



TEMPER OF THE TIMES. *The first and last pages of the newsletter are from articles appearing in Savannah newspapers in August 1855.*

Suicide – About 11 o'clock yesterday morning, an unknown man was seen to jump suddenly from the wharf of the upper rice mill into the river, and sink to rise no more. His name is not known, and from the circumstances there can be but little doubt that it was a case of voluntary destruction. *Savannah Daily Republican*, August 1, 1855.

Died, At Fair Hope, near Darien, Ga., of Whooping Cough, on the 29th June, DANIEL HENRY, age 9 months. Also, on the 31st July, MARY LOUISA, aged 2 years and 4 months, children of Daniel and Matilda A. McDonald. *Savannah Daily Republican*, August 1, 1855.

Re-Opening of the Arbor Billard Saloon. This popular establishment was reopened to the public yesterday, under the direction of Mr. M. HAYWOOD. Judging from the liberal and excellent lunch which he sent us, the festivities and ceremonies for the occasion were observed in a highly satisfactory manner. It is the intention of Mr. H., to make his saloon an agreeable resort for gentlemen who delight in a quiet game of billiards. *Savannah Daily News*. August 7, 1844.



The very latest style high and low crown white, drab, pearl and brown soft HATS, just received at the Hat and Cap Store, 153 Congress street. N.K. BARNUM *Savannah Morning News*. August 7, 1844.

FRUIT AS AN ARTICLE OF FOOD. – Were we of the South, to cultivate and use fruit more as a standard article of food, instead of eating it indiscriminately between meals, we should be all healthier people. We consume too much meat at our meals, neglecting the fruits which a beneficent Providence has blessed us with. Were we to breakfast on milk or coffee, with figs and nutmeg or christina melons, dine on such meats as the taste or purse will permit, with vegetables to match, and dessert of water melon, grapes, apples, pears, peaches, &c., and sup on a cup of aromatic tea, with strawberries and cream, we might dispense with the pastry cook, and the Doctor, provided we would eat no fruit between meals. It is not a little astonishing, that with the immense amount of fruit produced at the South, it does not diminish the consumption of meat and bread. There is no doubt but that the summers of the South would be the healthiest portion of the year, were we only to use fruit, as a necessary article of food. When we say fruit, we do not mean the trash that stand for weeks on the trucker's stalls of the cities, but that which is picked fresh, every morning, from our own vines and trees. Most of our fruit abounds in sugar, which is nourishing, cooling and healthy, whilst the meats consumed, abound in oil, which is heating, stimulating, and predisposed to fevers. Some of the healthiest people in the world live in the tropical regions, whose breakfast consists of oranges, pine apples, figs or bananas – dinner of melons and raisins – supper of dried fruits and tea or cof-



fee. They have learned to adapt their food to the climate and the wise provisions of Providence, and when we do the same we shall be a healthier people – *Soil of the South*. *Savannah Morning News*. August 9, 1855.

Wanted.

A GIRL, White or colored, to do work for a small family. Apply at this office. *Savannah Morning News*. August 10, 1855.

Methodist Episcopal Church, South. From the general minutes of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, we gather the following facts: The number of travelling preachers is 1, 912; superannuated, 150; local 4,859; white members, 428,511; colored, 164,584; Indians, 8,757; grand total 603,303. The increase during the year was 23,992. *Savannah Morning News*. August 10, 1855.

We take pleasure in acknowledging a most acceptable present of **delicious peaches** from Mr. Henry Harden. The fruit, which was grown nine miles from the city on the Ogeechee Canal, is not inferior in size or quality to the finest peaches in the up-country. *Savannah Morning News*. August 13, 1855.



Shooting in Yamacraw. – On last Sunday evening, a free colored man, named William Cooper, in the employment of ---- Stiles, a butcher in the market, was shot in the leg, with buck shot, wounded him slightly. He states that he left his house about half-past

The remainder of *Slice of Life* quotes for August 2025 at the end of this newsletter.

