

Carolyn:

I tracked down the source of the article on The Montgomery Family brought to you by Montgomery Ham 7/28/95.

Judge Samuel B. Hoyt wrote the article which was published in the Atlanta Constitution April 20, 1886. Just a guess, but I think he might have been related in some way to the Venables. The mother of the Stone Mountain Venable brothers was a Hoyt. Both William and Samuel Venable had Hoyt as their middle name.

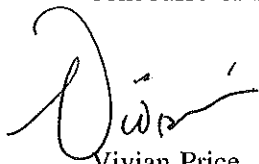
FYI:

Nancy Farlow Montgomery d. July 27, 1842. Obit (Southern Recorder, Aug. 16, 1842), said she was at first religious meeting every held in DeKalb.

Obit: "The writer of this sketch has witnessed the departure of many of God's saints, but he can safely say that he has never witnessed more calmness, more tranquility, or more resignation, than was manifested by the deceased... "

Following is text of JMcM's obit dated Oct. 25, 1842 in The Southern Recorder:

"Died on the 6th of October at his residence `Standing Peachtree' in DeKalb County, in his 73rd ^{year,} year, Colonel James M. C. Montgomery, after a long period of feeble health; following the recent death of his consort of whom he was devotedly attached, he sank rapidly. He was born in Lancaster Dist., S. C. At an early age he moved to Georgia and engaged in agricultural pursuits. He served in both civil and military capacities. He accompanied his father, a staunch Whig and military Captain in the Revolution. About the close of the Revolution, though but a lad, on a short expedition against the Tories. Later was a private in expeditions against the indians in East Tenn. in 1791-2. He commanded a battalion in the indian hostilities of 1813, and was Adjutant under General Floyd in the Battle of Autossee. He was a schoolmate and personal friend and for awhile army compatriot of General Jackson. He served as magistrate, collector of State and U. S. Revenues, State Senator, Agent of Indian Affairs, etc. He and his late wife were married for 45 years. Their home was the abode of hospitality and kindness. They had 13 children, one died in infancy. Eight are living. Members of the church 50 years. Funerals of both him and his wife were preached on the same day by different clergymen in the presence of a large concourse of friends and neighbors."



Vivian Price
Dec. 7, 1995

NANCY'S ARM AMPUTATED AT SHOULDER MAY 14, 1832 BECAUSE OF TUMOR
SOURCE: FAMILY BIBLE

THE MONTGOMERY FAMILY

An Interesting Sketch Of One Of The Pioneer Families Of DeKalb County

DeKalb County was organized in 1822. It was on the borders of the Cherokee County, then occupied by the Cherokee Indians, who were not entirely removed until 1838. Judge Ezzard tells me that he and Daniel Johnson came to DeKalb in 1824.

I expect he and Daniel Johnson are the only men now living who came after they were grown men to DeKalb 62 years ago. They are both octogenarians, and I love to hear them talk about those old times, and wish they would talk and write more. The judge tells me that Major Jas. M. C. Montgomery was living in this county when he came here, and he thinks lived here several years before he came, in fact, before the county was laid out. Hereafter, to save space, I shall designate Major Montgomery as "the major".

The major and his whole family were remarkable people. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, that wonderful stock from which has descended many of our great men. He told he was the same.... General Richard Montgomery... Revolutionary fame who was killed in the attack on Quebec in 1775.

When the writer first came to DeKalb County in 1841, the major was the first person he saw. How well I remember it. When the ferry boat landed on the DeKalb, or south side of the Chattahoochee at the Montgomery ferry (now called Defoor's) about eight miles from Atlanta, the first person I saw was the major, standing on the bank. I went with him to his house, about half a mile south of the ferry, and stayed with him about six weeks.

His wife was one of the noblest and best women I ever saw. She was the main stay of the little Methodist church near their residence. Often have I heard her make some of the best prayers I ever heard at the prayer meeting of her church. They seemed to come straight from her good heart. I never met a more harmonious and loving couple. He was a Presbyterian and she a Methodist, and yet there was never a jar. Even in the matter of family worship, he would give out the hymn, and then, in deference to her church, the whole family would rise and sing. At her death, he received a shock he never recovered from and died soon after. When I knew her, she had but one arm, but she made good use of the one left. She wielded her little hoe with surprising vigor in the garden. She was a notable housekeeper, too. For many years, travelers would stop over at their house. They never charged a preacher anything for their entertainment, and the poor and needy were never turned down from their door. There were few country houses better known in Georgia than theirs.

The major was very jolly and good-natured, but well posted about the affairs of the country and very intelligent and well read. He was a strong "Troup" man and whig and represented the county several times in the legislature.

He was not wealthy but what was called a "good liver". There never was a better master. He was called in those days a "negro spoiler". One of his slaves, named Ransom, was bought by the state for heroically saving the railroad bridge across the river from being burnt. He was set as near free as the law would allow, and the state took care of him to the time of his death, a short time ago. He was the only slave the state ever owned.

The major and his good wife reared a large family, six sons and three daughters. Like the Scotch and Scotch Irish, all the world over, they believed it more important

to properly train up and educate their children than to accumulate property for them, and their chief aim was to rear their children properly.

Their sons were named Ulysses, Telemachus F., Rhadamanthus J., James F., Joseph T., and Hugh B. T. (commonly called Troup.) Except Ulysses and James, their sons were all college bred.

Ulysses died young...a childless widow...who afterwards... married (as best I can make out) Neal Connally. They lived and died on the Marietta Road, just outside the corporation limits. Dr. E. L. Connally, of this city, now has in his possession the will of Ulysses Montgomery. Neal Connally was the doctor's uncle.

Rhadamanthus J. was a Presbyterian clergyman. He had charge of a church in Cassville, Bartow County, as far back as 1835. He married Miss Harriet Bagle of East Tennessee. He moved to Wetumka, Alabama, and died there in 1841. He left a widow without children. She married our honored fellow citizen, Hon. J. Norcross in 1845. Rev. Virgil C. Norcross is her only son.

Telemachus F. was also a Presbyterian clergyman. He was well known in Meriweather and other counties of this state. He died in Florida a few years ago. His family reside in that state... James F. resided on a plantation near his father's... married a Miss Young of Cobb County. He was in the Florida... of 1836. He died in 1848 leaving a wife and four children... now living in Marietta, Georgia. His sons are William R. Montgomery, the popular and efficient clerk of Superior Court of Cobb County, J. S. Montgomery of Hearne, Texas, and Henry F. Montgomery of Jacksonville. His only daughter... Emma Haynes of Marietta, Georgia. She has two sons now residing in this city.

Joseph T. and Troup Montgomery have the honor of having founded LaGrange Female College in 1845. Joseph T. married a Miss Cameron of Troup County. He died soon after the war. His widow and two sons now reside in Jacksonville, Alabama.

Troup married a Miss Broughton, of Troup County. He died soon after the war. His widow resides in LaGrange, Georgia. One of the sons (Hugh) resides in Opelika, Alabama. William J., another son, resides here and is secretary and treasurer of the Atlanta Cotton Seed Oil Mills. One of the major's daughters married Dempsey Connally of Campbell County. They had a large family. They all removed to Texas before the war.

