

# No County for Old Men, or Their Money:

## ROBERT TUGGLE AND THE 1862 NOTES FROM CAMPBELL COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY CHARLES DERBY

Most money from the Civil War era became obsolete at the war's end. So it was for the 1862 notes from Campbellton, Campbell County, Georgia, an example of which is shown below. But these notes are even more obsolete than most from that era because with the passage of time, not only did the men and institutions associated with the notes pass, but the town and county themselves disappeared. This article tells the story of Robert James Tuggle, the Campbell County treasurer who helped create and sign these notes, and of Campbellton and Campbell County.

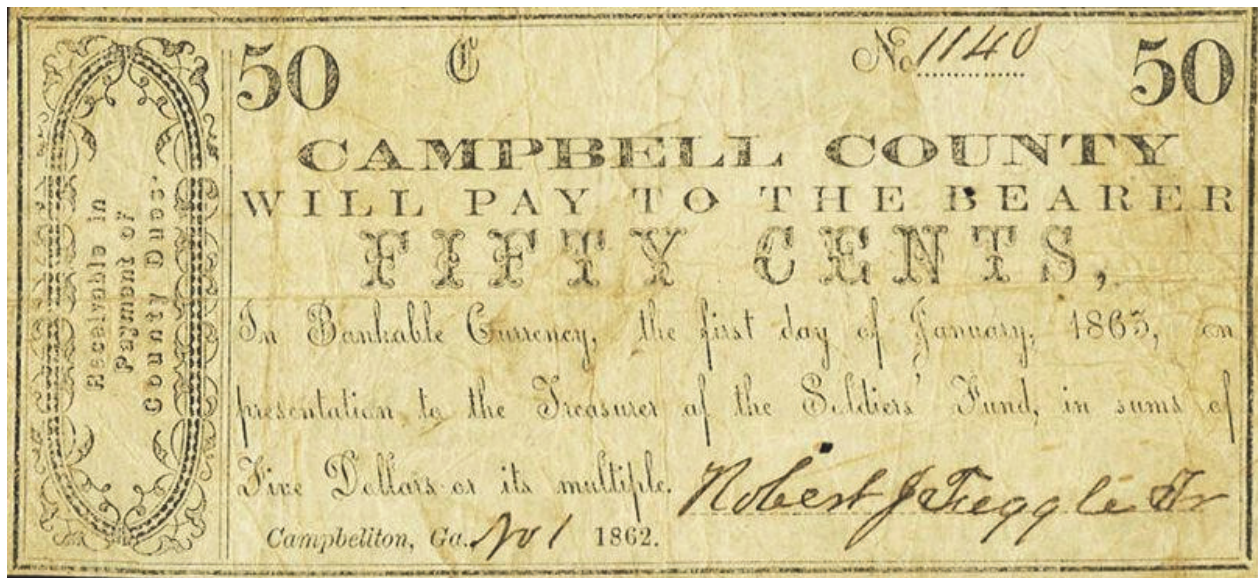
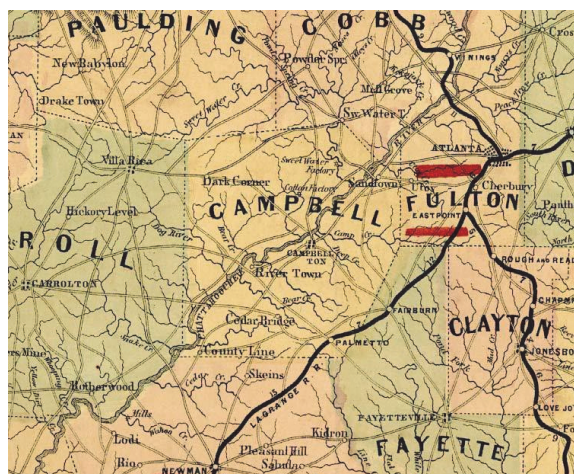


Figure 1. 50 cent note from Campbell County, Georgia, signed by “Robert J Tuggle” as Treasurer (“Tr”) for the County’s Soldiers’ Relief Fund. The note is from Campbellton, the county seat of the time, and hand dated November 1, 1862. Courtesy of Mack Martin.

When the Campbell County notes were produced in 1862, Campbellton was the county seat of Campbell County. Today, Campbell County is gone, Campbellton is but an unincorporated community next to the Chattahoochee River in the southwest corner of Fulton County, and only a few historic sites and buildings remind us of Campbellton’s once prominence in this corner of the world. How did Campbellton come to this?