GREENMELDRIMHOUSECALENDAR

August 2025

Saturday, August 2 – All Day –
Youth Guide Day

Sunday, August 3 from 1 to 3 p.m.–
CELEBRATION SUNDAY/Thank
you to **Friends of the Green-
Meldrim House** and **Savannah
VOICE Festival Patrons**

Monday, August 4 at 4 p.m. –
Tour/American History Tour
(Docent trainees may shadow this tour)

**Wednesday, August 13 from 5:30 to
9:30/performance at 6:30 p.m.** -
Savannah VOICE Festival/Parlor
Concert/Voices Around the World

Friday, August 15 from 11 to 1 p.m.
**on the first floor of Cranmer
Hall** – Summer Intern Program
Review and Volunteer Luncheon

Monday, August 18 – Scaffolding for
dome repairs is scheduled to go
up.

**Thursday, August 21 and Friday,
August 22** – Paint Analysis Spe-
cialist/Frances Ford at the GMH
- **1:15 to 2:15 p.m.** – **Student
and Youth Travel Association**/
FAM (familiarization for tour co-
ordinators) Tour on the subject of
Military History with the GMH
being on the itinerary)

Monday, August 25 at 10:30 a.m. –
Travelogue of Ireland for Green-
Meldrim House Volunteers with
Jamie Credle (who participated in
an Attingham Trust Program)

Saturday, August 30 – GMH Closed
for Saint John's Event

CELEBRATION SUNDAY:

On Sunday, August 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. the **GMH** and **Savannah VOICE Festival** team up to present a drop-in, come-as-you-are thank you event for Friends and Patrons with sweet treats and magical music. The event will

introduce performers, some of whom are from Georgia Southern's Music Department, in this year's Festival which begins on August 7th. The 11-day Festival will offer powerful and exciting vocal performances for the Savannah community.

SOPHIE'S SHOP:

-We received a new shipment of **Kantha Scarves and Dish-towels**. These textiles are made from saris and have been prewashed.

-The shop continues to stock favorites including **Susie King Taylor's** memoir, **The Pink Suit, Savannah Square by Square** and the updated **John Norris** monogram. They make terrific summer reading.

- Volunteers: Encourage shopping!



DOCENTS NEWS:



- Welcome docent trainees **Edwin Johnson, Leslie Larson, Pam Patterson, and Bob Strand**, who completed the classroom portion of Docent Training in July. They will shadow tours and formulate their own personal tour presentation during August. Hopefully they will be up and running as either Front Door/Greeters or Docents very soon. Also, know that **Judith Crawford** took a refresher with the July training class. She contributed to the vitality of the class!

- **Timing is everything:** Remember what it is like to travel and want to see

as much as possible in a location. GMH tours should not take longer than 50 minutes from beginning to end allowing visitors time to see other places on their itinerary. Please do not give overly long tours. Make it interesting and snappy!

- **Selling is part of the job:** Please reference items in the shop while on tour and advocate for shopping at the end of your tour. People will want something to take home to remember Savannah and the GMH by.

YOUTH GUIDES:



- Two **Youth Guides** will complete their training on Saturday, August 2 by giving their first tours to the public. Welcome **Maggie Smith**, senior, Savannah Classical Academy, and **Maren Haenel**, sophomore, Savannah Arts Academy. It would be a beautiful show of support if you dropped in on August 2nd with a few words of encouragement and/or a tour. We would love for you to see Maggie and Maren shine!

- Thank you to the veteran Youth Guides who filled the calendar throughout the summer. It is hard to believe that they all return to school the first week of August!

INTERNS:

Please plan to attend the **Summer Intern Review and Volunteer Luncheon** on Friday, August 15 at 11

a.m. on the first floor of Cranmer Hall where we will hear about projects from our college interns, **Aislinn Daugherty, April Moore, Anne O'Neill, and Brady Rupard.** Much of what they did revolved around researching people who lived and worked at the Green or Meldrim homes. Daugherty researched records, including court house records, on the enslaved members of the Green and Hunton households. Moore looked at the social history of the Meldrim family, particularly that of the four daughters. O'Neill, who has an interest in archives and special collections, delved into the Green family genealogy with a particular interest in Charles Green's family and children. Rupard researched the business life of Edward Moon Green and will discuss cotton seed oil! If you plan to attend, please bring a salad or dessert to add to the table.