Another daughter married Joseph D. Shumate, of the old Shumate family in this county. They were among the earliest settlers of Cobb County, but removed to LaFayette, Georgia, where they died, leaving many descendents.

Narcissa, the youngest daughter of the major, married Henry Dean, who has a large number of kindred in this city, among others his nephew, James W. Loyd, our City Marshall. Mr. Dean died before the war. She is now living with some of her children in Texarkana, Arkansas and is the only surviving child of the major. She is very much like her mother, which is the highest compliment... could pay her. Take them all in all, they were a noble family. Loving and devoted to each other, they were at the same time, generous, kind, religious, brainy, and energetic. They were all church members, divided about half and half between the Presbyterian and Methodist churches. While I was at the major's house in 1841, there resided on the opposite side of the river two families, that of James A. Collings and James Loyd. Mr. Collins was a brother of Mrs. Loyd and a half brother of Henry Dean, who married the major's daughter. Mrs. Collins was the sister of the late W. R. Vena... so long

the Clerk of our Superior Court,....the major was their uncle. Collins & Loyd were merchants and had a country store there. In....they moved to Atlanta (then Marthasville) and after Captain Loyd built the Washington Hall Hotel (where the Markham house now stands) sold goods in that building.

So it will be seen that the Montgomery, Loyd, Collins and Venable families were all connected together. A strong affection has always existed between them. There are quite a number of them residing in this city. The major, his wife, and several of their deceased children are buried in the family burying ground near the old homestead.

I have given this imperfect sketch of this good old family. The moral that might be drawn from it is the immense power for good that may go out from a good home. They are scattered over the.... they are mostly good people. It....of love to me to sketch the Col..... Wilsons, Johnsons, Thompsons,.....other good families of old DeKalb if.....nished me.

DeKalb

James McO. Montgomery of Standing Peachtree

By E. Katherine Anderson

Adiel Sherwood in his Gazetteer of Georgia, 1837 (p. 237) said of Standing Peachtree: "Standing Peach-tree is a noted crossing place over the Chattahoochee, in DeKalb county. Here are a few houses, and P. O.; on the great road to Cobb county. Mr. Montgomery resides at this place."

This Mr. Montgomery was my great-great-grandfather, James McO. Montgomery, who had then resided at Standing Peachtree for at least sixteen years. Judge Samuel B. Hoyt, in 1886, wrote a sketch of "The Montgomery Family", published in The Atlanta Constitution, April 20 of that year. He said that Judge Ezzard, who was still living in 1886, told him that he and Daniel Johnson, who was also still living, had come to DeKalb County in 1824 and "that Major James M. C. Montgomery was living in this county when he came here, and he thinks lived here several years before he came, in fact before the county was laid out."

Judge Ezzard must have meant before Henry County was laid out, for the site of Standing Peachtree, which is now in Fulton County, was in District 17 of Henry County when it was created by Act of the General Assembly May 15, 1821, from the recently ceded Creek Indian lands. (I am indebted to Mr. Eugene M. Mitchell for data about the various counties within whose boundaries Standing Peachtree has been.) When by Act of the General Assembly of December 24, 1821, this 17th District, with others, was added to Fayette County, J. M. C. Montgomery was appointed one of the commissioners to superintend the election of Justices of the Inferior Court for Fayette County. The same Act provided that all Fractions and Islands lying in Fayette County were to be exposed at the Standing Peachtree to highest bidder on rent for year 1822, and in the Georgia Archives is a signed receipt from J. McO. Montgomery, as follows:

"Standing Peachtree Fayette County
"Recd February 1, 1822 of C. B. Fritchard. List of Fractional Surveys contained in Fayette County and laws containing the ortority for the same." (The Fractions and Islands had been withheld in the Land Lottery of 1821, when the land lots in Henry, Fayette, and other counties were distributed.)

DeKalb County was not out off from Fayette until December 9, 1822, and the first minutes in the Record Book of the Inferior Court of DeKalb County is headed "Fayette Co.", and the first order after the organization of the court is "that James M. C. Montgomery, Henry Logan & Ebenezer Pitts Esqs. be commissioners of Roads in the 17th District formerly Henry now Fayette Co."

I have not discovered exactly how long it was before Henry County was laid out that James McO. Montgomery settled at Standing Peachtree. He was, however, there temporarily in 1814, for in the files of the Cherokee-East, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in

Washington, is the following copy of an affidavit, made by him and sworn to before Samuel A. Wales, Commissioner, January 22, 1829, when testimony was being taken as to just how far north the land ceded by the Creeks extended:

"Georgia
DeKalb County } James M. C. Montgomery saith on oath that he was
superintendent of Artificers in the service of United States in the
year 1814 and stationed at the Standing Peach tree on the Chattahoochee
River for the purpose of erecting public boats to transport provisions
down the Chattahoochee. That while in service at said place he under-
stood from the Indians in that vicinity who were chiefly or entirely
Cherokees, that the land on both sides of said River belonged to the
Creeks - and this deponent further saith that some years prior to 1814
he obtained a decree of the Cherokee nation against certain Cawdry
who was then at the head of an Indian family - that he was informed
by the Cherokee Indians that said Cawdry run his property to the
Standing peach tree, on enquiring whether than the land there was
Creek or Cherokee, this deponent was informed by several who were
leading men in the Cherokee nation that it belonged to the Creeks, and
that any claim or title the Cherokees had to the lands there was by
permission of the Creeks - and that it was common for the two tribes
being connected with each other by marriage, to occupy each others
land, and this deponent further saith that the Standing peach tree is
from ten to twelve miles above the buzzard roost the point from whence
the temporary line between the two tribes now starts and further this
deponent saith that one John Woodall was permitted by the Cherokees
to erect a Mill, etc., on the west side of the Chattahoochee im-
mediately above the peach tree - and that Rolly McIntosh at the head
of a party of Creek Indians as this deponent understood came up and
destroyed said Woodall's crop and mill, and this deponent has often
seen the ruins of the same." (The Southern Recorder of February 7,
1829, reprinted from The Georgia Journal an abstract of this same
affidavit, the only variation being that Woodall's mill is located
"below" the Peach tree.)

James McC. Montgomery became attached to Standing Peachtree while
there in 1814, as is shown by the following letters written at that
time to Andrew Jackson. (The latter part of the first letter is
quoted in Bassett's Correspondence of Andrew Jackson, Vol. I, p. 482,
and I am indebted to Miss Ruth Blair for its discovery. I have
secured for the Atlanta Historical Society, from the Division of
Manuscripts, Library of Congress, photostatic copies of this letter
and another written three months later. I will quote all of both
letters.) The first is dated, "Floydsville Chatahucsee 20th March
1814". (Floydsville was a military name given the place on the
Chattahoochee that we call Standing Peachtree.)

