

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

Lieutenant Sam Knieland, writing  
for the Federal general, sent the  
second message two hours later  
which stated, "General Granger  
directs me to say that for the  
sake of humanity he makes the  
following propositions: If you  
pledge yourself that your forces  
shall not occupy any portion  
of the city, he will not occupy  
it, except that part which is  
in the immediate vicinity of  
the fort and essential to its  
defense. If you will attack  
the city from the south side,  
he will withdraw all his forces  
to the fort and meet you there.  
Or if you will designate some  
portion of the city which shall  
be held sacred, the citizens will

**Names:**

Granger, General

Knieland, Sam, Lt.

**Types:**

essay

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be removed there and the general will not occupy it with his troops. These propositions are made solely to give protection to defenseless citizens."

When word reached the citizens of Huntsville that the city might be turned into a battle ground, they were greatly dismayed. Many families left their homes and took refuge in the country. Their worries were soon over however, for on October 1, the Confederates, after a brief display of force, decided not to attempt to take the town, and retired in the direction of Athens. In reality this proposed attack was feigned by Forrest in order to allow his main force to move rapidly across the Tennessee River near

**Names:**

Confederates retired

Forrest,

Huntsville attacked

**Types:**

essay

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Florence, Tenn.

When the final defeat of the Confederacy came with the surrender of Lee at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, the Federals on duty in Hunterville continued to occupy the town until relieved by members of the Federal Reserve Corps who served during the trying period of Reconstruction.

**Names:**

Federal Occupation

Lee,

**Types:**

essay



Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 3  
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The weight of Federal occupation  
was heavily upon the shoulders of  
the people of Huntsville and Madison  
County. Social gatherings practically  
ceased since most of the time had  
to be spent in performing daily household  
tasks. Many of the ladies gave of their  
time to minister to the sick and  
wounded soldiers. The Ladies Humane  
Society was very active in its work  
at the hospital established in school  
buildings and churches of the city.

Many of Huntsville's homes as well  
as most of its public buildings were  
occupied by Federal forces, while other  
families were required to board  
Union officers. The First Methodist  
Church and the building which housed  
Greene Academy were burned in 1864  
by troops who were not too careful  
about their open fires used for heating purposes.

**Names:**

Amnesty Oath  
Church burned

Huntsville occupied

Ladies Humane  
Society

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 422 Highlights Hist. ②  
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number 7  
Governor Pauline Chapman's family were  
turned out of their home to make room  
for a negro regiment. The house was finally  
burned and in its place, barracks were  
constructed to house a negro refugee  
colony established by the Federal in 1863.  
Private schools were poorly attended  
because many parents were afraid  
to send their children out on the  
streets. In many instances boys and  
girls were not adequately supplied with  
the necessary winter clothes and shoes  
since these items became very  
scarce as the war dragged on.  
The institutions of higher learning were  
closed and their buildings converted  
to other uses such as hospitals and  
storage places.  
Services of the local churches  
were often interrupted and the  
ministers sometimes expelled from their

**Names:**

Schools closed

**Types:**

essay

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pulpits because of the prayers which they offered. The Rev. Frederick Rose of the First Presbyterian Church was "called on the carpet" for praying, "O Lord, I beseech thee, O Lord, to bless our enemies and to remove them from our midst as soon as seemeth good in Thy sight."

As the last year of the war approached "loyalty oaths" were exacted of the people of Huntsville and Madison County by the Federals. These oaths had to be taken when travelers went in and out of the town, when provisions were bought at the commissaries, and when <sup>with</sup> protection was asked of Union troops.

Leaders of the "Peace movement" were in direct negotiation with Washington officials during the winter of 1864-1865 to try to establish a satisfactory <sup>with</sup> ~~way~~ <sup>way</sup>

**Names:**

Loyalty Oath required

Peace movement

Rose, Frederick, Rev.

**Types:**

essay



Roberts #22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Mar. 6.

whereby Alabama could be readmitted into the Union. Loyal Confederates, in an effort to counteract the effects of these "Peace groups," called a meeting at the Courthouse on December 19, 1864. The notice of the meeting, circulated as a small hand bill, stated that accurate information concerning the Confederacy and its laws would be given to the people.

In spite of the discontent of many of its people, in spite of the increasing hardships and privations caused by war and occupation, a majority of the citizens of Huntsville and Madison County carried on the fight until the surrender of their soldiers on the battlefield brought what they felt to be a legitimate basis for peace.

**Names:**

Loyal Confederates  
meet

**Types:**

essay

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Ma. Co.

Once the questions of secession and civil war had been settled by the sword, new and more difficult questions faced the people of Huntville and Madison County. What was the best method of dealing with the freedman? How was money to be obtained for buying seeds and supplies to plant crops? How were businesses to be refinanced? How could debts and taxes be paid? Should the "amnesty oath" be taken? What political group offered the best leadership and the soundest program for rehabilitation of the state? For ten years the people of Alabama struggled to find the answers to these, <sup>and other</sup> perplexing questions, and finally, by 1875, many of them had been answered at least in part by those who had worked hard

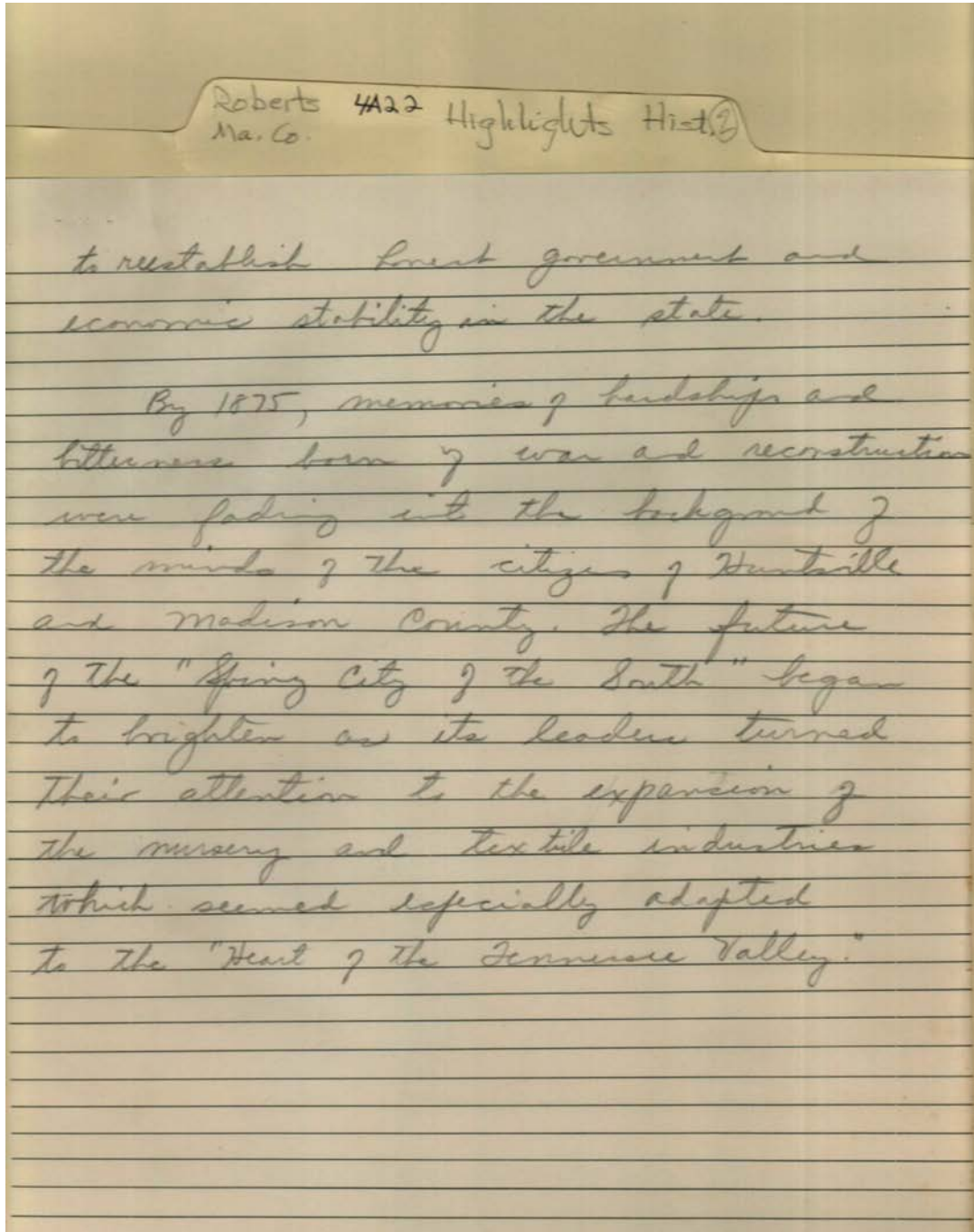
**Names:**

Freedman questions

**Types:**

essay





**Names:**

Bitterness fades

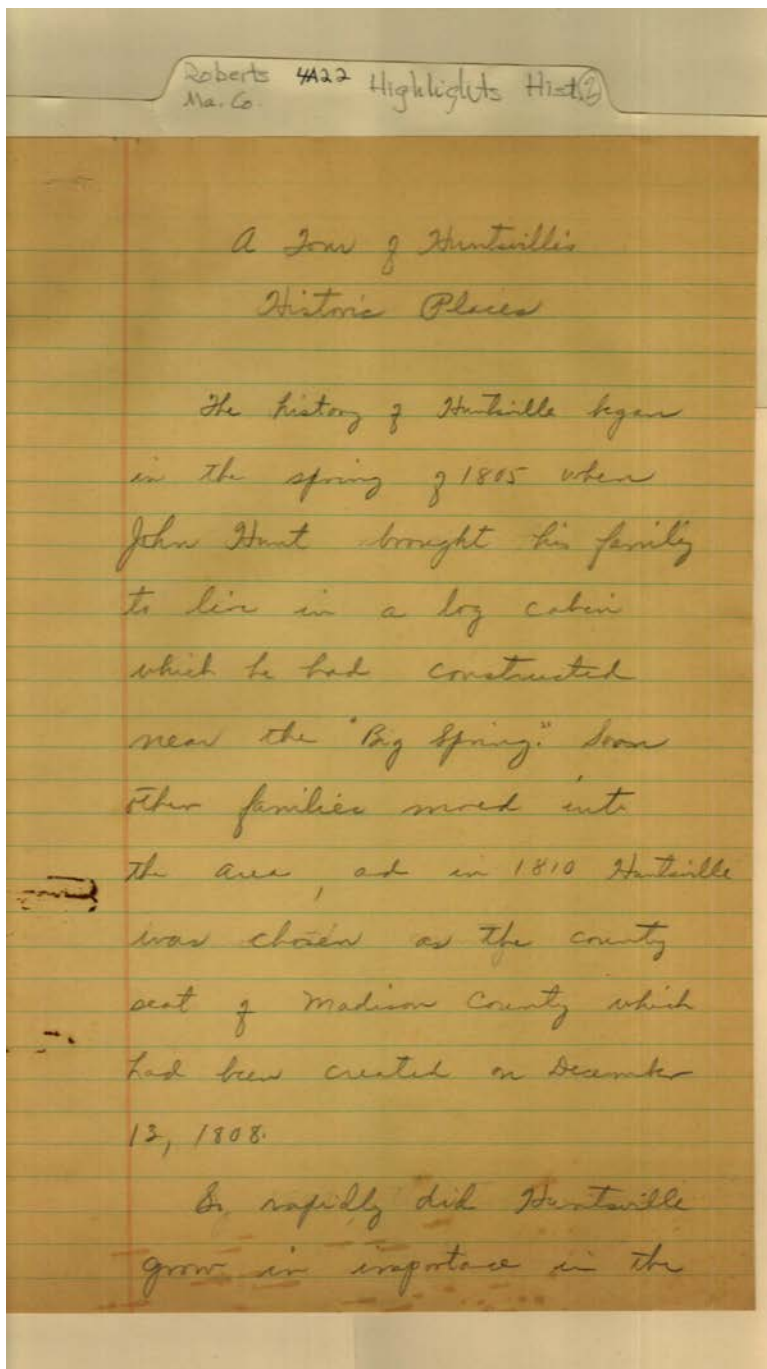
Spring City of South

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

1875



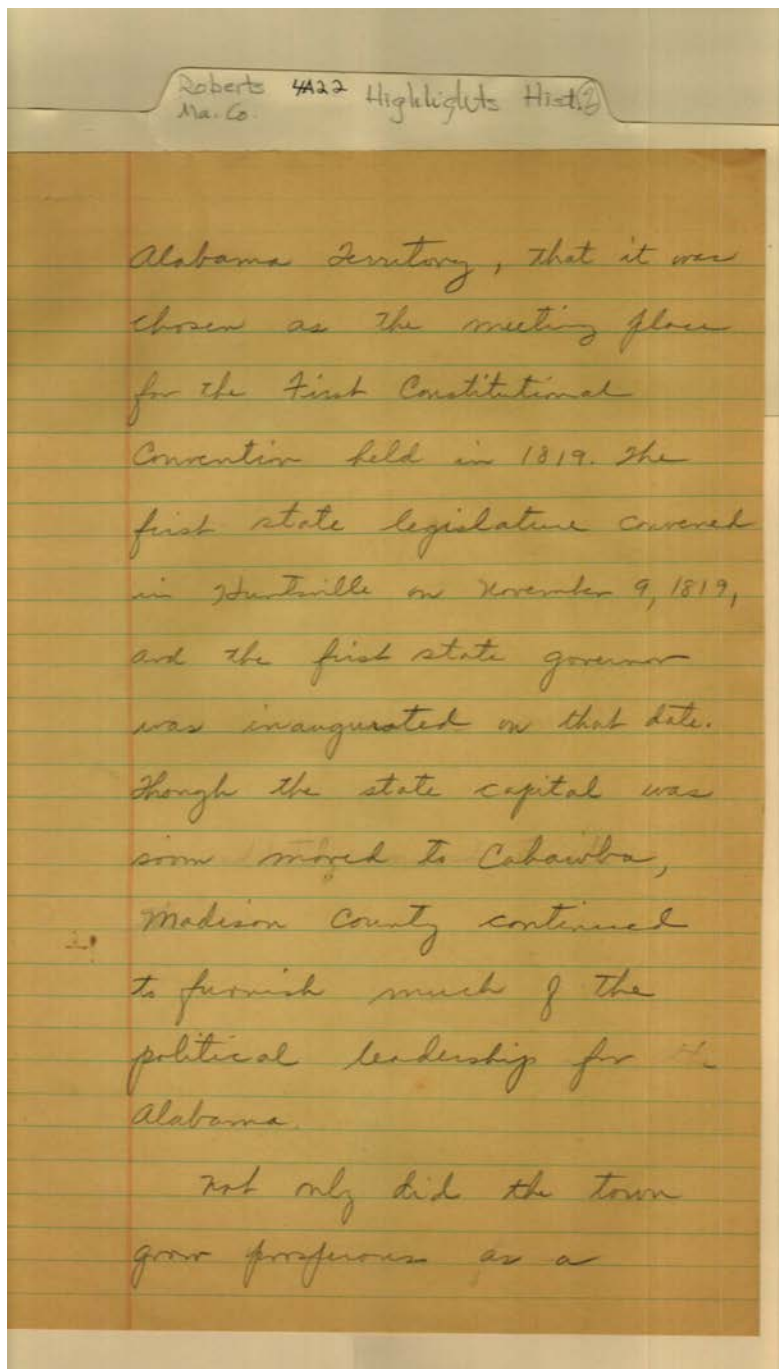
**Names:**

Historic Places  
Huntsville

Hunt, John

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

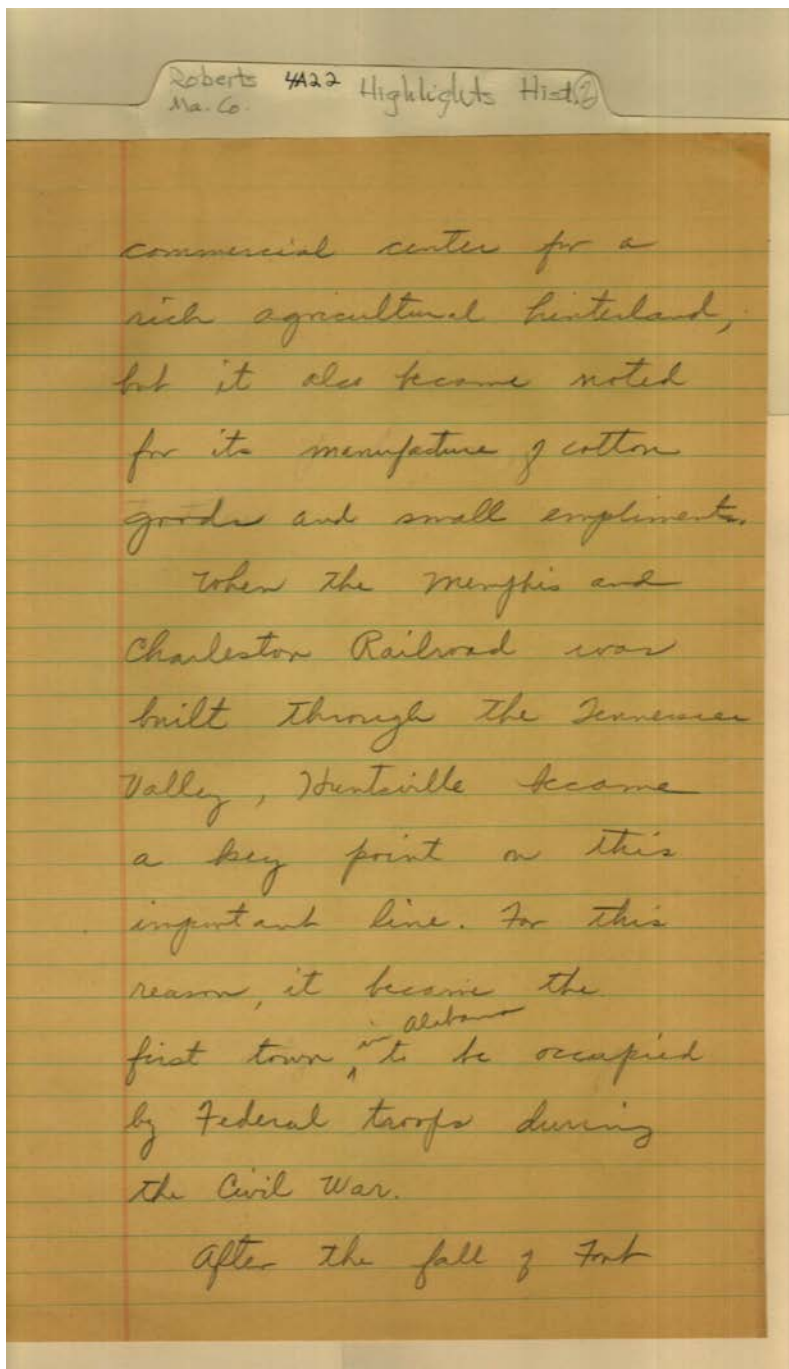
Alabama Territory

Political Leadership

**Types:**

essay





**Names:**

Cotton,

Memphis &  
Charleston RR

**Types:**

essay

Roberts #A22 Highlights Hist 13  
Ma. Co.

Henry and Fort Donelson in February of 1862, the Union forces moved southward and westward to gain control of key river and rail centers. While the plans to capture Vicksburg moved forward under General U.S. Grant, General D. C. Buell, commander of the Army of Ohio, began his drive from Corinth, Mississippi through the Tennessee Valley toward Chattanooga, Tennessee.

In order to move eastward, the full control of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad was of

**Names:**

Buell, D. C., General

Grant, U. S., General

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4422 Highlights Hist. 2  
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vital importance to him.  
Accordingly on March 27, 1862,  
General O. M. Mitchell of the  
Third Army of Ohio was ordered  
to proceed with his force of  
some 8,000 men to Huntsville,  
Alabama. After establishing  
himself in Huntsville, he  
was instructed to capture  
other important towns in  
the valley and to secure  
control of the Decatur - Nashville  
Railroad.

On April 11, 1862, General  
Mitchell wired the following  
report to Captain J. B. Fry,  
Assistant Adjutant General:

**Names:**

Decatur Nashville RR

Fry, J. B., Captain

Mitchell, O. M.,

General

**Types:**

essay



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"After a forced march of  
incredible difficulty, leaving  
Fayetteville yesterday at 12 m.,  
my advance guard consisting  
of Turchin's brigade, Kennett's  
cavalry and Simonson's battery,  
entered Huntsville this morning  
at 6 o'clock.

"The city was taken completely  
by surprise, no one having  
considered the march practicable  
in the time. We have  
captured about 200 prisoners,  
15 locomotives, a large amount  
of passenger, box, and platform  
cars, the telegraphic apparatus  
and offices, and two southern

**Names:**

Yankees take  
Huntsville

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 18  
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miles. We have at length succeeded in cutting the great artery of railway inter-communication between the Southern States."