### Campbellton Before the Civil War

Campbell County was named for Colonel Duncan G. Campbell, who participated in the negotiations leading to the Treaty of Indian Springs, which in 1825 ceded this land from the Creek Nation to Georgia. Campbell County was established by the Georgia Legislature in 1828, formed from parts of Carroll, Coweta, DeKalb, and Fayette counties. Campbellton was established from land owned by Judge Francis Irwin and was designated as Campbell County’s seat in 1829. In 1853, Fulton County became Campbell County’s neighbor to the northeast, being created from the western half of DeKalb County (Figure 2). Campbell County’s original wooden courthouse was built in 1829 and was replaced with a beautiful brick courthouse in 1835, shown in Figure 2. By the beginning of the Civil War, Campbellton had become a thriving town of 1,200 people and Campbell County had over 8,000 residents.<sup>1, 2, 3</sup>

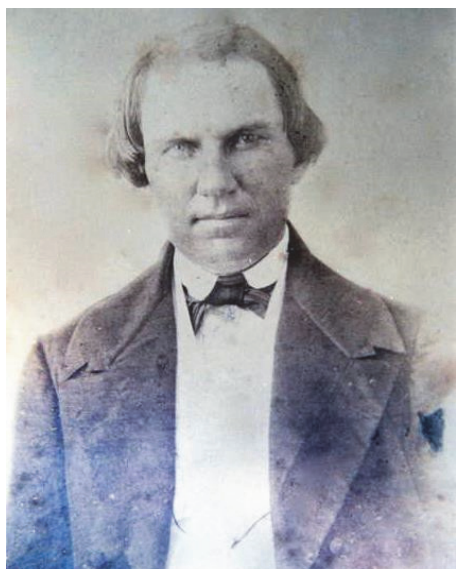


**Figure 2. Map of Georgia from 1864 showing Campbell and surrounding counties. From Ref 1. Old Campbell County Courthouse in Campbellton, built in 1835 and was used as the courthouse until 1870 when the county seat moved to Fairburn. This photograph was taken in 1914 just before it was dismantled by Robert Cook and its bricks were used to build a barn. From Ref 3.**

### **Robert Tuggle and the Making of the Campbell County 1862 Notes**

#### **Before the War**

Robert James Tuggle was born in Stone Mountain, Georgia, on December 18, 1820. Following in the footsteps of his father, James Lodowick Tuggle, Robert became a lawyer and was admitted to the bar in September 1843 in Decatur, Georgia.<sup>4</sup> Robert Tuggle moved to Campbellton and for the rest of his life lived in and served the Campbellton community. Professionally, he was Campbellton's attorney, so he spent much time in Campbellton's courthouse. He was a lifelong member of Campbellton's Methodist Church and was founding secretary of the Masonic Lodge in 1848. From 1849 to 1852, he was Colonel for the Campbell County's contingent of the Georgia Militia, which, according to the old militia organization of the state of Georgia, Campbell County provided the 73<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of the state militia. At the age of 32, he married an 18-year-old local girl, Caroline Francis Bomar (born June 17, 1835), in Campbell County on July 20, 1853. They lived next to Tuggle Creek, which runs by the Methodist Church cemetery on its way into the Chattahoochee River. They had five children by 1862, though only three survived past their first year. Tuggle represented Campbell County in the Georgia House of Representative in 1859 and 1860.<sup>5</sup> By 1860, Robert achieved a comfortable life with \$1,000 real estate and \$3,000 personal estate, and had one of Caroline's brothers reading law with him. Then came the Civil War, and things turned upside down.