"Genl Jackson

"Sir having completed a campaign under Genl Floyd on the last
day of Feby, on the first of this Inst I accepted of an appointment
in the United States Service, that of Superintendent of Artificers

DE KALB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

which appointment had been made on the 18th of Feby when I was at Fort Hull on Oulabee creek near the Tallipooey, being notified by the proper Authority of my appointment I accepted of the same returned home to the up country (as I command the most Frontier Battalion)

("Home" was about five or six miles northwest of Jefferson Court House, Jackson County. In the Department of Archives is a memorandum to prepare a commission for James M. G. Montgomery, Esq., as Major of 54nd Battalion, dated March 19, 1808).

"I instantly organiz'd a corps of Artificers and with Lieut Gilmore of the 43rd Regiment U.S. Army took up our line of March for this place the Lieut having twenty two Regulars though chiefly new recruits".

("Artificers" were apparently workmen. "Lieut. Gilmore" was, of course, Lieut. George R. Gilmer, later Governor of Georgia, who mentioned in his book, Sketches of some of the First Settlers of Upper Georgia, etc., pp. 253-257, his experience at Standing Peachtree.)

"and on the 14th the very respectable Lieut. a Mr. Bowman Boatright, Soldiers, artificers and myself arriv'd on the banks of the Chatahuchey at a place named as above, which place had been pitched on by Majr Burke one of the United States Deputy Quarter Master Genls. who in the month of Jany. last built, or had built a Boat in order to try the experiment of transporting Supplies from this place to Fort Mitchell"

(Fort Mitchell was, according to Memoirs of Georgia, Vol: I, p. 95, a "strong work on the Chattahoochee", built by General Floyd after he had constructed a line of blockhouses and stockade forts from the Ocmulgee westward, and was used as a base for his march into Alabama against the Creek Indians at Autossee and Challibee),

"the Experiment so far succeeded that Genl Pinkney has thought proper to order the building of ten Boats, which I am now stationed on the Chatahuchey in order to effect; It being left to my self to choose a site for the Fort and a place for a boat yard, I accordingly with Lieut Gilmore and Mr. Bowman the Boatright pitched on a spot about a quarter and half quarter from where Majr Burke pitched on, on a commanding eminence below the mouth of a large creek which is navigable for several hundred yards and makes an excellent convenient Harbour, and right opposite a bend on the river where from the Gate of the Fort when built an view of the river can be had both up and down and renders the scene quite romantic, the boat yard may be either on the bank of the river or creek or both and can be commanded by the Fort."

(The creek was evidently Peachtree Creek.)

"As you will no doubt recollect me as we went to School together to old Mr. Stephenson on the Oatabaw."

(The obituary of James McO. Montgomery, published in The Southern Recorder, October 25, 1842, states that he was born in Lancaster District, South Carolina. The section of the Waxhaws where Andrew Jackson was born and grew up was in the northern part of Lancaster District and extended over into North Carolina. James McO. was born May 19, 1770, and was thus a few years younger than Andrew Jackson.)

'and as we both suffered by the last war, I lost a brother and if I don't mistake in addition to suffering yourself as a prisoner you lost one also and being both now engaged the common cause, I should be much gratified to receive a few lines from you by each arrival as the line of expresses are now directed to pass this Station, you will no doubt recollect to have seen mention of my news in the foul fight on the Tallipoosey by Genl. Floyd. I had not an efficient command under the Genl except on that rout. I acted as Adjutant and even on the plains of Antise, I went as a private into the army (leaving a family of thirty five in number) but was early appointed to act in the Quarter masters department and as early as the 31st of October was appointed Special commissary the immolments of which are nearly equal to that of Lieut. Colo, my appointment now about that (or nearly so) of a Major, but am within about sixty five miles of my family near the Standing peach tree."

(In the Department of Archives is a letter of October 10, 1813, from James McO. Montgomery to Governor D. B. Mitchell, stating that as he was not called out as a Major he had taken a temporary station in the Quartermaster department; and another letter, of November 8, 1813, to Governor Peter Early, who had just gone into office, asks for immediate confirmation of the appointments of him and his two assistants before he assumes the responsibility of issuing and receipting for all supplies, as "the Quartermaster says he has nothing to do but transport the provision." The War of 1812 files of the Adjutant General's Office in Washington, give the record of James McO. Montgomery's service, in the Creek Nation, in Floyd's Brigade, Georgia Militia, as Waggon Master August 18 to October 31, 1813, and as Special Commissary October 31, 1813 to March 1, 1814. As Special Commissary he was paid \$60 per month and allowed forage for one horse, subsistence, and pay of one private servant. The Augusta Chronicle of December 10, 1813, printed the account of the fighting on the Tallapoosa written December 4 by General Floyd, and forwarded by General Finckley to Governor Early; and General Floyd in commenting on his officers wrote, "Major Montgomery, who acted as assistant Adjutant, showed great activity and courage." I cannot figure out just whom the "family of thirty five" included, as James McO. had only eight children at that time, none old enough to be married, and the Jackson County Tax Digest of 1809, the nearest date that I could find, lists him as having only eleven slaves. I checked my speedometer, a few days ago, driving back from Jackson County, and found that it was exactly sixty-five miles from the courthouse at Jefferson to the Chattahoochee River bridge at Bolton. James McO. evidently did not consider this a very great distance, for according to The Athens Gazette of March 31, 1814, he was back in Jefferson on March 25 for "The Soldiers Welcome in Jackson" and proposed a toast to

"the intrepid Butts who fell at Galesbe." "If you should not recollect me I am the son of James Montgomery brother to Robert who was prisoner and the one who died in the Service in the last War,"

(Robert and the one who died were his father's brothers).

"a brother to John who was taken prisoner at the hanging Rock battle who died a prisoner in Charlestown, you may recollect that I was in the Service in the year 92 in Cumberland when you acted as Commissary or contractor. That success may crown all your endeavours and that you may still continue cover yourself with Glory is the prayer of Sir your

Obedient Servt &

J. McO. Montgomery S.O.S.A.

"My best compliments to Doctor Phillips if he is with you tell him I killed an Indian at Autausee with my sword . . ." (a few more words but illegible).

The second letter was written from Clarkesboro, July 24, 1814 - and as there had been no answer to the first, there is a little repetition in the second:

"Genl Jackson, Sir.

"After Genl Floyd's Campaign expired I receiv'd an appointment in the U. S. Army (Viz) Superintendent of Artificers and was by Genl Pakeney who at that time commanded both the 6th and 7th District order'd with a small detachment of the 43rd United States Regulars and a corps of Artificers directed to repair to the Standing Peach tree on the Chatahoochy fifteen below the Cherokee line, at a place call'd Floydville on the Creek Nation; there to lay off the ground for a Fort and to superintend the building of ten boats, for the purpose of transporting provisions and Forrange down the Chatahoochy; accordingly on the 10th of March, I organiz'd the corps and with Lieut Gilmore of the 43rd commens'd the line of March from the Frontier of Georgia and on the 14th of the same month reach'd the place of destination laid off the ground for the Fort and a place for a boat yard, adjacent to the mouth of a large creek on the East side of the River and immediately commens'd building and in two months built two large new'd logg block houses, six dwelling houses, one fram'd store house, one Bridge half a mile from the Fort across Laurel River, a large branch of the Chatahoochy which heads near the stone mountain, and five boats (the order being countermanded as to the other five)".

