangeably, so that it was not many years until the institution itself came to be known as Franklin College instead of the University of Georgia. The minutes show no official action creating Franklin College as an institution, and yet the use of the name in various ways grew from year to year until the trustees came to regard it as the name of the institution itself, and the State, in legislative acts at times used it as referring to the institution at Athens, and the students themselves used it as the name of their alma mater. Hence it may not be without interest to briefly describe how all this came about.

In the writer's mind there is no doubt but that the institution in Athens that we call the University of Georgia has always been the University of Georgia and was such even in the days when it was called Franklin College.

The legislative act of Feb. 25, 1784 gave forty thousand acres of land for the endowment of a college or seminary of learning, one college or seminary, not several.

The charter of the University, drawn by Baldwin, provided for a
governing body to be known as the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia, and the corporate name of the Institution was fixed by law as "The Trustees of the University of Georgia."

The institution was organized and was opened in 1801 under the name of the University of Georgia. It functioned as such for three years and graduated its first class in 1804 under that name before the name of Franklin College was ever used. Its diplomas issued to its first graduates were headed "Præses et Curatores Universitatis Georgiae." That heading on the diplomas has never been changed. No degree has ever been granted by "Franklin College."

The question naturally arises as to just what was the real intention of Baldwin when he drew the bill that since its passage by the General Assembly of Georgia has been known as the charter of the University of Georgia. There has been much speculation on this subject throughout the years. Nothing that Baldwin ever wrote or said throws much light on the discussion. He, in all probability, wrote less than any other American occupying station comparable to his.

Was his dream one that involved the establishment of numbers of colleges and academies, all of which was to constitute one university? Or rather was it his intention to establish one institution and place under its supervision all the state-supported academies, schools and colleges? There is no doubt but that he envisioned the entire educational field in Georgia and was endeavoring to co-ordinate all educational agencies nurtured by the state, but there is doubt as to exactly how he planned to do this.

From the recorded minutes of the Senatus Academicus and the Board of Trustees of the University it appears to be fairly clear that the University of Georgia was to be one institution with supervision over all the other academies, schools and colleges supported by the state; in other words to have supervision over all the "res literaria" of Georgia. He envisioned an
arrangement somewhat similar to that which now exists in Georgia, under which a Board of Regents directs the affairs of all the state-supported institutions for higher learning, with this difference, that under his plan all elementary and secondary educational institutions were included and the supervising authority was an institution of learning, the University of Georgia, and not simply a controlling board known as the Board of Regents.

Section V of the charter says: "There shall be a stated annual meeting of the Senatus Academicus at the University, or at any other place or time to be appointed by them." If that body was to meet at the University, it could mean nothing but one institution in a certain place. It certainly could not have meant to hold one meeting at several places at the same time.

It is true that Section XIV of the charter states that "all public schools instituted or to be supported by funds or public monies in this state shall be considered parts or members of the University, and shall be under the foregoing directions and regulations." That section would seem to make the academies parts of the University, but as actually interpreted by the Board of Trustees in later years it was simply a matter of supervision, for the academies were all managed by their own trustees and were sustained by none of the endowment of the University. The state made grants of land to the academies directly and not through the University, under their own names and legal organization, as authorized by legislative act as far back as 1777, even before the University was chartered.

Section XIII of the charter very clearly separates the University from the schools and places of education in the several counties and provides for their supervision, but not as parts of the University. It says: "The Senatus Academicus, at their stated annual meetings, shall consult and advise not only upon the affairs of the University, but also to remedy the defects and advance the interests of literature throughout the state in general."
purpose, it shall be the business of the members, previous to their meetings, to obtain an acquaintance with the state and regulations of the schools and places of education in their respective counties, that they may be thus possessed of the whole and have it before them for their mutual assistance and deliberation." It should be noted that this section refers to not only the University, but also the other schools that were evidently not included in the term "the University." As the Senatus Academicus was partly made up of state officials, the Governor and members of the senate, the importance of having on hand all possible information about the various schools is emphasized so that they might have this information when they came to discuss the needs of these schools and legislate thereon.

If the academies had in reality been parts of the University, it seems like the Board of Trustees would have considered it within their power to call for detailed reports from them, but as a matter of fact, at one session of the Board of Trustees a resolution was passed that the legislature be asked to enact a law making it obligatory on the different academies to report to their respective senators all about their condition, their courses of studies, etc."

It will be noted that those reports were to be made to their respective senators and not to the Board of Trustees.

The writer feels some hesitation in taking issue with his old professor, the late Dr. Henry C. White, but in the interest of what he conceives to be his duty to state the facts of the case, as he sees and interprets them, he makes these comments:

In his admirable "Life of Abraham Baldwin, Dr. White says:

"A college—or several colleges—might then be established to meet requirements as they arose, and to crown the system, Baldwin evidently foresaw that the process would be slow, and several years would be required to establish the system in all its branches. He interested himself, therefore,
at the outset in securing the foundation of 'academies' and no decisive steps were taken to erect the 'college' for fifteen years after the granting of the charter of 1785."

There were several academies in Georgia prior to the opening of the University in 1801, but there is nothing of record to show that Baldwin had anything to do with their organization or management. As a matter of fact, he was busily engaged in politics, both before and after the formation of the American union, serving as congressman and senator.

Concerning a meeting of the Board of Trustees Nov. 28, 1800, Dr. White says: "He (Baldwin) further proposed that a 'professor' or teacher should be engaged at once to begin instruction of students when a proper building was provided, and suggested for the position his friend, Josiah Meigs. All of Baldwin's proposals were approved except that a president of the college was not elected, but the position was created and a salary attached."

The minutes do not show that any position of president of a college was created or any salary agreed on. There was a salary fixed for Meigs as a professor. The resolution as passed was that "Josiah Meigs Esquire, be appointed first professor of the University." It will be noted that Meigs was elected as a professor of the University, not the professor of any college that was being created, and as to the office of President of the University, Baldwin was already occupying that office. It will also be noted that Meigs was elected as the first professor of the University, although there had been other professors in the academies under the supervision of the University. This resolution also directed Meigs to preside therein in the absence of the president. Clearly "therein" meant the institution in Athens in which he had been made a professor.

Again quoting from Dr. White: Baldwin then proposed that Meigs be
appointed to the post of president of the college, which had been created the previous year and this was agreed to. It is not quite correct to say that Baldwin 'resigned' the presidency of the University. He remained a member of the Board of Trustees and was its nominal chairman until his death in 1807."

The minutes of the Board of Trustees for the session of June 16, 1801, over which for the last time Mr. Baldwin presided, contain the following statement: "Mr. Baldwin resigned to the Senatus Academicus the presidency of the University and then moved that the Board of Trustees be permitted to retire in order to nominate a person to be appointed in his stead, agreeably to the charter." This is a very definite statement that Mr. Baldwin did resign the presidency of the University.

The minutes of this meeting go on to say: "The committee accordingly awaited on Professor Meigs and Mr. Baldwin therefrom reported that they had waited on Mr. Meigs and were perfectly satisfied with that gentleman's qualifications to superintend the literature of the state, and with his moral and general character, and on motion it was resolved that this board will nominate Josiah Meigs to the Senatus Academicus for president of the University of this state, which on returning to the Senatus Academicus was done."

Again quoting from Dr. White: "The title of President——as of the college only——was given Meigs." The minutes, as above quoted, show that he was elected as president of the University and no mention is made of any college. In the first place, there was no college in existence in Georgia except the University of Georgia. In the next place, the minutes of the Board of Trustees from then on to his resignation in 1810 set forth that he presided over the meetings of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia.

After telling of the gift of 633 acres of land by Governor Milledge upon which the new institution was to be located, Dr. White says: "they named the village 'Athens' and christened the college 'Franklin College'. Now that
meeting of the trustees was four years before the name of Franklin College first appeared in the minutes as having been bestowed on the new college building. No mention is made of any name being given the new institution at that time. There was no necessity for giving it a name. It already had a name, given it in the charter. That name has always been the correct name—The University of Georgia.

It is interesting to follow from year to year the steps by which the name "Franklin College" came into general use until in the 1830s catalogs were being printed under the name "Franklin College" in bold type and "University of Georgia" in parentheses in small type.

Three years passed before the name "Franklin College" again appeared in the minutes. On July 3, 1808, as a heading for the minutes recorded that day the following appeared: "Franklin College, Athens, 3rd July 1808." Just as one would place a heading on a letter, "Connecticut Hall, New Haven," so the secretary indicated where and when the meeting was held. It was held in the building, "Franklin College" and so the minutes were headed.

On July 5, 1808, the minutes show that "the president laid before the Board returns of the number of students in the "college". The name "Franklin College" was not used. From this date on the name "University" in many instances is used interchangeably with the word "college." But the time had arrived when the trustees began to regard Franklin College as the institution itself. The first indication of this was on July 8, 1808 when the minutes record: "Resolved, that Addin Lewis be from henceforth discontinued as a tutor in Franklin College." Evidently the trustees were not here referring to a building, but there is no evidence in the minutes that Franklin College as an institution had been set up or authorized, or organized. So far as the record of trustee action is concerned, Franklin College was still simply a building, though the
trustees in this instance seem to have referred to it as an institution.

In the minutes of Nov. 21, 1808 reference is made to the number of students in Franklin College. As all the students did not live in the college buildings, the reference here was to an institution.

In the minutes of August 4, 1809, reference is made to the "President of Franklin College". Of course there was only one president, the president of the University, but it appears that President Meigs was now recognized as president of the college, although he had never been elected as such.

On August 6, 1810, the opening sentence of the minutes reads: "At a meeting of the Board of Trustees in Franklin College. This looks like the secretary was again thinking of the building where the meeting was being held.

In the minutes of August 10, 1810 the following appears: "Rev. Henry Kollock, of Savannah, was unanimously nominated as president of the University of this state to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Josiah Meigs." On Nov. 10, 1810, the minutes contain this item: "His excellency, the Governor, having communicated to the Board the answer of Doctor Henry Kollock by which he declines accepting the presidency of Franklin College." It will be noted that he had been elected as president of the University and declined the offer of the presidency of Franklin College, all of which shows that the trustees were beginning to regard Franklin College as the institution itself, for they must have notified Dr. Kollock that he had been elected as president of Franklin College, or he would not have declined the offer under that name.

From that date on the use of the name "Franklin College" to
indicate the institution itself became general.

On July 21, 1813, reference is made in the minutes to "the tract of land on which Franklin College is located."

On June 16, 1814, it is recorded that the Trustees of the "University" convened at "Franklin College."

On Nov. 13, 1816, the statement appears in the minutes: "That the resignation of all officers of Franklin College shall be made to the Board."

On Nov. 14, 1816, this sentence is in the minutes: "Reported a Code of Laws for the government of Franklin College."

On Dec. 10, 1817: "Appoint a committee to select a suitable person to take charge of Franklin College as president in the place of Rev. Dr. Finley, deceased." This shows that the trustees considered the University of Georgia and Franklin College as one and the same institution, for Dr. Finley was president of the University, and the man whom they were now seeking as his successor was elected president of the University of Georgia and not president of Franklin College.

On March 18, 1818 money was appropriated for "the business of erecting a suitable house for the President of the University. If Franklin College had a president, no house was provided for him, but as the University and Franklin College were one and the same institution, he evidently found shelter in the new home as president of the University.

Instances might be multiplied where the trustees used without discrimination the words "University" and "Franklin College". By this time the two were considered the same, but the use of "University" predominated in the minutes and "Franklin College" among the professors and students. From 1819 to 1859 during the administrations of Presidents Waddel and Church, the institution was generally known as Franklin College. Even the legislature fell into the careless habit. On Dec. 18, 1819 the legislature appropriated
two thousand dollars for erecting an edifice for the Grammar School of Franklin University." Franklin College had been elevated in legislative language to Franklin University. As late as Dec. 18, 1858, the Acts of the Georgia Legislature contain the following: "That the Governor of the State of Georgia shall be the president of the Board of Trustees of Franklin College, and in his absence the oldest member who may be present, president of the board."