Not only was Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley to be occupied in order to control the railroad lines, but also to serve as a base for gathering supplies for the Union forces operating in the Western theatre. Outlying plantations were stripped of cattle and prepared for food stuff. Stables and smokehouses in the town of Huntsville

**Names:**

Railroad cut

Union supply depot

**Types:**

essay

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were periodically searched for  
houses, caves and "swatched" homes.  
Supplies brought into Huntsville  
by rail were largely cut off,  
there leaving many merchants  
"bottled up." There was an  
acute shortage of flour and  
sugar, since both items were  
brought in from other parts of  
the country. Meat was very  
scarce because a greater  
part of the supply for Huntsville  
was brought in from  
the farms, and it was impossible  
to get past the guards into  
town without a pass, which  
was difficult to obtain.

**Names:**

Food shortage

**Types:**

essay



Roberts #22 Highlights Hist. 13  
Ma. Co.

To oppose the Federal invasion the Confederates operated in small, widely scattered bodies of irregular troops. The fighting was mostly in the nature of skirmishes along the railroad and was continuous. Philip P. Roddy, known as the "Defender of North Alabama" began his operations at this time, and his small band later formed the core of a regiment and later a brigade. The Federals were never opposed by large groups, and they tended to regard the <sup>Confederate</sup> detachments who fought them as guerrillas.

**Names:**

Irregular Troops

Roddy, Philip P.

**Types:**

essay

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In an attempt to stop  
the attacks of the Confederates  
on the Memphis and Charleston  
Railroad, General Mitchell arrested  
twelve of Huntsville's most  
prominent citizens on May 2,  
1862 and held them responsible  
for such attacks. After three  
weeks of confinement, they were  
released. In an account  
of their imprisonment, these  
men said of Mitchell, "we  
are humiliated at having been  
in the power of a man who  
habitually reported achievements  
and successes known to his  
own soldiers to be fictitious;

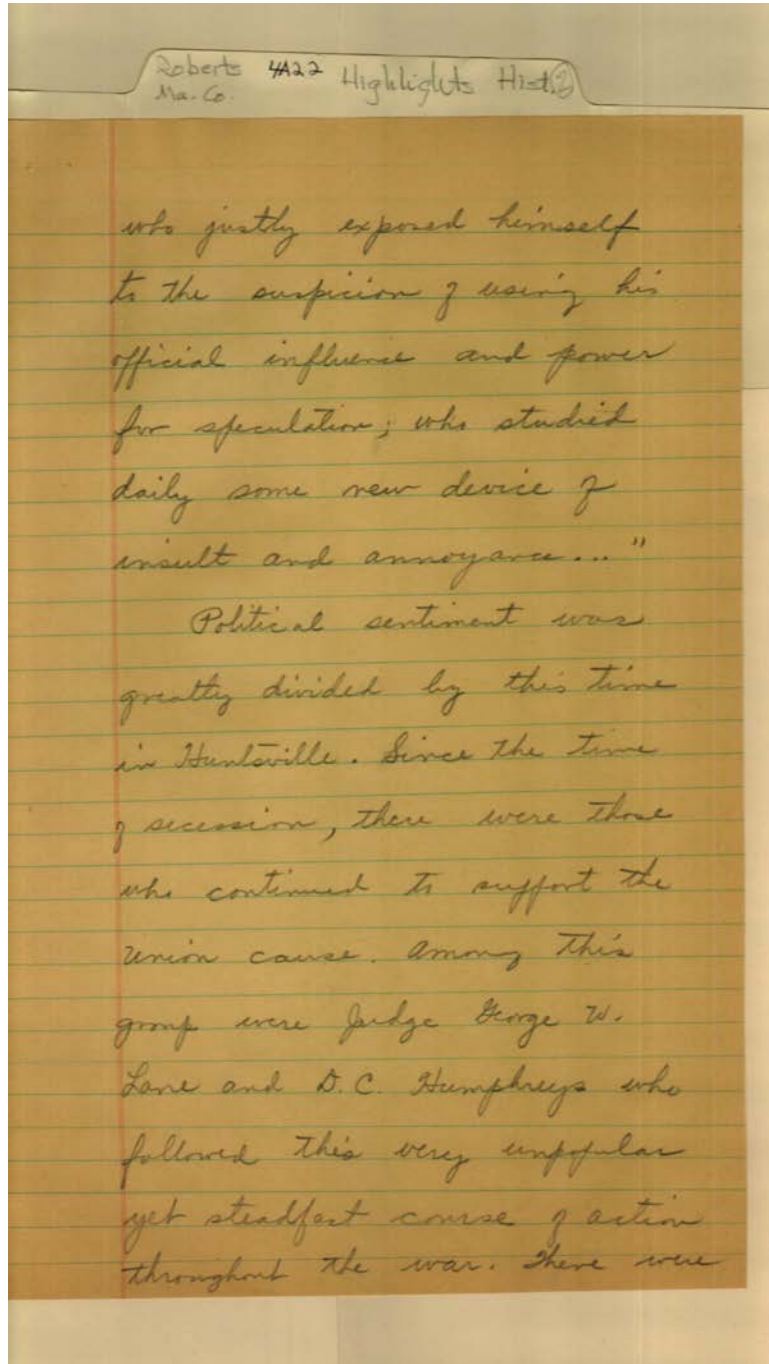
**Names:**

Citizens arrested

Mitchell, General

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Divided Political  
Sentiment

Humphreys, D. C.

Lane, George W.,  
Judge

**Types:**

essay



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others like Jeremiah Clemens,  
who opposed secession, then  
switched over to the Southern  
cause at first, but returned  
again to the Union fold when  
the Federal forces occupied  
Huntsville. These men formed  
the nucleus for the peace  
movement which grew in  
importance towards the  
end of the war.

**Names:**

Clemens, Jeremiah

**Types:**

essay

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By June 29, 1862, Buell had moved his main force across the Tennessee River and established his headquarters in Huntsville. On August 25, he established new headquarters in Decatur, Tennessee. This shift relieved Huntsville because the large majority of Federal troops were moved out of the valley by August 31, 1862.

Though a small force was left along the railroad to keep it in operation, Huntsville and Madison County were freed from large occupying Federal troops until July 7, 1863, when

**Names:**

Buell,

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

Jun 29, 1862

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the armies of the West moved eastward toward Chattanooga to capture it.

With the fall of Chattanooga, the Federals claimed full control of the Tennessee Valley and retained it for the rest of the war. Only in the last stages of the struggle, when General Hood's Army moved towards Tennessee in the fall of 1864, did the Federals increase their forces along the railroads in the valley area.

During this period, some of Forrest's troops came into

**Names:**

Chattanooga Falls

Hood, General

**Types:**

essay

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North Alabama and demanded  
the removal of Union Troops  
from Huntsville. On September 30, 1864,  
General A. Buford demanded that  
General Branger surrender the  
city, the fort, and the garrison.  
To this request, the Federals  
replied that they would not  
surrender the city on any  
terms, and if the Confederates  
insisted on trying to take  
it, then time was asked to  
evacuate the inhabitants of  
the city.

When Buford countered,  
with a second demand that  
the city be surrendered,

**Names:**

Buford, A., General

Granger, General

**Types:**

essay



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Ma. Co.

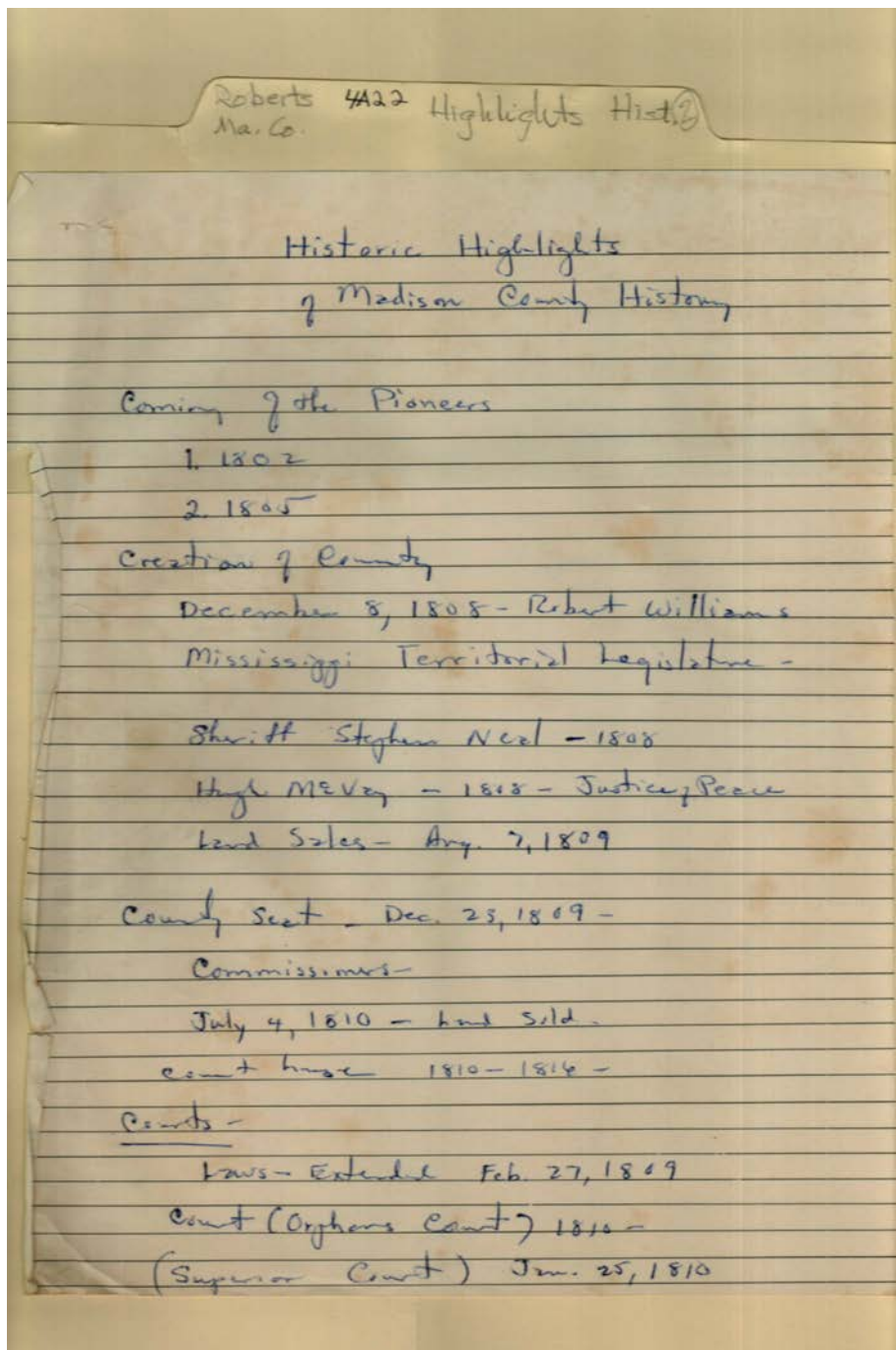
CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE - The years  
1961-1965 have been designated as  
a period during which the Civil War  
period will be studied by local residents.  
The Madison County Civil War Centennial  
Committee has provided a self-guided  
Historical Tour of Huntsville and  
Madison County which will give interested  
persons a chance to view historic  
spots connected with the Federal occupation  
of Huntsville from April 11, 1862 to 1865.  
This tour can be obtained from the  
Chamber of Commerce or the Huntsville  
Public Library.

**Names:**

Civil War Observance

**Types:**

essay

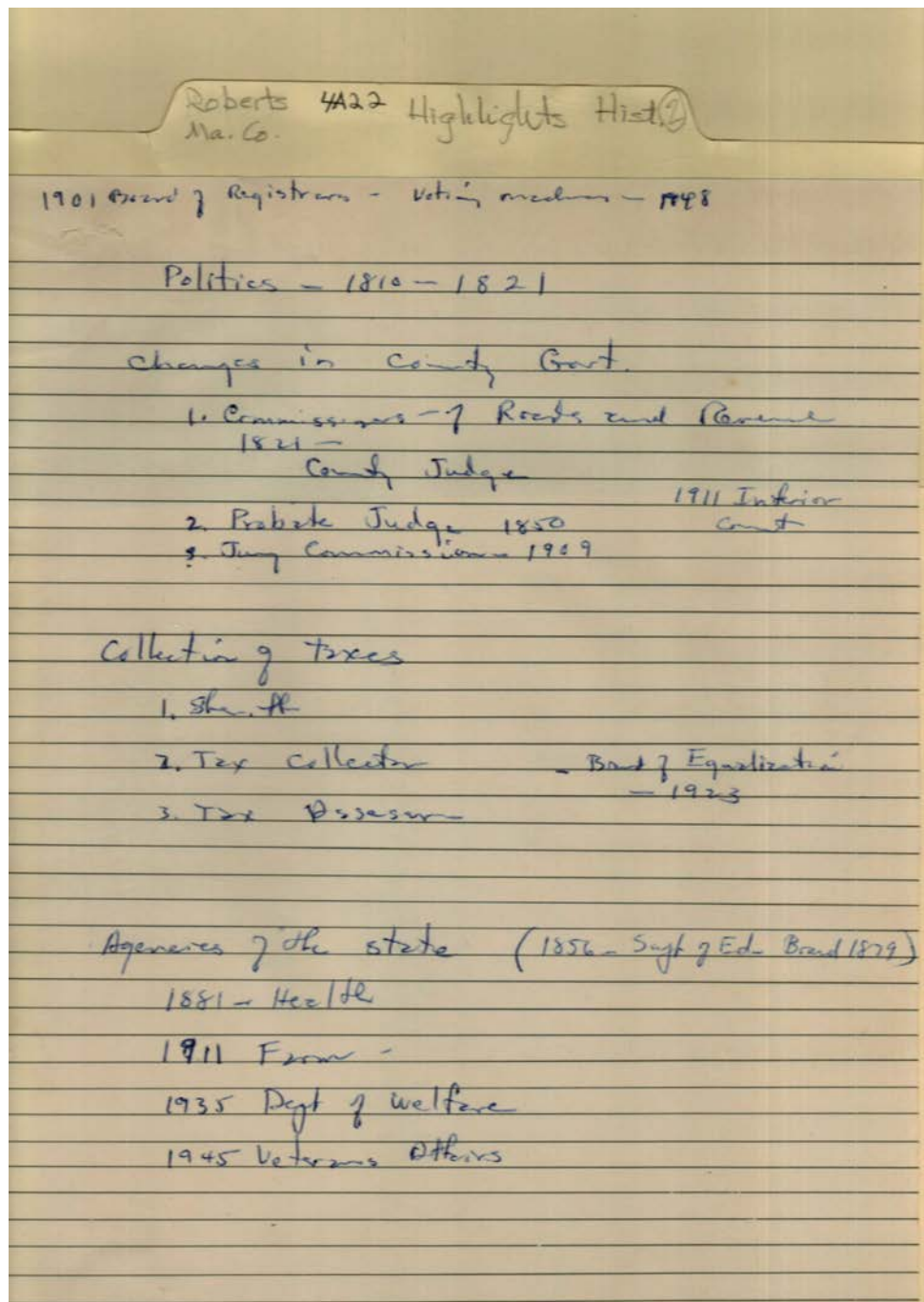


**Names:**

Madison County  
History

**Types:**

essay



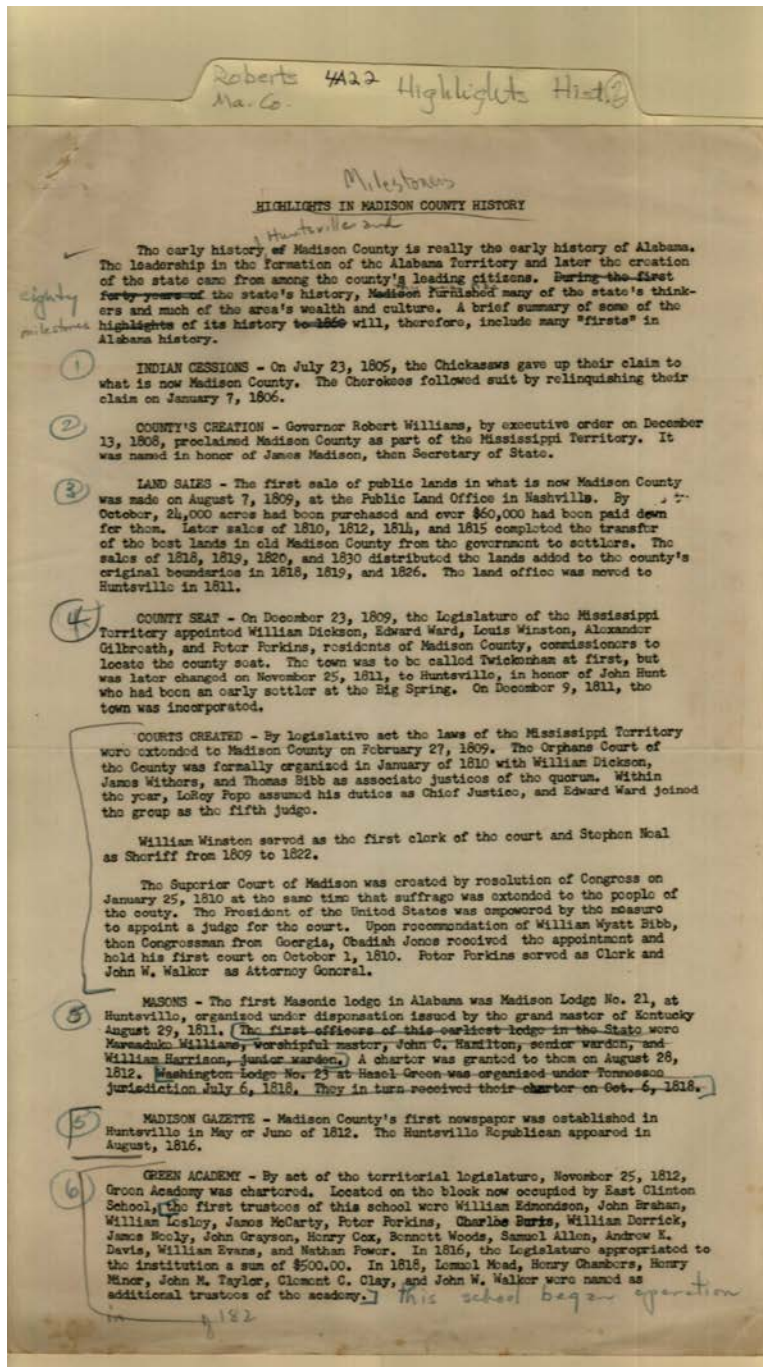
**Names:**

Madison County  
History

**Types:**

essay





**Names:**

Madison County  
History

**Types:**

essay



Highlights of Madison County History

Roberts #22 Highlights Hist  
Ma. Co.

**PLANTERS AND MERCHANTS BANK** - This bank, the first of its kind in what is now Alabama, was chartered by the Legislature on December 11, 1816. It was later dissolved by Governor Pickens in 1825. Those instrumental in its formation included LeRoy Pope, John P. Hickman, David Moore, Benjamin Cox, John M. Taylor, Thomas Fearn, Jesse Searcy, Clement C. Clay, and John W. Walker. *add line.*

**COURT HOUSES** - The first Court House was under construction between the years of 1810-1816. During its period of usefulness it housed the public library, first organized in 1818 and later incorporated by the Legislature in 1823, the market place, the courts, a place of worship, and the Lower House of the first State Legislature which met in Huntsville in 1819. In 1838, the first building was sold at auction and the second building was completed by 1842 at a cost of \$31,000. This Greek Parthenon structure remained until 1912 when it was replaced by the present building.

**WORSHIP** - Among the earliest ministers, listed in the Orphan's Court Minutes, who were authorized to perform the marriage ceremony were William Bird, John Gentryberry, John McCutchen, David Thompson, Thomas Moore, Robert Hancock, Andrew L. Davis, William Lenoir, Robert Hardie, Richard Shackelford, Jaddock Baker, Robert Donnell, Benjamin Lewis, and John Love.

To the Baptist goes the recognition for the formation of the first organized congregation in Madison County. On October 2, 1800, a church group of twelve was formed in the home of James Hutton, located near Flint River. The Rev. John Nicholson was the guiding spirit of this small band of faithful worshippers. This group later became what is now the First Baptist Church in Huntsville.

On June 15, 1818, the first Presbyterian Church in Alabama was organized in Huntsville under the guidance of Gideon Blackburn of Tennessee. *before this time, however, Andrew L. Davis had been preaching in the County since 1811. The present church building was completed in 1848.*

Methodism was first brought to Madison County by James Owinas minister of the Flint Circuit established on October 7, 1809. One year later he reported 175 white and four colored members. Joshua Boucher and John Stringfield were early "class leaders" and "exhorters." Thomas Stringfield, son of John, became the first regular pastor of the Methodist Church in Huntsville in 1821. David Thompson, an early settler, in Madison County served for many years as minister of the Beech Grove Church near the Tennessee line. *The present church was completed in 1848. The church built in 1822 and destroyed by Federal troops in 1864.*

The Cumberland Presbyterians (now Central Presbyterians) organized in 1825 under the guidance of the Rev. Robert Donnell, one of the early ministers to come into the county. *The present church was completed in 1872.*

The Episcopal Congregation first met on June 15, 1830, but the group was not organized as a parish until 1843. The first minister of the Church of the Nativity was the Rev. T. H. Laird. *The present church was completed in 1872.*

The Catholics of the area were first served by the priests from Memphis, Tennessee. Later in 1860, the Church of the Visitation was organized under the guidance of Father J. T. Tracy, who served as the first resident priest of the parish. *The present church was completed in 1872.*

Numerous churches were formed in the community areas of Hazel Green, Meridianville, Brownsboro, Mayville, New Market, Vienna (later New Hope), Madison, Triana, and others.

**CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION** - On July 5, 1819, Alabama's first Constitutional Convention met in Huntsville, the temporary capital of Alabama. (Representing Madison County were John W. Walker, president of the Convention, Clement C. Clay, John Leigh Tomes, Henry Chambers, Lemuel Mead, Henry Minor, Gabriel Moore, and John M. Taylor.)

**TRANSPORTATION** - The Flint River Navigation Company was incorporated by an act of the Alabama Legislature on December 20, 1820 for the purpose of improving the navigation of that stream. The Indian Creek Navigation Co. was also chartered on December 21, 1820 to build a canal from the Huntsville Spring to the mouth of the spring branch and Indian Creek on the Tennessee River at Triana. A number of turnpike companies were incorporated and on December 9, 1851 the Commissioners of Roads and Highways of the County were authorized to subscribe to capital stock of the Memphis and Charleston and Winchester and Alabama Railroad Companies. The town of Huntsville was given authority to buy \$50,000 in capital stock on February 9, 1850.

**TOWNS IN COUNTY** - Triana received its charter of incorporation on Nov. 13, 1819. Hazel Green was incorporated on June 15, 1821. Whitesburg was established as an incorporated town December 23, 1821. Vienna (later called New Hope) was chartered by the Legislature on December 22, 1836. New Market became an incorporated unit on June 30, 1837. Mayville received its first charter of incorporation on January 30, 1852.

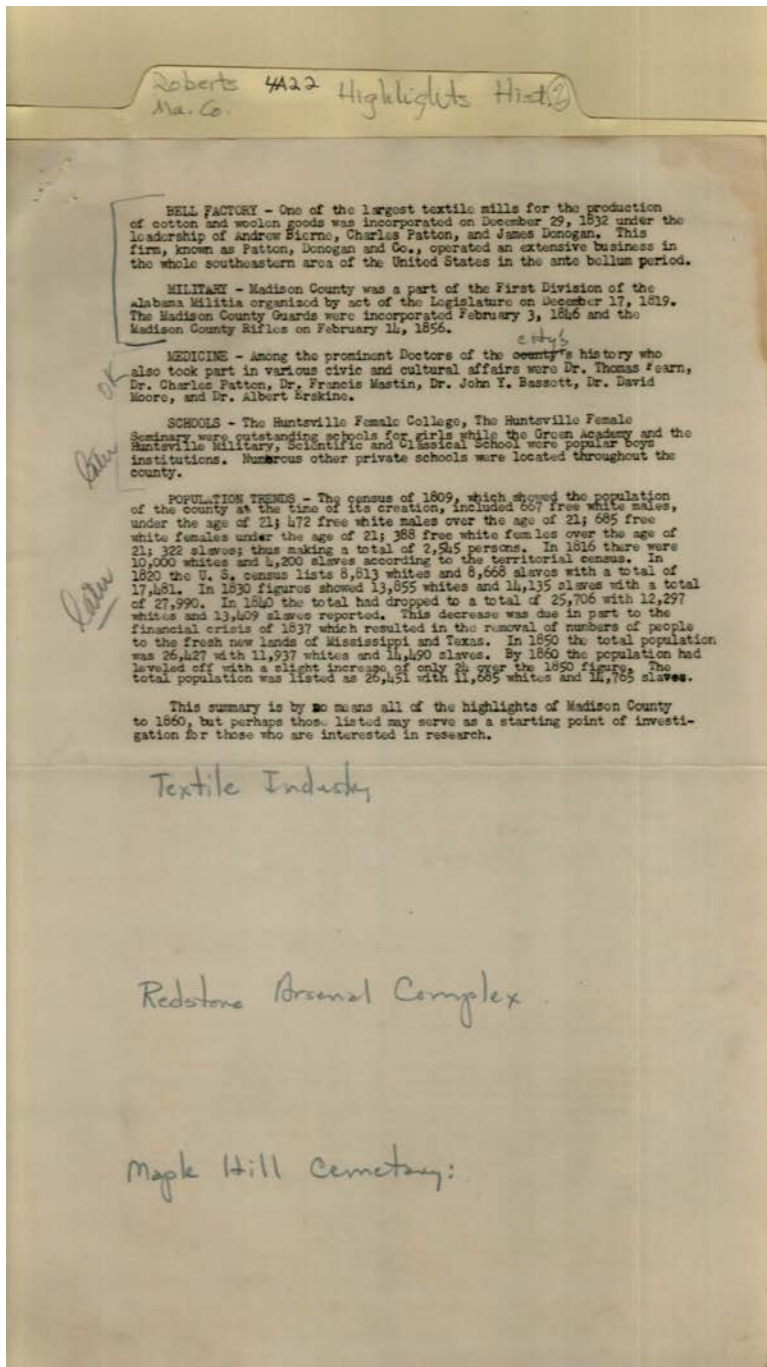
**UTILITIES** - The Huntsville Fire Engine Company was formally organized on November 10, 1822; the first water works were constructed by Hunter Peol in 1823; the Huntsville Gas Company was chartered on February 26, 1860. *The Huntsville Electric Company was organized in 1897. The*

Names:  
Madison County  
History

Types:  
essay

Highlights of Madison County History

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Names:

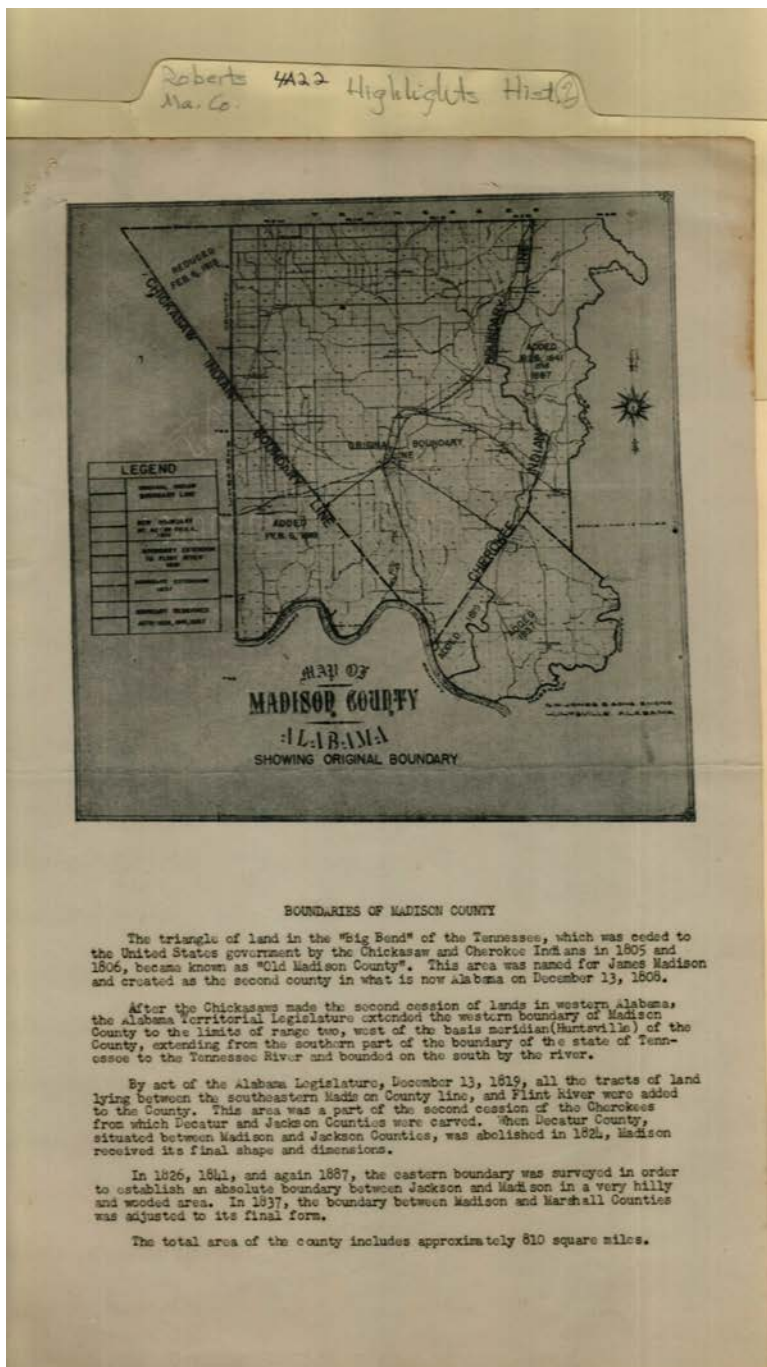
Madison County  
History

Types:

essay

Highlights of Madison County History

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**Names:**

Map Madison County

**Types:**

essay

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Friday Southern Advocate May 31, 1842

May 31, 1842  
A View of Huntsville

June 14, 1844 June 21, 1844  
Death of Pope

April 4, 1845  
Obituary of Andrew Bierne

Dr. David Moore Southern  
Died Sept 23, 1845 Advocate  
Sept 16, 1845

"Dr. David Moore grew up in a  
manner with this place and  
strengthened with its strength.

"In professional and business  
energies of a high order, he  
united prudence, foresight and  
watchfulness, which in the end  
insured the most triumphant  
success in life; and enabled  
him to amass the most  
colossal fortune in the country."

**Names:**

Bierne, Andrew

Moore, David, Doctor

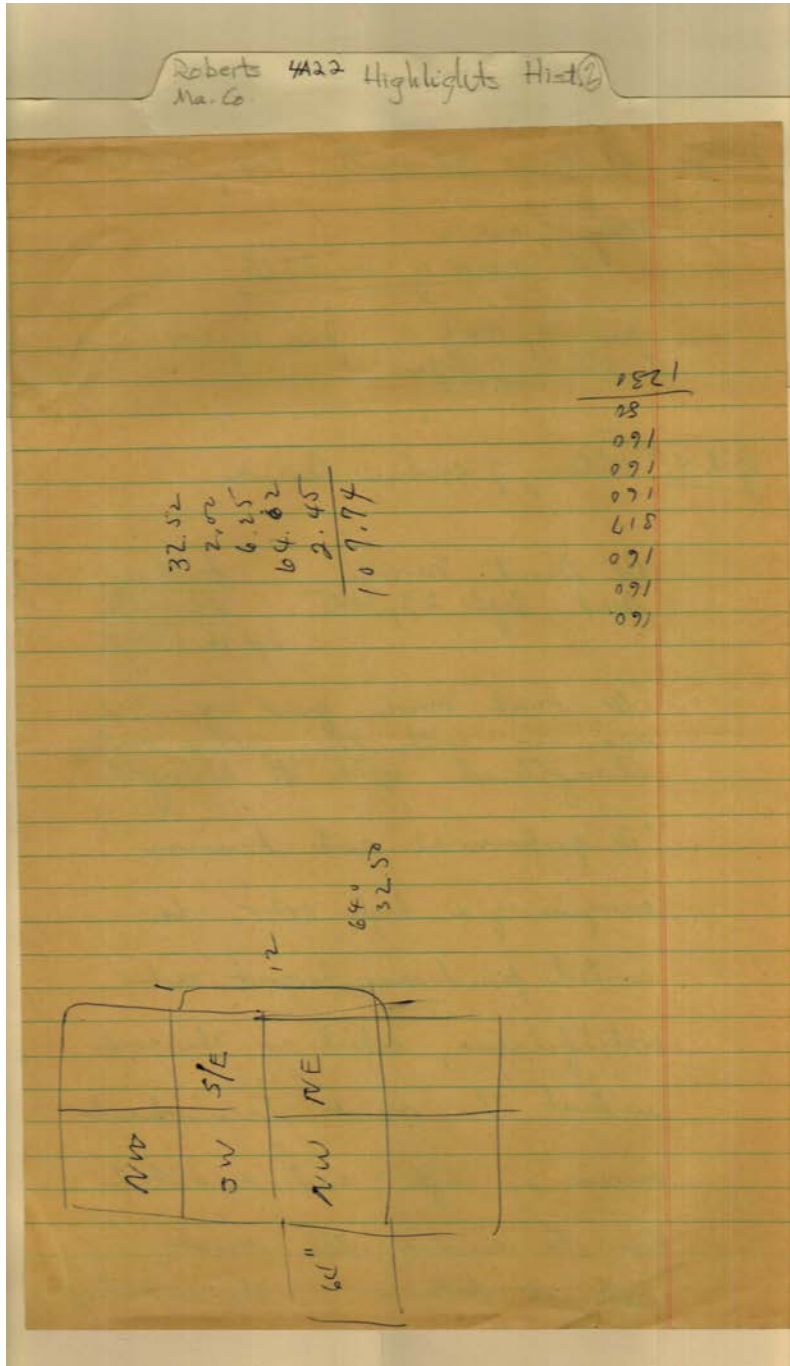
**Types:**

study notes



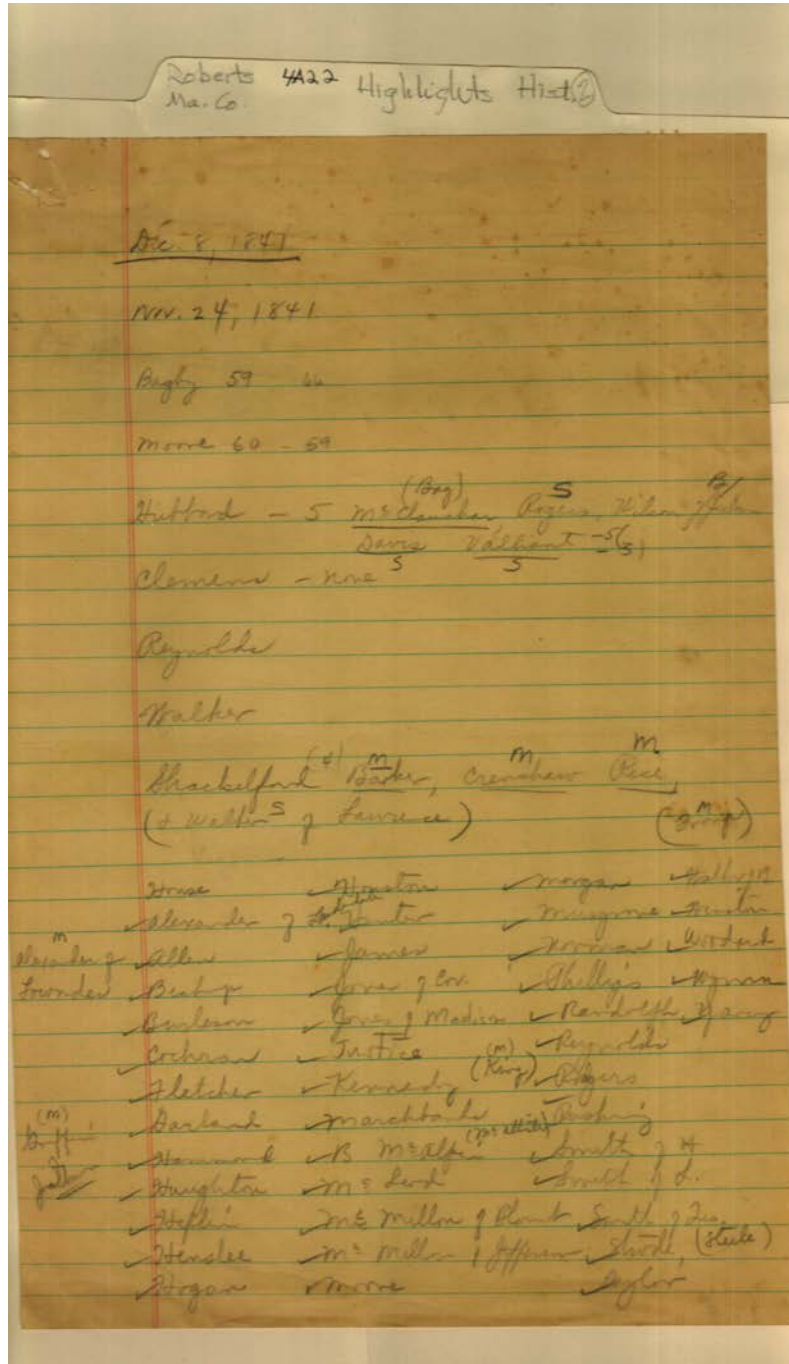
Highlights of Madison County History

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Types:  
scrap

Highlights of Madison County History



**Names:**

Alexander,  
 Allen,  
 Bagby,  
 Barker,  
 Bishop,  
 Burleson,  
 Clemens,  
 Cochran,  
 Crenshaw,  
 Davis,  
 Fletcher,  
 Garland,

Hammond,  
 Haughton,  
 Heflin,  
 Henslee,  
 Hogan,  
 Houston,  
 Hubbard,  
 Hunter,  
 James,  
 Jones,  
 Justice,  
 Kennedy,

Legislators list  
 Marchbanks,  
 McAlpen,  
 McClaushar,  
 McLeod,  
 McMillian,  
 Moore, David, Doctor  
 Morgan,  
 Musgrove,  
 Norman,  
 Phillips,  
 Randolph,

Reynolds,  
 Rice,  
 Rogers,  
 Rushing,  
 Shackelford,  
 Smith,  
 Steele,  
 Strode,  
 Taylor,  
 Vadliant,  
 Walker,  
 Wilson,

Winston,

Woodard,

Wynn,

Yancy,

**Types:**  
study notes

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Huntsville designated by the state legislature  
as founding judge. ~~The only change~~  
~~made in the county initially~~ only  
the title of the county governing  
body was changed from Justice of  
the Quorum to Superior Court in 1819, but  
two years <sup>later</sup>, sweeping changes were  
made which involved its jurisdiction  
and the selection of its members.  
A legislative act of 1821 abolished the  
the five man county court and  
made provision for one judge to  
be selected by the legislature and  
to hold office "during good behavior."

**Names:**

Courts organized

**Types:**

essay



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Ma. Co.

After 1831, his office was limited to a term of six years. Besides the civil ~~and~~ judicial powers vested in this office, the county judge was <sup>also</sup> make the presiding officer of the Commissioners court created by the same act. Samuel Chapman became the first judge of this court ~~and~~ ~~for~~, ~~and~~ were elected to serve as members of the Commissioners court for a one year term. In 1827, their terms of <sup>office</sup> ~~service~~ changed to three years. The powers of the Commissioners court,

**Names:**

Chapman, Samuel,  
Judge

**Types:**

essay

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~~The~~ predecessor of the present Board of Commissioners, included the leasing of and general and special taxes as were necessary to maintain county government, controlling the property and finances of the county, constructing and maintaining roads, and appointing certain county officials as directed by law.

By 1830, the roster of county officers included commissioners of roads and revenue, county and orphan's court, circuit court, justice of the peace, notary public, circuit solicitor, sheriff, coroner, constable, treasurer, county

**Names:**

County Officers

**Types:**

essay

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amateurs, road apportioners and  
oversers, oversers of the poor, and  
county surveyors. This increase in  
the number of local officials is  
but one reflector of the rapid growth  
of the county during its formative  
period.

The <sup>total</sup> census figures for Madison  
County in 1820 showed a population  
of 17,481, almost evenly divided between  
whites and slaves, but by 1830 this  
figure had risen to 27,990 with  
the slave population making up fifty-  
three percent of the total. A further

**Names:**

Census in County

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist B  
Ma. Co.

analysis of the Alabama census shows  
that Madison County continued to  
hold a ~~place~~ <sup>place</sup> of first ~~rank~~ population and  
wealth ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~preference~~ in the state.

Amid the prosperous years of  
the early 1830's the Commissioner's  
Court made plans to build  
and improve, <sup>new</sup> courthouse to  
accommodate the needs of an expanding  
government and to grace the center  
of what was considered to be one  
of the most beautiful towns in the  
~~the~~ South. By special <sup>legislative</sup> act, passed on  
January 10, 1835, empowered <sup>the</sup> Madison

**Names:**

New Courthouse

**Types:**

essay



Roberts 422 Highlights Hist. B  
Ma. Co.

commissioners to levy a tax for  
the purpose of defraying the expense  
involved in building a new courthouse -  
in the town of Huntsville.  
<sup>manville</sup>  
George Steele and Thomas and  
William Brandon, local architects and  
builders, were asked to submit proposed  
plans for the design and cost of  
the structure. On August 29, 1835  
~~George~~ The Commission's Court  
adopted the plans ~~and~~ drawn up  
by George Steele, and a committee  
was appointed to seek proposals from  
contractors who would undertake it.

**Names:**

Brandon, Thomas

Brandon, William

Steele, George

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. ②  
Ma. Co.

construction. Advertisements for bids were placed in the Huntsville and Nashville papers, but none was ~~likely~~ forthcoming that was acceptable to the commissioners court. Because immediate funds were needed, <sup>order</sup> to let a contract prior to the time that tax funds were <sup>made</sup> available, the county officials called the state legislature to empower them to borrow \$12,000 from the <sup>Board</sup> Bank of Alabama located in Huntsville.