**Figure 3. Robert James Tuggle and Caroline Francis Bomar Tuggle. From Ancestry.com**



**Tuggle's Service and Sacrifices during the War**

*The Campbell County Notes of 1862.* The impact of the first years of the War on Georgia was mostly in terms of people and money, since the fighting was largely in other parts of the country. Tuggle was 40 years old at the start of the war, and with a family of three young children and a wife and with no conscription laws in 1862, he did not participate in the fighting in the early stages of the war. But as Treasurer of Campbell County and its Soldiers' Relief Fund, Tuggle contributed to the war effort, and, relevant to the interest of numismatists, helped produce the Campbell County notes of 1862. The notes bear no imprint, so the printer of these notes is not known. Four denominations of these notes were printed: \$2, \$1, 50 cent, and 25 cent. The notes promised that "*Campbell County will pay to the bearer [the amount of the denomination] in bankable currency the first day of January 1863 on presentation to the Treasurer of the Soldiers' Fund, in sums of Five Dollars or its multiple*" and also that the notes are "*Receivable in Payment of County Dues.*" Despite having only four denomination, five types of notes are known, all listed by Anderson and Marsh.<sup>6</sup> This is because there are two types of \$1 notes, which differ in the design surrounding the text "*Receivable in Payment of County Dues*" on the left end of the notes. These five note types are shown in Figure 4 and their features are summarized in Table 1. Actually, there are four types of designs surrounding the "*Receivable*" text: one design for the \$2 notes, two designs for the two types of \$1 notes, and a fourth design used for both the 50 cent and 25 cent notes. Besides having two design types, the \$1 notes differ from the other denominations in another way: the \$1 notes are to be presented to the treasurer of "*the Soldiers' Relief Fund*" whereas the other denominations are to be presented to the treasurer of "*the Soldiers' Fund.*" All of the notes of a given denomination were signed on a different day.

<b><u>Table 1. Types of Campbell County 1862 Notes</u></b>			
<b><u>Denomination</u></b>	<b><u>Design (Left End)</u></b>	<b><u>Plate Letter</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
\$2	Design 1	A	Oct 25 1862
\$1	Design 2	B	Oct 28 1862
\$1	Design 3	B	Oct 28 1862
50 cent	Design 4	C	Nov 1 1862
25 cent	Design 4	D	Nov 5 1862

Thus, the \$2, \$1, 50 cent, and 25 cent notes were signed on *Oct 25, Oct 28, Nov 1, and Nov 5*, respectively. All notes that I have seen were hand signed as "*Robt J Tuggle Tr*" as shown in Figure 4, with one exception: a 50-cent note, signed "*Robert J Tuggle Tr*" shown in Figure 1. I know of no record of the number of plate sheets printed, but the highest serial number of any note that I have seen is 1989. I know of one to six examples of each note type. I propose that a sheet consisted of notes of only one denomination of one plate letter, rather than the more common situation of a sheet consisting of notes of different denominations and different plate letters. This could explain why all notes of a given denomination were signed on the same day, why notes of different denominations were signed on different days, and why there were two designs of the \$1 (for example, if the set plates for printing a sheet of \$1 notes needed replacing, they generated a second set of plates with a slightly different design).

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Figure 4. Notes from Campbell County, 1862. Courtesy of Gary Doster and Mack Martin.

War Service Twice Over. Robert Tuggle served in the military in two capacities during the war. His first service was in command of home troops defending Campbellton. Tuggle wrote a letter to Adjutant and Inspector-General Henry C. Wayne on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1863. Wayne was appointed to his position by Governor Joseph Brown. In this capacity, Wayne organized the structure of the army of Georgia, supervised Georgia's Quartermaster General, and was in charge of staffing of Georgia troops guarding crossings along the Chattahoochee River. Tuggle's letter was in response to a requisition by Wayne and the Governor for Tuggle to form a local militia of 160 volunteers. In his letter, Tuggle attempted to clarify how the draft policy of the Confederate government would impact his efforts to form a company of state guard from Campbell County. Immediately pursuant to this letter, in August he organized Company B of the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Georgia State Guards and was appointed to the rank of Captain. The 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment was organized as two battalions, and Company B was under the command of Col. George N. Lester. Tuggle's company was named "*Butt Avengers*," and it served as the local defense force in Campbellton. It was organized for a six-month period, and so it was disbanded in February 1864. But this did not end Tuggle's war service.



On April 9, 1864, Tuggle was appointed by Governor Joseph Brown and General Wayne as Judge Advocate with the rank of Major. The document of appointment is shown in Figure 5.