If literally interpreted, the Governor was shorn of such honor, for there never was a Board of Trustees of Franklin College.

In 1859, when the organization of the University was revised, the chief executive was called Chancellor of the University of Georgia, but no president of a college was named. That year the Lumpkin Law School became a part of the University. In the early 1870s the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts became a part of the University of Georgia in Athens, and the College of Arts was known as Franklin College. So it has remained to this day, but both colleges were on one campus and constituted one institution, the University of Georgia. Still later colleges were organized in different parts of the state under the control of separate boards of trustees, over which the University had slight control, but this control finally disappeared. It was necessary for them to be branches of the University of Georgia in order to get state financial support, since appropriations were limited to common schools and the University.

In 1906 Prof. David C. Barrow, Dean of Franklin College, was elected chancellor of the University. At that time Col. Charles M. Snelling, professor of Mathematics in the University, was elected to succeed Dr. Barrow as Dean, and he was given the title of President of Franklin College and Dean of the University. So Dr. Snelling was the first president of Franklin College. All those preceding him were Presidents or Chancellors of the University of Georgia.
Franklin College has ceased to be just a building. It is now and has been for a long time the College of Liberal Arts of the University of Georgia.

The purpose of this chapter has been to show that from the beginning up to the present time the institution here in Athens has always been the University of Georgia, as authorized by the charter drawn by Abraham Baldwin and enacted as a law by the General Assembly of Georgia, January 27, 1785.

Under the present set-up it has ten schools or colleges, all on one campus, under one president and one faculty, but each of them having its dean and touching its individual work, its own faculty. The ten colleges and schools are:

- The Graduate School
- Franklin College, the College of Liberal Arts
- Lumpkin Law School
- School of Pharmacy
- College of Agriculture
- George Foster Peabody School of Forestry
- Peabody School of Education
- College of Business Administration
- Henry W. Grady School of Journalism
- School of Home Economics

The University of Georgia no longer has a Board of Trustees. It is under the control of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, of which five members are from the state at large and ten members from the ten congressional districts of the state, all appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the state senate.

If in the place of the University of Georgia, an institution of
learning, you substitute the Board of Regents, a purely executive body made up of citizens of the highest character and ability, and if you eliminate all institutions below college grade to make up the list of institutions over which the Board of Regents has control, you will have an arrangement that will fit into that educational development of which Abraham Baldwin dreamed. His plan reached down to the elementary schools it is true, but at the present time the elementary schools and the secondary schools are in most instances and in large part supported by the state. So that it may be said in all truth that, if not in every particular, certainly in every essential feature, the dream of Abraham Baldwin has come true.
It was the new college building that was finished in the fall of 1805, which had been named Franklin College. Later on another building was erected which was denominated the new collegiate edifice. That first building has been called by several names in the past, Franklin College, the Summey House, Yahoo Hall, the Home of Southern Gentlemen, and during the stay of the Pre-Flight School during World War II, Ranger Barracks. But the name by which it is generally known is "Old College."

Although there is very little now in the structure that went into it in those opening days of the nineteenth century, it is still Old College. Repairs were made on it only a few years after it was erected and some of the old material went out. It was essentially the original building until 1906 when it was found that the mortar between the bricks was disintegrating and becoming little more than dust. A thorough examination was made by a competent engineer and it was found to be in a dangerous condition. It was abandoned as a dormitory and remained unused the greater part of one year.

It was decided to rebuild the walls and the legislature furnished the money for this improvement. It was stipulated that the brick must be of the same color as the original brick and the trimmings must be the same as the original. The old walls were torn down to the foundations and the roof and interior were propped by heavy timbers while the new walls were being built. When the work had been completed the repaired building looked just like the old building, except the walls looked newer. The old brick was used as interior filler in the new walls.

In later years the arrangement of the rooms was somewhat changed in order to provide bathrooms. Then, when the Pre-Flight School came to the campus in 1942, the entire interior was torn out, including three of the four chimneys, although those portions of the chimneys above the roof were left to preserve the architectural appearance of the old building. The arrangement of the interior was thoroughly changed and a concrete floor was laid in the basement so as to provide
ample storage room.

So it has come to pass that very little, if any, of the building that was named "Franklin College" in 1805 now remains.

Prior to letting the contract for the repairing of Old College a movement was started to swing the building around on a line with New College so as to give an open vista from Broad Street to the Chancellor's home and create one quadrangle to take the place of the two old quadrangles.

This proposition created a discussion between those who favored and those who opposed the plan. The trustees appointed a special committee to pass on the question. Several alumni appeared before the committee in favor of the proposition. The writer was the only alumnus who was present and fought the proposition. It has been argued that such had been a suggestion made by the Leavitt plans that had been furnished by Mr. Peabody, plans that looked to a thorough beautification of the buildings and grounds over a period of years.

The writer pointed out to the committee that if the building were moved, it would require the cutting down of the hill on which it stood several feet in order to give a view from Broad Street to the Chancellor's home, and he argued against the removal of what was the real birthplace of the University to any other location, that it should remain there for all time to mark the spot where the institution started. It is true that that was a purely sentimental reason, but it carried the day, and the committee did not recommend the removal. But those in favor of the proposition got in one recommendation that looked to the raising of the issue at some future day. It was provided that a concrete base be constructed around the whole building so that it could be jacked up and turned around at any future time if such a decision should be reached. Judge George F. Gober was one member of the committee that thoroughly agreed with the writer and paid him the compliment of saying that his talk had strongly influenced the committee in its decision. A third of a century has passed since that day. A good deal of the sentiment disappeared when the whole interior of the building was torn out to accommodate the
Naval Pre-Flight School, and the old building is not what it used to be, but it still stands on the original spot on which it was built. The writer still thinks that it should never be moved to another location.

Old College was a well-arranged building for sleeping purposes. A solid wall ran through the middle of the building from north to south. On each side of this dividing wall were twelve suites of rooms, four on each of the three floors, a total of twenty-four suites. Each suite of rooms was made up of one large room and two small rooms. Tradition has it that the students brought their negro slaves with them and housed them in those little rooms. But that story is merely tradition. The little rooms were never used as slave quarters.

When the plans for the building of the Joseph E. Brown dormitory were being discussed about fifteen years ago, the architect was explaining how he had provided suites of rooms according to the latest views in architecture for the most acceptable accommodation of students, whereupon Chancellor Snelling informed him that the idea was over a century old and that he could show him a model if he would go up to Old College with him.

Years ago the big rooms were used as bedrooms and the little rooms as lavatories, trunk rooms and clothes closets. In recent years the big rooms have been used as sitting or study rooms and the little rooms as sleeping quarters. Now all the suites of rooms have disappeared and all the rooms are of approximately the same size.

The building was well-ventilated. Each of the big rooms had two windows. The twelve little rooms on the corners had two windows each. The other twenty-four little rooms on the exterior had one window each. The twelve little rooms on the interior were without windows, and they got their ventilation from doors that opened into the big rooms. Thus the building had a total of ninety-six windows which guaranteed perfect ventilation. In addition there were two windows in each of the six hallways. In fact, that was, in the judgment of the students, an excess in ventilation in cold or disagreeable weather.
The building, of course, had neither grates nor furnaces. Each big room had a good fire-place and wood, which was abundant, was the fuel used for the first hundred years. Each big room had a large closet in which a supply of this fuel could be stored. As window glass was hard to obtain, the student who, either carelessly or wantonly, broke window panes was justly considered a public enemy and was made to pay for the damage done. Many a boy during the first century of the University cut his name in the window sills so that future years might not forget. A few of the names of Georgia's great were thus inscribed. One day during the session of the Board of Trustees, of which body he was a member, United States Senator Augustus C. Bacon, a member of the Class of 1859, went over and took a peep at his name that represented his ability as a woodcarver in his college days. All these relics of the past are gone now under the march of modern improvements.

The writer, however, has one little piece of wood that came out of the old building when the recent work of remodeling was going on. It is a piece of lumber about ten inches by twelve inches by one inch, that was sawed out of a sidewall near the old dining room. On this piece of lumber had been printed the following: "SumneY House Rats, 1882!" And then came the names of all the boys who boarded there that year. The writer's name was on the list and the other names were those of his college-mates and friends. That much of the old building will be preserved and duly handed down to posterity.

Many years were to pass before the building was to be used entirely as a dormitory. During the first twenty years this building was practically the only building of real service on the campus. Recitations were held in some of the rooms, professors had offices therein, students roamed there and for a while the grammar school was conducted there. As fast as new buildings could be added, the use of the building as a dormitory increased until in the administration of President Church it became wholly a dormitory.

This building was not erected entirely under a specific contract covering its entire cost. A. L. Hull in his Annals of Athens says: "The contract for
building Old College was let to Captain John Billups, at whose tavern the Committee had met to locate the University. This statement is not entirely borne out by the records of the trustees. It is true that a contract was given Captain Billups to furnish three hundred thousand brick at $7.50 per thousand, and later on he was called on to furnish about the same number. But it is equally certain that the lime and nails were bought from others. Record is made of a considerable sum paid to David Gaddy for lime and supplies. A man named Stockly Morgan also is mentioned in the minutes as being due several hundred dollars for plastering. If any contract was made for erecting the building it must have been with Captain Jett Thomas. The probability is that Captain Thomas had a contract for the erection of the building and that the materials and supplies were purchased by the Trustees from different people. This is fairly well indicated by the following entries at the time the building was being finished:

November 15, 1801 - "That the committee appointed to contract for the building of the University be directed to proceed and complete the several contracts for finishing the same."

March 8, 1802 - "That Mr. Twiggs be requested to purchase on credit till January 1, 1803, one hundred casks of stone lime for the use of the University."

December 22, 1802 - "That the sum of one thousand dollars be appropriated towards the purchase of lime and nails for the collegiate building at Athens and that a warrant be drawn in favor of General John Twiggs, who is empowered to contract for the same."

March 19, 1803 - "That the president draw an order on the Treasurer for the sum of one thousand dollars in favor of Jett Thomas in part payment of his contract for building at Athens. This would indicate that Thomas had a contract to build the structure, at least to supervise the work, the University to pay for certain materials and supplies.

June 6, 1803 - "Request that Capt. John Billups make and deliver at Athens as many brick as may be necessary to complete the collegiate building there and that
he be allowed at the rate of seven and a half dollars a thousand."

June 6, 1803 - "The president is advised to draw an order in favor of David Caddy for thirteen hundred and six dollars and ten cents, which is the amount of his bill for laying three hundred and twenty thousand brick at four dollars per thousand."

June 6, 1803 - "to draw an order in favor of Capt. Jett Thomas for twelve hundred dollars in part of his contract and to encourage him to proceed to complete the collegiate building."

May 30, 1805 - "subject to an alteration being made in the staircases, which Capt. Thomas has stipulated to do"

November 11, 1805 - "Resolved, That the president draw an order on the treasurer in favor of John Billups for the sum of fifteen hundred and sixteen dollars and eighty-eight cents being in full of the balance of his account; an order in favor of Jett Thomas for the sum of four thousand, two hundred and twelve dollars being in full of the balance of his account on his original contract and for extra work done at the University, and orders in favor of Stockley Morgan for the sum of nine hundred and twenty-four dollars and seventy-seven cents being in full of the balance of his account."

Captain Jett Thomas was a well-known contractor and builder in his day. The capitol building, at Milledgeville, was built under his direction, the building in which the secession convention was held in 1861 and which was destroyed by fire a few years ago.

The brick that went into the original Old College building were furnished by Col. John Billups and were made in Clarke County. They were not hauled to Athens by Augusta. The lime and nails and other supplies were brought from Augusta across the country to Athens by mule team. Some of the lime came from Tennessee through the Indian country to Athens.

