BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF

JOHN PAUL JONES BULGER

Submitted to
Dr. Roger K. Harlick
as a requirement
for History 300
Winter Quarter 1980

By
Lynne K. Caldwell

From The Savannah Biographies, Volume 5. Lane Library, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, Georgia 31410-1997
My sincere thanks to Mrs. Mitchell Jones Paine and Mrs. Clarence Paine, whose letters provided me with the greatest excitement during my entire research. I am indebted to them for their valuable information.
INTRODUCTION

Paul Bulger left his native New York to come to Savannah where he made a home for himself, his wife and their three daughters. Mr. Bulger established himself as an apt machinist and he owned and operated a prosperous machine shop for several years before his death in 1878. His grave marker reads: "An honest man is the noblest work of God."
I. Business

Shortly after his arrival in Savannah, Paul Bulger signed an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy. He was master machinist of the United States Government Machine Shop and this may have been a possible reason for his move to Savannah. In 1865 he resigned this position and later opened his own machine shop. Bulger was in partnership with William Parry. Parry withdrew from the firm in 1869 and his interest was purchased by L.A. McCarthy. This partnership was dissolved within the year and The Central Machine Shop fell under the sole ownership of Paul Bulger.

The Central Machine Shop was located on Bay Street and became a prosperous business for Bulger. In 1873 the increase in business caused him to make an addition to his existing establishment. Erection of a two-story building at 416 East Bryan Street was commenced. A portion of the building would be used as an exhibition room with the remainder as a general shop.

From time to time, steamships passing through Savannah would have their machinery overhauled or damaged parts repaired by Mr. Bulger. He apparently
had built quite a reputation for himself and frequently placed advertisements in the newspaper and city directories.9

On March 23, 1876, Paul Bulger signed a deed in favor of Robert Reppard in the sum of $1250 plus items worth about $800 for purchase money of tools at the sale of Monahan, Parry and Company. Reppard also advanced $250 to Bulger and $150 for lumber which would enable Bulger to carry on business.10

Apparently business did not continue to go well for Mr. Bulger because on December 20, 1876 there appeared in the newspaper a notice that the property belonging to Bulger had been levied on and would be sold at public auction. The auction was to take place on the courthouse steps on the first Tuesday of January, 1877.11 Again in July 1878, there was a sheriff's sale of the improvements made by Paul Bulger on Lot 10 Warren Ward. This second sale took place after Bulger's death.12 There was also a suit initiated on behalf of James Monahan against the estate of Bulger and there was a judgment for the plaintiff in the sum of $601.21 plus interest from January 1878 and court costs.13
II. Civic Duties

The Washington Fire Company in Savannah was served loyally by Paul Bulger. He was a member of the committee which contacted H. Gray, Esq. of the Opera Troupe concerning a benefit performance which was held in March, 1868.\textsuperscript{14} Several times he was called upon for jury duty but was excused in consideration of his service as a city fireman.\textsuperscript{15} In February 1874 he was in attendance at a reunion of the Washington Fire Company.\textsuperscript{16}

Paul Bulger also served on the nominating committee of the Democratic Citizens of the Fourth District, which met at 8:00 P.M. on September 27, 1871 to nominate aldermen and alternates, all of whom were voted in unanimously.\textsuperscript{17}

III. Family

John Paul Jones Bulger of New York was married to Miss Emmeline Wilson, daughter of William and Eunice Burr Dewey Wilson of Fairfield, Connecticut. Emmeline was descended from the Burr, Dewey and Jennings families of New England.\textsuperscript{18} Paul and Emmeline were the parents of three daughters: Emma, Josie and Annie.
On February 10, 1878, Paul Bulger died of heart disease and was buried the following day at Laurel Grove Cemetery.¹⁹ Mr. Bulger died intestate and his affairs were handled by Edward S. Kempton. All of the personal property contained in the machine shop was requested to be sold. Emmeline was assigned $2000 and all household, kitchen and chamber furniture for twelve months.²⁰ After Paul's death, Emmeline moved in with her eldest daughter.²¹ She was elected vice-president of the Women's Christian Temperance Union from the First Baptist Church.²² Mrs. Bulger died on December 6, 1916 and was buried next to her husband at Laurel Grove. The inscription on her tombstone reads: "Her children rise up and call her blessed."²³

Emma Louise Bulger, eldest daughter of Paul and Emmeline Bulger, was born in Brooklyn, New York on March 12, 1852.²⁴ She came to Savannah with her parents when she was seven years old. She married Benjamin Snider Purse on December 7, 1875. The wedding was performed by Reverend Timothy Harley at the First Baptist Church.²⁵ Emma and Benjamin had no children and they made frequent trips to New York. Benjamin was the Professor of Matter Medica and Anatomy at the Savannah
Medical College. He had been a Confederate soldier and also served as a director for the Merchants and Mechanics' Land Company and the Metropolitan Trust Association.