(James McO. probably called Peachtree Creek "Laurel River" because the time of the year when he was building the boats is the season when the Mountain Laurel is in bloom along the Chatahoochee River. I wonder if he later named Nancy's Creek in honor of his wife?)

"When the above was finished I was by Major Burke the D. C. M. Gen'l of the United States Army directed to discharge the Artificers and my Assistant and repair to Fort Hawkins (Macon) for a settlement of my accts; When I reach'd F. S. (ad Fort?) Major Burke had resign'd and Major Champlain could not settle without a positive order from Genl Pinney in every particular, I went on to Charlestown for the above purpose, but Genl Pinney was at Wilmington, N.C., his Aid Mr. Kinlough was present but could do nothing in my accts. which are about three thousand dollars, and I had only \$744.00 advanc'd. However I left all my papers, with Major Irvin the Asst Sgt. Genl to lay before the Genl. I have not heard from them since."

(Not until ten years later did James McG. collect the final payment on this account, when on May 19, 1824, Congress approved an "Act for the relief of J. M. O. Montgomery" appropriating to him the sum of \$61, "that sum being the amount paid by said Montgomery, to the master boat-builder at Floydville, in the state of Georgia, above the sum allowed by law." U. S. Statutes at Large, 1st - 28th Congress, 1789-1845, Private Acts, Vol. 6, p. 310).

"On enquiring of the Genl. Aid what was to be done with the Fort at the Peach tree, he said it would, or did lye with you, what disposition to make of it. I would just state to you that this is a nice place in the creek country and will no doubt be a convenient place for a public Garden. It is thought to be in the direction from Augusta and Milledgeville to Huntsville Ms. (Missouri?) and Colo Nuger said would be kept up as a Sub agency or something of that kind, It is no doubt a very healthy place and has cost the Government not less than five thousand dollars and it appears like a pity to abandon it. However as all rests with you, you can do that which you think best. If a public stand was made there such as an Agency, or Factory, I would be glad to have any appointment that you might think I merited at that place. I refer you to Colo Milton of the 3rd U. S. Regt. for my character as a soldier and citizen. I wrote you some time past but don't know whether you ever rec'd or not. It is very difficult supplying so few troops at the Peach Tree there being only 22.

I am with real regard your Excellencys Obed. Servt.

J. M. O. Montgomery

"Lieut Gilmer is a valuable officer and would be glad to have more men, If he is to continue and finds it very difficult to get any person to supply so few men in the Station as there are none Garrison'd nearer than Fort Mitchell which is One hundred and fifty miles.

J. M. O. Montgomery"

There seems to be no indication that Andrew Jackson answered these letters. Marquis James in Andrew Jackson, Border Captain, does not name the school of Old Mr. Stephenson among those that Jackson attended for any length of time. The Waxhaws were harassed by British and Tories during the latter years of the Revolution, many settlers refugeeed, school days were interrupted, more boys went into the service. The obituary of James McG. Montgomery states

"About the close of the Revolutionary War, although but a lad, he accompanied his father, a firm Whig and captain of the militia, in a short expedition against the Tories."

James McC's father was James Montgomery, Sr., and the only other brother besides the John mentioned as dying a prisoner at Charleston was Hugh Lawson Montgomery, who later surveyed many of the lines of north Georgia, represented Jackson County in the Legislature, and was from 1825-1834 U. S. Indian Agent to the Cherokee-East, under the War Department. I do not know the name of the mother of these three boys; she died when James McC. was quite young, and his father had married again before 1780. The second wife of James Montgomery, Sr., was Susannah Strange, and she bore him five or six daughters and one or two sons. From one of James McC's half-sisters, Sally, who married Nathaniel Venable, are descended the Venables of Stone Mountain and Atlanta; and from a half-brother, William Montgomery, also of Atlanta, in memory of whose only son the Charles D. Montgomery, Jr., Post of the American Legion is named.

I quote again from the obituary of James McC. Montgomery: "At an early age he removed to Georgia and engaged in agricultural pursuits; but his activity, enterprise and integrity would not permit him to remain long in private life. He served his country both in a civil and military capacity. There have been but few years in which he was not engaged in the service of the public." I have already spoken of his military service, and we find him in the Augustan and Athens newspapers of the period and in the records of Hancock and Jackson Counties as Justice of the Peace, Tax Receiver, Sheriff, Tax Collector, Collector of Internal Revenue for the 5th Collection District of Georgia, taker of the Census, Trustee of the Thyetira Presbyterian Church, and guardian for various orphans unrelated to him. James McC. Montgomery was married in Hancock County, November 14, 1797, to Nancy Farlow, who had been born in Maryland, October 7, 1781. Their first child was born in Hancock County. The second child was born in Jackson County, in October 1800, and all the other children were born in Jackson County, excepting the two youngest who were born at Standing Peachtree.

James McC. Montgomery owned several hundred acres of land in Jackson County, as the deed books and tax digests show, but he had other commercial interests beside farming. With Thomas Hyde, John Coleman, David Witt, and Geo. Mansfee he bought land along the Oconee River, in the name of the Union Furnace Company. He had powers of attorney, to attend to their business in Jackson County, from W. Marbury of Baldwin County, from David Piles of Morgan County, who was moving to the Mississippi Territory, and from Edward Randolph Seely of Knox, Knox County, Territory of Indiana. The Register of Officers and Agents Civil, Military, and Naval in the Service of the U. S., on the 30th day of Sept. 1816, lists J. M. C. Montgomery as a Mail Contractor, for transporting of mail, compensation \$456. (The Post Office Department states that the only record they have connecting J. M. C. Montgomery with early mail routes, is his name written in the margin of an advertisement issued by the Postmaster General, under date of May 20, 1815, for proposals to carry the mails "From Milledgeville, by Putnam Court House, Madison, Watkinsville, Athens

and Clarksboro to Jefferson" once a week from January 1, 1814, through December 31, 1816). In a letter which I will quote further on, from the files of the Cherokees-East, he mentions having been a merchant on the frontier, but whether this was in Jackson County or at Standing Peachtree I cannot say, as both were on the frontier.

In December 1818 he sold 257 acres on Walnut fork, and on December 17, 1822 the balance of the tract on Walnut fork of Oconee was deeded by "J. McO. Montgomery of the county of Fayette (or perhaps DeKalb.)" This was only eight days after the Act was passed cutting off DeKalb from Fayette.) A month later, January 28, 1823, "J. M. C. Montgomery of DeKalb" deeded to Joseph T. Cunningham of Jackson, 542 acres, in Jackson County, on Buck Creek, "including plantation whereon Dempsey Connally now resides, being my old place of residence in said county ... with a reserve of 5 acres heretofore given for a meeting house and school house including the Cedar Rock Meeting house & school house & spring used by both." (Dempsey Connally was his son-in-law, husband of Lucinda McO. Montgomery, and they soon moved to Standing Peachtree). November 1823 he deeded another tract on Buck Creek, apparently the last of his and in Jackson County.