The preserved records of the trustees do not reveal the exact cost of the building, but there is enough evidence to show that the total cost must have been in the neighborhood of twenty-five thousand dollars.
The session of 1805-1806 was uneventful. The trustees at the annual session passed on numbers of questions involving the business affairs of the University. Governor John Milledge tendered his resignation as a member of the Board of Trustees much to the regret of everyone, for he was one of the leading patrons of the institution. Electrical conductors (generally called lightning rods) were put on the college edifice, and a well dug on the college grounds. It is not recorded whether or not that fine spring so emphasized by Daniel Hasley when he went to sell the property to Governor Milledge had ceased to flow. It is possible that they wanted the water supply a little closer at hand, for the old spring is still running even though its waters are not used for drinking purposes. The employment of a tutor was authorized and Rev. John Hodge was named as Master of the Grammar School.

Though the specific conduct of the boys was not revealed, it was evident from a communication filed with the Secretary by Mr. Hodge that they had been misbehaving, for the trustees called on those who were boarding students to be "extremely careful of their morals" and called upon the president and tutors to apply the proper remedies to prevent the commission of the offenses complained of and "should they think it necessary to inflict moderate corporal punishment, that they be authorized to inflict such as is usual in schools and customary in the government and education of youth." Even a slight suggestion like that now would be a sure forerunner of student revolution. There was an abundant supply of hickory switches, rulers and leather straps in easy reach, but it is likely that none were used.

There was nothing discouraging in the scholastic work of the institution and the University seemed to be striking its stride, but within a short while it was destined to start on its slide down the toboggan.

CLASS OF 1806

The Class of 1806 picked up a little in numbers, seven boys receiving their diplomas at commencement that year. Considering the fact that the institution
was not quite five years old, that this was the third graduating class and that the population of the state of Georgia was relatively small, this was a showing that was not to be considered unsatisfactory.

The usual closing exercises were held, the following program being rendered:

Prayer by the Reverend Mr. Marshall
Salutatory oration in Latin by Samuel Boykin
Forensic dispute between Messrs. Boykin and James Whitehead
Greek Oration by Thomas M. Berrien
A dialogue between Messrs. Lamar, Boykin, Harris and James Whitehead
An ironical oration in favor of monarchy by Mr. Lamar
The Declaration of Independence read by Mr. Lewis
An oration in commemoration of the Declaration of Independence, by Reuben Hill
Valedictory oration by John Whitehead
Music
Prayer by the Reverend Mr. Hodge

The forensic dispute and the dialogue came in their usual places and to furnish a little more fun an ironical oration was interjected. It being the Fourth of July, the exercises were given a patriotic flavor by the reading of the Declaration of Independence and an oration on that immortal document.

The exercises were made a little more classical by providing a Greek oration in addition to the usual Latin salutatory.

At this commencement the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on Rev. William Best, of Savannah, formerly of Trinity College, Dublin, and the degree of Master of Arts on Addin Lewis, a tutor at that time in the University of Georgia.

THOMAS MOORE BERRIEN

Thomas Moore Berrien was the son of Major John Berrien, who in 1760 married Margaret McPherson, of New Jersey. He took his bride to the home of his father, Judge John Berrien, of Princeton, New Jersey, who was a member of the Supreme
Court of that state. In that house was born John McPherson Berrien. The next year the family moved to Savannah, Georgia. When John McPherson Berrien arrived at young manhood he was sent to Princeton where he earned the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He became one of Georgia's greatest orators and statesmen and served his state in the United States Senate.

His younger brother, Thomas M. Berrien, born in Savannah, came to the University of Georgia and graduated in the Class of 1806. He became a lawyer of distinction but did not enter public life as did his brother. He was interested in the Georgia Militia and served as Brigade Inspector and Colonel. He was also aide-de-camp to Governor Early. For two years, 1838 and 1839 he was a member of the General Assembly of Georgia from Burke County.

SAMUEL BOYKIN

Samuel Boykin was the son of Francis Boykin, a soldier in the War of the American Revolution, who lived in South Carolina. His mother was the daughter of Thomas Cooper, of Henry County, Virginia. His sister, Eliza Boykin, became the wife of Williams Rutherford, of the Class of 1807, and the mother of Professor Williams Rutherford, who in later years for a long time was professor of mathematics in the University of Georgia.

Samuel Boykin was born in Kershaw District, South Carolina, in 1787. After graduation in 1806 with second honor, he attended Pennsylvania Medical College and earned the degree of M.D. at that institution. His first wife was Sarah Marie Maxwell and his second wife was Narcissa Cooper.

For more than twenty-five years he practiced medicine in Milledgeville, Georgia, becoming the beloved physician in that city, the capital of Georgia, where he accumulated a large property. In 1836 he moved his family to Columbus, Georgia. Dr. Boykin took much interest in scientific research, especially in the field of botany and floriculture. While living in Columbus he had as his guest the distinguished English botanist Lyell, who was very much impressed with certain species of flowers that he had discovered and made mention of them in his books.
While not especially interested in public affairs, he was once prevailed on to serve his state in a public way and for two years, 1831 and 1832 he was a member of the Georgia Senate.

In 1847 he was chosen as a trustee of the University of Georgia and in that position served just one year, as in 1848 he passed away at the age of sixty-one. He left a widow and eight children. Three of his sons were prominent Baptist ministers, Samuel Boykin, who was elected by the Baptist convention as Editor of the Christian Index and was also publisher of "Child's Delight", which in 1871 was merged with "Kind Words", the Baptist Sunday School paper; Rev. Thomas Cooper Boykin, of Alabama, president of the Alabama Sunday School Board; and Dr. Leroy Holt Boykin, a planter in Alabama, who later moved to Atlanta and entered the ministry.

EARLY HARRIS

Such records as have been found do not disclose the parentage or the residence of Early Harris or any further information concerning him than that he was graduated in the Class of 1806 and that he was married to Polly Harrison in Jackson County. The Deed and Will Book of Jackson County shows that Buckner Harris lived in that county and that his wife was Nancy Early Harris. Jackson County is only a few miles from the campus of the University of Georgia. Early Harris may have been the son of this couple, having been given the maiden name of his mother. He was probably no relative of Governor Peter Early, certainly not a descendant. No further information concerning Early Harris is available.

REUBEN HILL

Reuben Hill was evidently living in Clarke County at the time of his graduation, for the records show that he represented Clarke County in the Georgia House of Representatives from 1809 to 1813, also that he was Captain 21st District (Clarke County) Georgia Militia and that he was a Methodist minister. As nearly as can be ascertained he was born in 1789 and died in 1850.
THOMAS LAMAR

Thomas Lamar probably came to the University from Lincoln County and after graduation returned home where he engaged in farming. In 1813 he was a member of the Georgia House of Representatives from Lincoln County. The House Journal shows that he moved the appointment of a committee to prepare and report a bill to authorize the justices of the inferior courts in each county in the state to draw grand and petit jurors. He was also on a committee to examine the Journals of the house and see that they were accurately engrossed. It appears that he served as a private in the Georgia State Militia. No record as to dates of birth and death. From Lincoln County he moved to Richmond County where he lived for years as a farmer.

JAMES WHITEHEAD

James Whitehead was born in Burke county April 7, 1786. His chief interest was in agriculture. He lived in his native county all his life. He died October 11, 1847. On June 30, 1816, he was married to Ruth Lowndes Berrien. During 1818 and 1819 he was a member of the Georgia Senate from Burke county. His people were Scotch Presbyterians and were founders of the Presbyterian Church in Waynesboro, Burke County, and at Bath, in Richmond County. Throughout his life he manifested great interest in his Alma Mater and served as a member of the University Board of Trustees from 1828 to the date of his death in 1847.

JOHN WHITEHEAD

John Whitehead was born in Burke County December 14, 1783, and along with his younger brother, James, was a graduate in the Class of 1806. While in college he was a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society. He was a brilliant student and graduated with first honor. He, like his brother, was fond of plantation life and remained attached to his large farms in Burke County. He took a lively interest in civic affairs, represented Burke County as a member of the State House of Representatives in 1812, 1814, 1817, and 1818, was judge of the Inferior Court of Burke County from 1821 to 1825, was one of the Commissioners
of Briar Creek Navigation in 1823; state senator from the district embracing Burke County in 1824 and 1825 and again Judge of the Inferior Court of Burke County from 1829 to 1833. In 1850 he represented Burke county at the Civil Rights convention held in Milledgeville.

He was twice married, first, to Miss Abbie Lewis Sturgis, who died a few years after the marriage, and second, to Mrs. Julia Moore Berrien Belt, their wedding taking place in 1823. Butts, in his "Mothers of Some Distinguished Georgians" tells the following story of that marriage:

"Julia Moore Berrien Whitehead was a daughter of Major John Berrien. Her mother was Willimina Sara Eliza Moore. Julia M. Berrien was born in Savannah, Georgia, but when a small child moved with her widowed mother to Jefferson County Georgia, where they lived on a plantation near Louisville. She was the favorite sister of her brother, Hon. John McPherson Berrien. When she was fifteen years of age she was sought in marriage by Hon. John Whitehead, of Burke County, Georgia. Judge Whitehead was an intimate friend of her brother, John McPherson Berrien, and eighteen years older than Julia. She discarded him and at sixteen married Dr. Loyd Belt. There were three children from this marriage, a daughter, Mrs. Frederick Henningaen, and two sons, Dr. Richard Berrien Belt and Dr. Lloyd Carleton Belt. When Dr. Belt died, his widow was twenty-two years old. Judge Whitehead had also been married and had lost his wife. These two were again thrown together and she accepted him. There were eight children from this marriage. Two died in infancy. The six who lived to be grown were: Major John Randolph Whitehead and Major Charles Lowndes Whitehead, both of whom served in the War Between the States and both were wounded. The others were Mrs. J. Gordon Howard, Mrs. Thomas W. Neely, Mrs. Charles Colcock Jones, wife of the Georgia historian, and Mrs. Augustus Ramon Salas, the first Georgia Regents for the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Julia M. Berrien Belt Whitehead was an Episcopalian but when she married Judge Whitehead she united with the Presbyterian Church.

John Whitehead died May 31, 1857, in the seventy-fourth year of his life.
The history of the Chapel Bell is always a favorite research sub-
ject with those students who are just beginning to write articles for the
college newspaper or as tests in English composition.

If all the bells that have been used on the University of Georgia cam-
pus could talk there would be given out some stories of more than passing
interest, but much that they represented has taken place in the realm of
forgotten history, and anyhow those bells, even though they have survived
the strenuous march of time and in their day have made a lot of noise, can-
not transmit their messages save through the echoes of memory.

When the University of Georgia opened in 1801 it had no college bell.
It didn't even have a building in which students could be taught. It didn't
need a bell for all the boys who were here could be reached by the one
member of the faculty, who was also president of the University, if he put
enough volume into his voice when he summoned them to their classes.

But such a condition could not be long endured. A great university,
even though it had just started down the road to great achievements should
not be forced to suffer the humiliation of being without a college bell.

So on July 21, 1807, Rev. Hope Hull, a distinguished Methodist prea-
cher who was also a member of the Board of Trustees, announced to the
Board that he would build a Chapel if the Board would provide one hundred
dollars with which to build a belfry on the chapel building. The Trustees
jumped at the offer and Mr. Hull went to work getting subscriptions for
his chapel fund.
The official action of the Board of Trustees authorizing Mr. Hull to proceed to build the chapel was in the passing of the following resolution on the above date.

"The Rev. Hope Hull having proposed to the Board that if they appropriated to him one hundred dollars for the purpose of erecting a belfry, he would cause a building to be erected of the dimensions of 60 by 40 and sixteen feet high, connected with the belfry aforesaid, the said building to be approved by the President, to be considered as a chapel devoted to the use of the students in their ordinary learning and for public meetings."

