"A BIOGRAPHY OF HENRY JONES MIDDLETON"

PRESENTED TO

DR. WARLICK

BY

VIVIAN C. ROBINSON

HISTORY 500

August 1, 1977
HENRY JONES MIDDLETON
(FOREMAN OF THE SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS COMPOSING ROOM)

Henry Jones Middleton was born July 8, 1837 in Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Middleton, it may be said, began life as a printer, having been apprenticed to the trade when eleven years of age. His first work was on a little paper called "The Acorn," which had a short life, and which, with the Savannah Morning News was printed in the same office. He was made foreman of the Composing Room and for twenty years fulfilled his duty. He married Caroline Haeffele on October 6, 1861 and was the father of nine children. He died on January 3, 1903 during an operation for a cancerous growth on his face. He resided at 108 East Duffy Street.
On January 5, 1903, the following statements were made about Henry Jones Middleton:

"The funeral of the late Henry Jones Middleton was largely attended. The services at the house and at the grave in Bonaventure were conducted by Rev. H.C. Christian, pastor of Wesley Monumental Church. The coffin was covered with flowers; two large designs, one a pillow with the figure "30" signifying good night, and one an anchor were from the fellow workers with Mr. Middleton at the Morning News. The grave was almost hidden with flowers."1

Henry Jones Middleton lived during the best of times and the worst of times. His life was touched by the social, economic and political conditions of his day. Henry was born on July 8, 1837 in Savannah, Georgia to James Middleton and Josephine Ann Patterson Middleton.2 He was believed to be one of the oldest of six children.3

At a very early age, Henry's father deserted his mother and moved to Jessup.4 Because Henry was believed to be one of the oldest of the children, it was his duty to make an economic contribution to the family. Henry was about eleven years old when he became an apprentice to a printer.5 When Henry left home, Mrs. Middleton supported the family by sewing.6

On October 6, 1861, Henry married Caroline Haeffele of New York City. They became proud parents of nine children - Ida Florence, Henry, George, Eva Josephine, Louisa Gertrude, Arthur, James, Edwin, and David Middleton.7
Henry learned his trade as a printer and was offered a job with Savannah Morning News. He was made foreman of the Composing Room and for twenty years fulfilled its duties, well and faithfully. Mr. Middleton was not only a good printer and executive officer, but an excellent helper in the editorial department, and he at times, filled the positions of telegraph and news editor, and also acted as ship news and market reporter.

When the newspaper celebrated its thirty-eighth anniversary, Henry's name was not left unnoticed:

...Mr. Henry Jones Middleton, the present foreman of the Morning News Composing Room was an apprentice in 1851 on the Savannah Evening Journal published by the late John B. Cubbedge, the first publisher of the Morning News.

Henry was not only a diligent worker, but also a good father. There was always time for the children. The children never missed a circus. The employees of the Savannah Morning News received passes, and Mr. and Mrs. Middleton were able to take all the children to the circus for an afternoon of entertainment.

Henry, also, tried to instill in his children a sense of direction. He felt that an education was essential for all of his children. He was firm in his beliefs. His young son, Ned, found out the hard way.

"Ned played hookey even though he knew he would be caned. Grandpa [Henry] never spared the rod. The teacher knew Ned's
tricks and always sent a note by another pupil. One time
Ned declared he had been in school that day, but Grandpa didn't
believe him, so he received a double caning, one for telling a
story. As it happened, the boy who was supposed to deliver
the note brought it the day after...\textsuperscript{12}

The raging sectional differences between the North and
South resulted in a war that the Middleton family would never
forget. Edwin Middleton, the grandson of Henry and Caroline
Middleton recalls some of the accounts that his grandmother
gave him. Mrs. Middleton was a young lady of twenty-four when
Sherman's troops arrived. She was very upset at the behavior
of the Union troops. Vividly she recalled how Yankee troops
tore the window blinds off the house and used them to build
campfires in the squares. When Mrs. Middleton was in her eighty's
she was still furious with the Yankees.\textsuperscript{13}

Near the end of the Reconstruction Era, Henry was able to
make a very wise investment. In 1875, the house on 108 (then
100) Duffy Street was completed for him.\textsuperscript{14} This house was re-
modeled during the period of 1888-1889.\textsuperscript{15}

Religion played a vital part in the life of the Middleton
family. They were associated with two Methodist churches in
Savannah - Trinity and Wesley Monumental. Mrs. Caroline
Middleton transferred from Trinity to Wesley Monumental in 1875.\textsuperscript{16}
A church record was found on three of their children - George
Middleton became a member of Wesley Monumental in 1884.\textsuperscript{17} Laura
Gertrude became a member of Wesley Monumental on April, 1871, and she married Thomas K. Hutton on June 19, 1894. Eva transferred from Trinity to Wesley Monumental in 1887. She married John R. Davis on January 9, 1895.