Emma Purse died on October 12, 1918 due to injuries she received when she fell from the second story porch of her home at 18 West Liberty Street. Her estate was valued at $10,688. Her niece, Emma Paine, inherited a piano, sugar tongs and an emerald and diamond pin which had been her great-grandmother's, and $3500.

Josephine Bulger was born to Paul and Emmeline on February 12, 1855. She married George Clarence Mathews, son of Dr. Theodore Delaine Mathews and Mary Elizabeth Lawton Mathews of Lawtonville, South Carolina. George was at one time a clerk for T.P. Bond, Commission Merchant. Later he became a clerk at Central of Georgia Railroad Wharf. For a while, they lived at 165 Jones Street and later moved to 145 Barnard Street. In 1897 George Mathews appears in the City Directory but Josephine is no longer shown as a resident of the city. Mr. Mathews dies on May 5, 1905 and Mrs. Mathews is a resident of Milledgeville at
the time of her death, February 15, 1913.  

Annie Wilson Bulger is the youngest daughter of Paul and Emmeline Bulger. She died of diphtheria on June 24, 1875 at the age of eleven years. Her funeral was held from the family residence at 74 Broughton Street on the afternoon of June 25, 1875.

IV. Descendants

Emma Louise Mathews was the only grandchild of Paul and Emmeline Bulger. After the death of her parents, she lived with her aunt, Emma Purse. She became the bride of Mitchell Jones Paine on January 6, 1914. He was the son of Herman and Ada Jones Paine. They resided in Valdosta and became the parents of two sons, Mitchell, Jr. and Clarence Mathews Paine. Emma died on December 16, 1968 and is buried at Sunset Hill Cemetery in Valdosta, Georgia.


Clarence Mathews Paine married Joyce Bullington
FOOTNOTES

1. Daily Morning News, 27 September 1861, 2/3
2. Savannah Daily Herald, 28 August 1865, 3/1
3. Savannah Daily Herald, 28 August 1865, 3/1
4. Savannah Morning News, 6 August 1869, 5/4
5. Savannah Morning News, 4 August 1870, 2/7
6. Savannah City Directory, 1871, page 74
7. Savannah Morning News, 20 August 1873, 3/1
22 September 1874, 3/1
31 October 1874, 3/1
9. Savannah City Directory, 1874, page 73
1871, page 367
10. Chatham County Deed Book, 4T-157, Chatham County Courthouse
11. Savannah Morning News, 20 December 1876, 1/7, 9
12. Savannah Morning News, 9 July 1878, 2/6
13. Savannah Morning News, 11 November 1879, 3/4
14. Daily News Herald, 17 March 1868, 2/4
15. Savannah Morning News, 19 July 1875, 3/6
6 January 1876, 3/6
17. Savannah Morning News, 28 September 1871, 3/2, 3
18. Records of Mrs. W. J. Paine of Valdosta, Georgia
19. Vital Records, Chatham County Health Department

20. Will File Number 5/5, Chatham County Court of the Ordinary

21. Savannah City Directory, 1880, page 136

22. Savannah Morning News, 5 April 1884, 4/2

23. Lot 1434, Laurel Grove Cemetery, Savannah, Georgia

24. Savannah Morning News, 13 October 1918, 5/2

25. Chatham County Marriage Records, Georgia Historical Society

26. Savannah City Directory, 1880, page 38

27. Chronological History of Savannah, A.E. Scholes (1900)

28. Savannah Morning News, 13 October 1918, 5/2

29. Will File Number 437, Chatham County Court of the Ordinary

30. Lot 1434, Laurel Grove Cemetery

31. Mrs. M.J. Paine

32. Savannah City Directory, 1880, page 290

33. Savannah City Directory, 1890, page 325

34. Savannah City Directory, 1880, page 290

35. General Index to Keepers' Record Books, Laurel Grove Cemetery, 1853-1938, Volume 1

36. Savannah Morning News, 25 June 1875, 3/1

37. Mrs. M.J. Paine

38. Savannah City Directory, 1913, page 412

39-42. Mrs. M.J. Paine
BIBLIOGRAPHY

SAVANNAH ANNALS - General Index to Savannah Newspapers - 1859-1892

DAILY MORNING NEWS - September 27, 1861

SAVANNAH DAILY HERALD - August 28, 1865

DAILY NEWS HERALD - September 9, 1867
   March 17, 1868

SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS - January 4, 1869
   through October 13, 1918