The little chapel cost more than was anticipated and the private subscriptions were not entirely up to the mark. A year later, on July 6, 1808, the new building was being erected, but had not been completed. Meanwhile the trustees became convinced that the new building should be entirely owned and managed by the University and that no religious denomination have any rights as to its use except by permission of the Board of Trustees. In addition the trustees did not want to see Dr. Hull pay for the building out of his own pocket. So they passed this resolution, "It is now the opinion of this Board that this house belongs exclusively to the trust not subject to the right of preference of any denomination in prejudice of others, and the Board will pay whatever sum may be wanting to complete the payment for the belfry of the chapel, if the subscriptions should not be equal to the sum contracted for in the erection and completion of the same."

An order was issued to pay Mr. Hull $689 for the work done up to that time. It is not recorded how much more was required to complete the job. The exact location of the chapel is not set forth in the minutes, but tra-
dition has it that it occupied the same spot on which the present chapel was built in 1832.

Of course a belfry would not be built if there was no bell to hang in it. So it is reasonably certain that 1808 was the year in which the first chapel bell was rung on the campus of the University of Georgia. There were no football victories to celebrate, but no doubt but that the slumbers of the entire faculty (President Neigs and one tutor) and the whole student body (thirty or forty students, less the mischievous bell-ringer) were disturbed at times when youthful spirits got out of bounds and in the solemn hours of the night the handy bell-rope presented a temptation not to be avoided.

The chapel bell played its part in the life of Josiah Neigs, president of the University until 1810. As stated elsewhere in the account of that educator's services, toward the end of his administration he and the trustees were at odds and he was first demoted from the presidency to a simple professorship, involving all the teaching that was being done in the institution and his salary being reduced at that time.

There appears in the minutes of the Board of Trustees that a bill was presented by Professor Neigs for ringing the Chapel Bell. Evidently he would ring the bell at the appointed hour and then repair to the recitation rooms and teach the boys and then ring the bell again and go back and teach the next class. Nowadays the boys ring the bell in the hours of jubilation, but back there it is quite certain that Neigs was in no jubilant frame of mind. If he gave way to the expression of his thoughts in words they were probably unprintable and therefore did not get to the record.

It is difficult to trace from decade to decade the different chapel bells that have furnished music on the University campus. On several
occasions the bell-ringer has pulled at the rope and found that the clapper had disappeared. That was a favorite trick with the fun-loving student. But while that practical jokester may have had a few hours of fun, it was anything but fun when those who had had nothing to do with the stealing of the bell clapper found themselves late at recitations with a tardy chalked up against their attendance record.

Just what became of the college bell that was in use in 1883 when the writer entered the University, he does not know. It was probably cracked and became unfit for use. Then Bishop Nelson, of the Episcopal Church, allowed the University to use the old bell of St. Mary's church, a church that stood on Oconee street near the river and which has long since been abandoned. That bell was used until several years ago. Bishop Nelson called for it in order to use it in an Episcopal Church building in Toccoa. Then the bell now in use was purchased.

In 1832, the modest frame building that first served as a chapel, surmounted by that belfry that Mr. Hull asked the trustees to build back in 1807 was torn down and in its place came the present chapel building. On the eastern or front end of the new chapel building was a cupola in which was lodged the chapel bell. It served its purpose, even though it was unsightly and had no place in any style of architecture.

In the sills upon which the cupola rested gave way and one side dropped so as to give to the cupola the appearance of a leaning tower of Pisa. It was considered unsafe to leave the bell-tower in such condition and the trustees gave orders to the superintendent of buildings and grounds to make the necessary repairs. During the interim, while the chapel bell was out of commission, a system of electric alarm bells was installed, but it was unsatisfactory and soon went into the discard.
The writer had never liked the appearance of that cupola on the chapel roof. It conformed to no style of architecture and lent no beauty to the old building. So he persuaded Chancellor Barrow to have the cupola torn away and to have a trestle erected in the rear of the chapel as the appropriate place for the chapel bell. That was done. The old chapel now looks somewhat like a piece of Grecian architecture and the chapel bell is conveniently located and does not look like an architectural misfit.

There have been times after Georgia had won football victories over Georgia Tech when it looked like the old bell would be split asunder, but for years it has weathered the storm. The writer, though past his three score and ten sometimes goes over and gives the bell-rope a pull or two to express his still boyish feelings over a Georgia football victory. One afternoon, when the students were all out of the city, the news of a great American's death was flashed over the wires. So the writer, thinking that the people might appreciate being notified of the passing of the great American, went over and tolled the chapel bell in memory of Woodrow Wilson. It is his hope that he will be spared to see the day when peace will be declared among the nations of the world and the dream of Woodrow Wilson become a realized triumph. If such should be his good fortune, he will go over and pull the bell-cord again. But the bell will not be tolling then. It will be giving out news of joy, not sadness.

Sometimes the bell-clapper has been stolen by mischievous students, but generally the stolen clappers found their way back to the bellry. On one occasion at least that was not the case, for a few months since, Mr. Orien Price, of Athens, in making an excavation on a lot about a mile and a half from the campus, dug up an old bell-clapper that had no doubt been stolen and buried there, just how long ago not being known.

Sometimes the supporters of losing teams have endeavored to prevent
the Georgia boys from celebrating their victories and on one occasion there
was a free for all fight, with no injuries beyond a few blackened eyes.

A few months since in the fall of 1946, some vandal climbed the bell
tower and cut the bell loose so that it dropped some thirty feet to the
pavement below. However, by good luck the bell was not damaged.

The old bell-ringer, a faithful old darky named Pleas attends to the
ringing of the bell at the different recitation periods. He is as proud
as a peacock over the discharge of this duty and if the job were taken
away from him, he would probably pine away and die.
was buried in the cemetery at Bath, Richmond County, Georgia.

LOTTERY AND RELIGION

The Trustees in their annual session in 1807 passed two resolutions on subjects as far apart as the poles - lottery and religion. As subsequent events showed the religious movement won.

The need for more books in the library was apparent and the money was not available for their purchase. The sum of three thousand dollars was necessary for this addition to the library, and the conclusion was reached that the money might be secured by the holding of a lottery. There were plenty of men in Georgia possessed of the mania for taking chances, so why not afford them a chance to play the game and at the same time provide the necessary money for the purchase of the needed books?

So by resolution duly passed Thomas Flournoy, a member of the Board, was requested to attend the legislature and get the consent of that body that a lottery might be held in order to raise the necessary three thousand dollars for the purchase of books. If the application should be successful the lottery was to be drawn in Augusta.

The lottery movement was a flash in the pan. The lottery was never drawn.

Rev. Hope Hull, a member of the Board, proposed that if the trustees would appropriate one hundred dollars for a belfry, he "would cause a building to be erected of dimensions 60 by 40 and 18 feet high, connected with the belfry, the said building to be considered as a chapel devoted to the use of the students in their ordinary business and for public meetings." Mr. Hull did not mention religion in his resolution, but everyone knew that nearly all the meetings to be held in that chapel would be of a religious nature and Mr. Hull, himself a great preacher, would direct many of them. His proposition was accepted and General Twiggs, a member of the Board, gave $50.00 as an initial contribution for the fund that was to be raised for the erection of the chapel. Subsequently other contributions were made and a few years later the trustees appropriated
what was needed to complete the building. This chapel was built on the same site
where the present chapel, built in 1832, now stands. It is said that in the belfry
of this old chapel, the Phi Kappa Society was organized as a secret society in
1820.

The boarding house question had for some time been giving trouble. Com-
plaints had been coming in to the trustees that the students could not stand the
rise in boarding rates. So in 1907 they decided to engage a steward "at a
moderate a price as can be had for the purpose of providing Commons for the
accommodation of the collegiate family." The Steward was to "Furnish a convenient
house and provide commons for seventy-five persons." In a few months they chose
Capt. John Cary, a worthy man who had come to Athens from Virginia, as the new
steward.

CLASS OF 1807

Nine members of the Class of 1807 received the degree of Bachelor of Arts
at the Commencement of 1807, the exercises being held on July 20. They were
as follows: John Allan, John Douglass, Thomas Grier, Thomas N. Hamilton, Samuel
Meigs, James Meriwether, Joseph O'Neal, George Putnam and Williams Rutherford, as
of the Class of 1804. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Gibson Clark,
William H. Jackson, James L. Jackson, Thomas Erwin, Ebenezer Cummins and Rev. John
Thompson, Bachelor of Arts of Columbia College, New York, was admitted ad eundem.

The Commencement program was somewhat longer than it had been in the past,
but those were the days of long sermons, long addresses and long literary
programs and no doubt those who attended would have been dissatisfied with any-
thing too brief. In addition to Latin and Greek addresses there was one in
French. That was a novelty, for the French language was being taught in very few
schools or colleges in America then. The content of the orations was more
diversified than usual, for agriculture and commerce engaged the attention of the
speakers. It was many years before these subjects became a part of the curriculum,
but the boys back there in the opening years of the nineteenth century were evidently pointing the way.

The Commencement program was as follows:

A prayer by the Rev. Abraham Marshall

Mr. Lewis read the Declaration of Independence

A salutatory in Latin against party spirit by James Meriwether

An oration recommending and advocating the study of the Classics, by Thomas Grier

A French oration against the opinion that the business of elocution is to teach what to think and not how to think, by John Allen

A comic dialogue between Messrs. Hamilton, Grier, Meigs, O'Neal, Rutherford and Meriwether

An oration on the liberty of the seas, by Samuel W. Meigs

A Greek oration on education, by Thomas N. Hamilton

An oration on agriculture, by George Putnam

An oration against Commerce, by Joseph O'Neal

An oration in praise of Commerce, by Williams Rutherford

A comic dialogue between Messrs. Meriwether, Hamilton, Meigs, Grier, and Rutherford

A poem on the advantages of science, by James D. Jackson

Valedictory address by John Douglass

JOHN ALLEN

Very little information of an authentic nature can be secured concerning John Allen after his graduation. He became a Presbyterian minister. It appears that he was a member of the Georgia House of Representatives in 1810 and there is a record of his assisting in the protection of the Cherokee Indians when they were removed from Georgia in 1838.
JOHN DOUGLASS

John Douglass was first honor graduate in the Class of 1807. It is believed that he came to college from Wilkes county and that his father was David Douglass, of that county. It is recorded that on April 4, 1815, he was appointed administrator on the estate of David Douglass. He evidently moved to Macon for it is recorded that "on March 20, 1823, the Superior Court of Bibb County met for the first time. The following persons were sworn in as grand jurors: . . . . . ., John Douglas, etc."

THOMAS NAPIER HAMILTON

Thomas Napier Hamilton's ancestors were among the early settlers in Georgia. He was the son of Captain James Hamilton and Ann Napier Hamilton and was born in Columbia County, Georgia, February 3, 1788. When in his sixteenth year he entered the University of Georgia, graduating in 1807. While in college he was a member of the Demosthenian Literary Society and took great interest in debating.

Desiring to prepare himself for the legal profession he went to the Litchfield Law School, Litchfield, Connecticut, from which institution he graduated in 1810. Returning to his home in Columbia County, he spent the next thirty-two years of his life in that county practicing his profession and looking after the interests of his landed estate. In 1814 he married Sarah S. Bugg. Their children were James S., who married Rebecca Crawford, a close relative of Georgia's distinguished son, William H. Crawford; Anne, who married J. Watkins Harris; Eugenia, who married Albin Dearing; Sara, who married Benjamin C. Yancey; and Virginia, who married M. C. Fulton.

He was a member of the Georgia House of Representatives in 1832. He was among those who met in Athens in 1833 and started a movement that resulted in securing a charter from the Georgia Railroad which was the third railroad built in the United States. He became a director in that railroad company.

He became a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Georgia in
1834 and served as such seventeen years, resigning in 1851. In later years his son, James S. Hamilton, was a member of this Board. In 1842 he moved from Columbia County to Athens, where he practiced law and where he lived until his death November 7, 1858.

SAMUEL W. MEIGS

Samuel W. Meigs, son of Josiah Meigs, first active president of the University of Georgia, was born in 1788. He came to Athens when but twelve years of age, at the time his father took up his work as president. He never married. He died in 1812 in the thirtieth year of his life.