On July 26, 1875 the Middleton family was saddened by the death of their three year old son, James. He died instantly.

Henry Middleton was also civic minded. He exercised his right for jury duty. For instance, on October 12, 1872 he was appointed the foreman of a jury. The case involved a murder.

The Charleston earthquake of the late 1880's had a great impact in Savannah. The Middleton's account of the earthquake goes like this:

"The night of the earthquake the house at 108 (then 100) East Duffy was on rollers. It was being moved forward so that the backyard would be larger. Mother [Louisa] was upstairs putting Uncle Ned [Edwin] and Uncle Dave to bed. It was her duty to bathe them, hear their prayers, and put them into bed. When the house began to shake, Grammie [Caroline] went to the foot of the steps and called "Bring out the children, bring out the children." I suppose mother followed orders. Grandpa [Henry] was at work."$

In the late 1890's, Mr. Middleton started suffering from a cancerous growth on his face. He underwent various treatments, which only gave him temporary relief. As a last result he was
determined to have the cancer removed. He entered the hospital on January 2, 1903. 24 Mr. Middleton died within a few minutes after the operation. 25 He was not assured at any time of the success of the operation but decided to take his chances. He was sixty-five years old. 26 Mr. Middleton was survived by his wife, Caroline, three sons, Edwin Middleton, George Middleton and David Middleton, and two daughters, Mrs. Thomas K. Hutton and Mrs. J. R. Davis. 27

Henry Middleton was a man of strong convictions and unflinching courage. Having once marked out his course, he pursued it without hesitation. 28

The woman that played such an instrumental role in Henry Middleton's life, Mrs. Caroline Middleton, lived to be eighty years old. She died on January 29, 1921. 29 Mrs. Middleton died at the home of her daughter, Eva, at 307 West Thirty-fourth Street. (According to Edwin Middleton, Caroline sold the house on Duffy Street before she died.) Rev. A. M. Hughlett, pastor of Wesley Monumental Church officiated. 30 Interment was in Bonaventure Cemetery. 31 Her grandsons served as pallbearers. 32

When Mrs. Middleton died, four of her children survived her. They were George Middleton, who died in July, 1942, Eva Josephine died on February 7, 1962, Louisa Gertrude died February 4, 1948, and David died on April 26, 1925. 33
Several of Henry Middleton's relatives are still living in Savannah. Mr. Edwin J. Middleton, who is the grandson of Henry Middleton, lives on Wilmington Island; Mr. Emory Jarrott who is the great-grand-nephew of Henry Middleton, has a real estate business in Savannah, and Harry Middleton who works for "Great Dane." 34

Today, the house on 108 East Duffy Street still stands. In 1975, the house was one-hundred years old. Although Edwin Middleton is upset with its appearance, the memories of what happened there have not died.
FOOTNOTES


3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.


6. Papers of the Middleton Family.

7. Ibid.


9. Ibid.

10. Savannah Newspaper Digest, January 15, 1888, p. 419.

11. Papers of the Middleton Family.

12. Ibid.


15. Ibid.

16. 'Membership Records of Trinity Methodist Church', Savannah, Georgia, 1875.

17. 'Membership Records of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church', 1875-1921, Savannah, Georgia.

18. Ibid.
22. Ibid. October 12, 1872, p. 412.
23. Papers of the Middleton Family.
25. "Deaths From 1890-1960," Chatham County Health Department, January 3, 1903.
27. Ibid.
28. Ibid.
33. Papers of the Middleton Family.
SOURCES CONSULTED

"Chatham County Census of 1880," (on microfilm - copy F-9) Box C-7, Roll Number 138, Savannah, Georgia.


"Deaths from 1890-1960," Chatham County Health Department, Savannah, Georgia, (The following death certificates were found - Henry Middleton - January 3, 1903; Caroline Middleton - January 29, 1921; John Robert Davis - August 20, 1934; Also, "Deaths" - Eva Middleton - February 9, 1962; Eva Davis Precht, March 14, 1970).


"Index To Deeds," Chatham County Superior Court, Book 4U, Folio 557, Book 4 0, Folio 34, Book 4Q, Folio 448, Savannah, Georgia.

Interview with Mr. Edwin Middleton, 1822 Wilmington Island Road, July 20, 1977.

Interview with Mrs. John W. Davis, Bartow, Georgia, July, 1977. Interview was made by telephone. Telephone number (912) 625-3339.

"Marriage Records of Trinity United Methodist Church," Savannah, Georgia, 1895.
"Membership Records of Trinity United Methodist Church," Savannah, Georgia, 1887.

"Membership Records of Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church," Savannah, Georgia, 1875-1921.