The next attempt to secure bids for construction of the new courthouse bore fruit. Dr. Thomas Fearn and James

**Names:**

Fearn, Thomas,  
Doctor

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4422 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

J. Donegan, ~~the~~ prominent business man  
of Huntsville, was selected by the  
commissioners to receive proposals on  
or before December 1, 1836 and to  
let a contract for a building to  
be constructed in accordance with  
George Steele's plan - they <sup>and</sup> were ~~also~~  
directed "to superintend the same in  
every manner and respect."

Early in 1837, the firm of Mitchel  
and Wilson was employed to construct  
a two-story stone <sup>and brick</sup> building with a  
full basement. ~~is the "parthenon~~  
~~style"~~ ~~has~~ dome ~~to~~ on top

**Names:**

Contract New  
Courthouse

Donegan, James  
Mitchel,

Steele, George  
Wilson,

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

Dec 01, 1836

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

and supported by a full beam  
beneath at an approximate cost of \$31,000.

The building of Stephen S. Ewing  
located on the <sup>east</sup> public square was  
rented to serve as a courtroom  
~~and office for~~ and county clerk's  
office while the new courthouse  
was under construction. According  
to the commissioner court records,  
this building served as the  
temporary courthouse from August  
of 1837 to <sup>January of</sup> 1840. Apparently the ~~new~~  
courthouse was ~~building~~ occupied before its  
final completion during the early

**Names:**

Ewing, Stephen S.

**Types:**

essay



Roberts 422 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

part of 1842.

On April 2, 1838, George Steele  
was appointed superintendent over the  
contractors to insure ~~the~~ proper  
execution of the plans which he  
had drawn for the new courthouse.  
For his services, which were to  
extend to January 1, 1840, he was  
allowed \$1500. The agreement further  
stipulated that ~~in the event that the building~~  
~~was not~~ <sup>in the event that the building</sup>  
~~was not~~ completed by 1840, then  
he was to ~~receive further~~ <sup>receive further</sup> compensation  
for his work ~~before~~ <sup>after</sup> that date.  
Because the project did extend

**Names:**

Steele, George

**Types:**

essay

Roberts #422 Highlights Hist. ②  
Ma. Co.

well into 1840, he was further compensated \$500, thus bringing his total fee as architect and superintendent to \$2,000.

As the work got under way the old courthouse was sold at auction for \$494.00, <sup>and removed.</sup> The ~~temp~~ <sup>elevation</sup> on which it stood was then graded down and the ~~rock~~ <sup>rock</sup> used in macadamizing the area around the square.

Originally the contract called for a tin roof for the structure, but, <sup>in 1839</sup> ~~later~~ the <sup>commission</sup> court voted to

**Names:**

Removed old  
Courthouse

**Types:**

essay

Roberts #22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

spend the extra money necessary to obtain a copper covering for the roof and dome. The expense involved in this change added \$3,966.02 to the original cost anticipated and involved considerable time in securing the copper from a firm in Baltimore, Maryland.

On July 22, 1839, a contract was drawn between the Commissioners Court and Thomas R. Rayon for the construction of a stone wall, <sup>with oval corners</sup> around the courthouse to reach within fourteen feet of the streets on the public square. At this time

**Names:**

Rayon, Thomas R.

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

a contract with C. T. and R. Parker  
was also signed which provided for  
an iron railing to be placed on the  
stone wall. The total cost of  
the enclosure included \$4,761.25  
for stone work and \$4,000 for  
the iron rail and gates.

Records of payment made to  
Mitchell and Wilson over a period  
from December 27, 1837 to February 7, 1842  
show that they received \$33,893.37  
for construction of the courthouse and  
grading the ground around it. The  
total expense involving <sup>the interest,</sup> the improvements

**Names:**

Mitchell,

Parker, C. T.

Parker, R.

Wilson,

**Types:**

essay



Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

fee, the upper roof, and other incidentals  
came to \$40,175.00. To this figure was  
added the cost of excavating the  
courthouse square which amounted to  
\$8,761.00.  
The necessary revenues to defray the  
expenses of improving the public  
building and other costs of local  
government were defined thus by  
the commissioners court on May 4, 1840:

Ordered the following to be the rates  
of taxation for the year 1841  
being by the authority of acts of  
the Legislature to raise a revenue  
for building a new court house  
and other purposes to wit:  
on every \$100 worth of land, ten cents;  
on every \$100 worth of town property, ten cents;  
on every \$100 worth of merchandise sold  
from the first day of May 1839 to the first day

**Names:**

Tax for new  
Courthouse

Total Cost of  
Courthouse

**Types:**

essay

Highlights of Madison County History

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of May, 1844, twenty cents; on each  
above note exceeding ten years old,  
eighteen cents; on each above over ten  
and under sixty years of age, fifty-six  
cents; on each four male negro or  
mulatto, on the age of twenty-one years,  
one dollar; on each \$100 worth of  
pleasure carriage and harness, fifty  
cents; on each race, saddle or carriage  
horse, fifty cents; on each public race  
tract, ten dollars; on each stock horse  
or jackass the amount of the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_;

on each gold watch, one dollar; on each  
silver or other watch, fifty cents; on each  
metal clock, one dollar; on each clock  
not metal, twenty-five cents; on every  
\$100 loaned at interest, twenty-five  
cents; on each pack of playing cards  
sold, given away, loaned or otherwise  
disposed of, twenty-five cents; on all  
goods sold at auction, other than exempted  
by law, two per centum; on each share  
of bank stock of \$100 value in said state,  
one dollar; on each billiard table kept

**Names:**

Tax for new  
Courthouse

**Types:**

essay

Roberts #A22 Highlights Hist. 18  
Ma. Co.

for pay, \$150 including state tax; on all white males over twenty-one and not more than forty-five years, twenty-five cents, and on such things as are not herein enumerated and were heretofore objects of state taxation, the amount of the state and said county tax for the year 1835, and it is further ordered that thirty per centum be added to the foregoing taxation for the purpose of defraying in part the building of a bridge across Flint River at the Three Forks thereof.

As soon as the new courthouse had been completed, plans were set in motion to construct a larger jail.

~~By~~ A legislative act of 1843 made provision for Madison County to levy a special tax to cover

**Names:**

Tax for new  
Courthouse

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

One further edition was ~~added~~ <sup>made</sup>  
to the courthouse in 1849 when  
the town and county government  
cooperated in installing a large  
<sup>from</sup> clock ~~at the dome~~ <sup>on top</sup>  
of its dome. This time piece  
continued to ~~serve~~ serve  
the town of Huntsville until it  
was dismantled <sup>in 1965</sup> to make way  
for the present courthouse.

**Names:**

Clock for Courthouse

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

1849



Roberts #A22 Highlights Hist. ②  
Ma. Co.

the cost of a new jail. Since the records of the commissioners court are missing for the years 1844-1849, no figures are available to ascertain the cost of its construction. In 1862, however, it was <sup>partially</sup> destroyed by federal occupying forces and replaced at a cost of \$2,500.

Between 1830 and 1860 no radical changes were made in Madison County's government, but a number of offices were created. In 1838, the sheriff's duties of assessing and collecting taxes were turned

Part of  
are  
done →

**Names:**

Jail for County

**Types:**

essay

Roberts #22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

over to a tax assessor and a collector.

~~1839~~ In 1839, a chancery court ~~of the~~  
~~county~~ was created and a  
chancellor ~~was~~ appointed.  
~~to~~ to handle its affairs. ~~Appointed~~  
~~to~~ ~~Cabaniss became the first~~  
~~appointed to this office.~~ In 1850,  
the probate court was established  
by a general legislative act which  
substituted such a court in every  
Alabama county for the early  
county court that had previously  
exercised probate jurisdiction. At  
this time the county courts

**Names:**

Chancery Court  
Created

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

1839

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist 2  
Ma. Co.

jurisdiction in civil suits was transferred to the circuit courts. ~~Since~~  
~~general~~ after Alabama made provision for a public school system, <sup>1854</sup> Madison County provided for the office of superintendent of education. In 1856, the office of county superintendent of education was created to administer free public schools which had been created by general legislative action for <sup>the</sup> Alabama in 1854.

On the eve of the Civil War Madison County was still considered one of the wealthier areas of

**Names:**

School  
Superintendent

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

1856

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

The state and its political influence remained ~~still~~ stronger in state affairs. Huntsville, <sup>the</sup> continued to be a key economic and cultural center in the Tennessee Valley. Because of its strategic position on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, it was occupied by Federal troops, <sup>only</sup> on April 11, 1862 and continued to suffer the privations imposed by occupation until the war ended in 1865.

When it became evident that the courthouse would be taken

**Names:**

Economic & Cultural  
Center

**Types:**

essay



Roberts #A22 Highlights Hist. ②  
Ma. Co.

over by federal military officials  
most of the <sup>public</sup> records were removed to  
Blount County for safe keeping.  
Though the courthouse itself weathered  
the ravages of the war period, it,  
like many other structures in the  
town, received some permanent  
scars.

The reconstruction years in  
Madison County, in many  
respects, were more trying than  
the war years had been. This  
period was marked by inefficiency  
in government at all levels as well

**Names:**

Records to Blount  
County

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

as economic depression. With the adoption of the Alabama constitution in 1875, local and state government resumed a <sup>more</sup> normal pattern of existence and economy and honesty in government were emphasized to the detriment of needed educational and health services.

In 1879, a board of education was created for Madison county, but adequate financial aid to public education was not forthcoming until the first decade of the twentieth century. The post of county health officer was

**Names:**

Board of Education

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

created as early as 1881, but it was not until after a series of typhoid epidemics in Huntsville that a movement was set on foot which resulted in the establishment of a Madison County Health Department in 1918.

Between 1880 and 1900 business leaders of Madison County worked to improve agriculture and bring in a variety of industries which would revitalize the economy. Nurseries were established, cotton textile mills built, and an

**Names:**

Health Department  
Created

Industries increased  
Typhoid Epidemic

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4422 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

assortment of small factories opened  
to produce wood products, ~~and~~  
~~some~~ small tools and implements.

Monte Sano Mountain was developed  
as a summer resort in 1887  
in 1887 to attract tourists from all over  
the north and this venture prospered  
until 1900. Diversification in  
agriculture brought increased  
prosperity to Madison County's  
rural population, and this prosperity in  
turn aided the expansion of commercial  
interest in the town of Huntsville.  
The 1900 ~~population~~ census showed a  
~~population~~

**Names:**

Monte Sano  
developed

**Types:**

essay



Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. ②  
Ma. Co.

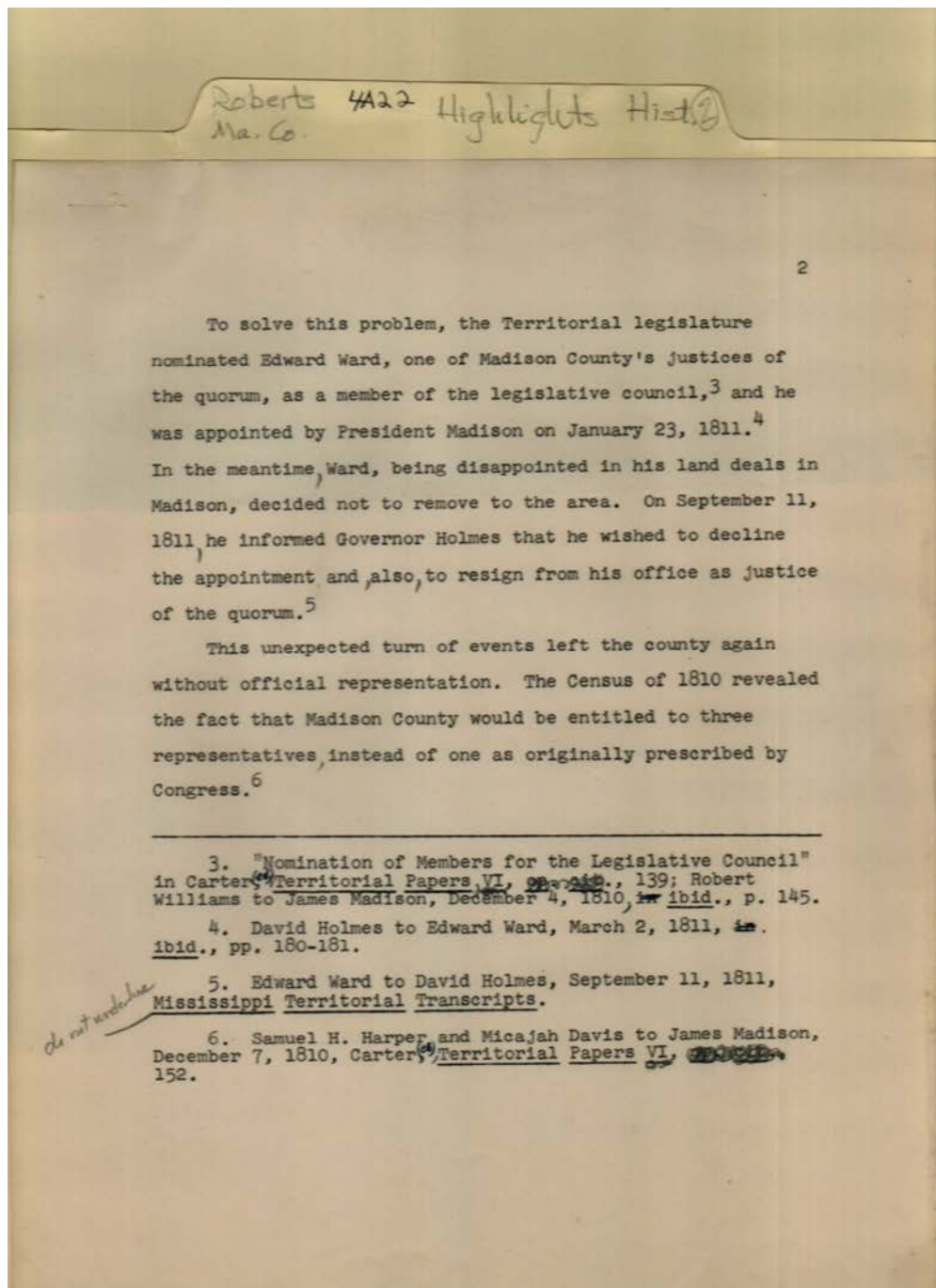
Within the next few years  
the ~~state~~ legislature provided a  
uniform system of government for  
all counties in the state. Since  
Madison County had been one of  
the seven units of local government  
created prior to the formation  
of the Alabama Territory, certain  
changes were made in its court  
system. The superior court was  
replaced by a state circuit court  
system, and Madison was made a  
part of the fifth judicial circuit  
in 1819 with Clement Comer Clay of

**Names:**

Courts reorganized

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Davis, Micajah  
Harper, Samuel H.

Holmes, David,  
Governor

MS Territory  
Transcripts  
Madison, James

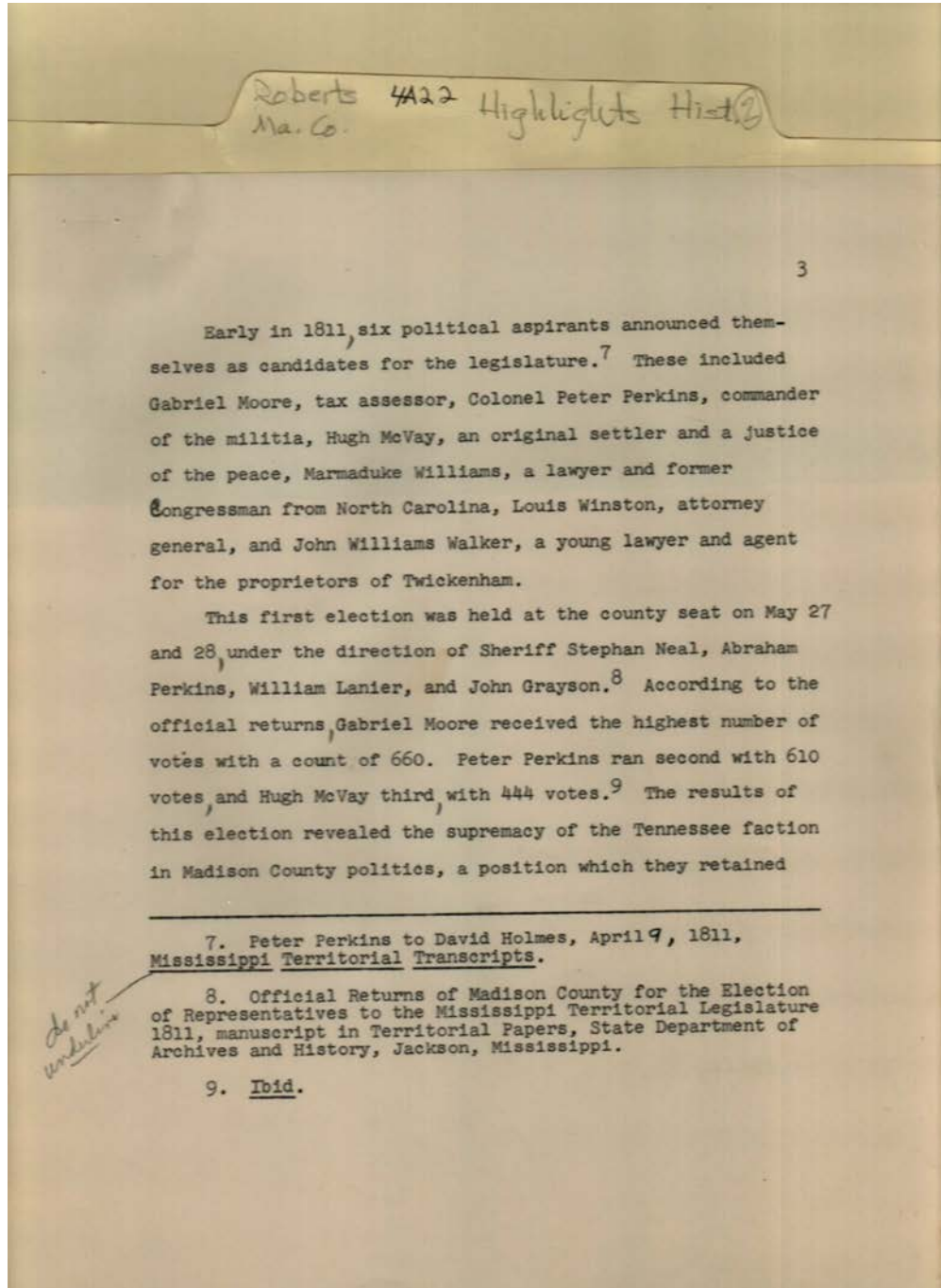
Madison, President  
Ward, Edward  
Territorial Papers