SAVANNAH CITY DIRECTORY - 1871-1918, 1930, 1940, 1950, 1960

LAUREL GROVE CEMETERY - General Index to Keepers' Record Books
   1853-1938, Volume 1

CHATHAM COUNTY MARRIAGE RECORDS
   Chatham County Courthouse

VITAL RECORDS - Chatham County Health Department
   Eisenhower Drive
   Savannah, Georgia

GENERAL INDEX TO WILLS - Chatham County Georgia Historical Society
   Whitaker Street
   Savannah, Georgia

WILLS - File Numbers 515, 538, 437, 1182
   Court of the Ordinary
   Chatham County Courthouse
   Montgomery Street
   Savannah, Georgia
DEED BOOKS - 6J-334, 5F-326, 5E-177, 8H-144, 8J-71, 8J-335, 6E-333, 4T-157
Chatham County Courthouse

Laurel Grove Cemetery - Anderson Street
Savannah, Georgia
Lot 1434
February 21, 1980

Lynne Caldwell
Nassau Drive
Savannah, Ga. 31410

Lynne:

I have scratched through my records and have come up with the enclosed
information which I hope will help you in your history project.

I haven't done too much on this side of the family so if you don't mind
would appreciate a copy of your work for it sounds very interesting.

Let me know if I can be of further help.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mrs. M. J. Paine
(Mitchell Jones, Jr.)

2. John Burr of Fairfield, Conn. married Grace Bulger, November 9, 1780. Their daughter, Eunice Burr married David Jennings of Fairfield. Their daughter, Eunice Burr Jennings married Nathaniel Dewey. Their daughter, Eunice Burr Dewey married William Wilson (see 1); Their daughter married Paul Jones Bulger. 

3. John Paul Jones Bulger and Emmaline Wilson, had three children. Emma Louise, married to Benjamin S. Purse. Buried in Bonaventure Cemetery, Lot 11, 1/3d. Emma Louise died 10/12/18, age 66 caused by a fall from a building. Benjamin S. Purse, died 1/17/27, at age 84 (No children.)

Annie W. Bulger, buried in same cemetery, Lot 11, 1/3d, 6/24/37, age 11 years 9 mo. Resided on Brighton St. "Asleep in Jesus, O how sweet; to be for such a slumber meet"

Josephine Bulger, died 2/15/13, age 57, residence Milfordville, Ga.

Mrs. Emmaline Wilson, Lot 11, 1/3d, died 12/6/1916, age 86, in New York. Residence 12 Liberty Street "Her children rise up and call her Blessed".

John Paul Jones Bulger, buried in same cemetery, Lot 11, 1/3d, died 7/10/1878, age 50 Res. Charlton Street, Troup Ward "An honest man is the work of God".


Emma Louise Paine and Mitchell Jones Paine had two sons, Mitchell Jones Paine, Jr. and Clarence Mathews Paine. Emma Louise died 12/16/68, buried Sunset Hill Cemetery, Valdosta, Georgia.


Seven Paine, unmarried, Valdosta, Georgia.
Dear Lynne,

It was a very pleasant surprise to receive your letter. I am a very knowledgeable person. Of course, we are interested in your research report and will be helpful in any way. If it is possible, we would like a copy of the document. You have been thanked, and we are very much the benefactors. We are glad to receive your letter for our records.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten notes follow, but are not legible.]
Clarence M. Pepper | June 25, 1905
married | Aug. 10, 1928

Joyce Bellington | July 6, 1930

we have 4 children

Clarence & Verline | June 25, 1949
married | Sept. 2, 1973

Nancy Jane O'Brien | April 21, 1952

Anne Smith | Dec. 20, 1951

Edward | married | July 10, 1976

Judy | married | July 6, 1947

Joy Stephens | Dec. 1, 1979

William Beadnich | July 4, 1947

Stephen Thomas | Dec. 10, 1963

From my Notes: I talked to the Klug and Neel relatives and have the family
itinerary of Paul Klug's lifetime. It
probably describes the Neel family. Any
additional information you could leave here...
Joyce B. Paine
406 Mack Drive
Valdosta, Georgia 31601

If there is anything I can do for you please let me know. My phone number is 912-342-8377. I am enclosing a check for the cost of the replacement or repair of the house. If this is not enough, please let me know and I will furnish additional funds.

Don't look too grave.

Sincerely,

Joyce B. Paine
Joyce B. Paine
406 Mack Drive
Valdosta, Georgia 31601

there is anythingคอมmed o for
the please (etc etc etc), Vich
large "no no less as 2343 0977.
I am sure I am a. 2343 0977.
came to know of the most of
which is most of the most of
which is most of the most of
and the more.

Dear (etc etc etc),

Sincerely,

Joyce Paine.