"Records of Burials" Fox and Weeks Funeral Home, (Formerly Henderson Brothers) September 9, 1973. (Received address of an information - John W. Davis, Bartow, Georgia).

Savannah Morning News, Obituaries, January 4, 1903, January 5, 1903, January 30, 1921, January 31, 1921.

Savannah Morning News Digest, October 12, 1872, July 26, 1878, January 15, 1888.

Visit to Bonaventure Cemetery, Middleton Plot, Section A, Lot 301, Savannah, Georgia, June, 1977.
Mrs. Jack W. Davis  
Bostick Mill Road  
RFD No. 1  
Bartow, Georgia 30102  

Aug. 7, 1977  

Dear Virginia,  

I have been delayed in getting to  

read the Savannah...however, I  

have hopes of making the trip  

Tomorrow.  

I am sending what soft shoes to  
you and will call upon while  

there...  

This was compiled by your husband.  

1st cousin Mrs. Carrie Britton  
9 Easton House  
Charleston, S.C.  
29403  

Best regards - Hell Davis.
James Middleton and his mother, known as Madame Middleton, came to SC from South Carolina. She was a tall stately old soul—reason for the

James Middleton married Josephine Ann Patterson

Josephine Ann Patterson—Died Dec. 2, 1892, aged 77. She was the child of a second marriage, had two half brothers, one named Charles. I understated she graduated from "Girls High School." If she got anything out of her father's estate we were never told so. She supported herself and her children by sewing. There was supposed to be some connection between her and Henderson B Roters of Henderson B Roters Memorial Home, one of who married a Patterson.

Children of James and Josephine Ann Patterson—


George P. Middleton, died Sept. 1892 — Made bullets during Civil War.
James Middleton — never married — was a cripple — was a tailor
Catharine Ann Middleton (Aunt Kate) — May 23, 1842, Aug. 19, 1885
Louisa Middleton — Sept. 15, 1840 — Sept. 5, 1910
Josephine Middleton (Aunt Dula)

—

Henry Jones Middleton married Caroline Haffle — Born Aug. 15, 1864 — died Jan. 29, 1921

Children —
Ida Florence, Aug. 14, 1862, Aug. 20, 1862
Henry Middleton (Harry) born Sept. 8, 1863, died May 16, 1920, worked at Rourk's Iron Works

George Middleton — Jan. 8, 1866, July 1912 — Printer, proofreader — North Carolina News—Played piano by air

Louisa G Gertrude, Nov. 12, 1870, Feb. 4, 1943
Arthur — Sept. 3, 1872, Oct. 20, 1873
James — Dec. 11, 1874, July 25, 1878
Edwin — May 28, 1878, Mar. 22, 1912 — Worked for Rourk's Iron Works

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George P. Middleton married Mrs. Bello — She had a child by a previous marriage, a boy, died in his youth

Maybelle — Married Frank Schweickert — died in 1961

Eleanor — never married — lives in Augusta.

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Catherine A. Middleton married John Taylor Parry — Feb. 14, 1835-Dec. 1923

Children
Ada — lives in Jacksonville; George H. died 1933; William; David; Harry (died at age 89)

Nellie, Mar. 6, 1871-Sept. 22, 1971
Catherine Middleton Parry cont.

Ada Parry married Walter DeCottes
child
Kate married Peter Davis (died 1934)
child
Charles Peter married - 2 sons

Louisa Middleton Sept. 15, 1840, Sept. 5, 1910
married David Cockshutt (Old Dave), worked at Miami Iron Works
Feb. 23, 1836- Mar. 5, 1905
child
Willa Kate (Cousin Etta) Aug. 3, 1860, May 24, 1939
First marriage to --- Mackin
children
WILLARD C. Willard C.
children
Elise, Gertrude, Allen, Jr.
Gertrude married Ricks - child Willia m
Allen married Nancy, child Allen III

Willa Kate - second marriage to J. Howard Jarrott, II-June 29, 1867 - Aug.
children
Louise, J. Howard, Jr. --
Louise married John Wilbur McKee
children
John W. Jr. has at least 1 child. Charles killed at Two Jima, Denise
married has 3 children.

Josephine Middleton married James Arthur Smith - a native of Maine, since
was a Yankee, Aunt Dule was criticized. Died 1896 of Yellow Fever.

ARTHUR M. married Mamie Logan
Louisa, Dec. 3, 1863, Mar 2, 1932 married Richard A. Terhune
children
Vera Idell - Richard, Jr.
Vera Idell first married J. Wellington Ray, child Leslie. Ethel married J.
Richard Jr married--- Children Richard III, Ruth Doris, Madeline
Vera's second marriage was to -- Adams.