There are no land lots of the 17th District of originally Henry County recorded as granted to James McO. Montgomery, nor any deeds to him in the records of Henry, Fayette, DeKalb, or Fulton County, although there must have been some in the records of DeKalb County burned in 1842. However, in April 1900, Old Uncle Andy Montgomery, who had been one of James McO's slaves, helped James McO's grandson, the late William J. Montgomery of Atlanta, write a sketch of the family, of which I have a manuscript copy, and Old Uncle Andy said that the family moved from Jackson County "to the place then known as Standing Peachtree, White Rock, on the Chattahoochee River about 7 miles from Atlanta . . . Col. J. M. C. Montgomery settled right where the water works come out of the Chattahoochee River, on top of the hill from the river, about 80 years ago." (Possibly some of you remember Uncle Andy - my mother says he was a well known character in Atlanta, that he had preached in Boston, and that he was black as the ace of spades with hair as white as this paper, very big and tall, and quite distinguished looking in his high silk hat and frock coat.)

With the help of the map which illustrated the article by Mr. Franklin Garrett, in The Atlanta Constitution Magazine, Sunday, May 3, 1931, on the Montgomery family burying ground I have studied the records of the various land lots near Standing Peachtree, to discover which lands James McO. Montgomery owned and when he acquired them. Fraction 231, among those deeded by his legatees, is the lot where the water works pumping station is located, and must be the one where his home was, unless possible his home was just over the line on lot 230. However, Fraction 231, according to the records in the Office of the Secretary of State, was not granted until March 6, 1833, so he must have rented it until then, and later bought it from Alston H. Greene, to whom it was granted. Fraction 231 seems, also, to have been the one where James McO. Montgomery, as Superintendent of Artificers, helped lay "off the ground for the Fort and a place for a boat yard." (I have been

unable to discover what became of the Fort, and wonder if the Montgomery family lived there? The location of this Fort on Fraction 251 was possibly the reason this land was not granted until after the country on the other side of the river was opened up to white settlers.)

At Standing Peachtree, James McC. continued his service to the public, helping with the organization of the new county, the renting of the public lands, the laying out of roads, and, as shown in the records of the Inferior Court of DeKalb County, was in 1825 Clerk of the Court of Ordinary, keeping the records in books furnished by himself until the Inferior Court got around to appropriating \$5. He was, also, the first state senator from DeKalb County. In the Department of Archives is his oath as commissioner of the Poor School, 1824, "to distribute whatever monies may come into my hands in such manner as, in my opinion, will most conduce to the education of poor children in my county." In 1825 a post office was established at Standing Peachtree, Georgia, with T. F. Montgomery, a son of James McC., as post-master, as shown by the Register of Officers and Agents Civil, Military, and Naval in the Service of the U. S. for that year. The Register for 1827 shows J. W. C. Montgomery as postmaster to September 30, 1840, with J. F. Montgomery, another son, as postmaster after that date. J. F. Montgomery was postmaster until December 31, 1842, when the post office was changed to Beltonville, on the Cobb County side of the river, where the postmaster was James A. Collins, who had married Cynthia Venable, daughter of James McC.'s half-sister.

When James McC. Montgomery settled at Standing Peachtree the Cherokee Nation was just across the river, as near to him as it had been in Jackson County. His brother, Col. Hugh Montgomery, was appointed Indian Agent in April 1825, and was stationed at the Cherokee Agency on the Tennessee line, with the sub-agent, Major James G. Williams, located in the vicinity of Mays Ferry, to keep white intruders out of the Nation and help recover stolen property. (Mays Ferry is just another name for Vann's or Vinn's Ferry, as Daniel Mays had rented the west bank from the Cherokees and operated a ferry there until Richard Vinn prohibited him, in 1819, from landing on the east side.) In the files of the Cherokee-East, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, are many letters from Col. Hugh Montgomery, and in one of the earliest he quotes a letter of August 26, 1826 from his brother at Standing Peachtree:

"Between what some of the Indians themselves and what the whole people steal from the poor honest Indians, I really think that in a little time there will not be a horse left in this side of the nation, and but few cattle and hogs, for the truth is that since there is a hiding place on the Tallepoosy there is scarcely a day but wars or less is stealing."

In 1828, Williams reported that he had employed Dr. D. J. Connally, at Standing Peachtree on Big Chestnutcreeper, with four

of his hands for two days, cutting down corn and burning fences of intruders. Others at Standing Peachtree were before long engaged in the same business, as shown by the following letter, from James McC. to Col. Hugh, which must have been sent on to Washington by the latter: (I quote all but the last few sentences.)

Georgia, Standing peach tree,
DeKalb County, 27 October 1830

"Dear Brother,

"This incloses an acct. of Owen H. Kennon for services rendered as stated in the amount. Mr. Conally has an acct to render as well as myself for the time and expenses which have occurred on and about the intolerable corn cutting business. We will in a few weeks send them on to you and hope you will exhibit them in such a way that we may be paid out of Uncle Sam as it is not reasonable that we should be put to trouble and expense without any fee or reward. We are all well, at least as well as common, our arms growing as usual which makes our health delicate."

(His wife Nancy, so their son's Family Bible records, later "had her right arm amputated at the shoulder joint on account of tumor, by Dr. N. H. Smith, May 14, 1852." Judge Hoyt wrote that when he knew her, 1841-42, she was making good use of "his one arm left, and "wielded her little hoe with surprising vigor in the garden.")

"We have just heard that the New College at Athens is destroyed by fire and expect we have lost at least one hundred dollars - Telemachus's bed furniture all his cloathes and books. Some of the students lost considerable money as their parents had sent them money to pay off their board, tuition, etc. However this was not the case with our son as we had none to send him."

(The Registrar of the University of Georgia states that Telemachus Farlow Montgomery was graduated from the University in 1832, and that among his classmates was Alexander H. Stephens.)

In 1830 James McC. Montgomery helped take the first census of DeKalb County, his division extending into the Cherokee County and covering apparently that part over which the Georgia Legislature had recently extended the jurisdiction of DeKalb County. (I am indebted to Mr. Franklin H. Garrett for information about this census.) Besides the Indians and the white men at the head of Indian families under permits from the Cherokee authorities, white families with permits from Col. Hugh Montgomery, to occupy (until further orders) plantations which had been abandoned by emigrants from Georgia, the missionaries, and a few licensed traders and peddlers. (Letter in Department of Archives, from Colonel Montgomery to Governor Gilmer, September 30, 1830.)

The next year, September 5, 1831, James McC. Montgomery received official notification from Genl. Cass, Department of War,

that he had been appointed by the President of the United States an "appraiser to assess the value of the property, which may be abandoned by such of the Cherokee Indians, within the chartered limits of Georgia, as may be disposed to migrate to the country west of the Mississippi", with pay at the rate of \$1,000 a year. The President was Andrew Jackson. (A copy of this notification is in the Department of Archives.) In obedience to orders from Major Benjamin F. Gurrey, the newly appointed Superintendent of Cherokee Removal, Montgomery left home on the 5th of December to commence the business of valuation.