Judge Advocates are legal advisors to the commander of their military unit. They provide all types of legal advice related to civilian and military law, and they also serve as prosecutors in court-martial cases. It was in his capacity of Judge Advocate that Tuggle wrote a letter on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864, to fellow Judge Advocate, Major William Kirkland de Graffenried. (William de Graffenried is an interesting character; for a brief biography of him, see footnote 7.) The text of this letter is quoted below, because it provides a window into the heart, mind, and soul of Robert Tuggle. He wrote this letter while he was on furlough immediately following the death of his wife, Caroline, on May 28. In this letter, Tuggle describes the impact of his wife's death on him, his concerns about the continued fighting, and his wishes for peace. The letter shows Tuggle's spirit, strength of character, and intellect. Here is a transcript of that letter:

"Campbellton Ga June 5<sup>th</sup> / 64 W K DeGraffenreid [sic de Graffenried] Dear Sir when I left you yesterday was one week ago. I then thought I should have been back by this time but such is not true. The death of my wife leaves me three small children the eldest of which is not ten years of age. The servants I had was hired except a woman. The owners of them have taken them away and run them out of the way of the enemy. So my three small children have no one to see after them but an old servant woman when I am present. I have written for a widow sister of mine to come and stay with my children. have heard nothing from her. I desire to remain with them untill [sic] she can come or I hear from her. The people are again excited here as we now hear Gen'l Johnson [sic Joseph Johnston] moved his left wing of his army towards the right and the Yankees are now reported to have again appeared about Dallas on yesterday about 1 o'clock PM said to be Cavalry, I suppose a raid or foraging party. The refugees are again [?oping] through and some stopping here. Our County this side the river is now filled with them. There is not provisions and forage for them and their stock here. What the people are to do I know not. Oh, that this cruel and desolating war could terminate and let us have repose but I see no signs from any quarter that such a glorious event is now near. Major, the people [grasping] for peace. They would hail it with as much joy as the patriarch Jacob did that his favorite son Joseph was alive in Egypt. It would be the most