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

Dec 07, 1810



**Names:**

Grayson, John  
Holmes, David,  
Lanier, William  
McVay, Hugh

Moore, Gabriel  
Neal, Stephen, Sheriff  
Perkins, Abraham

Perkins, Peter,  
Colonel  
Walker, John  
Williams

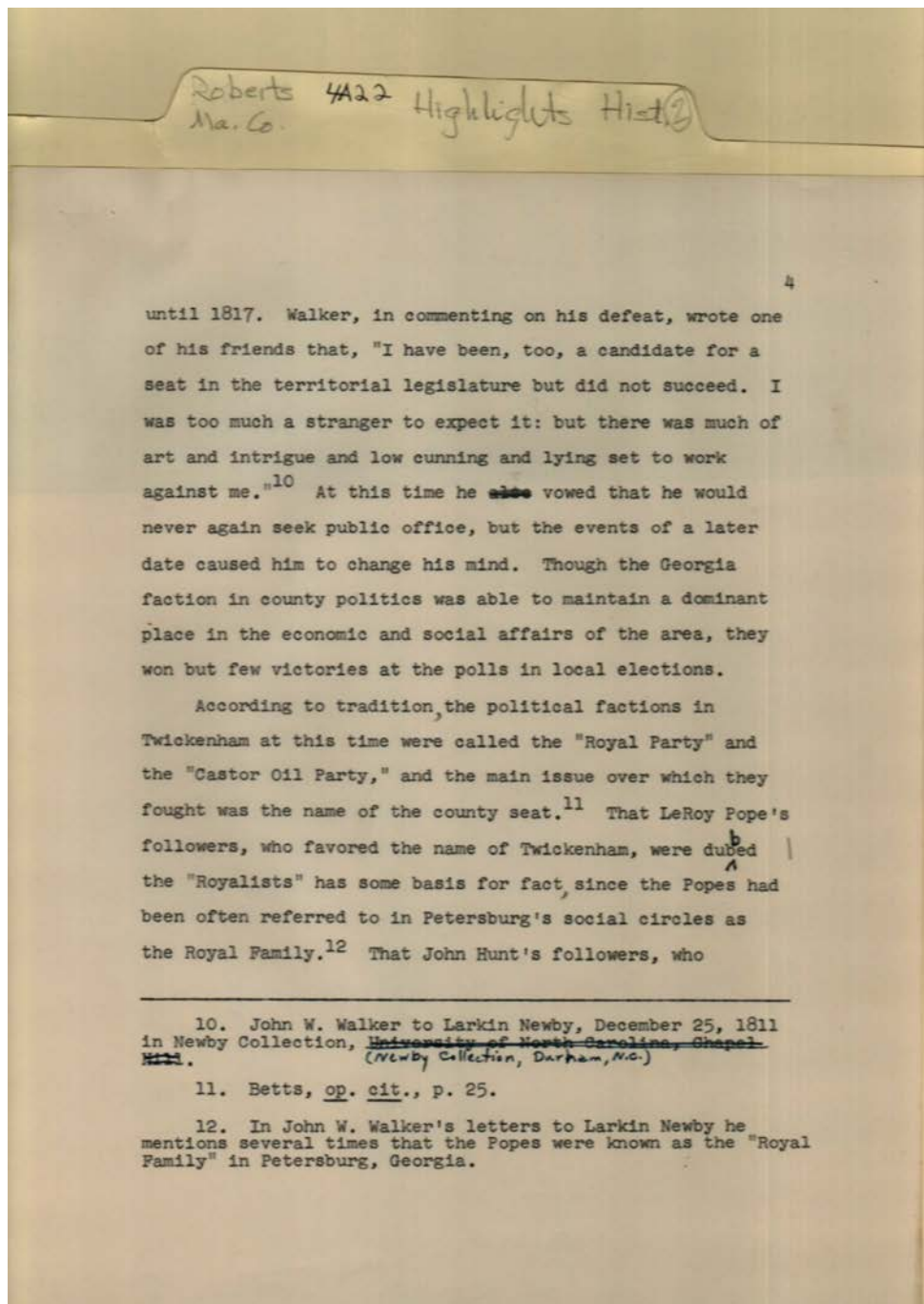
Williams,  
Marmaduke  
Winston, Louis

**Types:**

essay

**Dates:**

1811



**Names:**

Georgians lose elections

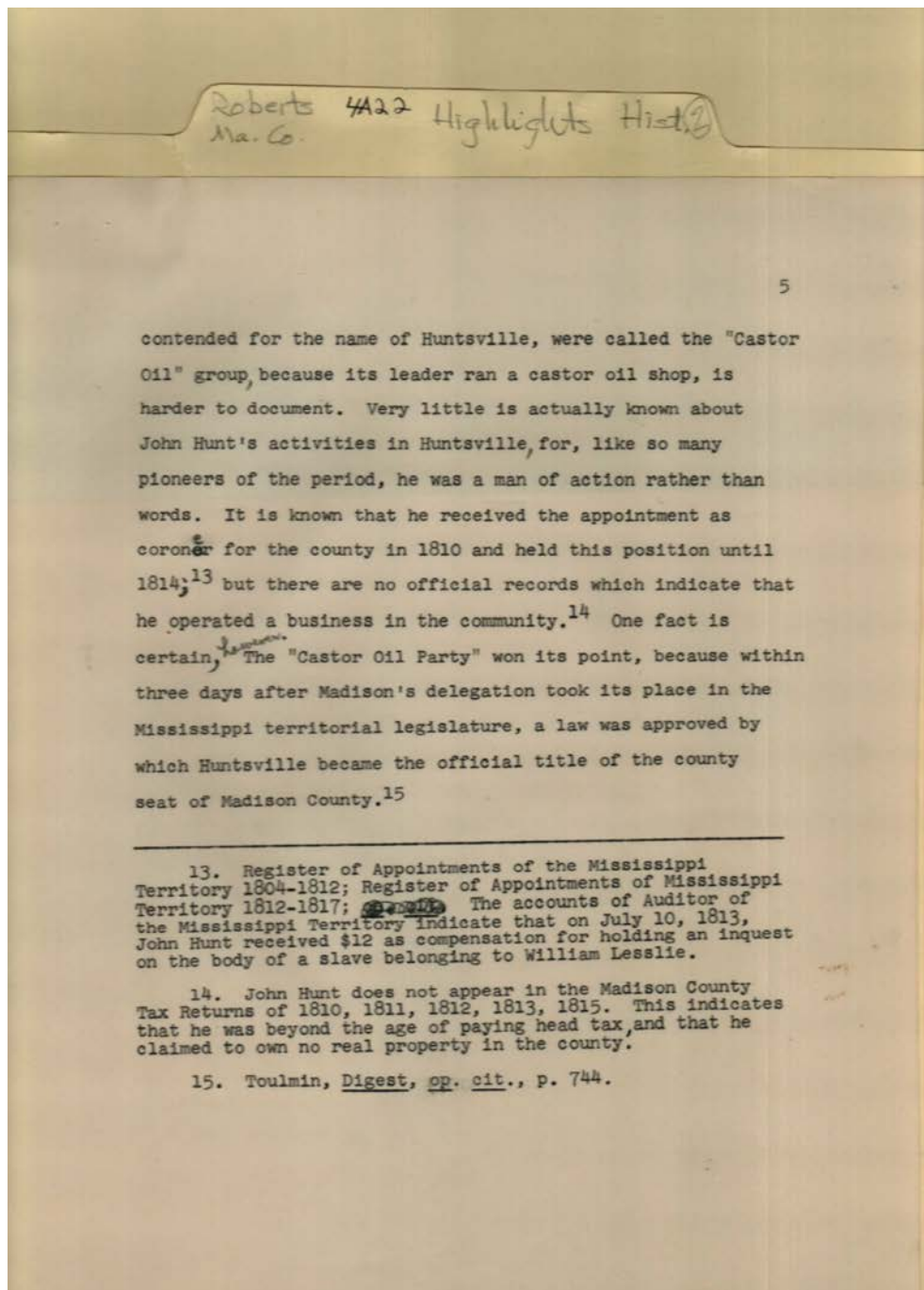
Hunt, John  
Newby, Larkin

Pope, LeRoy  
Walker, John W.

**Types:**

essay





**Names:**

Hunt, John

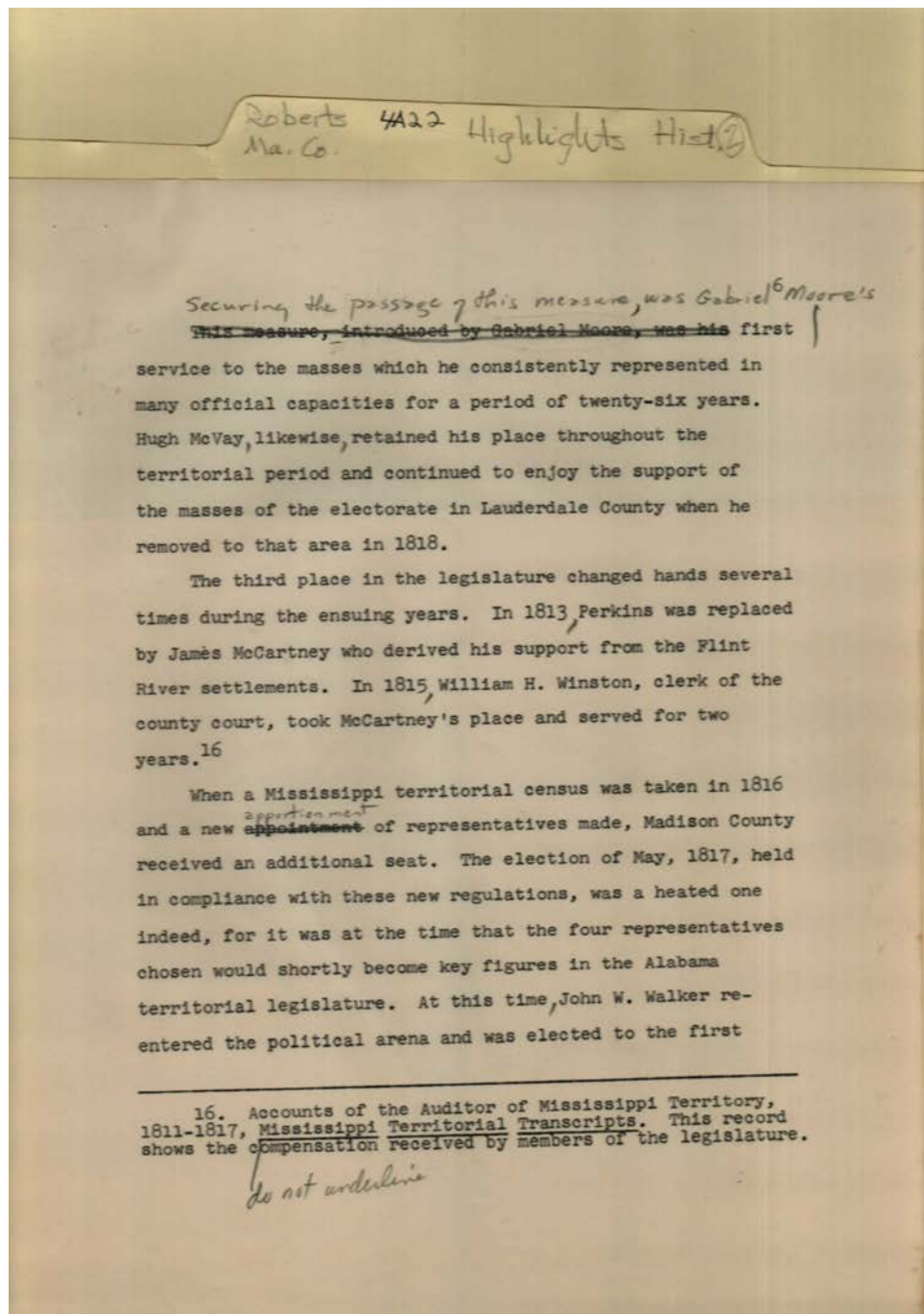
Leslie, William

Name to Huntsville

Toulmin,

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

McCartney, James

McVay, Hugh

Moore, Gabriel

Perkins,

Walker, John W.

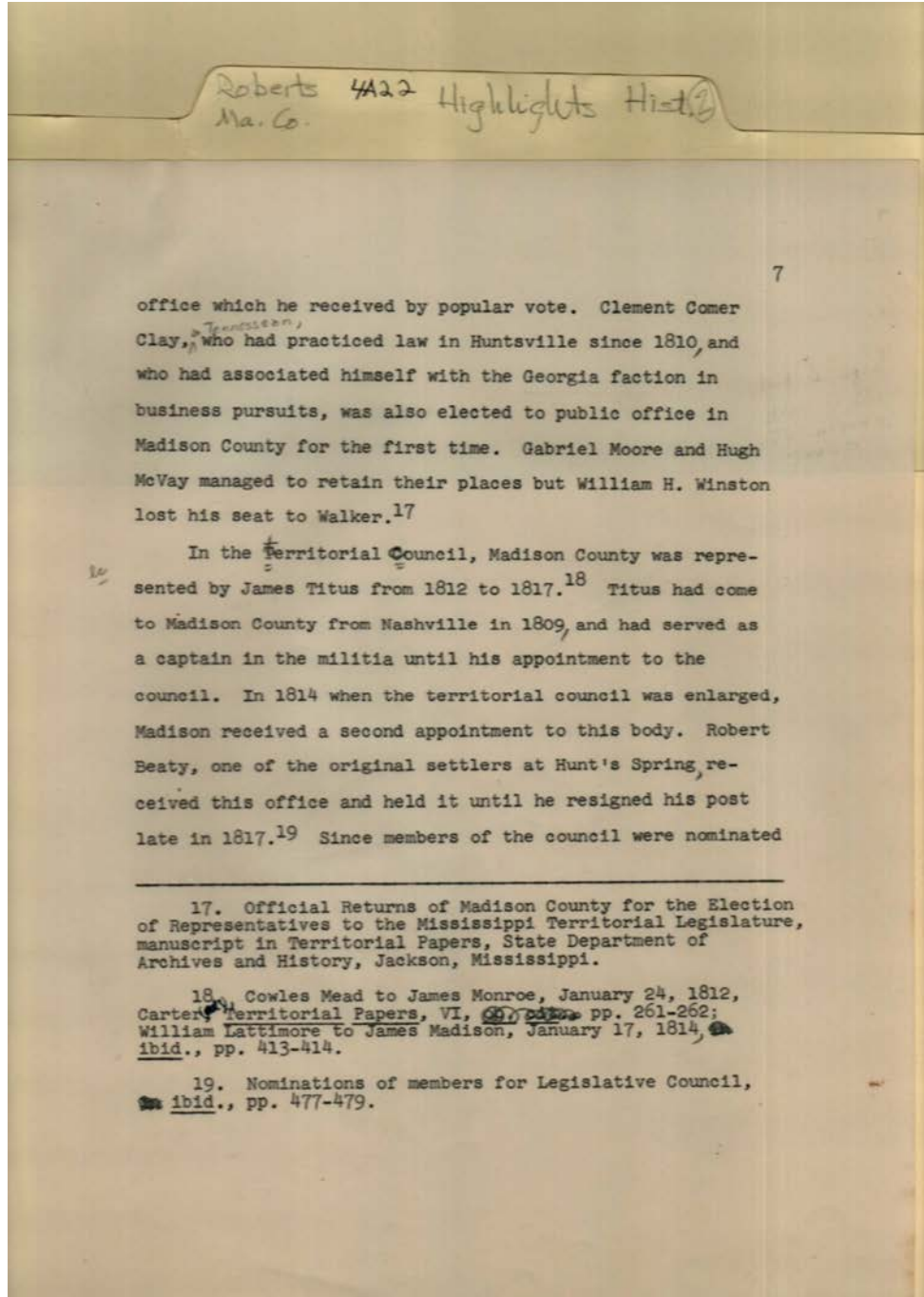
Winston, William H.

**Types:**

essay

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**Names:**

Beaty, Robert  
Clay, Clement Comer  
Lattimore, William

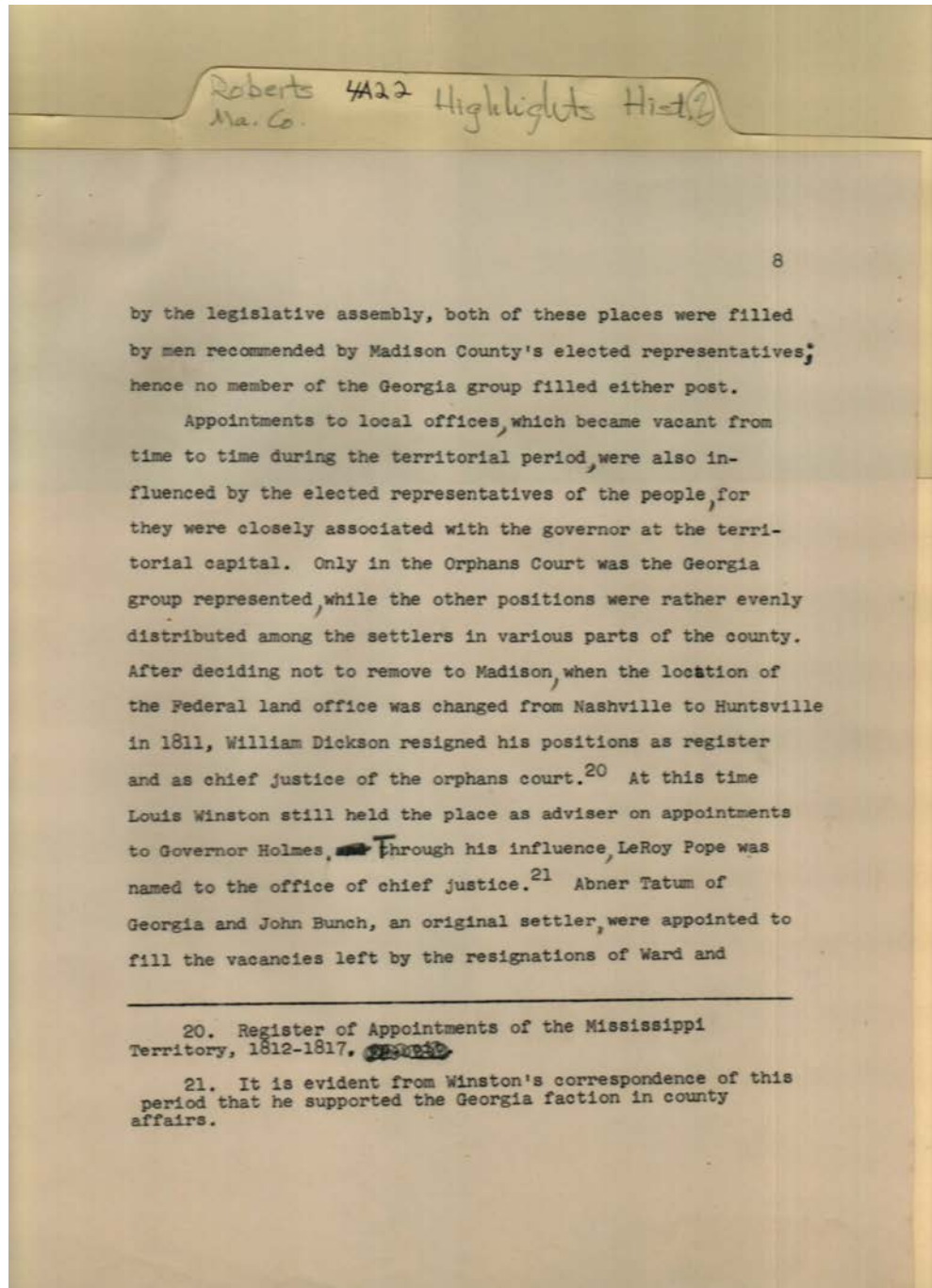
Madison, James  
McVay, Hugh  
Mead, Cowles

Monroe, James  
Moore, Gabriel  
Titus, James

Walker,  
Winston, William H.

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Bunch, John  
Dickson, William