The following extracts are from a letter from James McG. Montgomery to Lewis Cass, Secretary of War:

"Feb. 1832, Standing peachtree, Georgia, 18th (Saturday 10 o'clock P.M.)

"Sir Having been twenty-five days from home engaged in assessing the abandoned improvements by the Cherokees, I have this evening been gratified with the sight and enjoyment of my dear wife and family, nothing could have kept me so long from home at one time (and to have been so near too) as I was often within half a days ride of home, but the desire to discharge my duty to the War Department, and to the emigrants who are very anxious to get off, and here I would observe again, as I have done heretofore in a communication to you that this has been the coldest winter ever experienced in this country, at least for many years. Our labours have been of the most arduous kind, have never lay by a single day since we commenced neither for snow, nor rain . . . I would suggest that if it was so directed by the War Department, for the assessing agents to enroll as well as assess, I think from the present appearances of things and the success that we have had in the three weeks that the supt. has permitted us to enroll that we could perhaps enroll as fast as we could assess. This, I attribute to two causes, first the Indians seeing the assessment of those that have already enrolled, and believing that they get a fair price, or are to get for their improvements, it has a tendency to encourage them to enroll, but where the enrolling agents are far ahead of the assessors, they know not what they will get for their improvements; a second reason I think is, that both Mr. Scudder and myself have been approved merchants, we both have dealt largely with them myself on the frontier and Mr. Scudder near the center of the nation for many years . . . P. S. Excuse returns made out in part in the woods." . . .

The day before James McG. wrote to Cass asking for permission to enroll as well as assess, Gurrey wrote, also, for permission to authorize the appraisers to aid in enrolling, and as their duties were already arduous recommended a pay increase to \$1,500 per annum. In June 1832 they were both enrolling and assessing. I quote from a letter from Wm. M. Davis, an assessor who had come from Kentucky, to Secretary of War Cass, written June 1832 from High Tower, Cherokee Nation, Georgia: "After the

departure of Major Currey with the emigrants for Arkansas, Major J. M. G. Montgomery and myself being authorized to enroll a fall emigration cooperated with Col. Hardin in that service who was the only remaining enrolling agent."

(The Register of Officers, etc., for 1833 lists as "Agent for enrolling Cherokees, east," J. M. G. Montgomery, William M. Davis, William Harding - at a salary of \$1,000.)

". . . Every possible obstacle has been thrown in our way and the most unprincipled means resorted to by their chiefs and headmen to delude the Indians and prevent their enrolling for emigration . . . having to travel constantly among the Indians, in the woods over mountains and hills for days together, and being generally inconvenient to a post office has rendered it impracticable to forward you regular returns."

August 1832 enrolling was for a time suspended. The settlers began moving into the new counties early in 1833, occupying the lots drawn in the Cherokee Land Lottery and the Cherokee Gold Lottery, both of 1832, and there are in the Department of Archives several certificates dated 1833, as to the status of various lots, signed by "J. McG. Montgomery Late Agt. of Indian Enrollments & Assessor of Abandoned Cherokee Impts. East of the Mississippi."

October 8, 1833, Wm. M. Davis, in Frankfort, Kentucky, accepted "reappointment to appraise Cherokee improvements within the chartered limits of Georgia." June 26, 1834, Currey wrote to Cass: "Majrs. Wm. M. Davis and Jas. M. G. Montgomery appraising agents for the government in the Cherokee Country East were from the 1st of Decr. 1833 charged by me with authority to enroll members of the tribe who might be disposed to emigrate. In addition to their duties as appraisers they were highly useful in performing those of assistant enrolling agents . . . Each appeared to manifest equal zeal in promoting emigration & I saw no disposition on the part of either to do injustice to those who preferred to remain. All their acts were open & fair & while it gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the worth & meritorious services of these gentlemen it is respectfully submitted whether their pay should not be equal at least to that allowed to enrolling agents from the 1st Decr." He had already written January 14, 1834, asking that their pay be increased to \$1,500 per annum, but apparently had received no reply.

Whether Major James McG. Montgomery ever got the salary raise I do not know, but he continued to serve the rest of the year 1834, as shown by letters in the files in Washington, until his brother's term as the last of the Indian Agents to the Cherokees-East expired. Judge Hoyt, in the article already quoted, said that the Major, as he called James McG., was a strong "Troup" man and Whig, and this political affiliation must have been at the bottom of his losing his job. Currey let James

McG. go. Andrew Jackson was still President, but in Georgia the "Group" faction refused to support his policies. Governor Wilson Lumpkin, supporting Jackson, belonged to the "Union" faction, and I quote from a copy of a letter from Currey to W. Underwood, enclosed by Currey in a letter to Governor Lumpkin, dated August 26, 1835, which perhaps explains why James McG. Montgomery was succeeded by Underwood: "Previous to your appointment as an appraiser your conversation with us gave us assurance that no act or expression of yours while in the employment of the Govt. should be in the slightest degree directed to the prejudice of the Union Party of this State or against the character of any member of that party . . . "

(Copy of letter in Dept. of Archives. For political parties, see The First Hundred Years, a Short History of Cobb County, in Georgia, by Temple.)

December 25, 1837, George R. Gilmer, Governor of Georgia, assented to an Act passed by the General Assembly, which authorized and empowered James McG. Montgomery of the county of DeKalb to establish a ferry across the Chattahoochee River upon his own land, in the counties of DeKalb and Cobb, at a place known by the name of the Standing Peachtrees. (Ga. Laws - Act 1837, p. 112). Uncle Andrew Montgomery, the old slave quoted before, dictated in 1900 a story of his brother Ransom, of which I have a manuscript copy, and this is the way the story begins: "Old Massa had a ferry and de white people kept it for him a long time, and jes like niggers will, dey comes to old miss and tells her so and so, and old miss say: James I have a notion puttin Ransom to de ferry, I had rather have my own than anybody else to tend to the ferry and I believe Ransom would be more honest; let's try him and we will not let on to Ransom. Old Massa said: I will give you Ransom, the ferry, and de ferry field and old Alabama (his old mare), and I will not have anything to do with you. Old Miss put Ransom to de ferry and how much more you recon she made the first month: \$20.00 more than de white men paid her; the next month she made \$25.00 more."