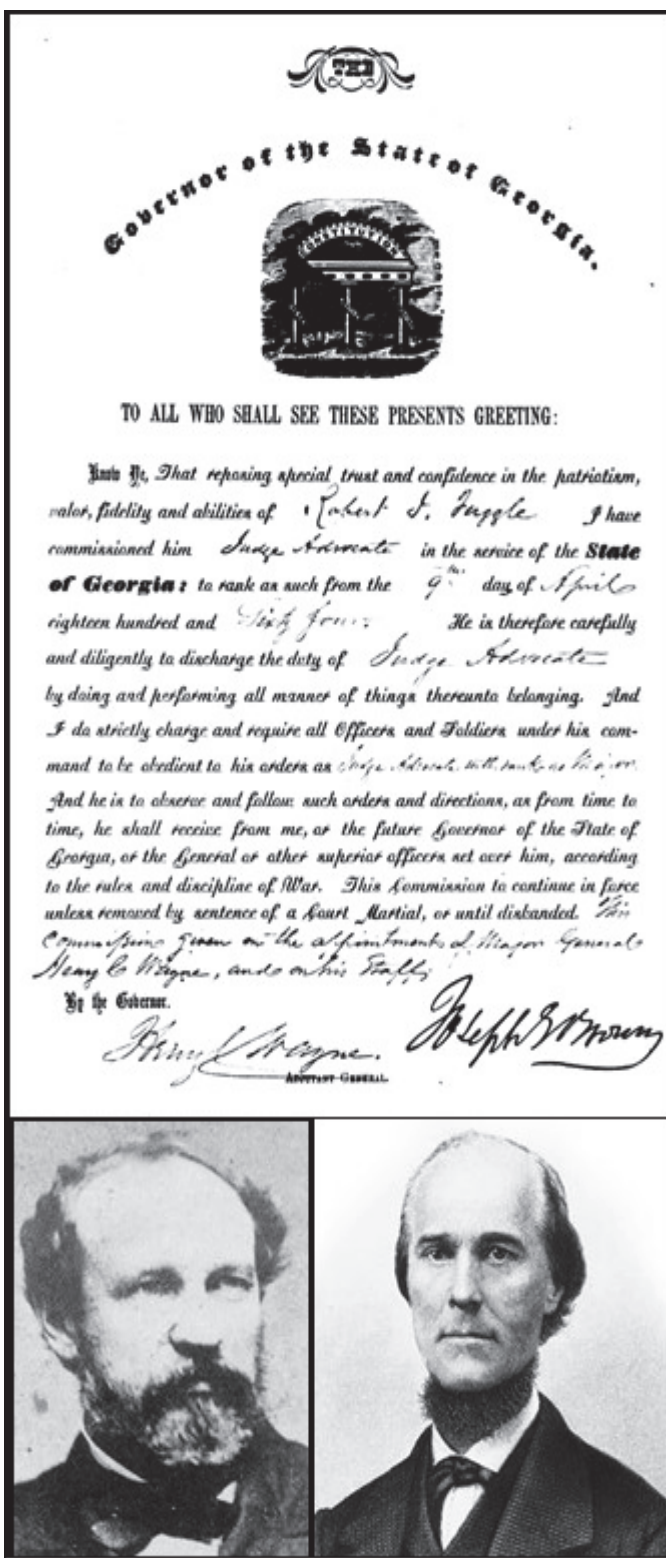


Figure 5. Document appointing Robert Tuggle as Judge Advocate, signed by Adjunct General Henry Wayne (left) and Governor Joseph Brown (right).

[reassuring?] news to me that ever greeted my ear. Shall I ever hear it God only knows. I am fully satisfied that it is to come by adjustment through diplomacy fighting will not bring it we are not as near to it as we were when the first battle gun was fired. Oh, will the people come to a proper sense of justice reason together and cease slaying each other for naught, I pray they may so act soon. I know that my furlough gives me leave of absence until further orders but its [sic] my heart's desire to be with you and the Gen'l to discharge my duty. I know you will attend to all my matters. I trust the men may so act that not much court martialing will be required. With due regard to yourself, the Gen'l and other of the staff officers, I subscribe myself. Yours, Robt. J. Tuggle."

After this letter, fighting around Campbellton and the rest of Campbell County only intensified. The most significant fighting in the area occurred on July 16, 17, and 18 and August 17 and 29. (For reference, General Johnston was replaced by Hood on July 17, and Gen. Hood withdrew troops from Atlanta on September 1.) While Sherman's army was still in the area, Union troops occupied homes in Campbellton. From this time till the end of the war and beyond, Georgia was forever changed.

### Robert Tuggle and Campbell County After The War

Despite losing most of his wealth by the end of the War, Robert Tuggle tried to resume a normal life. He returned to Campbellton and continued to live and work as an attorney. Eighteen months after Caroline's death and seven months after the end of the War, Robert remarried, on October 11, 1865. His new wife, Naomi Louvina Duggan (called "Lucy" by many), was 21 years his junior, being born on September 4, 1841, in Campbell County.

In 1870, Campbellton received what would become a second major blow, this one the knockout. That year, the northern part of Campbell County was ceded to form a new county, Douglas, and what remained of Campbell County moved its county seat from Campbellton to Fairburn, 15 miles to the southeast. This shift of county seats occurred because the Atlanta & West Point Railroad was building a line through Campbell County, and the Railroad decided to run it through Fairburn instead of Campbellton. This was likely for either of two reasons. Campbellton residents reportedly did not want the railroad line to go through their town because of the noise and disturbance that it would produce. But also, "a quick look at the terrain on the banks of the Chattahoochee reveals some pretty rough country for railroad building while the natural ridge at Fairburn is flat and inviting. Thus it seems unlikely that the opinions of the citizens of Campbellton had much influence on the survey of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad."<sup>8</sup> So, the railroad line was built through Fairburn instead of Campbellton, and Fairburn became the seat of Campbell County. A new courthouse was built in Fairburn, and the old courthouse in Campbellton, and the town itself, began an irrevocable downward slide.

Despite these poor economic conditions, Campbellton was Robert and Lucy's home, and they raised eight children there. Robert died on April 30, 1898, at the age of 77, and his last will and testament dated, January 22, 1898, Robert gave all his possessions to his "beloved wife" Lucy. But there wasn't much to give: a \$300 note plus interest for land in Campbellton, and their shared possessions. Robert was buried in the Campbellton Methodist Cemetery, in a family plot with Caroline, an infant unnamed child (b. July 28, d. August 8, 1856), and son George Lee Tuggle (b. 1870, d. 1895). These Tuggle's share the cemetery with others from Campbellton, and also with Confederate and Union casualties of the War. The Tuggle plot marker (Figure 7) reads for Robert, "An honest man's the noblest work of God," and for Caroline, "The jewels death has robbed us of - We will find on the other side." After Robert's death, Lucy lived for a few years in Campbellton with son Harvey (b. 1879, d. 1923). They moved from Campbellton to Texas in 1901, and when Harvey married a Texan girl, Lucy moved back to Campbell County, but not to Campbellton. Instead, she moved to Fairburn, to live with daughter Elizabeth (Elizabeth S. Tuggle Miller; b. 1875, d. 1933) and her husband. Lucy died in 1917 in Fairburn, and she was buried in Bethlehem Baptist Church there, 15 miles from the resting place of Robert and Caroline.