DOME WORK - SCAFFOLDING UP:

The plan is for scaffolding to be in place for work to begin on the dome on Monday, August 18. We anticipate work to be done in one month's time.

Frances Ford, paint analysis professional, take samples to determine the paint history of the dome on



Repaired oculus frame

August 21 and 22. Her examination will determine how (colors, etc.) the dome will be painted. St. John's subcontractors will examine the plaster, remove loose paint in prep for painting, return the oculus following restoration, and install lighting. Please

know the schedule could change depending on what the workers find.

Visitors enjoy seeing preservation work taking place. The exciting project is to be celebrated and not apologized for. Docents should inform visitors about the project as well as warn them to be careful for themselves and workers. The restroom will be accessed from the Children's Parlor or the Dining Room. For tours of the second floor during this time, a docent leads guests out the hall door, through the back porch and up the black, metal stairs, through the upstairs back porch door (which will be open). Extra care should be taken during this period, particularly regarding traffic flow. Safety for all is the most important thing.

TRAVELOGUE/SITES IN SOUTHERN IRELAND:

Jamie Credle will present two programs about her trip to Ireland with the Attingham Trust – one just-for-fun on **Monday, August 25 at 10:30 a.m.** and one about the state of Historic House/their history, their governance and their survival on Friday, **September 12 at 6 p.m.** The one in August is especially for volunteers. She hopes you will attend both. There will be tea and biscuits on August 25 and Guinness on September 12.

SAVANNAH VOICE FESTIVAL:

A stalwart of the SVF is the parlor concert in the GMH. This year's concert, **Voices Around the World**, is on Wednesday, August 13. Check out the performance schedule www.savannahvoicefestival.org

WORTH MENTIONING:

- **Telephone:** As we grow, we hit bumps in the road. Some of our recent bumps has been with internet access

and phone service. We believe our issues will be remedied in August.



INTERN SPOTLIGHT:

Aislinn Daugherty and Brady Rupard

Name: AISLINN DAUGHERTY
Hometown: Livermore, CA
College: Savannah College of Art and Design
Level: Senior
Major: Art History
Summer Goal: To thoroughly research and understand the history of the Meldrims and the Green Meldrim house.



Research Topic: I am researching the history of slavery within the Meldrim Household. My goal is to find the names of the enslaved individuals that worked here.

What are your impressions of the GMH? The GMH is a very friendly and inviting place full of welcoming people. The house itself is beautiful and full of rich and interesting history.

Career goal: I am looking to go into art conservation.

Dream job: Art conservator.

Name: BRADY RUPARD
Hometown: Murphy, Texas
College: Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD)

Level: Undergraduate/Senior
Major: Major: Art History, Minor: Print-making

Summer Goal: To develop a more complete understanding of



what working with a historic home and museum entails, as well as honing my skills in research and analysis of historical materials.

Research Topic: I recently took a class at SCAD called "Hidden Histories of Savannah" which focused on lesser-known histories of the city and region, and it was truly fascinating. So, I have followed in that vein with the house, researching topics such as Susie King Taylor, The Southern Cotton Oil Company, as well as Charles's son Gilbert who lived in New Orleans. Besides that, I have been working with Jamie on creating a guidebook for the house, which I am very excited about!

What are your impressions of the GMH? For me this house has distinct old-world elegance and brilliance not rivaled by any other historic home in Savannah. Plus, this house tells a layered story about Savannah which is of general interest.

Career goal: To work in a museum or historic setting, which deals in Southern history and culture. I am interested in regional history. I'm also in printmaking. I hope to incorporate that into my career. I love the idea of being an artist in my own right.

Dream job: Working in a setting that combines my interests in history, cooking and culinary history!

Something you would like GMH people to know about you: I am lucky to have gotten the opportunity to work here, and I have met people who have become my friends.

A LOOK AT THE GREEN-MELDRIM HOUSE GUEST REGISTER.