JAMES MERIWETHER

James Meriwether was born near Washington, Georgia, in 1789. In the University he was a brilliant student, graduating with first honor. For one year after graduation he was a tutor in the University of Georgia. He read law in Aliberton and was admitted to the bar. For a short while he practiced his profession. He was Judge of the Inferior Court in Clarke County from 1811 to 1813, when he resigned and, going to his farm in Clarke County, became "the helpless victim of rural felicity."

He represented Clarke County in the Georgia House of Representatives in 1821-1822 and 1823. As a young man he saw military service in the War against the Creek Indians. From 1825 to 1827 he was a member of the national house of representatives. After serving two years he retired from active life.

He took an active interest in the University, serving as a trustee from 1816 to 1831.

In 1823 he was named by President Monroe as a commissioner to negotiate a treaty with the Cherokee Indians. Though occupying several public positions, he was always averse to public life. His greatest love was his farm and the open country life. He died in 1854 and was buried in the family burial ground near Athens.
Available records show nothing as to his life after graduation other than the fact that he was a member of the Georgia House of Representatives from McIntosh County in 1815.

GEORGE PUTNAM

No available record of George Putnam concerning his life after graduation.

TROUBLE IN THE OFFING

The collegiate year 1807-1808 opened with an apparent lack of interest on the part of the trustees and a corresponding lack of interest on the part of the people who had boys to send to college.

The usual November meeting of the Board of Trustees failed to be held. On three separate days in that month no quorum of board members was present and a meeting was called for January 1808 and then two days passed without the attendance of a quorum. Thus no trustees meeting was held until August 1808.

The attendance of students was rapidly dwindling and talk was going around that President Neigs and the Trustees were at odds. While no definite reason was assigned at the time, the rift was known to exist.

Evidently the members of the Prudential Committee and President Neigs were not on good terms. There was much talk and gossip. And when the trustees met in August 1808 among other things a committee that had been named to look into the question of the condition of the University among other things reported: "It is therefore with the most sincere regret that your committee observe by the Report of the President now before them, that the number of students in the college is reduced from upwards of thirty as heretofore to thirteen, and that the number in the grammar school is also reduced from upwards of forty to twenty-five. The cause of this decline is a subject meriting the strictest inquiry and investigation." The committee said they understood that there was an impression among the citizens at large concerning the conduct of the president and that the allegation was that "a portion of the discontent now prevailing has
arisen from causes which affect the reputation of the President of the College as well as the moral character and discipline of the institution generally."

That was just a warning flag. It was two years later that the trouble came to a head.

The reduction in the number of students was given as the reason for the tutor, Addin Lewis, being dropped from the faculty on account of lack of finances. That left President Meigs and Professor de Claville as the entire faculty.

CLASS OF 1808

Eight Seniors received the degree of Bachelor of Arts and the graduating program was rendered as follows:

Prayer by Rev. Abraham Marshall
Declaration of Independence read by Thomas Irwin
Salutatory oration in Latin by Wiley Gresham
An English oration by Alexander Thomas
A Greek oration by James Woodruff
An oration on American Independence by Charles E. Davis
A French oration by John Atkinson
A forensic Disputation between Messrs. Atkinson, Gresham and Woodruff
A comic dialogue between Messrs. Atkinson, Davis, Gresham and Meriwether

William Meriwether delivered the valedictory address

The degree of A. B. was conferred on Swepson Cox in addition to the above seven.

Very little information is available concerning the lives of the members of the Class of 1808. Swepson Cox became a physician and practiced in Lexington, Georgia. Alexander Thomas, after graduation, attended the Litchfield, Connecticut, Law School and graduated there in 1810. He lived in Oglethorpe county, and served in the Georgia House of Representatives in 1839 and in the Georgia Senate.
in 1840. He died in 1847.

WILLIAM MERIWETHER

William Meriwether, third son of General David Meriwether and Frances (Wingfield) Meriwether, was born in Wilkes County. He was the first honor man in the Class of 1803, his brother James Meriwether, having also graduated with first honor the year before. He became a physician, was a surgeon in the United States Army in 1812. Was Secretary of the Commission of the Indian Treaty. On account of ill health he ceased practicing medicine and turned to law. He died in the prime of life.

CLASS OF 1809

A year rolled by with no developments. President Meigs reported a good increase in attendance and that he had been compelled to get Addin Lewis to help him as a tutor. The Trustees approved this action but passed a resolution that thereafter no tutor should be employed without the consent of the Trustees.

Only three Seniors graduated that year, Charles D. Meigs, Creed Strong, and Robert Scott. No commencement exercises were held that year other than the conferring of the degrees. The students must have been misbehaving for the trustees observed that the Steward and some one of the Tutors should preside at every meal and "the offending student could be turned out of the room and lose his meal for that time." Three of the students were admonished for killing hogs belonging to Daniel Massey.

James Meriwether, having resigned as treasurer, Augustin S. Clayton was named in his stead and served in that office for seven years. Lack of money was still bothering the trustees and the salary of the President was reduced to fifteen hundred dollars, that of the Master of the Grammar School to six hundred dollars, and that of the Professor of French to four hundred dollars. It was intimated that President Meigs had been too lenient with students as to payment of fees and that the rules should be more strictly enforced, as delinquent payments were embarrassing the treasury.
CHARLES DELUCENA MEIGS

Charles Delucena Meigs was the son of Josiah Meigs and was born in 1792 at St. George, Bermuda. He was a little eight year old boy when his father came to Athens as president of the University of Georgia. After graduating in 1809 he went to Pennsylvania, studied medicine and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania with the degree of M.D. in 1817. He practiced medicine in Augusta, Georgia, two years. From 1819 to his death in 1869 he lived in Pennsylvania. He wrote quite a number of papers for medical journals, especially concerning women's diseases. From 1841 to 1851 he was Professor of Obstetrics in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, retiring at the latter date and living eight years thereafter. He died in 1869. He married Mary Montgomery in 1815. He left two sons, John Forsyth Meigs and Montgomery C. Meigs.

ROBERT GOMAIN SCOTT

The first honor graduate of the Class of 1809 was Robert Gomain Scott. The Dictionary of Alabama Biography gives this short sketch of his life:

"Robert Gomain Scott was born December 22, 1791, at Savannah, Georgia, and died in 1870 at Claiborne, Monroe County, Alabama. Son of Capt. James Scott, a native of Georgia. He graduated at the University of Georgia and at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia, where he practiced his profession prior to settling in Richmond, Virginia. Later in life he removed to Alabama. He was a noted criminal lawyer and had a large practice outside of Virginia. Was a captain of cavalry in the War of 1812 and consul to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, under President Polk. At the age of 75 he went to Mobile, Alabama, to defend that city during the War of Secession. Married, first in 1810, at Williamsburg, Virginia, to Sarah, daughter of Bishop James Madison, second, to the widow of General James Delet. Member of Congress from Alabama in 1854."

CLASS OF 1810

The trustees held no meeting from August 1809 to August 1810. The commencement of 1810 witnessed the graduation of five students, Armistead Cary, Peter
Cary, Henry O'Neal, William Mitchell and James Tait. No commencement exercises were held, except as to the conferring of the degrees on the graduates and the degree of Master of Arts on Dr. Jared Irvin, Jr., and Samuel W. Meigs.

Armistead and Peyton Cary

Armistead Dudley Cary and John Peyton Cary were brothers. They were the sons of Dudley and Lucy Cary and were born in Gloucester, Virginia. After the death of Dudley Cary, his widow, with her children, moved to Athens. A. L. Hull, in his Annals of Athens, says: "She was such a lady as we may suppose Mary Washington to have been. She knew General Washington and his wife as well as most other distinguished Virginians in her young days." One of her daughters married Stevens Thomas, and a number of her descendants still live in Athens. Another daughter married Alsa Moore and several of her descendants still live in Athens.

Peyton Cary, who graduated in the Class of 1810, Mr. Hull records that he "was a young man of rare promise. He had extraordinary mechanical genius, and without any instruction in metallurgy or engraving he cast of solid silver and engraved the seal of the University, presenting it to his Alma Mater." This seal was officially adopted by the Board of Trustees.

WILLIAM MITCHELL

William Mitchell and his wife Sarah Letcher Mitchell came to Athens in 1803 accompanied by their children, William, Thomas and Rachel. A few years later William entered the University of Georgia and graduated with first honor in the Class of 1810. A number of his descendants and those of his brother Thomas still live in Athens and this section of Georgia.

JAMES TAIT

James Tait was of Virginia ancestry. He became after graduation one of the leading citizens of Elbert County and served in the Georgia Senate in 1826 and 1829.
At this time President Meigs had reached the end of his row so far as the presidency of the University was concerned. Either his patience had been exhausted or he had been given to understand that he was no longer acceptable to the trustees. The latter was probably the real reason. On August 9, 1810, he tendered his resignation and it was accepted without debate. The trustees immediately elected Rev. Henry Kollock, of Savannah, Georgia, as president.

The trustees were willing for Meigs to remain in the service of the University, but not as president. So by resolution they directed that he "perform the duty of Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Chemistry", fixing his salary at twelve hundred dollars, and he was allowed to "retain possession of his present residence and the appurtenances belonging thereto."

Josiah Meigs was a man of abundant temper when aroused, and evidently he did not fail to comment on this action of the Board of Trustees in strong and emphatic English. No doubt he expressed himself freely to the Trustees and to his friends. No official notice was taken of his remarks, whatever they may have been, and he remained a member of the Faculty until the next commencement in August 1811.

When that time arrived it was found that the following Seniors were ready for graduation with the A. B. degree: Messrs. David Callahan, Ebenezer Newton, John L. Wingfield, John Phinizy, James Thweatt, and Joseph Mallory. No regular commencement program was carried out. During the year then closing the University had been without a president, the management being in the hands of the Prudential Committee.

JOHN H. HOWARD

John H. Howard was born in Washington, Georgia, in 1793. Graduated University of Georgia with A. B. degree in 1811. Became a student in the Litchfield Law School and was graduated therefrom in 1813. Married Caroline Bostwick in 1813. Started the practice of Law in Milledgeville. Represented Baldwin County in the lower house of the Georgia legislature 1828 to 1831. In 1836 was appointed
by the legislature as head of a battalion stationed at Roanoke, Alabama, to repel an outbreak of Indians. Moved to Columbus, Georgia, and represented Muscogee County in the legislature 1836 to 1841. Came back to Athens in 1845 as a member of the state board of visitors to conduct examinations. Was a member of the Secession Convention in 1861. Served one year as a major in the Confederate Army. Died in Columbus, Georgia, in 1862. His daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Williams, of Columbus, originated Confederate "Decoration Day", since observed in Georgia each year on April 26. Mrs. Williams also started in operation from Georgia to Virginia "Wayside Homes" for soldiers.

EBENEZER NEWTON

Ebenezer Newton was the son of Rev. John Newton and Katherine (Lowrance) Newton, of North Carolina. He was born in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, in _____, his parents having moved to Georgia. After graduating from the University of Georgia in 1811 he became a teacher and in 1818 was named as a tutor in the University, serving for the next two years. He was a devout Presbyterian, serving as elder in that church. In 1819 there is a record of his being a generous contributor to the "Female Mite Society", the first missionary society formed in Athens. In 1819 he was married to Anna Strong. Several of their family in later years were students in the University of Georgia.

JOHN PHINIZY

John Phinizy was the son of Ferdinand Phinizy and Margaret (Condon) Phinizy and was born in Oglethorpe County January 7, 1793. In 1801 his parents moved to Augusta, Georgia. He was destined to live to the age of ninety-one, dying July 4, 1884. Soon after graduation he was married to Martha Gregwell, of Augusta. In 1814 he took over his father's business, became the first president of the old Mechanics Bank of Augusta, then president of the State of Georgia, Augusta Bank. Was mayor of Augusta in 1837. Was a lieutenant in a Georgia regiment in the Mexican War. The greater part of his life was devoted to banking. Among his children was Charles M. Phinizy, who also became a successful banker in
James Thweat was the son of James and Elizabeth (Peterson) Thweat, having been born August 19, 1793, near Sparta, Hancock County, Georgia. Graduated from the University of Georgia with A. B. degree in 1811. Married Frances Flaners Moore in 1811. Served as army surgeon in War of 1812. Moved to Bolingbroke, where he practiced medicine for many years. In 1832 he served as a member of the state legislature. Died April 4, 1867, at Bolingbroke, Georgia.