The ferry seems to have paid quite well, as the accounts of the estate of James McG. show, for cash received from the ferry from the 8th October to 30th December 1842 was \$72.00, and in 1843 cash received from the ferry from the 14th May to 25th December inclusive was \$253.12½. In 1844 \$100.00 was paid to "Nathaniel Sweet for building Ferry Boat for the use of the Ferry." Possibly the following "Bills . . . found on hand at the death of the deceased" were collections from the Ferry:

"Bills of the city council of Macon	8.25
Monroe Rail Road	2.00
Tennessee shin plaster	1.00
City Council Milledgeville25
fifteen dollars Georgia scrip which I sold for 55 cts on dollar	
Par money	8.25"

The name Montgomery's Ferry displaced on the maps the name of Standing Peachtree, as "a noted crossing place over the Chattahoochee". Judge Hoyt, in the article quoted, writes: "When the writer first came to DeKalb county, in 1841, the major was the first person he saw. How well I remember it. When the ferry boat landed on the DeKalb or south side of the Chattahoochee at the Montgomery ferry (now called Deffer's), about eight miles from Atlanta, the first person I saw was the major standing on the bank. I went with him to his home, about half mile south of the ferry, and stayed with him about six weeks. His wife . . . was a notable housekeeper . . . For many years travelers would stop over at their house. They never charged preachers anything for their entertainment, and the poor and needy were never turned away from their door. There were few houses better known in Georgia than theirs."

Judge Hoyt said that the Major was not wealthy, but what was called a "good liver", and that there never was a better master. The inventory of the estate included: 66 stock hogs, 24 fat pork hogs, a sow and 8 pigs, 3 bee hives, 3 sheep, 6 head of geese, numerous steers, cows and calves, of all colors, 3 cedar churns, a waffling iron, etc., which show that the Major did not go hungry. There was a "Bay horse Bill", two other horses, a side saddle, and a four wheel carriage besides the ox cart. Among the house furnishings were "1 Brass clock \$30.00", "1 Black case & secretary \$35.00", "Library \$100.00", and "1 large Atlas \$5.00". The record of the sale lists a twelve volume Encyclopaedia, a History of England, a History of Morocco, a Dictionary, the Gazetteer, etc., including numerous religious writings and school books. Judge Hoyt writes: "The major was very jolly and good natured, but well posted about the affairs of the country, and very intelligent and well read." James McO. Montgomery had already passed his three-score years and ten when Judge Hoyt came to DeKalb.

The obituary of James McO. Montgomery, after speaking of his public service, continues: "It was however as a husband, a father, a master, a friend, and a Christian, that his virtues show forth pre-eminently." And I quote Judge Hoyt one more: "The major and his good wife reared a large family . . . Like the Scotch and Scotch-Irish, all the world over, they believed it more important to properly train up and educate their children than to accumulate property for them, and their chief aim was to rear their children properly . . . Except Ulysses and James, their sons were college bred."

The first four children were girls, and they were all married in Jackson County. Adeola F. Montgomery married first Samuel Pruitt, Jr., and then Elijah Wyatt (the second marriage probably in DeKalb County), and the Wyatts settled finally in Chattooga County. Lucinda McO. Montgomery married Dempsey J. Connally, and, as I have mentioned, lived on her father's old plantation in Jackson County, until he sold it, and later moved to DeKalb, where Dempsey Connally in 1836 received grants to fractions 243 and 254, along the Chattahoochee River just below the bend in the river at Standing Peachtree. In 1846 they sold this, and adjoining land,

to their brother-in-law Henry G. Dean, and moved to Campbell County, and later settled in Texas. Amelia B. Montgomery married Joseph D. Chumate, and he was one of the first Justices of the Inferior Court of Fayette County, and, in 1823, of DeKalb. One of their daughters, Eliza Chumate, was the wife of John Glenn, Mayor of Atlanta in 1855. Sophronia F. Montgomery married John Franklin and died when her baby James Samuel Franklin was born. He was adopted and raised by the Major and his wife at Standing Peachtree, and later died in the Mexican War.

The first son, Ulysses McC. Montgomery, was a farmer. He married in DeKalb County, Elizabeth Number, daughter of Robert Number, but died young and without any children, and his widow married Cornelius McCarty Connally (known as Neal Connally), uncle of the late Dr. R. L. Connally, of Atlanta. Telemachus Parlow Montgomery, whom I have already mentioned as attending the University of Georgia, was a Presbyterian preacher, and married first Emily Peider of Orangeburg, South Carolina, and later Mary Turner. He moved to Florida. Rhadamanthus J. Montgomery was, also, a Presbyterian preacher. He married Harriet H. Bogle, of Blount County, East Tennessee, and died young without any children. His widow, who was the aunt of Judge Samuel B. Hoyt, so often quoted in this paper, married April 1, 1845, the well known Jonathan Norcross of Atlanta.

James Floyd Montgomery, born September 10, 1813, while his father was in the service, and named "Floyd" in honor of his father's commander, was the only son who settled near Standing Peachtree, where he succeeded his father as postmaster. His place was a little further down the river, just north of Proctor's Creek. He served in the Indian war of 1835, and later married Elizabeth Ann Young, of Cobb County, whom he met at a picnic soon after her family had arrived from Abbeville, South Carolina. He died in 1847 (Obituary, Southern Recorder, June 29, 1847), leaving five small children of whom my grandfather, William Rhadamanthus Montgomery, was the eldest son. My grandfather often spoke of boyhood days at Standing Peachtree and of, as a boy of eight, soon after his father's death, accompanying old Uncle Giles, the head slave, when he took a wagon load of cotton to market in Atlanta, then only a village. The widow sold the plantation in 1852 and moved to Marietta.

The next son, Eunan Tarpley Montgomery, died an infant, and the next, William F. Montgomery, died unmarried as a young man.

Joseph Terrell Monroe Montgomery and Hugh Brown Troup Montgomery, the last two sons, were educated at Maryville College, Blount County, Tennessee, Troup completing his college course after his father's death, and returning to Maryville some years later for his Master of Arts diploma, in 1852. Both these sons were college professors, and from 1845 to 1856 owned and operated the college for girls at LaFrange, Georgia, which school they sold to the Methodist Conference. Both were married in Troup County, Joseph to Julia Cameron, and Troup to Mary Broughton.

Rhoda Marciana Montgomery was born at Standing Peachtree, as was her younger brother Troup. When she was seventeen she

married one of the young civil engineers connected with the building of the new railroad, Alfred B. Brown. He and their baby daughter both died in August 1840, at Standing Peachtree. (Obituary, Southern Recorder, September 3, 1840). On January 8, 1843, a few months after her father's death, Harriette was married again, to Henry G. Dean. They moved to Meriwether County, and after his death she went with a son to Texarkana, Texas.

July 27, 1842, Nancy Farlow Montgomery, wife of James McC. Montgomery, died. Her obituary, published in The Southern Recorder, August 16, 1842, said that she was at the first religious meeting that was ever held in DeKalb County, and Judge Hoyt called her "the main stay of the little Methodist Church near their residence." Judge Hoyt continued: "I never met a more harmonious and loving couple. He was a Presbyterian and she was a Methodist and yet there was never a jar . . . At her death he received a shock he never recovered from, and died soon after." On October 6, James McC. Montgomery died. His obituary, which I have already quoted several times, says of his death: "The writer of this sketch has witnessed the departure of many of God's saints, but he can safely say that he has never witnessed more clamors, more tranquillity, or more resignation, than was manifested by the deceased . . . Their (his and his wife's) funerals were preached by different clergymen on the same day to a considerable concourse of their friends and neighbors."