Holmes, Governor  
Pope, LeRoy

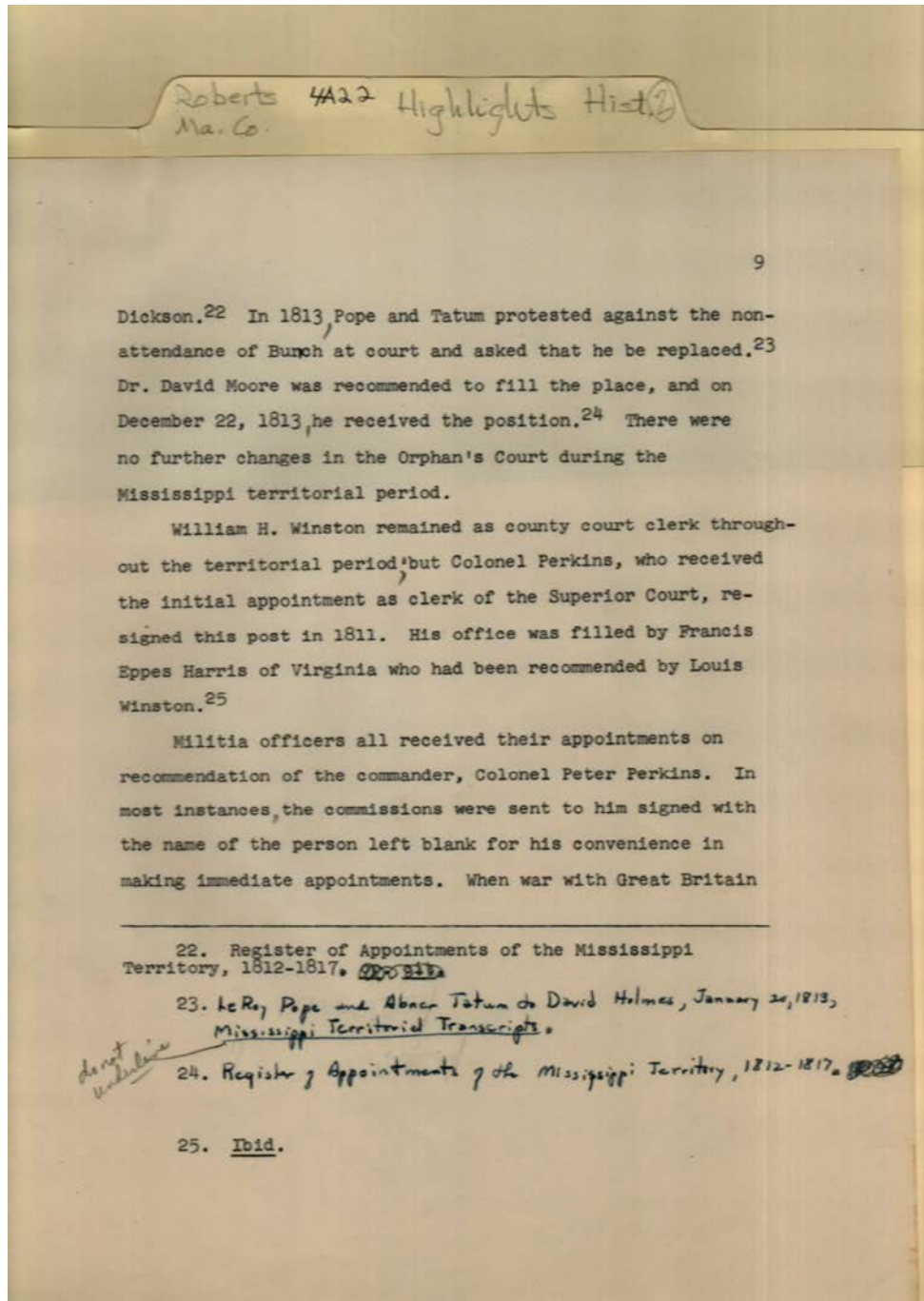
Tatum, Abner  
Ward,

Winston, Louis

**Types:**

essay





**Names:**

Bunch,  
Dickson,  
Harris, Francis Eppes

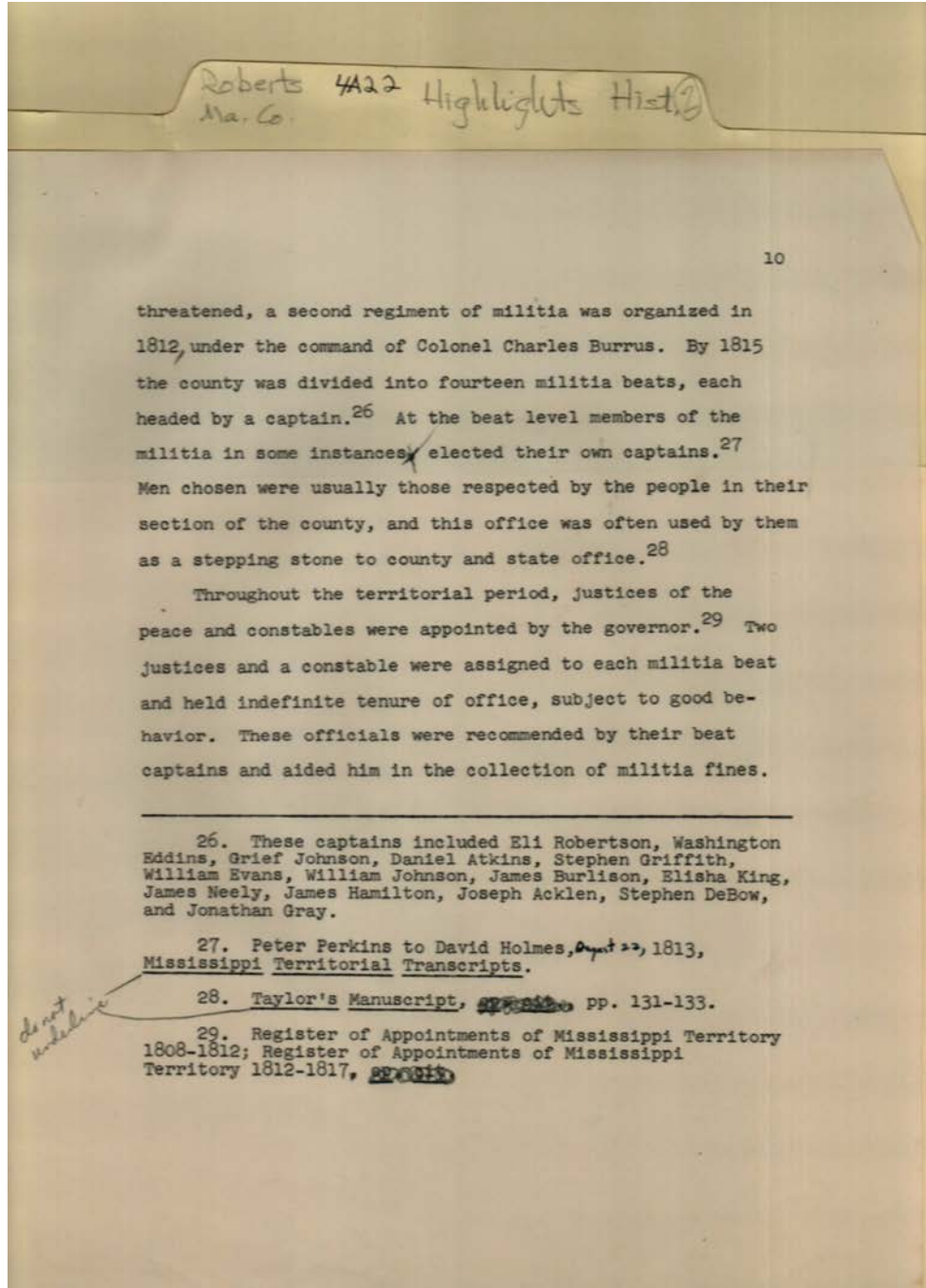
Holmes, David,  
Moore, David, Doctor

Perkins, Peter,  
Colonel  
Pope, LeRoy

Tatum, Abner  
Winston, William H.

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Acklen, Joseph  
Atkins, Daniel  
Burlison, James  
Burrus, Charles,  
Colonel

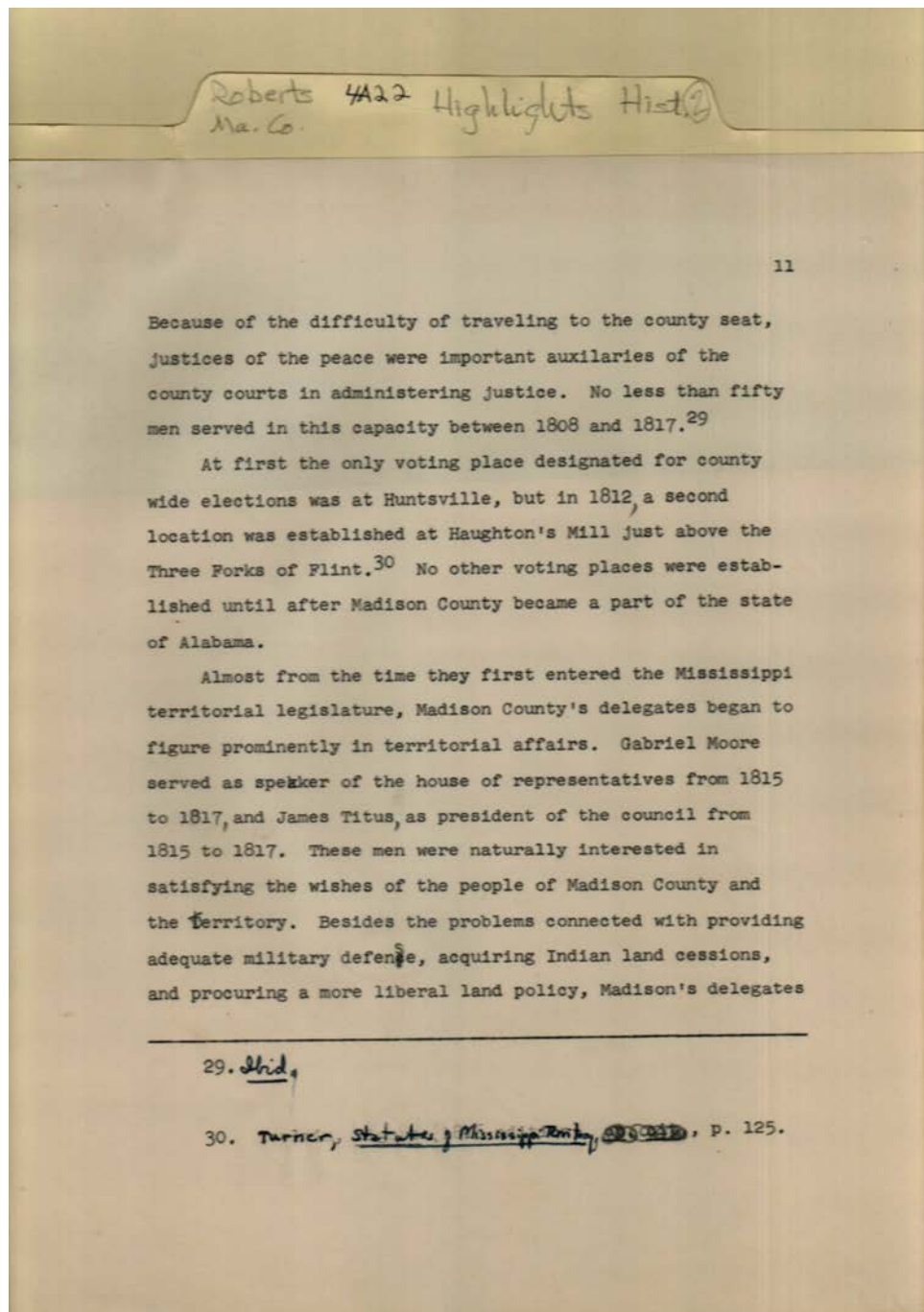
DeBow, Stephen  
Eddins, Washington  
Evans, William  
Gray, Jonathan  
Griffith, Stephen

Hamilton, James  
Holmes, David,  
Johnson, Grief  
Johnson, William  
King, Elisha

Neely, James  
Perkins, Peter  
Robertson, Eli

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

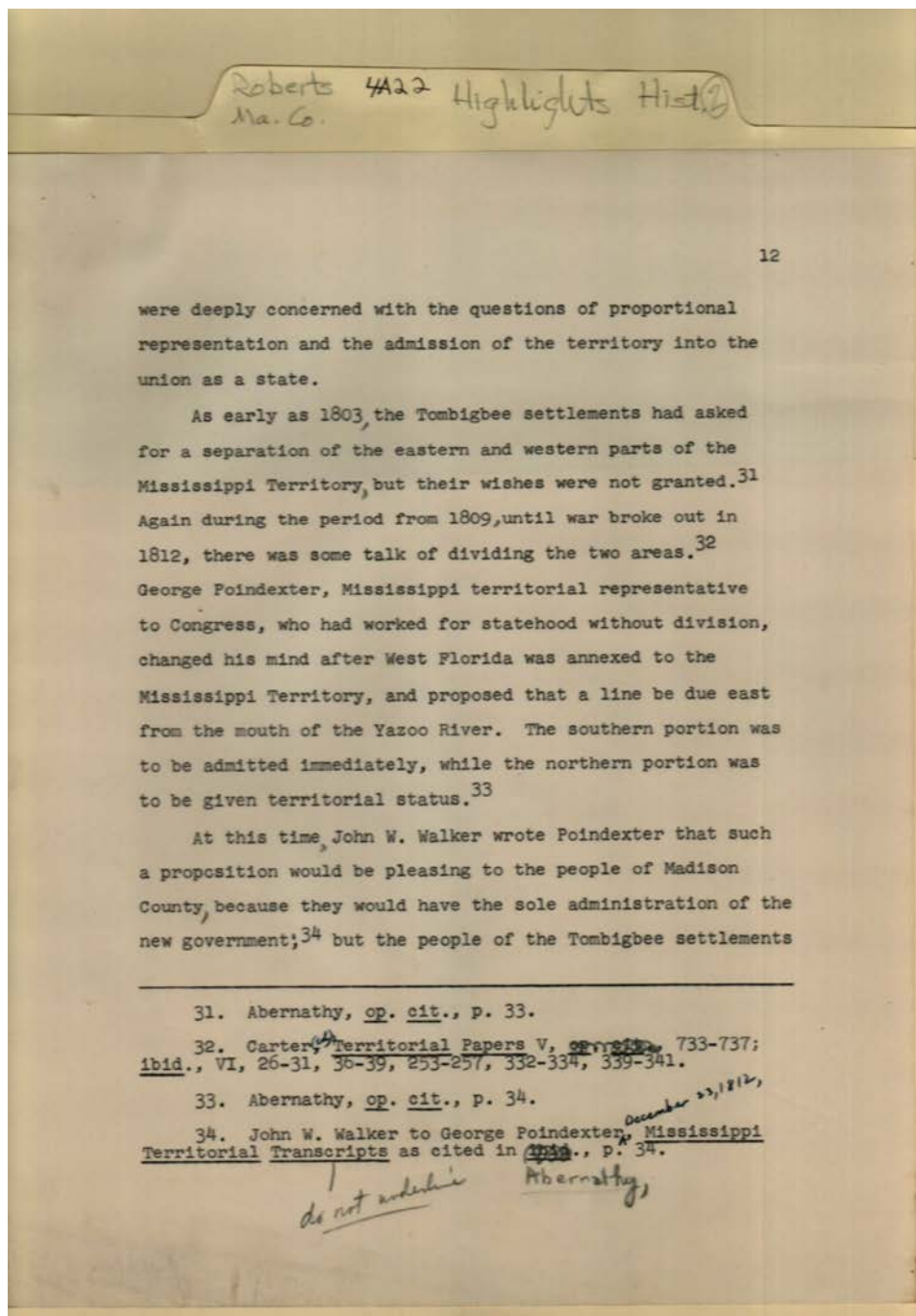
Moore, Gabriel

Titus, James

Turner,

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Abernathy,

Carter,

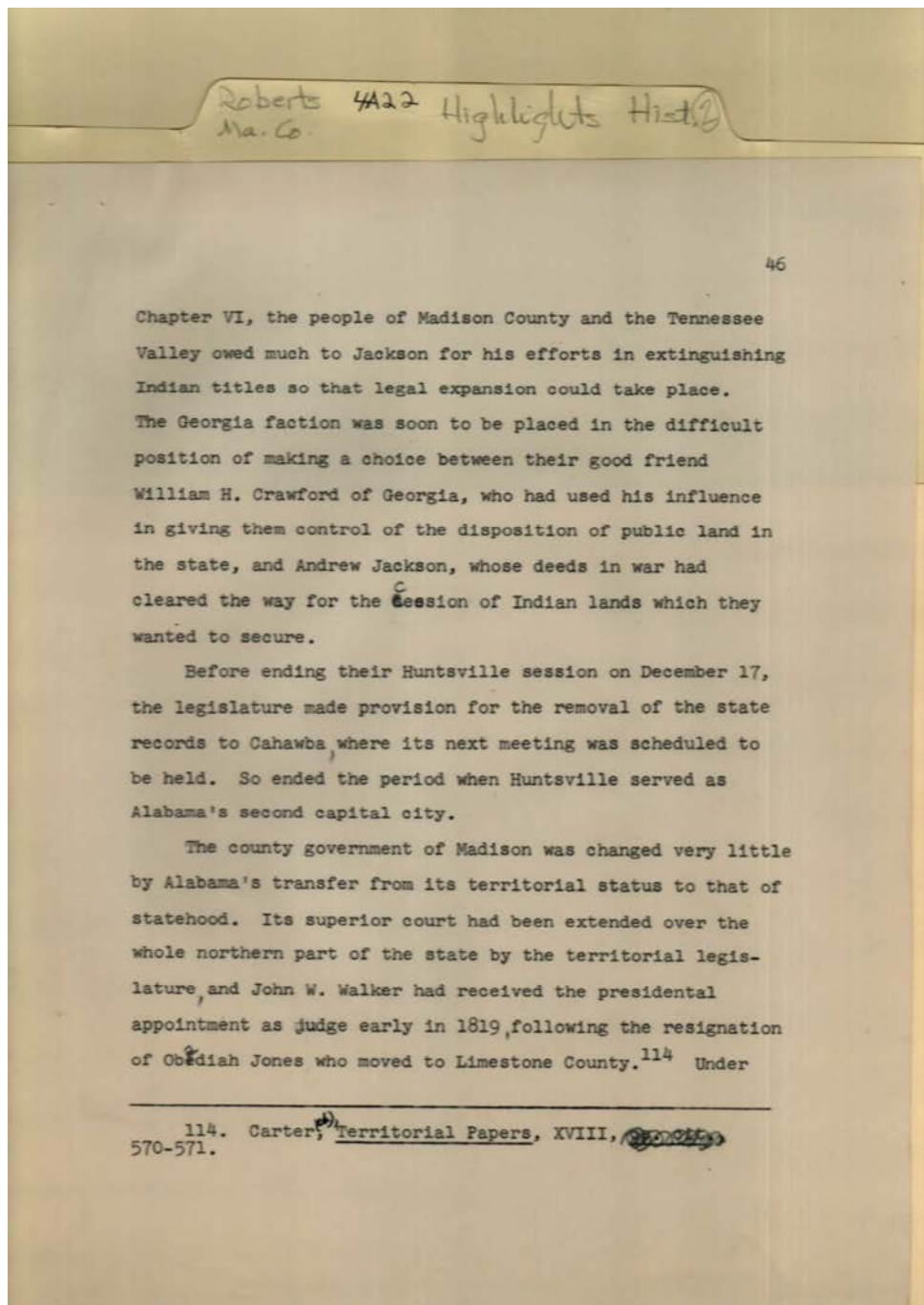
Poindexter, George

Walker, John W.

**Types:**

essay





**Names:**

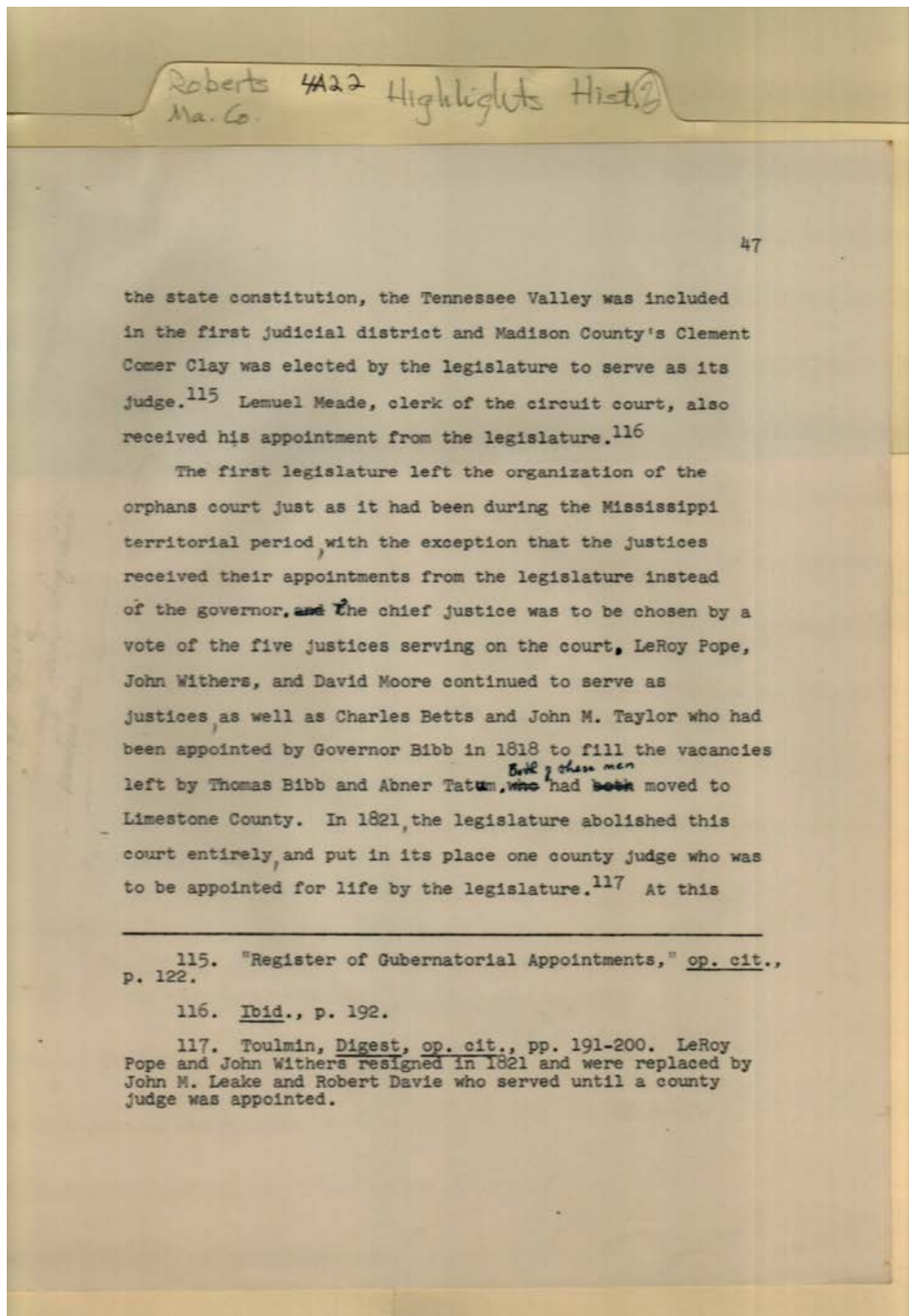
Carter,  
Crawford, William H.

Jackson, Andrew  
Jones, Obadiah

Walker, John W.