By 1932, Campbell County itself disappeared, when it was incorporated by Fulton County. Little of old Campbellton survives today: Campbellton Methodist Church and its cemetery, the Campbellton Baptist Church

Handwritten letter from Robert Tuggle to William K. de Graffenried, dated June 5th 1864. The letter is written on aged paper with cursive handwriting. It discusses the death of his wife, the care of his children, and the situation of his servants.

Figure 6. First page of a two-page letter from Robert Tuggle to William K. de Graffenried, June 5<sup>th</sup> 1864.

Cemetery, the Masonic Lodge, and a few other buildings<sup>1, 2</sup>. The old county courthouse at Campbellton slid into disrepair and was demolished in 1914, and its bricks were used for other purposes. But some of old Campbellton remains: Tuggle Creek still flows into the Chattahoochee River (Fig. 7); and a couple of dozen pieces of fragile paper in the form of 1862 Campbell County notes still connect us to a time when Campbellton and Campbell County were prominent parts of Georgia.

### References and Footnotes

**1** <http://georgiainfo.galileo.usg.edu/topics/counties/campbell>

**2** <http://oldcampbellcounty.com/index.htm>

**3** <http://www.panoramio.com/photo/86350071>

**4** Ulman, H. Charles. 1872. *Record and Official Register of the United States*. A. S. Barnes & Co., New York.

**5** *Journal of the House of Representatives of the State of Georgia at the Annual Session of the General Assembly. 1859 and 1860*. Boughton, Nisbet & Barnes, State Printer. Milledgeville, Georgia.

**6** Anderson, Carl A., and Marsh, David. *Georgia Obsolete Currency*. [www.davidmarsh.com](http://www.davidmarsh.com)

**7** William Kirkland de Graffenried (1821-1873): He was from a prominent lineage that included Baron Christopher de Graffenried, who immigrated from Switzerland to escape religious persecution and to North Carolina to help found New Bern. William grew up in Columbus, Georgia. He went to Yale College in 1838 but was expelled due to dueling. He graduated from the University of North Carolina, became a lawyer, and moved to Macon, Georgia. He married Mary H. Marsh, in 1847. He became a successful attorney, was a judge on Macon circuit (1851-1855), and was politically active. As tensions between the North and South mounted, he opposed secession, but later acquiesced as did so many others when war was inevitable. Governor Joseph Brown appointed William to his cabinet. William's service in the war closely paralleled that of Robert Tuggle. He served in Macon's State Guard as 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant, Company B, 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Georgia Infantry, beginning in August 1863. Governor Brown and General Wayne appointed him Judge Advocate with the rank of Major, and he served with Robert Tuggle in this capacity. Like Tuggle, William lost most of his wealth during the war. His daughter, Clare, is more famous than William: she was an historian, women's rights activist, and writer on labor conditions in the United States. After the war, William served prominently as local counsel to two Georgia railroads, the Georgia Southwestern and the Georgia Central. He died in Macon in 1873 and is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery. References: 1) Hughes, Nathaniel Cheairs. 2008. *Yale's Confederates: A Biographical Dictionary*. University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville. 2) Whites, Leeann. 2016. *Gender Matters: Race, Class and Sexuality in the Nineteenth-Century South*. Springer Press. 3) <http://www.degraffenreid.org>. 4) Scarborough, William Sanders. 2005. *The Autobiography of William Sanders Scarborough: An American Journey from Slavery to Scholarship*. Wayne State University Press. 5) James, Edward T., James, Janet Wilson, and Boyer, Paul S. 1971. *Notable American Women, 1607-1950: A Biographical Dictionary, Volume 3*. Radcliffe College. Harvard University Press. 6) <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ga/county/fulton/columbushistory/pg%20001-100.pdf>

**8** [https://patch.com/georgia/douglasville/our-history-the-forgotten-town-of- Campbelltown](https://patch.com/georgia/douglasville/our-history-the-forgotten-town-of-Campbelltown)