James McC. Montgomery died when the future Atlanta was still only Terminus, nor did he live to see the first train run over the track to Marietta. However, he welcomed the coming of the railroad, as shown by a right-of-way deed, made in Cobb County, April 13, 1838 (recorded September 6, 1926, Cobb County), from J. M. G. Montgomery to the State of Georgia: "Whereas the General Assembly has by law provided for a great work of material improvement appropriately known as 'The Western and Atlantic railroad' which is in part located on certain land & the property of the undersigned,

"Now as a memorial of the described approbation with which I regard the enlightened and patriotic policy of the General Assembly and in consideration of the enhanced value which must be conferred, by the structure of said road on some of my real estate as is in the vicinity thereof, I have and do by these presents concede and grant to the State of Georgia, without price or further consideration, the right of way over all and any land of my own or property on which said rail road may be located or constructed together with the privilege of removing and applying, in the construction of said rail road any earth, stones and timber that may be required. And for the perpetual guaranty of the right and privilege hereby conceded & granted to the State of Georgia, I bind myself & my heirs forever."

The river bridge for the new railroad was built not far below Montgomery's Ferry. I quote again from the sketch by Old Uncle Andrew, of his brother Ransom Montgomery: "When they tried the engine on the bridge Ransom was ploughing in de ferry field; the butment of de bridge caught on fire from the pan. Ransom was ploughing and saw the smoke at de butment of de bridge, and he jumps in his bateau and goes over and when he get there the butment

of the bridge was on fire. He runs up to de house and says to Miss Cynthia: Is the Watchman here? No, he's gone to de precinct. De hutment of de bridge is on fire what are you going to do about it? Ransom runs back to de bridge and climbs up on it, and old Tom Hooper was there and he conveyed water to Ransom with a fork and a bucket and Ransom got it and put the fire out and saved the bridge." Ransom was then the slave of Troup Montgomery, willed to him by his father. Uncle Andrew goes on to tell how it was "right down there before the car shed" that General Mills, Superintendent of the State Road, asked Mr. Montgomery what he would sell Ransom for, and Mr. Montgomery asked \$1,500, but after General Mills told him what the Company had in mind, Mr. Montgomery said that he would take \$1,000 for him "if you want to buy him and set him free." The Company agreed to the price, and they gave Ransom a house and as much ground as he wanted and railroad wages for his lifetime, and let him wait on the Superintendent of the State Road. "And", Old Uncle Andrew finished, "the land is the place where the W. & A. round house now stands in Atlanta, Ga., which Ransom owned up to the time of his death." (It was in 1845 that Ransom saved the railroad bridge, as stated in the Resolution of the General Assembly authorizing the chief engineer of the Western & Atlantic Railroad to purchase Ransom. Acts of State of Ga., 1849-50, p. 416.)

The will of James McO. Montgomery, recorded in DeKalb County, left all his land on both sides of the Chattahoochee River & Peachtree Creek, adjacent to and joining the river and creek (with the exception of land further down the river which was left to James Floyd Montgomery), including his saw mill, grist mill, ferry, etc., to his daughter Rhoda Marcissa Brown and his son Hugh Brown Troup Montgomery. This land was probably all included in the deed given September 2, 1855 by W. B. F. Montgomery and Gentry G. Dean (who had married Marcissa) to Martin DeFoor, for \$3,800, including 1,000 acres more or less, made up of all of Land Lots 220, 230, and 245; all of Fractional Lot 231, about half of Lot 244, half of Lot 196, and that part of Lot 219 lying on the south side of Peachtree Creek and containing 20 acres more or less, and Island #1 "situate lying and being in the Chattahoochee River," and containing 1 1/2 acres more or less, all in District 17 of originally Henry County. (Hulton Co. Deed Book A, p. 336). The only river frontage is that of Fraction 231 extending north and south of the mouth of Peachtree Creek. (The Fractions 232 and 242, next above 231, were granted to Zachariah Lassar of Baldwin County in 1825, and sold by him the same year to Thomas Stephens of Baldwin, whose heir Thomas J. Stepien owned them until 1859). I have not been able to find any deed for the land on the Cobb County side of the river, as the Cobb County records were burned in 1865, but I have a manuscript record of Land Lot 1023 being, about 1875, in the hands of "Alfred Hener agent for Mr. DeFoor." This lot is right opposite Fraction 231, as the Seaboard Airline Railroad bridge touches both, and this same spot is shown on an early map of Cobb County as being the location of Montgomery's Ferry. Mr. Garrett has written of the old family burying ground, where rest James McO. Montgomery, his wife, four sons, a son-in-law, and three grandchildren. This is on Lot 230, which lot was granted to Bennett B. Madkins, of Franklin County, April 17, 1825.

In the Album of Emma Montgomery, daughter of James Floyd Montgomery, is a sentimental verse inscribed "To Emma", beginning:

"When shall we all meet again,"

and signed: "Teach Tree, Sept. 27th, 1854, Your Aunt R. N. Dean."
This was written by Rhoda Narcissa, the last of the children of James H. Montgomery to leave Standing Peachtree.

Reference: The Atlanta Historical Bulletin, published by the Atlanta Historical Society, No. 12, December, 1937.

ACCESSION WORKSHEET

DeKalb Historical Society

1. Number assigned _____
2. Date of accession 11/9/78
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6. Actual Name of Collection:
James McC. Montgomery
7. Terms of accession:
Given _____
Loaned _____
Purchased _____
Other _____
Copyright restrictions:

8. Record type and Quantity (describe place names, names of indiv.:

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>
17	A biography of James McC. Montgomery and his family who settled and built Standing Peachtree c. 1815 when this area was still Indian before it became DeKalb County or even Henry County. The Sketch is drawn from affidavits, correspondence
9. Form of reproduction: (original material, handwritten, photostats, newspapers, size, condition) and number of pages
A carbon copy of 17 typed pages on letter sized paper that is bound into document covers.

10. Chronological Period covered:

Pre 1800	<u> X </u>	1900-1910	<u> </u>
1800-1821	<u> </u>	1910-1920	<u> </u>
1822-1847	<u> </u>	1920-1930	<u> </u>
1847-1859	<u> </u>	1930-1940	<u> </u>
1860-1865	<u> </u>	1940-1950	<u> </u>
1866-1876	<u> X </u>	1950-1960	<u> </u>
1876-1898	<u> </u>	1960-1970	<u> </u>
1898-1900	<u> </u>	After 1970	<u> </u>

11. Supplemental information not contained above:

with General Andrew Jackson, Lewis Cass, D.B. Mitchell, and
George Gilmer, his brothers, deeds, his will, the family Bible,
his service record, U.S. Statues, Georgia Laws, newspapers and
family records; lists all his children and grandchildren and

12. Accessioned by: Carole Stevens Researcher
 Name Title

and sisters. He was born in Lancaster District in western South Carolina in the Waxhaw region that also goes into North Carolina Andrew Jackson's region. Montgomery was DeKalb County's first Ordinary, Poor School Commissioner, Road commissioner, State Senator; originally came here to build boats for the Army, later built bridges; also in charge of maintaining the border with the Indian lands; Ms. Anderson is his great-great granddaughter.