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Betts, Charles  
Bibb, Governor  
Bibb, Thomas  
Clay, Clement Comer

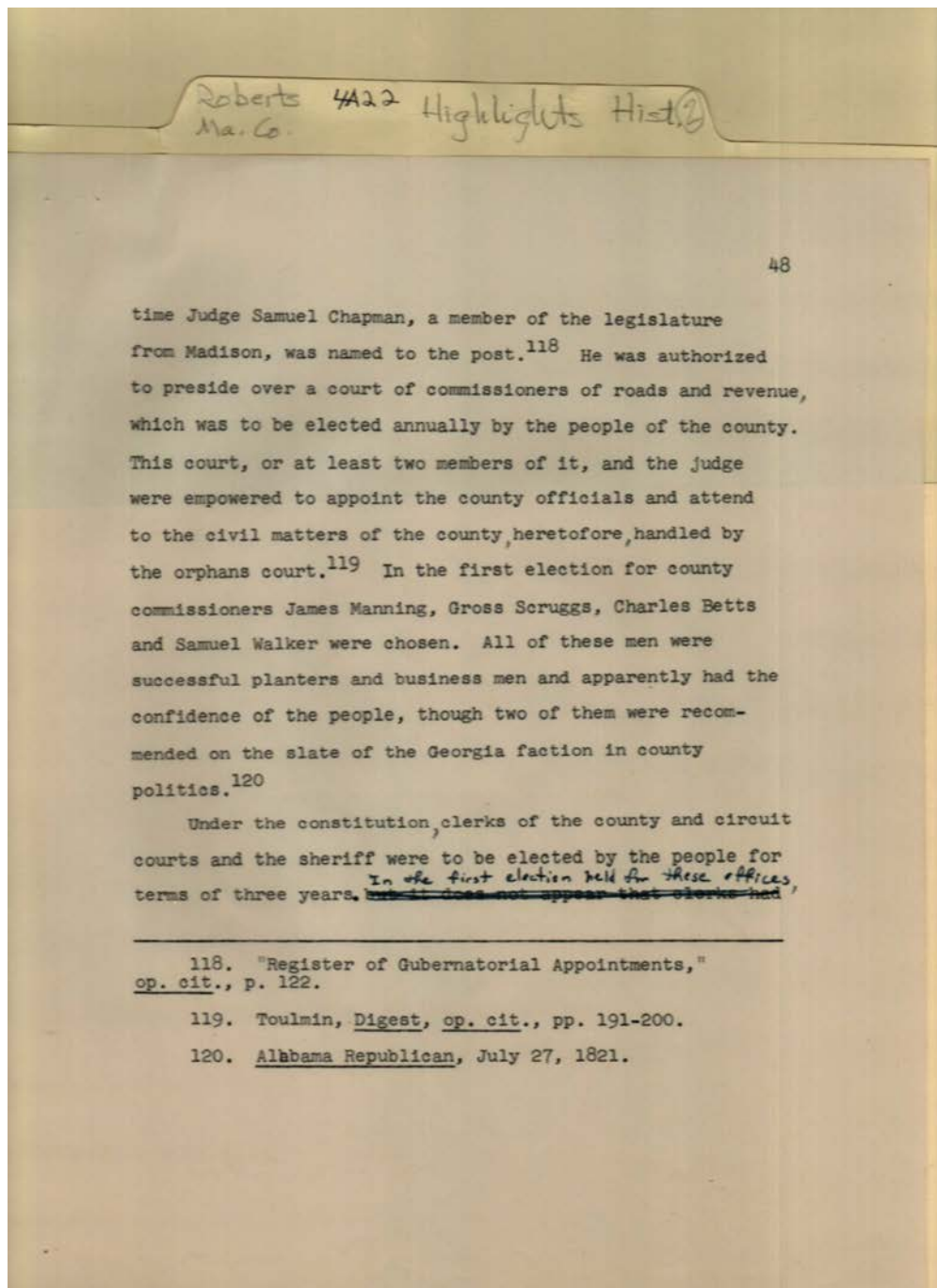
Davie, Robert  
Leake, John M.  
Meade, Lemuel  
Moore, David,

Pope, LeRoy  
Tatum, Abner  
Taylor, John M.  
Toulmin,

Withers, John

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Betts, Charles

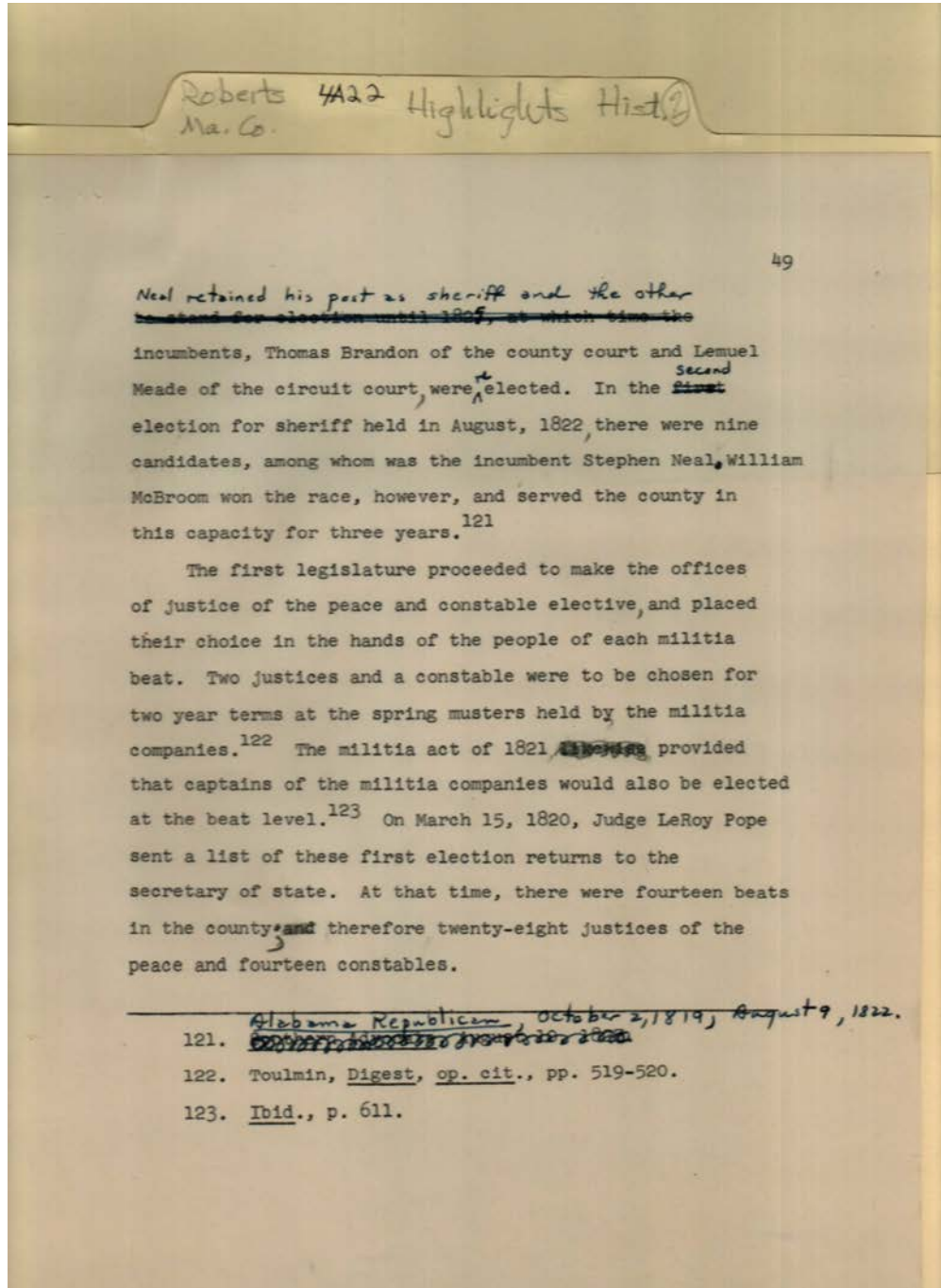
Chapman, Samuel,  
Judge

Manning, James  
Scruggs, Gross

Toulmin,  
Walker, Samuel

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Brandon, William  
McBroom, William

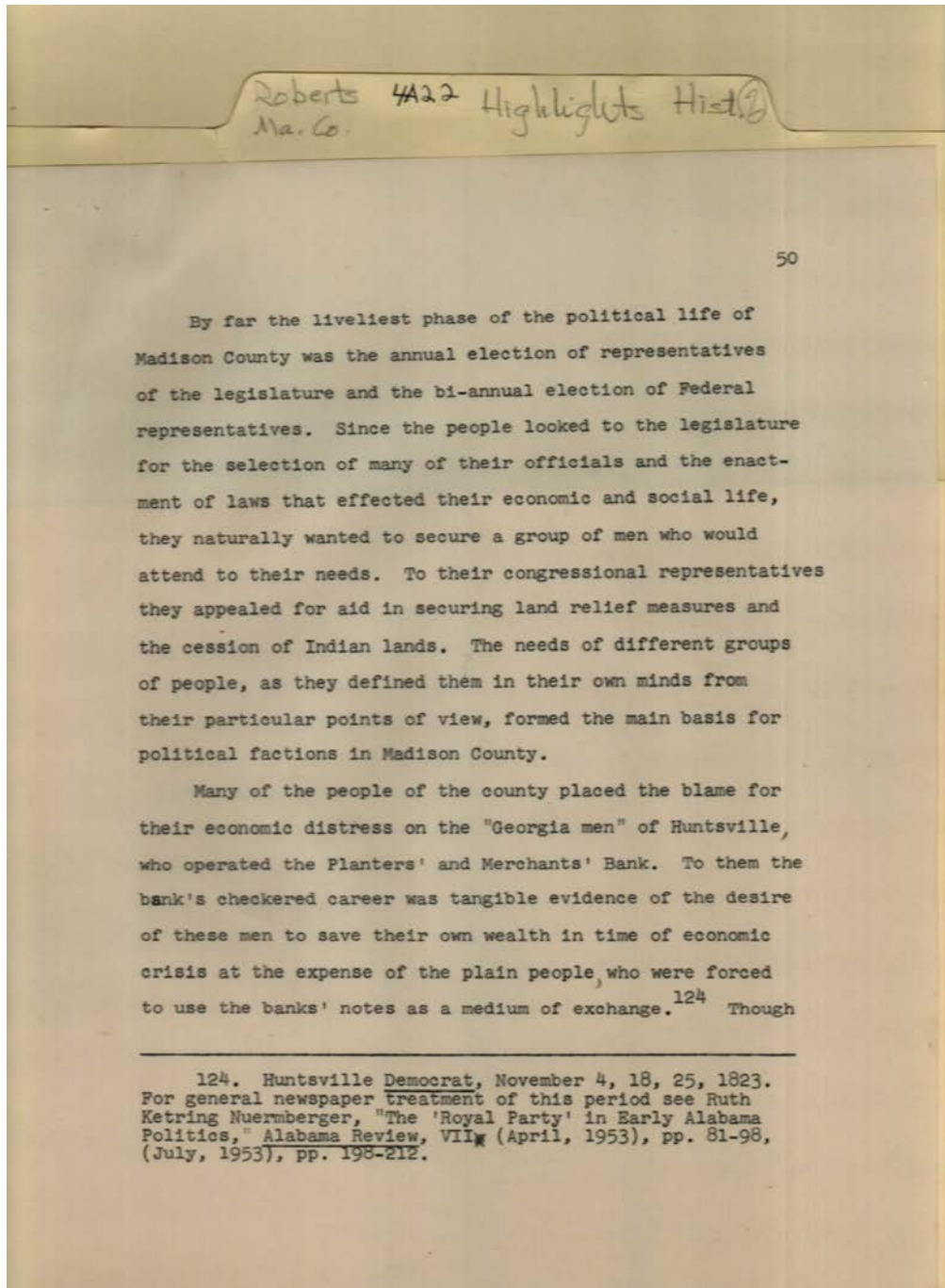
Meade, Lemuel  
Neal, Stephen

Pope, LeRoy, Judge  
Toulmin,

**Types:**

essay





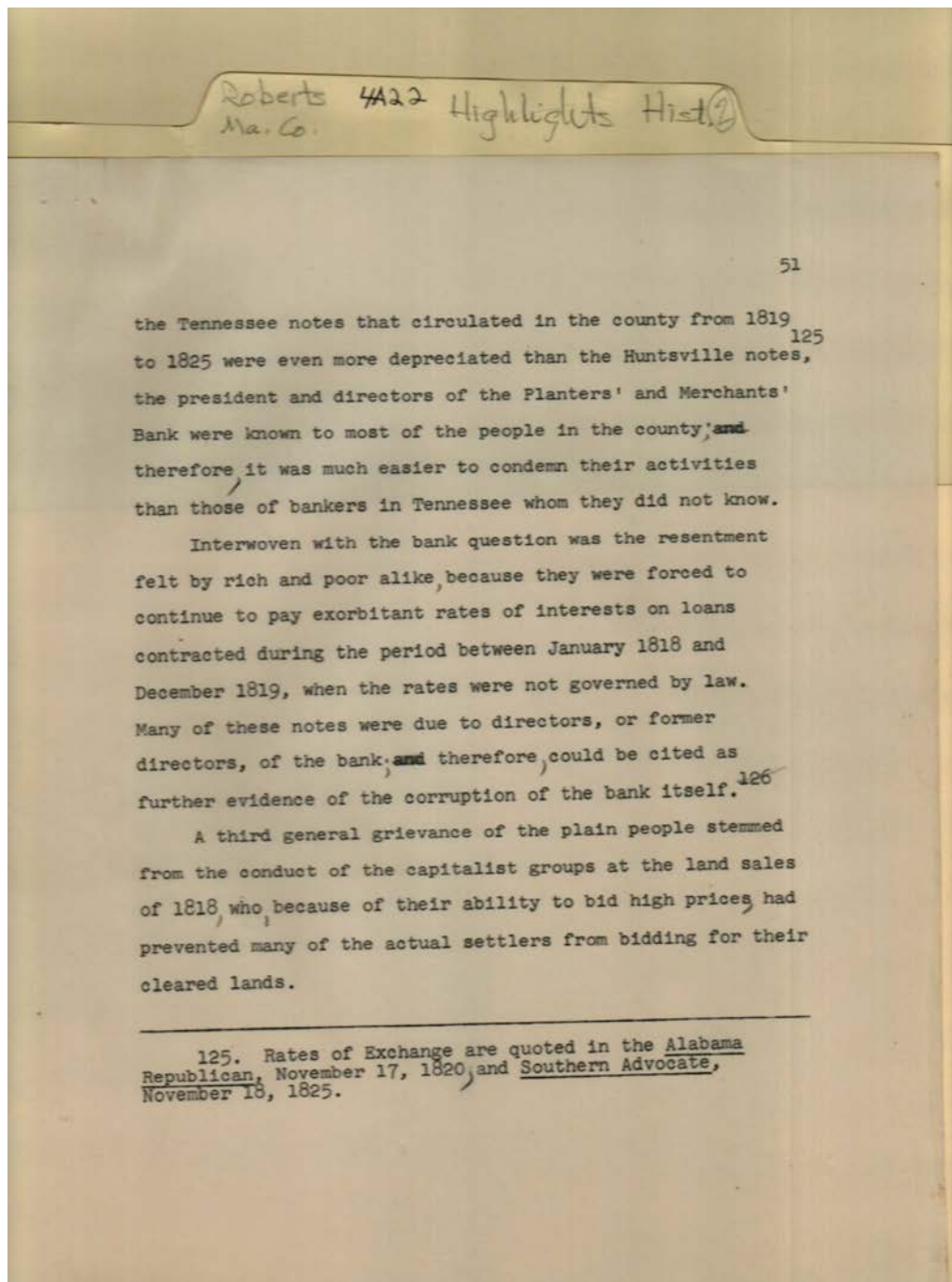
**Names:**

Nuermberger, Ruth  
Ketring

Planters & Merchants  
Bank

**Types:**

essay



**Names:**

Banking needs

**Types:**

essay

Roberts 4422 Highlights Hist. 2  
Ma. Co.

native of Virginia at about  
sixty years old

Resolutions of Helion Lodge #1  
"one of its oldest members  
James Penn Martin  
John N. Scruggs Secy.

Mechanics Benevolent Association  
-honorary member of group -  
J. S. Clarke  
S. Coltart  
N. J. Mastin  
J. E. Spotswood  
James O. Neal

Mayor & Board of Aldermen  
"Passing through life  
with most admirable  
character, integrity, habitually  
in the practice of charity -  
and adhering under all  
circumstances to the most  
right precepts of morality and  
honesty, he would secure the  
friendship of all who knew  
him"

B. J. Moore Secy

**Names:**

Clarke, J. S.  
Coltart, S.  
Helion Lodge #1

Martin, James Penn  
Mastin, N. J.

Mechanics  
Benevolence  
Moore, B. J.

O'Neal, James  
Scruggs, John N.  
Spotswood, J. E.

**Types:**

study notes

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	O.C. 10-415
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	422
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	2 46
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10/2/59	23 486
1/12/66	m 11 85

**Names:**

Mastin, William J.

Moore, David,

**Types:**

study notes



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Ma. Co.

10/1/48 Annual Settlement	OC.	12	292
(Jan. 1849)		13	60
		13	23
Nov. 1849			195
Jan. 1850			227
Sales of Cotton			240
Jan. 1850			313
(Cont)			369
			405
Cotton Sales 1849			411
Jan. 13, 1851	M	1	8
		1	24
Nov. 1851			177
Nov. 1851			182
Jan. 1852			217
Nov. 1852			400
Nov. 1852			402
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			24
			103
			116
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			287
			358
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			327
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			358
			409, 415, 467, 468, 486

Types:  
study notes

Highlights of Madison County History

Roberts 4422 Highlights Hist. Ma. Co.

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May/55	Executive Trial Attach	m 3	467
	David L. Moore		468
	Samuel Moore	may 21, 1855	486
	Kate Moore	m 4	199
	Catherine Moore		246
		m 6	459
	Month 1859 (week) Budget	m 6	512
28/2/10	March 1860	m 7	173
	April 1860		316
		PR	12-13
1849-1852			12 124
74 8			13 368 ✓
65 16			13 431
45 20		PR	13 520
4 32	dup	X	14 303
97 32			14 613
39 16	dup - cotton shipped		15 274
13 14	dup		15 317
14	dup		15 342
31			15 612
88	dup - yard report		16 32
27	cotton		16 292
60			301
2	cotton		17 104
5	137, 860, 62		112
4	155, 271, 83		236
2			31 160
			18 594
			19 124
T/12/66		m	11 85