John L. Wingfield

John L. Wingfield after graduation in 1811 studied medicine and became a successful practitioner in Wilkes County. He married Caroline Gibson, of Wilkes County, May 15, 1827. From 1848 to his death in 1857, a period of nine years, he was a trustee of the University of Georgia.

There is nothing available in the records concerning the other members of the graduating class of 1811, David Callahan, James Hayes and Joseph Mallory.

It was quite evident that the trustees had made up their minds to get rid of Professor Meigs and charges were brought by two members of the Board, Messrs. Hope Hull and Augustin S. Clayton. They referred to alleged utterances made by Meigs one year before that time.

Hope Hull swore to the following statement:

"Hope Hull, one of the members of this Board, gives the following information and exhibits the same as charges against Mr. Professor Meigs which he urges should be inquired into by the Board, viz., that to the best of his recollection the day after the adjournment of the Board in August last and at the door of the printing office, he, Mr. Meigs, addressing himself to Mr. Hull, uttered in substance the following words, - 'You have appointed Campbell as your secretary, however, I suppose he will do well enough as a secretary for the Tories.' Mr. Meigs has further said in the presence of Mr. Hull that the State of Georgia had great reason to thank God for one honest man - Judge Early - if it had not been
for him the lands belonging to the institution would have been sold and the money pocketed; and many other expressions and observations of a similar import but not now precisely recollected."

The sworn affidavit of Augustin S. Clayton, a member of the Board of Trustees, was as follows:

"In a conversation with Mr. Meigs a few days after the adjournment of the Board in August last upon the subject of the congressional and county elections he observed in substance as follows: You, addressing himself to me, cannot think to gain the confidence of the people after your conduct relative to the college lands. The facts stated in the piece that appeared in the Express against you last were furnished by me, and there are other facts which I intend to communicate. But I cannot so much blame you for you are a tool of other great men. But for one honest man or the only honest man among them, the Board of Trustees would have sold the college lands, and would have squandered the money away to their own uses - They were all a damned pack or band of Tories and speculators and if they had turned him out of his office, he would have published their villainy and dishonesty to the world, and have shown them in their proper colors - They had made him Professor of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry, and given him a poor, pitiful salary of twelve hundred dollars - damn them, he reckoned they would make him next Professor of Cabbages and Turnips - and much more such conversation not now detailed, but the above is the substance of the conversation."

The charges against Professor Meigs in these two affidavits were communicated to him and he was allowed to appear before the Board in his own defense. The official minutes of the Board contain this statement: "Mr. Meigs attended according to notice and the charges were read by the secretary and submitted to his perusal, upon which he made some observations denying in general the substance of them to be true, and concluded by requesting copies in order to enable him to determine what course to pursue.

The next day, August 9, 1811, this paragraph appears in the minutes of the
"The Board of Trustees having this day heard the defense of Mr. Professor Meigs and the affidavits exhibited in support thereof, and having maturely considered the same together with the charges and proofs exhibited against him, are of the opinion that he hath been guilty of great misconduct and ought to be removed from the office. Wherefore, Resolved, eight members voting in the affirmative, that Josiah Meigs be and he is hereby removed from the office of Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Chemistry in Franklin College."

Thus ended the connection of Josiah Meigs with the University of Georgia.

To justly appraise the work of Josiah Meigs during the ten years in which he served as president of the University a number of things must be taken into consideration. He was conducting a new educational experiment. He was at the helm of a ship that was sailing an uncharted sea. He was managing an institution on an income that was absolutely inadequate, so inadequate that for a time he was the only member of the faculty. The buildings for a few years were nothing more than log cabins, then of cheap frame construction and finally one brick structure. As to equipment he started out with nothing, but did manage to get a small number of books in the library and a few satisfactory pieces of laboratory apparatus. He was only a fairly good disciplinarian and was not able at all times to keep some unruly students in the path of rectitude. He had an abundance of temper and at times it got outside his control. He was a man of pronounced convictions, many of them radical in their nature, and was given to the practice of talking right out in meeting. His political views did not coincide with those of the majority of the members of the Board of Trustees and no doubt this was the real reason behind his leaving the University.

He was a man of ability and never shirked work. As education went in those days he had a well-trained mind and no criticism seems to have been made of his teaching. Considering what he had to struggle against and the obstacles in his pathway, he did a good job, even though in the end he stepped out of office with
the student attendance at a low ebb and the outlook for the future of the University rather dark. It required a number of years to give permanency to the institution, but looking backward over the record of a century and a half, there seems to be no good reason why the University should in any way be ashamed of the work of its first active president.
The Early Trustees

Not all the credit for establishing the University of Georgia should go to Lyman Hall, who, as governor of Georgia, first suggested the founding of a college or seminary of learning and its endowment of forty thousand acres of land, or Abraham Baldwin, who drew its charter and gave sixteen years of valuable service in getting up enough money to open its doors, or to Josiah Meigs, who for ten years was its chief executive and for several years the only member of its faculty.

The Board of Trustees during those early days merit more attention than has usually been given them in published articles. Some of them did not pay much attention to their work in the beginning, but by and large they were attentive to their duties. The fact that a number of scheduled meetings were not held on account of non-attendance and the consequent lack of a quorum for the transaction of business was not always on account of indifference. There was such a thing as transportation in those days that had to be reckoned with. Many of the trustees lived more than one hundred miles away from the place of meeting. There were very few public roads in those days and even the best of them were impassable in bad weather. The records show, however, that after the University opened in 1801 the attendance of trustees was fairly good.

The thirteen members of the Board appointed in 1785, together with the dates of their death or resignation, were as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Died</th>
<th>Resigned</th>
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<td>James Habersham</td>
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<td>1798</td>
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<td>William Few</td>
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<td>1800</td>
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<td>Joseph Clay</td>
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<td>1798</td>
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<td>Abraham Baldwin</td>
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<td>1801</td>
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<td>John Habersham</td>
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<td>Abiel Holmes</td>
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<td>William Glasscock</td>
<td>1793</td>
<td>1799</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Taliaferro</td>
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Of the above one member served eight years; five served twelve years; three served thirteen years; two served fourteen years; one served fifteen years and
one served sixteen years. Thus it came to pass that only one member of the
original thirteen was a member of the Board when the University opened in June
1801. That one member was the founder, Abraham Baldwin, and he left the Board a
few months after the opening of the University.

Their work was entirely that of leasing land and accumulating enough money
to warrant the establishing and opening of the institution.

8. Thirty-four additional trustees were named from 1798 to 1811, inclusive, of
whom twenty-five served after the opening of the University. The thirteen members
who constituted the Board of Trustees when the University opened in 1801 were
John Twigge, John Clark, Ferdinand O'Neal, John Stewart, David B. Mitchell, Edwin
Younger, Abram Marshall, Hope Hull, Thomas P. Carnes, Jared Irwin, Dennis Smelt,
Thomas Flournoy and Peter Early. The remaining twelve who either died or resigned
before 1801 were Joseph Clay, Jr., Seaborn Jones, William Stephens, Abram Jackson,
John Springer, William Stith, George Walker, William H. Crawford, John Griffin,
Edward Faine, Stephen Upson and Joel Abbott.

In the selection of trustees great care was taken to secure the services of
the leading men in Georgia. Of these early trustees the following distribution
according to offices held will suffice to show that during the twenty-six years
from the chartering of the institution through its tenth year of actual service to
the youth of the state, 1811, the institution was in the hands of a very able
body of men:

Signer of the Declaration of Independence - George Walton

Signers of the Federal Constitution - Abraham Baldwin and William Few

Delegates to the Continental Congress - John Houston, James Habersham,
William Few, Joseph Clay, Abraham Baldwin, George Walton

U. S. Minister to France - William H. Crawford.

Colonial Continental Army - James Jackson, John Milledge

Secretary of Treasury in Cabinets of President Madison and President Monroe -
William H. Crawford

United States Senators - Abraham Baldwin, Nathan Brownson, William Few,
John Habersham, William H. Crawford, John Milledge
Members of Congress - William Glasscock, Benjamin Taliaferro, Joseph Clay, Jr., Seaborn Jones, Peter Early, Thomas P. Carney, James Jackson, Dennis Smelt, Joel Abbott


A few of these achieved their high honors after this period of service on the Board, but for the greater part, they had already achieved eminence in public service.

Those who did not take a prominent part in public life were physicians, lawyers, preachers, business men and large landowners and farmers. Together they made up a governing board of wisdom and splendid vision.

As the years passed there was a tendency for members to hold their offices as trustees for a longer period of time.

Among the Trustees of this period one member continued his service for thirty years. That trustee was Mr. Edward Paine. And he was an active trustee, too, attending nearly all the meetings. William H. Crawford served nineteen years, Joel Abbott fifteen years; Peter Early, fourteen years; Stephen Upson, thirteen years, John Twiggs eleven years and Hope Hall eleven years.

In the years preceding its actual opening, the minutes disclose very active interest on the part of Abraham Baldwin, Nathan Brownson and Hugh Lawson. After the opening of the University and until the close of President Meigs' administration those who took the more continuous interest were Peter Early, John Milledge, William H. Crawford and Hope Hall.

A little more detailed account of the life of Rev. Hope Hall may be of interest just at this point.

Hope Hall was one of the pioneer Methodist ministers in Georgia. He was born in Maryland in 1763 and was admitted to the Baltimore Conference in 1785. Later on he preached in North Carolina and South Carolina, and came to Wilkes County, Georgia, in 1788. He was sent by Bishop Asbury to New England, but was back in Savannah in 1793, riding the circuit. In 1794 he was the companion of Asbury. Then his health broke and he retired from the itinerancy. But he couldn't stop preaching. He
preached about as much as usual.

Hope Hull was a man of great intellect. He was self-educated. He was a man of large physical frame and most impressive appearance. As an orator he had few equals in his day. He was a flaming evangel and struck such powerful blows at sin as to be called by his colleagues "Broadaxe."

The latter part of his life was spent in Athens and this section of the state. He built in Clarke county one of the first Methodist churches in this section. It was known as "Hull's Meeting House." He was named as a member of the Board of Trustees in 1803. He was one of the most active of all the trustees, especially along religious and constructive lines. He served as Trustee until 1811, went back on the Board in 1816 and served until his death in 1818.
A PERIOD OF GLOOMY OUTLOOK

The Meigs regime was over. What next? That was the question that confronted the trustees, and it was a question not easily to be answered. The student body was small, the faculty was new, the buildings needed repairs, the income of the institution was inadequate and uncertain. But the trustees still had their nerve, and were not in the least disposed to give up the ship.

The next eight years were to be years of trial in many ways. Out ahead of them just one year was the War of 1812 with the inevitable drawbacks that come with any war, and that war was to last three years.

Those eight years were the darkest years in the life of the University. The student attendance rallied a little and then went down almost to the zero mark. The President and the faculty did their best and the trustees did their best. With all the shortcomings of those eight years and all the disappointments that came, to all who worked in those days for the preservation of the University much praise is due. The period was generally speaking one of failure, but it at least didn't let the light go out. Afterwards the sun shone brightly and the institution emerged from the shadows.

There was plenty of snap and go in the annual session of the Board of Trustees in August 1811. There was nothing that savored of delay or procrastination. True that what was done didn't work out very well, but the trustees, realizing that the University was sliding down hill at a rapid velocity, at least tried to do what they could to remedy the situation. President Josiah Meigs had been demoted in 1810 but remained one year as a professor, and, in fact, for that period of time, was the only member of the faculty, save Petit deClaville, Professor of French.