Henry Jones Middleton married Caroline Maeffle
children
Harry Middleton married Marcella Burns - Born Jan. 3, 1872
children
Marcella (Madge) born Dec. 27, 1891
Harry J. married Veronica - child Harry - four children
Was Marshall of St. Patrick's Day Parade in 1932 - an honor coveted by
all Irishmen in Savannah.

Harry J. Middleton was born Aug. 29, 1875 and died Mar. 9, 1977
Harry Middleton - cont.

Marcella (Madge) born 1891, married Peter E. Seleson
children

Peter Harry, Madelyn, Thomas Edge, Robert

Peter Harry was killed in a gun accident in his youth.
Madelyn married Robert — 1 adopted son,
Thomas Edge married — 1 daughter Diana, 2 sons by another marriage
Robert married — 2 adopted sons.

George Middleton first married Eleanor Isabel Zealy
(Oct. 29, 1890)
children

Eleanor born Dec. 1892 — Georgette (died when she was about 14run 21 by street car. Buried with her mother in Grandpa Middleton's lot in Yreka venture.

Eleanor married John S. Balmer
children
John S. married married Bernardt; Winton Gerald; Chester Walter born June 1922; Thomas Marshall

George Middleton's second marriage to Annie Thorpe
children
George, Jr. — 1 child; William Thorpe; James Henry — 2 children; Barbara Isabel.

Eva Josephine Middleton on Jan. 12, 1895 married John Robert Davis
children


John Watkin first married Sarah Davis
child

Sarah Carolyn born Mar. 1922 married John Nicholson
6 children
Rebecca; Laura Lee; Minnie Marga ret; John; Ross; Carolyn Eve.

John Watkin second marriage to Nell Ratral — child Nell Elaine born Nov. 9, 1949, married Henry Cozzett
children

Eva Middleton Davis married Herman Frederick Precht
children

Henry June 15, 1932 — David Jan. 17, 1934

Louisa Gertrude Middleton on June 19, 1894 married Thomas Robert Hutts
Aug. 27, 1897, Jan. 1930

children
Gertrude Ruth, Mar. 31, 1895 and Carrie Middleton Jan. 27, 1900
Louisa Gertrude Middleton - cont.


Carrie Middleton married on April 30, 1919 Richard Francis Britton, born Aug. 9, 1892, died Sept. 14, 1966

Children
Richard Francis, Jr. born Feb. 14, 1920; Thomas Hutton born Aug. 24, 1922; Caroline Gertrude, born June 3, 1927

Richard Francis, Jr. on April 25, 1945 married Pauline Helen Novak, born children Sept. 6
Patricia Ann, born Oct. 24, 1946; Richard Francis III, born June 10, 1949;
Walter Roland, born Jan. 12, 1950; Paula Joan born Sept. 5, 1953

Thomas Hutton Britton on Sept. 10, 1951 married Colleen Anne Harder children (adopted)
William Johnson born Sept. 15, 1956; and Anne Middleton, born Sept. 22, 1960

Caroline Gertrude Hutton on Nov. 17, 1951 married Robert Biaggio Cristano, born Sept. 4, 1914

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Edwin Middleton on Mar. 31, 1903 married Annie L. Keller, born Sept. 13, 1878, died April 10, 1952

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David Middleton married Frances Richardson child

Annabel born April 16, 1932 - married Una-- (English)

Bernard Haeffele married Josephine Sweifil children

Katie; Caroline; Josephine; Joseph; Barbara.

Katie married Livy Cornell children

Margaret married David Rose (died in childbirth) Annie - married

Katie had no living descendants.

Josephine (Aunt Phene) A case of scarlet fever left her brain damaged. She died in her forties.

Joseph Warren - Ran away to sea. married - children

A nane Elizabeth - graduate nurse, died in Boston 1935

Frideric R.; Charles Warren; Another daughter died young while Uncle Joe was on one of his voyages.

Frideric R. married Josephine (a Belgian) - child Dorothy married Johnson another child is unknown.

Barbara married John Britton (distant relative of Richard F. Britton, Sr).

He was a printer.
Barbara - cont

Ida Josephine (Cousin Daisy) born Sept. 3, 1869; Thaddeus; Agnes; Caroline; Bernard; John (died young) Buried in old Middleton lot, lower right hand corner, alongside the 2 Middleton boys. Thaddeus married - no children; Caroline married Joe Farrell, died 1939 - no children. Is now living in Masonic Home in St. Petersburg, Fl.

Addition -

Uncle Joe, son of Bernard and Josephine Haddele died in Sailors' Home Harbor, New York City. Was registered there as Harrison. The story got that he was imprisoned - a prisoner, scheduled for release, died, and Uncle Joe assumed his identity; He was in the Union Navy. He died before 1907.

You can all proofread this for me. I can't read it through again. If you find errors correct them and let me know. If you want more information I'll see if I can get it for you.