**Names:**

Moore, Catherine

Moore, David,

Moore, Kate

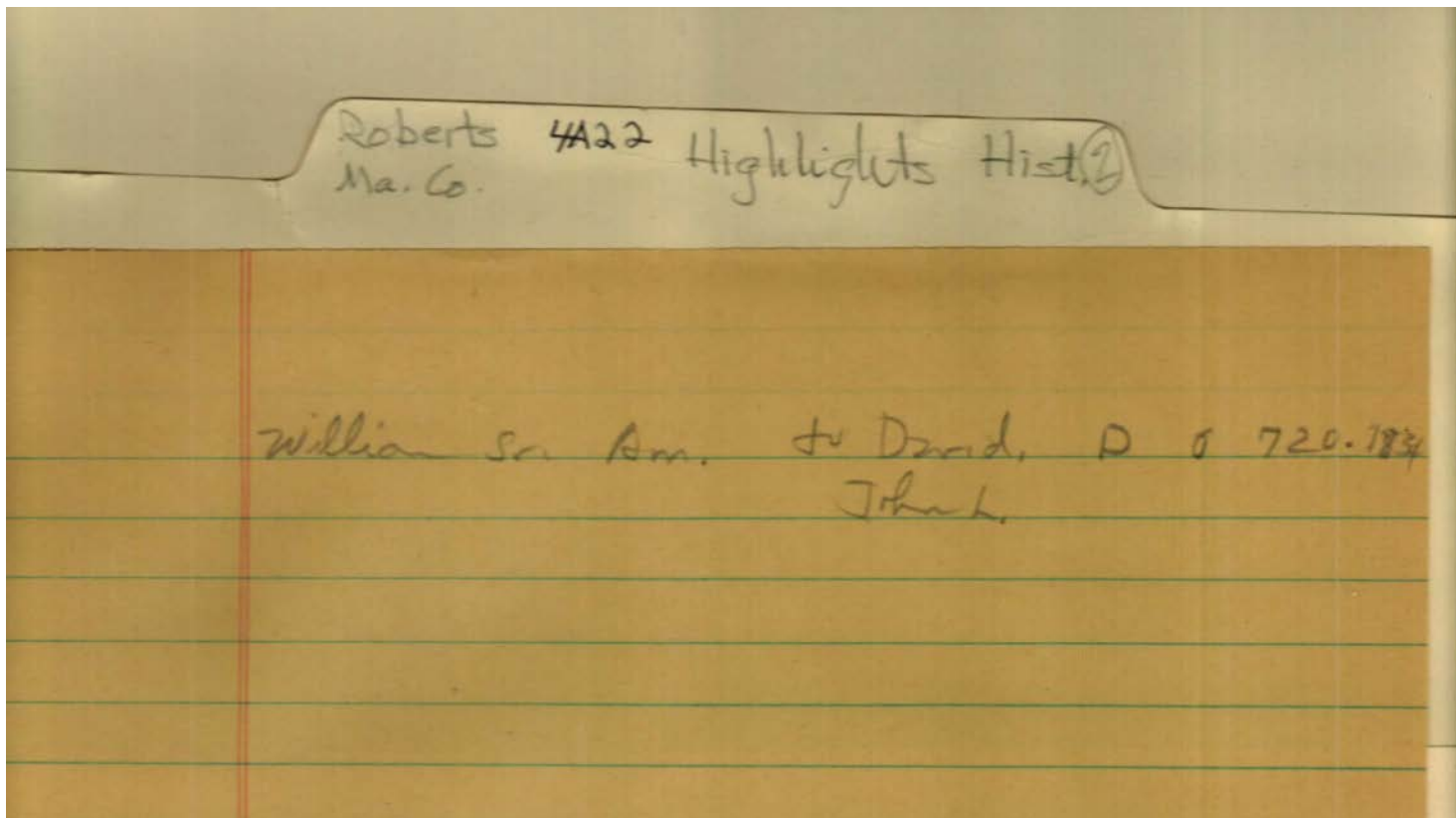
Moore, Samuel

**Types:**

study notes

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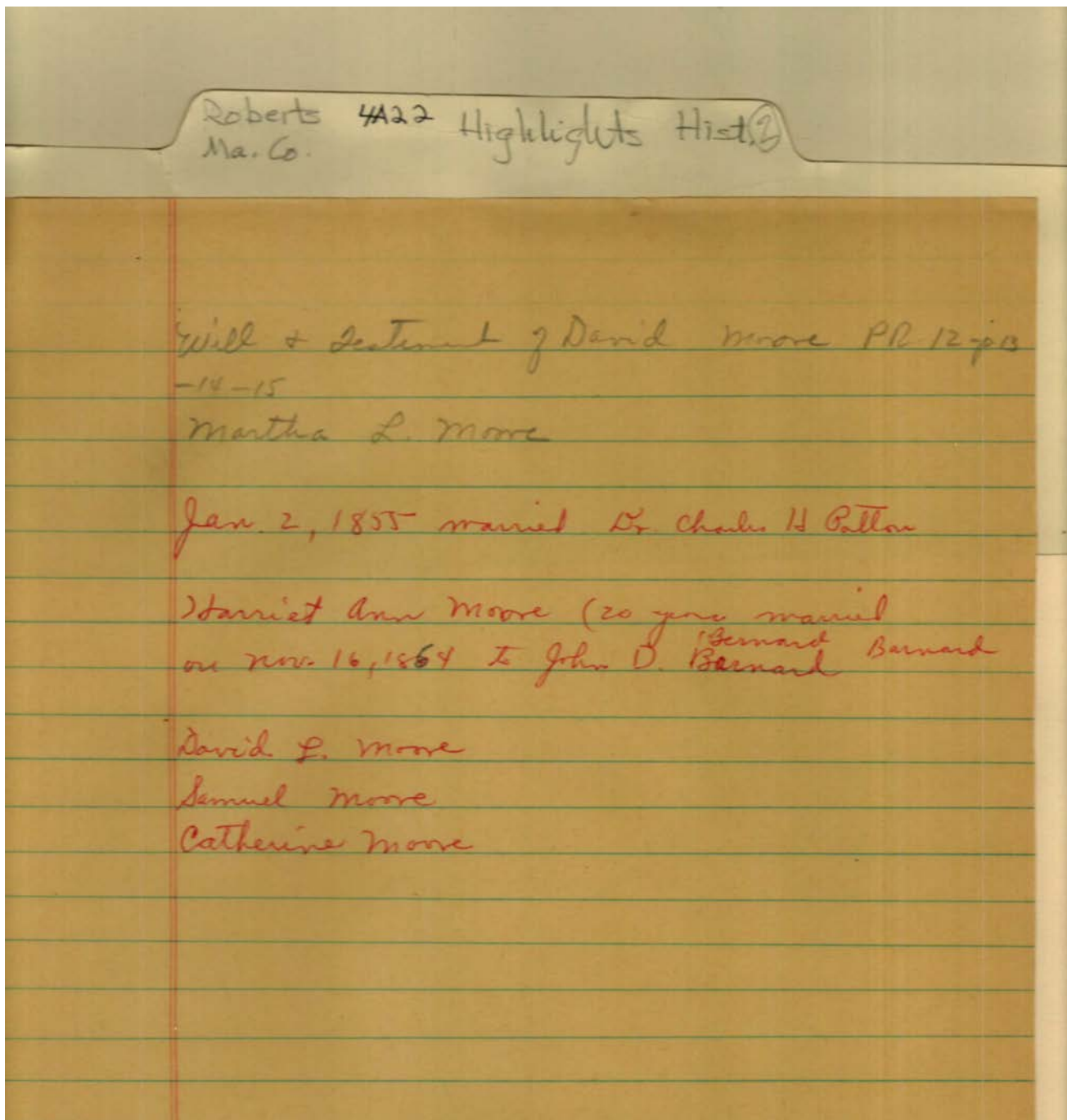
**Names:**

Moore, David,

Moore, John L.

**Types:**

study notes



**Names:**

Barnard, John D.  
Moore, Catherine

Moore, David,  
Moore, Harriet Ann

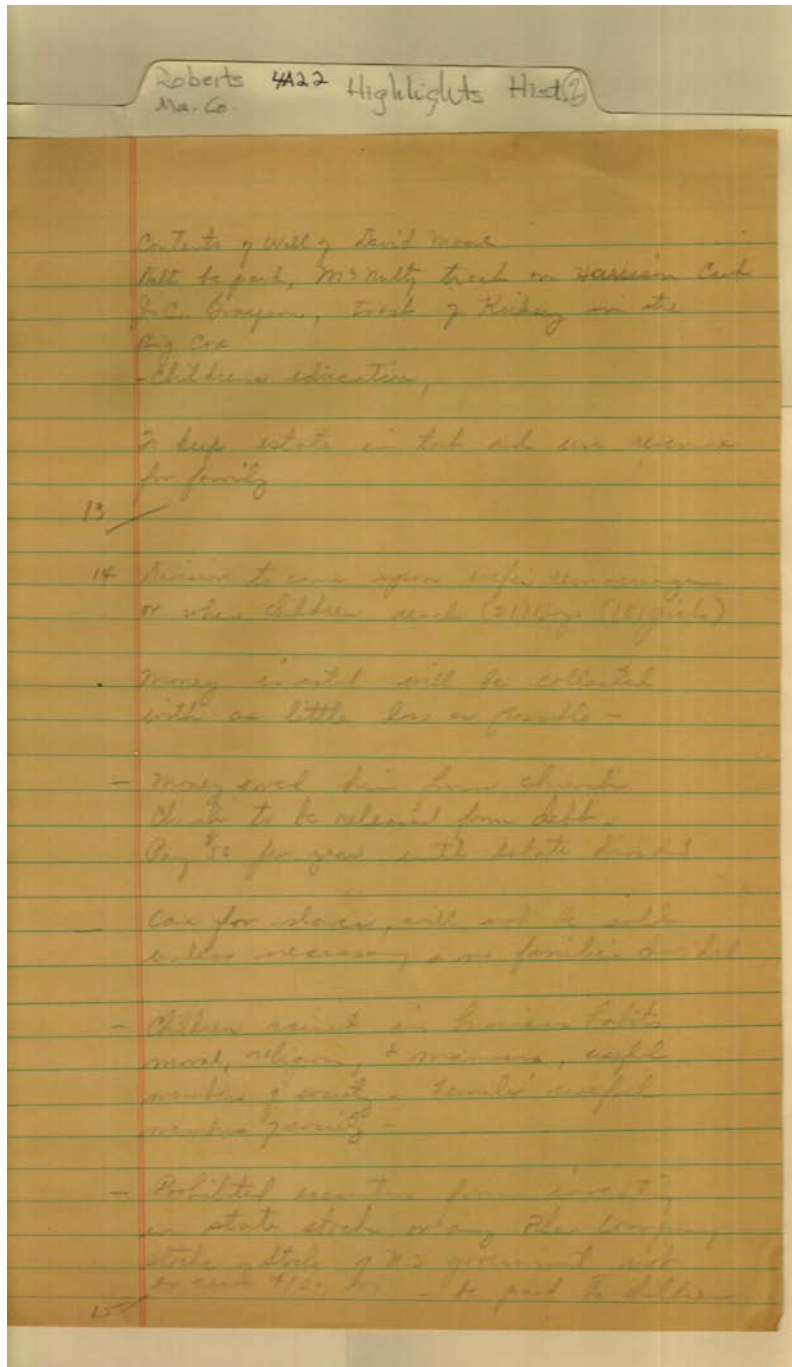
Moore, Martha L.  
Moore, Samuel

Patton, Charles H.,  
Doctor

**Types:**

study notes





**Names:**

Bryson, J. C.  
McNulty,

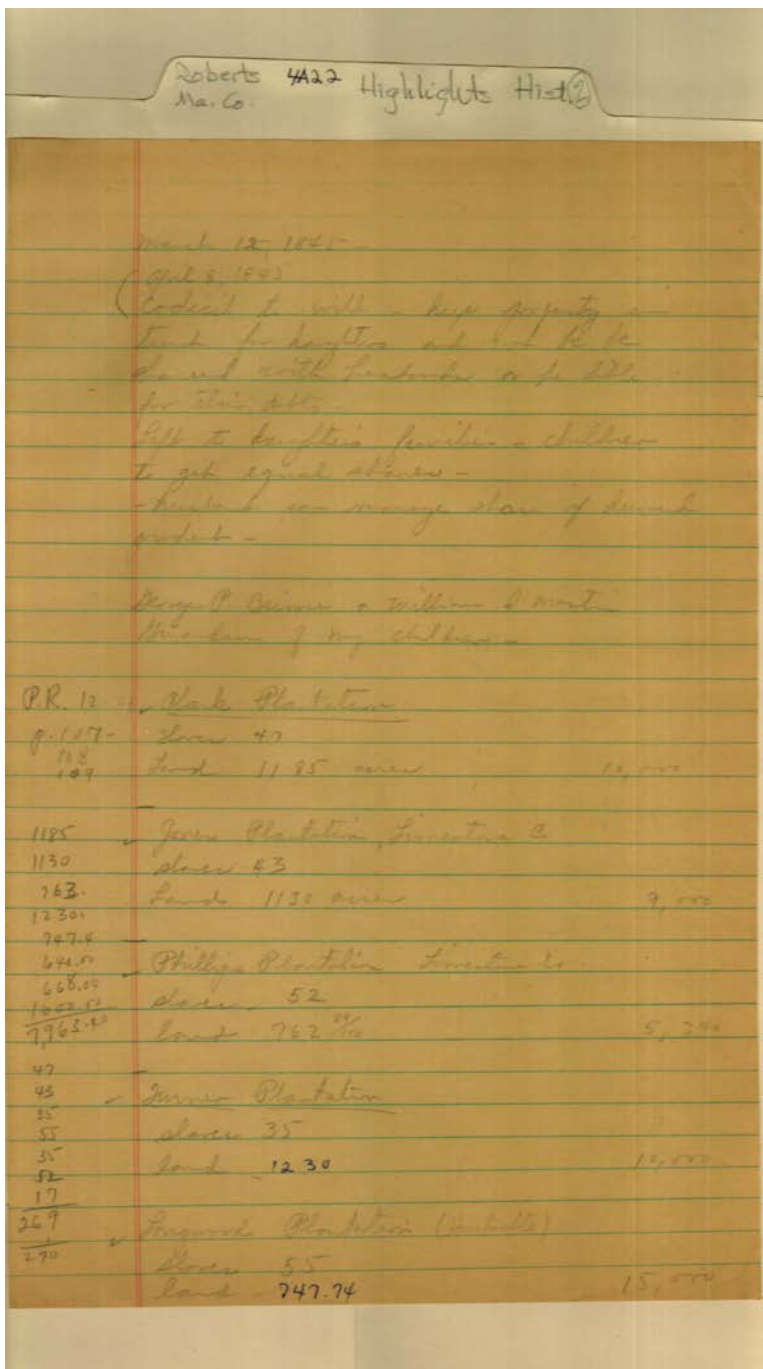
Moore, David, will  
notes

**Types:**

study notes

Highlights of Madison County History

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**Names:**

- Acres 1230
- Acres 762
- Acres 1130
- Acres 1185
- Acres 747

- Beirne, George P.
- Clark Plantation
- Jones Plantation
- Longwood Plantation
- Mastin, William I.

- Phillips Plantation
- Slaves 35
- Slaves 43
- Slaves 47
- Slaves 52

- Slaves 55
- Turner Plantation
- Will Codicil

**Types:**

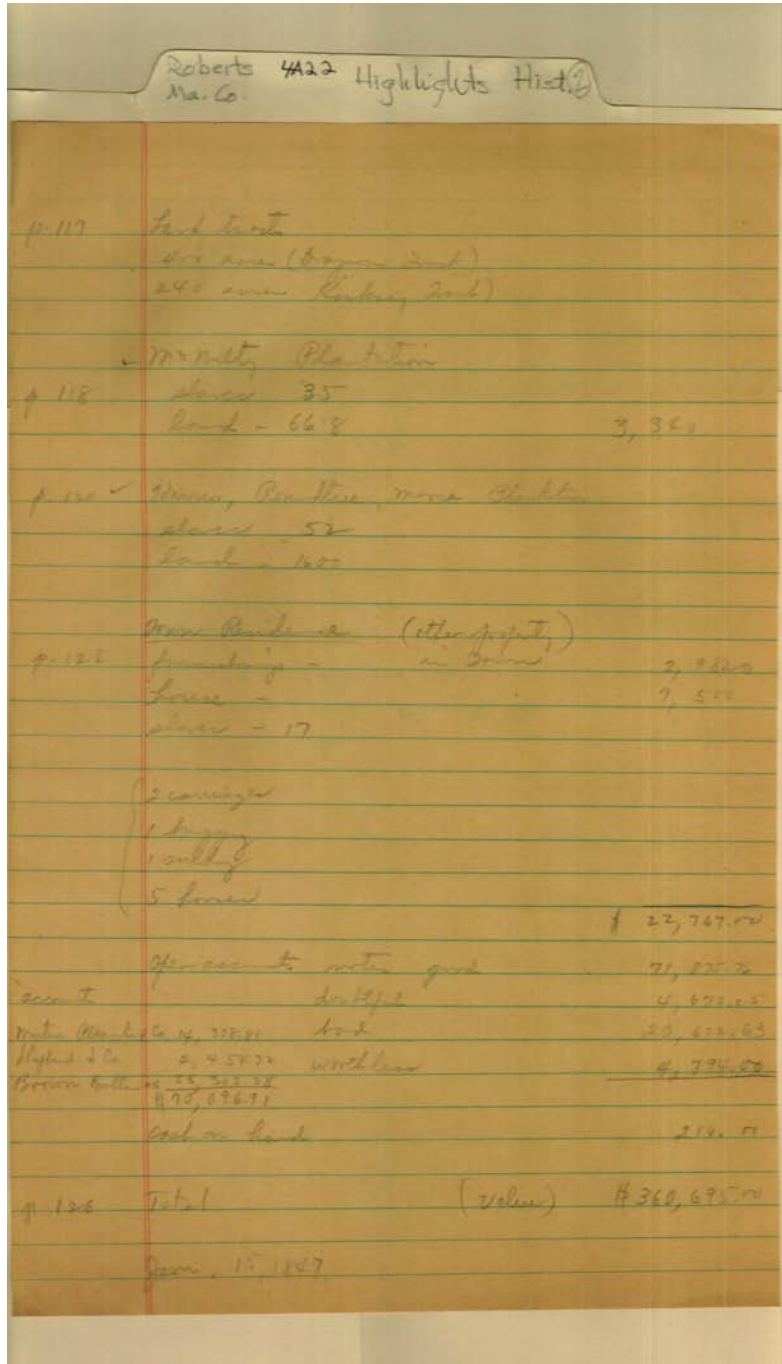
study notes

**Dates:**

Mar 12, 1845

Highlights of Madison County History

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**Names:**

Acres 1600

Acres 668

Harris, Roundtree,  
 Moore  
 McNulty Plantation

Slaves 35  
 Slaves 52  
 Slaves 17

Town Residence

**Types:**

study notes

**Dates:**

Mar 12, 1845

Roberts #A22 Highlights Hist. 3  
Ma. Co.

(PR. 13)  
p. 368-69 Sale of cotton

287	
314	
58	
100	
<hr/>	
759	
	\$30,000

Program fund  
759

369 \$<sup>11</sup><sub>3000</sub> add to said fund

Thinking back from add to mileage:

1722.33	
<hr/>	
\$5177.77	

p. 431 - James 267.62 m

71.86	Y.
<hr/>	
338.68	

Dr. G. B. Smith & Co. N.Y. -

State for year 1883 - 126,900.50

**Names:**

Moore properties

**Types:**

study notes



Highlights of Madison County History

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Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist. ②  
Ma. Co.

Final Settlement of Estate P.R. 19 p 124-203

value 384,057.26  
292,174.02  
57696,231.29  
135,244.25

2750  
32-180  
2897 P.R. - 73415

**Names:**

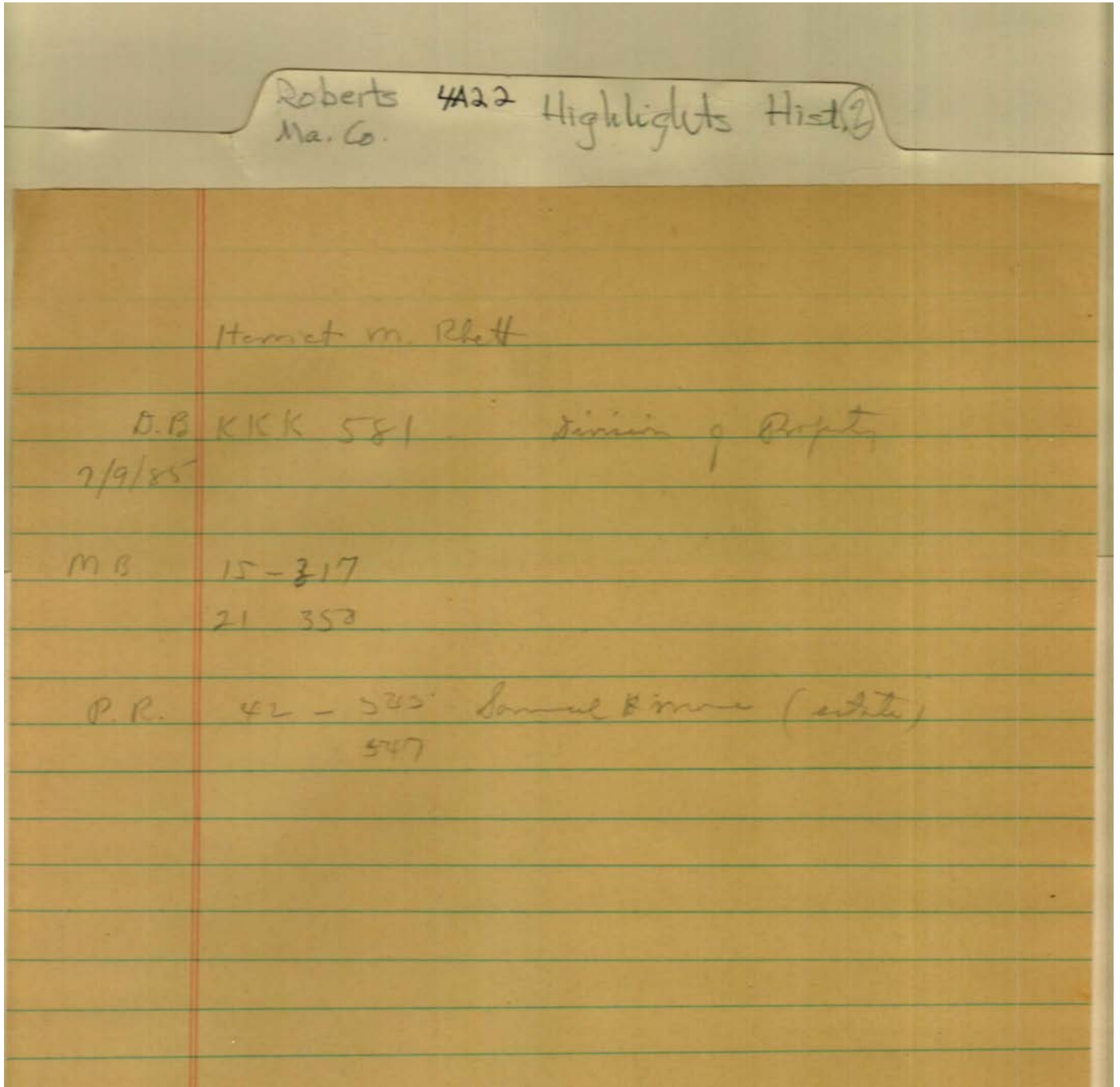
Estate finals

**Types:**

study notes

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**Names:**

Moore, Samuel

Rhett, Harriet M.

**Types:**

study notes

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Roberts 4A22 Highlights Hist 2  
Ma. Co.

22, 767.50	Income
14, 338.51	Notes Pleasant to
2, 454.72	Highland to
53, 363.50	Person Am Co
<u>224, 173.62</u>	Income
34, 161.25	Highland
25, 527.50	State
22, 878.12	Income
21, 632.35	Phillips
14, 112.11	W. Kelly
26, 951.50	Harmon
71, 875.76	Notes Bond, High to
4, 672.25	Highland
25, 446.63	State
<u>216.50</u>	Cash
101,302.88	
\$ 360, 695.00	

**Names:**

Moore estate values

**Types:**

study notes

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# Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection

**Preferred Citation:** Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection, Archives and Special Collections, M. Louis Salmon Library, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL.

**Collection Scope and Content:** The Collection of 114 Linear ft. includes a total of 156 Archival Boxes. The Frances Cabaniss Roberts collection covers the historical records of the Cabaniss Roberts family. This collection contains extensive correspondence records of the Cabaniss Roberts family circa 1830 to 1930.

**Archives/Special Collections Access Restrictions:** None

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