On August 5, 1811, the Board was notified by the Governor that Kollock had declined the offer of the presidency of the institution. Before Rev. John Brown, a Presbyterian minister from South Carolina, an address before the student body and had made a good impression. Within a few
minutes after Dr. Kollock's declination had been accepted, the trustees unanimously elected Dr. Brown as president of the University. They were through with long months of searching for a president. The times demanded action and action was forthcoming. They had a man on the grounds. So they invited and he promptly accepted. The next day, August 6, 1811, Dr. John R. Golding, rector of the academy in Columbia, South Carolina, was elected professor of Languages at $1200 per annum, Professor de Claville no longer holding that position, and Dr. Henry Jackson was named as instructor and the treasurer was instructed to provide the money "to discharge the expenses of board and lodging until such time as the state of the funds shall authorize a competent salary for his services."

Three days later on August 9 Josiah Meigs was dismissed from the faculty and President Brown was appointed Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Chymistry, and he was to be assisted by Professor Golding and Dr. Jackson.

In just four days the broom had made a clean sweep and the University had a new president and two new members of the faculty. This regime lasted just five years, during which the institution went right on down.

PRESIDENT JOHN BROWN

John Brown was a native of Ireland, having been born in County Antrim July 15, 1763. When he was but a young child he came with his father to South Carolina and in that state spent his younger days. He was in perfect sympathy with the Colonies in their fight against the British and, although he was but sixteen years of age, he entered the service under General Sumter and fought on to the end of the War of the Revolution.

In educational preparation he was evidently not equipped for the office to which he had been elected — the presidency of a university. A. L. Hull states in his Historical Sketch of the University that "his educational advantages were very limited, eighteen months covering the period of his schooling, part of which time he was a schoolmate of General Andrew Jackson. Feeling called to preach the Gospel, he studied theology under Dr. McCorkle and was licensed to preach by the
Presbytery of Concord in 1788.

At the time of his election as president of the University of Georgia he was Professor of Logic and Moral Philosophy in South Carolina, a position he had held for two years. Although he had had little educational training he must have possessed a strong mind, for he had succeeded as a preacher and was giving satisfaction as a member of the South Carolina College faculty.

Again quoting from Hull: "Dr. Brown was distinguished for his great excellence of character, his humility and generosity. He was essentially a good man. Rev. Dr. Talmadge used to call him 'Our Apostle John.' He had a vigorous mind and a fine command of languages, but though a man of great firmness of character, he was defective in some of the essential qualities of a teacher, especially failing both to excite the interest and to hold the attention of his students.

Added to this, his want of the executive talent needful in the head of an institution of learning, made his administration a signal failure. Conscious himself of this, Dr. Brown resigned the presidency in 1816, and retired to his home near Athens, where he lived for several years, doing good and honored of all men."

Before the August 1811 session was over the trustees used the economy knife so as to bring their budget inside the income of the institution. The salary of the president was fixed at $1500, that of the two professors at $1200 each. The Rector of the Grammar School was to get whatever fees came in and the Steward was to be furnished a house and allowed to charge a stated sum for boarding the students.

President Brown tried his hand at teaching for a few months, then gave up that part of his work and turned it over to Instructor Jackson who, in November 1811, was made Professor of Natural Philosophy and Chymistry.

The combined office of Secretary, Treasurer and Attorney was created and Augustin S. Clayton, a member of the University's first graduating class, was named for that position, which he filled for a number of years.

The 1812 commencement witnessed the graduation of Nathaniel Ashley, Richard Jones, Weldon Jones and Thomas Foster, though Weldon Jones came near losing his
degree on account of having opened his mouth too freely. Before he was given
his degree he had to apologize to Rev. Hope Hull in the presence of the assembled
crowd at Commencement, the charge being that he "had been guilty of rude and
highly insulting language and conduct towards the Reverend Hope Hull on account
of certain observations made by him in a sermon delivered at the Chapel on the
19th inst."

Dr. Henry Jackson had gone to France as Secretary in the American legation
and Dr. William Greene was elected professor of Mathematics in July, 1813, a
position he held for three years.

The exercises of the lower classes were held at Commencement that year,
but there were no members of the graduating class.

It was quite evident that President Brown, who was not much of a disciplina-
rian, had let the boys get out from under his control, so much so that students
made uncomplimentary remarks about him and one of them, Thompson Bird, was
expelled from college on the charge of "being the writer and publisher of a
highly immoral and scandalous libel reflecting upon the faculty of the college
and particularly upon the president." Bird took the case up on an appeal to
the trustees, but the trustees decided that he should be expelled. About three
quarters of a century later the college "Bumble Bee" made its appearance. It was
regarded by the students then as being something new, but they had not delved
into the question of a family tree enough to discover this ancestor of 1813.

The Commencement of 1814 found four young men ready to receive their degrees,
viz., Messrs. Asbury Hull, Goode Holt, William Baldwin and Milton Howard, and
the degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Duncan G. Campbell, Esq., a
graduate of the University of North Carolina. Two years later Mr. Campbell
became a trustee of the University and served as such until his death in 1828.

Class of 1815

The ensuing year was passed without any unusual incident. The graduating
class of 1815 consisted of John W. Irwin, Henry Hull, John P. Marshall and
Archer F. Mathews. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on Rev. John
ASBURY HULL

It is probably true that to no family as the University been more deeply indebted than the Hulls. At least four of them deserved special notice in any history of the institution, Hope Hull, the great Methodist pioneer in Georgia, an account of whom has already been written, showing his great interest in the institution as one of its trustees in its earliest years, his two sons, Asbury Hull and Dr. Henry Hull, and his grandson, Augustus Longstreet Hull.

Asbury Hull and Henry Hull were mere tots when their father, Rev. Hope Hull, moved to Athens. They spent practically all their lives here in close touch with the University and all its officers. Asbury lived to be sixty-eight and Henry was eighty-three when he passed on.

Asbury Hull was a lawyer by profession and a very good one, but his prominent achievements in life were in the field of business. He was born in 1797, four years before the opening of the University. As a little child he no doubt watched with boyish interest the workmen as they were busily engaged in the erection of Old College. His college days on the University campus all fell within the administration of President Brown. The University was going through its darkest days. He was one of the four boys who graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts in the Class of 1814.

In the days of early manhood he had a flair for politics. He was of pleasing appearance, made friends easily and kept them, and everybody trusted him on account of his unquestioned integrity. He served his state in the lower house of the state general assembly, was elected Speaker of that body, then went on to the state senate, of which he became president. He had the reputation of being one of the best presiding officers of his day.

But, as said before, the business world was a great attraction. He served for years as Cashier of the State Bank in Athens. In January 1848, at Griffin, Georgia, the Southern Mutual Insurance Company was organized. It has since become one of the great insurance companies of America. Its first president...
was James G. Hill, of Griffin. But in December of that year the head offices
were moved to Athens and new officers were elected. Asbury Hull, then in the
vigor of middle age, was named as president, and thus in fact became the
first real, active president of that company. In that position he served until
his death in 1866, a period of eighteen years and during that time under his
leadership the foundations were laid upon which the great superstructure
was reared.

In 1819, when he was only twenty-two years old, and just five
years after his graduation, he was elected treasurer of the University of
Georgia. That was the time in which the fortunes of the University were at
the lowest ebb. That was the year when Moses Waddel came to direct the
sinking ship into safe waters. The services of Asbury Hull as treasurer of the
University stretched over the following forty-seven years until his death in 1866.

The financial problems met in those years are set forth elsewhere in this story
of the University. To the faithful and efficient treasurer of those days
the fullest seed of praise must be given.

Asbury Hull was twice married. His first wife was Miss Lucy Harvie
Their children were William Hope, Henry, George G., Edward W., John Harvie and
James M. His second wife was Miss Maria Cook.

The ensuing year was passed without any unusual incident. The
graduating class of 1815 consisted of John W. Irwin, Henry Hull, John F.
Marshall and Archer M. Matthews. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was
conferred on Rev. John R. Thompson, of Augusta. Augustin S. Clayton
resigned as Secretary and Treasurer of the Board of Trustees and Rev
John Hodge was elected to that position.

* Asbury Hull's second wife was Mrs. Maria Cook, the widow of the artist George
Coake (or Cooke) who painted the picture in the University of Georgia Chapel.
See: Hull, Annals of Athens, p. 459. See: Oconee Hill Cemetery, Hull Lot,
HENRY HULL

Henry Hull, son of Rev. Hope Hull, was born in 1798 and lived to be eighty-three, passing on in 1881. As a little child, he had seen the University of Georgia in its infancy, as a young man he attended its classes when it was fighting for a bare existence, as a vigorous young man and on into middle age he served it as professor of mathematics under the administration of President Church, teaching many boys who in later years became leaders in state and nation, after the war period of the sixties, saw it come back into good and effective work, and in his declining years saw it well on its way to prosperous days.

He was eminently qualified to do what he did, that is, in his younger years of ease toward the end of life, to put down on paper his recollections of the University of Georgia, practically from its beginning. Years after his death, his son, Augustus L. Hull, of the Class of 1866, revised the story he had written of the University of Georgia and the City of Athens, adding his own observations and publishing the "Annals of Athens" in 1907.

This historical contribution of Dr. Henry Hull is invaluable. Official records in the earlier days of the University omitted much of great interest, and in many instances the omitted parts were essential to the completion of the story. But for Dr. Hull's work all this would have been lost. From "Annals of Athens" the writer has used quite a number of quotations bearing on the problems of the University in its earlier days and touching the lives of a number of the members of the faculty of the institution.

Dr. Henry Hull was by profession a physician. After graduating from the University of Georgia in 1815, he studied medicine at the University of Maryland, from which institution he received the degree of M.D. In 1825, at the age of twenty-seven, he was elected as a trustee of the University and served until 1837, four years, when he resigned. In 1837, he was again
elected a trustee and served until 1867, a period of ten years. Being at that
time sixty-nine years old, he did not again attempt service on the Board, but
took an active interest in the affairs of the next twelve years, up to the
time of his death in 1881.

He was interested in agriculture and had a number of farms to which
he gave attention. His active mind dealt with a number of civic affairs in
which his advice was valued. He was for a time president of the Athens
Manufacturing Company.

Dr. Hull was twice married. His first wife was Miss Mary Bacon.
Their children were Lucy, who married Dr. John S. Linton and Edward who died in
childhood, Asbury, Julia, and Henry, his second wife was Miss Mary A. Nisbet.
Their children were Augustus L, Leila M., and John Hope.

For many years a splendid portrait of Dr. Hull hung on the wall
in my office on the campus. It bore out the description given of him that he was
"tall and graceful in bearing, dignified, without austerity, with the courtesy
born with the true gentleman."
The year 1816 opened with a practical turnover in the Board of Trustees. Since 1811 the Board of Trustees had consisted of the following seven members:

William H. Crawford, Peter Early, John Griffin, Stephen Upson, Joel Abbott, Edward Paine and Hope Hall.

The legislature decided to increase the number of the Board of Trustees and the seven old trustees were now joined by thirteen others: Augustin S. Clayton, alumnus of the Class of 1804; James Meriwether, alumnus of 1807; Thomas W. Cobb, member of Congress and later on Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; James M. Wayne, Member of Congress and later on Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court; Nicholas Ware, Member of Congress; John A. Cuthbert, Member of Congress; Young Gresham, John Elliott, Edward Harden, Thomas U. P. Charlton, Henry Kollock, and Duncan G. Campbell.

With no reflection upon the conscientious services of the seven men who had managed the affairs of the institution for years preceding the coming of their new brethren, it is nevertheless true that the new members added ability to the governing body and that several steps of a beneficial nature were taken during the next few years, though the ultimate results of those steps lay out in the future.

The funds of the institution being at a low ebb the trustees were of necessity forced to reduce the president's salary to one thousand dollars and those of the two professors to six hundred dollars. No doubt those officers were disappointed but they were loyal. They took the blow on the chin and went right on with their work.

Those officers were charged with the collection of the student fees and the proration of the sum collected in payment of their salaries. If they admitted a student on credit and failed to collect his fees, the amount was deducted from
their salaries.

There must have been much laxity in the enforcement of the rules of the college, especially as to attendance on religious exercises and the time and place of holding classes and examinations, for in May 1816 the President was told to see that all this should be remedied.

The following Seniors were awarded the degree of Bachelor of Arts: Waters Briscoe, R. N. Randolph, W. C. Dawson, Ethelred Langston, and Milner C. Nesbit.

One of the first things done at this session of the trustees was to appoint a committee to report on the subjects necessary to be acted on during the session, in other words, to make a thorough examination and prepare an agenda. The committee made a thorough report. Of first importance was the sale of the remaining lands of the college and the securing of an adequate income.

Concerning the internal affairs of the institution, the following excerpt from the committee report will give a good idea as to how the trustees viewed the situation.

"1st. - Whether any, and what, changes shall be made in the officers of the college; especially whether there shall be a change in relation to the presidency and whether that change now take place and additional professors be now employed or measures adopted to procure them.

"2nd. - Inasmuch as complaints have been made to some of the trustees in relation to the moral deportment of the students, that inquiry be had whether the laws of the college have been sufficiently enforced upon that subject, and whether any and what officers of the college have been negligent of their duty."

Before the meeting of the trustees adjourned two resignations were offered and accepted, the resignation of President Brown and the resignation of William Greene, Professor of Mathematics, and James Canak was elected Professor of Mathematics and Asbury Hull named as a tutor.

The Governor of the state notified the Trustees that he had subscribed for one thousand shares of stock in the newly-established Bank of the State of
Georgia in the name of the trustees and the trustees ordered all the bonds and
notes given for land purchases to be turned over to the state in exchange for
bank stock. This was the beginning of the movement to make more certain the income
of the University.

The trustees met again on November 16, 1816, and decided to close the insti-
tution until January 1, 1817. They met again on December 24 and named Rev. Robert
Finley, of New Jersey, as president of the University at a salary of $1500 and a
promise to increase it as soon as possible. Later on in February 1817, they
raised the salary to two thousand dollars and agreed to pay the expenses of
moving his family to Athens (which turned out to be over nine hundred dollars).
Moses W. Dobbs was asked to come as principal of the Grammar School, but did
not accept this place under the administration of his uncle, President Moses
Waddell. Provision was made for carrying on the work of the University under the
direction of the senior trustee, Peter Early and Dr. Golding was to do the teach-
ing until President Finley arrived. Ebenezer Newton, a graduate of the Class
of 1811, was named as principal of the Grammar School. James Camak was elected
as a tutor.

PRESIDENT ROBERT FINLEY

When called to the presidency of the University Robert Finley was one of
the leading Presbyterian divines in the state of New Jersey. He was well-
educated, cultured and refined, and greatly beloved by his people. They did all
they could to prevent his acceptance of the call. Dr. Finley and his family at
first were not favorably impressed. In fact, he weighed the proposition most
carefully before making up his mind.

He took his place in the meeting of the Board of Trustees and, having
surveyed the situation thoroughly, had a number of suggested places for the
improvement of the University. The trustees were most favorably impressed with
their new president. They backed him up in all he wanted. The finances of the
institution had been improved by the state lending ten thousand dollars on the.
surplus bonds given for purchase of college lands, and the guaranteed income of eight thousand dollars from the bank stock that had been purchased in the bank of the State of Georgia afforded a steady income.

The salary of the president was raised to two thousand dollars and that of Professor Golding was increased. Hon. William H. Crawford, a member of the board, was asked to write Dr. Henry Jackson and urge him to return from Europe and take up his work as Professor of Natural Philosophy. Arrangements were made to repair all the buildings. A new house was authorized for the president's home.

Former President Brown wrote a letter stating that a certain gentleman, who wished his name to remain unknown, offered to give one thousand dollars to the University for the purchase of philosophical apparatus. Needless to say the gift was accepted with the hearty thanks of the Board. It developed later on that the generous donor was Mr. John H. Marks. The trustees authorized an additional two thousand dollars to be spent for philosophical apparatus. The gift of Mr. Marks was the second gift of any considerable amount of money to the University.

The need for more books was apparent and a substantial appropriation was made for that purpose.

The new president had his ideas about building up the student body. He would make a trip to different sections of the state, visit the academies and secure as many students as possible.

So at the close of commencement he started on his rounds and visited several places. The people received him gladly and he made a fine impression wherever he went. He must have overtaxed his strength. He returned to Athens a very ill man, suffering from a bilious attack from which he never rallied. Death came to him on October 3, 1817.

He had served as president less than six months. It was the belief of those who knew him that had he lived his administration would have been most successful. The community was greatly saddened and the trustees especially were down-hearted. They voted to the widow of Dr. Finley the choice of two lots as a residence.
remains of Dr. Finley were interred on the college grounds, in what afterwards became the town cemetery, the trustees appropriating two hundred dollars for a suitable monument. The offer was made to afford all his sons free tuition in the University.

There is no doubt but that President Finley would have made a great success of his administration had he lived. Rev. Adiel Sherwood in his Georgia Gazetteer, published in 1829, had this to say of him:

"The talents and reputation of Dr. Finley eminently qualified him to preside over a literary institution. To a mind well-stored with scientific attainments was added long experience in the instruction and management of youth, a tempered mind, and conciliatory deportment.

With advantages such as we have enumerated the University of Georgia was regarded as about to assume a stand among the literary institutions of the United States, and under the superintendence of this gentleman, had he lived, the most sanguine expectations of its friends would doubtless have been realized.

"Dr. Finley determined that nothing should remain undone in his power to accomplish, which might advance the interests of the college, and finding it destitute of a library, he devised the laudable design of endeavoring to raise by subscription a sum for the purpose of purchasing books and laying the foundations of a College library; with this in view, and also with the desire to become acquainted with the southern men and manners, in the month of July he made a tour through the middle and southern sections of the state, and being unaccustomed to the climate, the excessive heat of the season added to the fatigue of traveling, produced a bilious attack, which in August or September 1818, terminated his short, but useful, term of service as President of Franklin College. A considerable amount of money was, however, subscribed, and although Dr. Finley lived not to see the fruit of his labor, yet the money was collected, and the foundation of a college library was laid, which has since become respectable."

At the time the above was written by Dr. Sherwood, the University
on its shelves three thousand volumes. Unfortunately the library was destroyed by fire two years later.

The work done in the University during the years 1817 and 1818 was practically nil. Dr. Golding as acting president, kept the institution going, looking after its business interests along with the trustees and teaching the few students who remained in attendance. Mr. James Camak, who was in charge of the teaching of mathematics, was requested by the governor of the state to assist in scientifically locating the line of the 35th parallel of North latitude in order to determine the boundary line between the states of Georgia and Tennessee, and the request was made that the University allow the state to use the mathematical instruments belonging to the University in this work. This request was granted.

The Camak survey was used in future years in unsuccessful efforts made by the State of Georgia to recover certain lands claimed by Tennessee. Had the Camak survey been finally accepted, the southern part of the City of Chattanooga would now be in Georgia.

For a portion of this period of time the salaries of the officers of the University were suspended, and as that expense did not have to be met, the trustees had that much more money on hand when the University began to move forward a year later.

The University, on its opening day had, outside of its land, a little over seven thousand dollars, the greater part of which was in unpaid notes. Seventeen years had passed and by the selling of land and proper investment of its funds, as well as the exercising of economy, it had an income of nearly ten thousand dollars per annum.

The trustees decided that it was time to make the offices of the college more attractive in order to get abler men to fill them and a new salary scale was adopted, showing substantial increase. Beginning with January 1, 1819, the salary
of the president was to be twenty-five hundred dollars, the two professors were
to be paid fifteen hundred dollars each, and the tutor eight hundred dollars.
Measured in terms of the dollar in those days and at the present time those were
very respectable salaries. They compared favorably with the salaries paid officers
and faculty members in that day in educational institutions much older than the
University of Georgia.

The trustees didn't know it then, but they had almost reached the time
when the University would be started on the upgrade and insured a future of
permanent usefulness.

During the administration of President Brown, only seventeen students had
received their degrees. Thomas Flournoy Foster became a lawyer and served in
the state legislature; Richard Jones, first honor, Class of 1812, served as a
sergeant in the War of 1812. He was the father of Mrs. General Joseph Wheeler,
Famous cavalry leader in the War Between the States and in the Spanish-American
War; Asbury Hull, who served from 1819 to 1866 as Secretary and Treasurer of
the University of Georgia, was Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives,
State Senator, Member of the Georgia Secession Convention, prominent insurance
man, president of the Southern Mutual Insurance Company; Henry Hull, Graduate
of University of Maryland with the degree of M.D., professor of Mathematics
University of Georgia from 1830 to 1846, president of Athens Manufacturing Company,
author of "Reminiscences of Athens, Georgia", often quoted in these pages along
with quotations from the Annals of Athens by his son, A. L. Hull.

During this period of time, the student who reached the highest station in
public life was William C. Dawson, of the Class of 1816.

WILLIAM CROSEY DAWSON

William Crosby Dawson was born in Greene County, Georgia, January 2, 1798,
and died May 5, 1856. Into those fifty-eight years he crowded an immense amount
of work and by virtue of his ability wound up his life as a member of the United
States Senate. He was the son of a farmer, who was one of the earliest settlers
Young Dawson possessed a brilliant mind and his father sent him to the University of Georgia for its improvement. He entered the University when it was at low ebb, having been closed for a while during the War of 1812. There were few students in attendance, but he received that much more personal attention from his preceptors.

His father was well enough blessed with material goods to afford the young son still further education and sent him north to Litchfield, Connecticut, where he studied law and graduated from the Litchfield Law School. He returned to Georgia and took up the practice of his profession in Greensboro. In a few years he was out in politics and was sent to the legislature from Greene county. In 1828 he was directed by the legislature to compile the laws of the State of Georgia, which he did. He also served in the State Senate.

In 1836 he was elected to Congress as a Whig and was re-elected in 1838. He decided that he did not wish to serve through that term and returned to the practice of his profession in 1839. Four years later he was appointed Judge of the Superior Courts of the Ocmulgee Circuit, served in that position one year and then went back to the practice of law. He had a flair for politics, but he liked law better.

In 1849 he was called by the Whig party into a contest for a seat in the United States Senate, his opponent being the eloquent orator, Walter T. Colquitt. The race was close and exciting, resulting in the election of Dawson. He served six years as Senator, dying at the end of his term in 1856.

In the Senate he was in the midst of intellectual giants, but he held his own with the best. His Georgia colleague was the incomparable John McPherson Berrien, "the American Cicero." Those were the closing days of the great triumvirate, Clay, Calhoun and Webster. Stephen A. Douglas was then in his prime.

During his stay in the Senate, it fell to the lot of Senator Dawson to defend the claim of Crawford W. Long to the honor of having first used ether as an
anesthetic in a surgical operation.

A bill had been introduced to pay $100,000 to the discoverer of the use of the anesthetic. Behind it were the friends of Dr. William T. G. Morton, of Boston, Massachusetts, and Charles T. Jackson was also a claimant. No claim had been made for Dr. Long up to that time. Senator Dawson got the facts together and presented Long's claim. It muddied the waters at least, a lengthy debate followed, action on the bill was deferred and that was the last of it.

Among the children of Senator Dawson was Edgar Gilmer Dawson, who graduated at the University of Georgia in 1849. One of the sons of Edgar Gilmer Dawson, Dr. William Terrell Dawson, who died in 1925 in Daytona, Florida, and left his entire estate, valued at $140,000 to the University for the benefit of the State College of Agriculture, and with that money the Edgar Gilmer Dawson Loan Fund was established, of which more will be said later on in the story of the University.

Senator Dawson was deeply attached to the University. He was among the alumni who organized the Alumni Society in 1834. In 1839 he was named as a member of the Board of Trustees and served continuously in that position for seventeen years until his death in 1856.