During the month of July 2025, the Green-Meldrim House saw visitors from all over the United States and the world. Our international visitors

were from San Paulo, Brazil; Ottawa, Canada; London, England; Parish France; Manz, Germany; Yokohama, Japan; New Zealand; Madrid, Spain, etc.

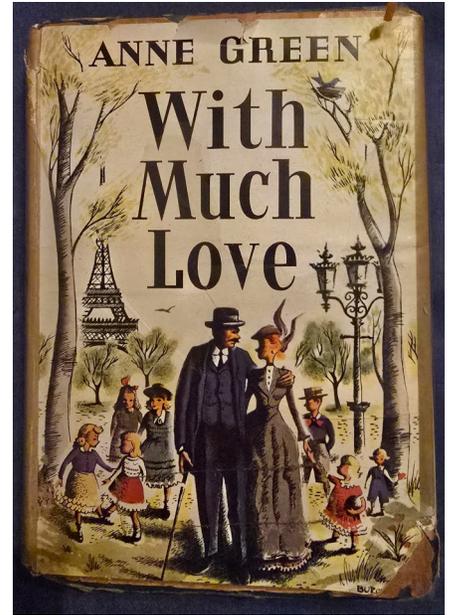
Interesting hometown names include Homer, AK; Paragould, AR; Niceville, FL; Safety Harbor, FL; Guam; Bloomington, IL; Heltonville, IN; ; Iowa City, IA; St. Charles, KY; Lafayette, LA; Falmouth, MA; Detroit, MI; Columbus, MS; Boonsboro, MO; Levittown, NY; Edmond, OK; London, OH; Sylvania, OH; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Helotes, TX; Leni, UT; Skamokawa, WA; Beloit, WI, etc.

How they heard about us: Love this city! Other tours, tour guide @ Andrew Low House, Mom, Thompson Hotel, walk-in Grant Gazaway, guidebook, local, locally, research, Antony Moncayo, Gen. Sherman, Savannah Walking Tour, saw the house and knew we needed more! Google, Mercer House tour, Lorenzo, history buff, trolley tour, my friend Sarah, Ron from Savannah on Wheels, TV, church next door, my parents, walked by, maps/Museum guide, Savannah website. I am a history major/teacher!

Comments: *Ladies' enthusiasm made the history alive!! Keep up the good work. Bravo! Wonderful tour! Thanks Jennifer. Truly amazing! Beautifully preserved. John was an awesome person who presented our tour. This was so much fun! Perfecto! Amazing house – glad the church saved it! We loved it! Lovely. Pretty architecture. Wonderful tour from Mr. Sheridan! Loved it! – Denise was awesome!*

Content article:

Documenting the Greens *With Much Love!*



We searched for a copy of Anne Green's book *With Much Love* after Susan Arden-Joly mentioned it during her May 16th program about the return of the Green furniture to the GMH in 2015. Arden-Joly said, "From the first page, she speaks of the rosewood sofa." We found a copy on the shelf at the GMH as well as one on **ABEBooks**. (Since the book is out of print, if you want a copy of your own, you will need to find a used one from **eBay**, **ABEBooks** or the like.) As Jennifer McCarthy said, making her way through it, "We can use this!" It is one of the remarkable documents we have to help us understand the GMH. It takes its place alongside the John Norris ledger, Charles Green's will and household contents list, Jane Meldrim Hewitt's article "The Old Yellow House," documentation on the Savannah Colloquy, Susie King Taylor's memoir, the GMH's National Register Nomina-

tion and the Save America's Treasures/Historic Structure's Report as a rare and rich resource at our disposal in creating memorable experiences for our guests about this fascinating house.

Anne, who we assume was born in the GMH, was the youngest daughter of Edward Moon and Mary Hartridge Green. She was a writer in her own right and is closely linked with her brother Julian Green. She lived most of her life in France and was educated there. She translated some of her brother's works into English. *Wikipedia* says, "She is best known for the book of memories about her parents and family *With Much Love*, published by Harper & Brothers in 1948."

A book jacket review reads, "The book has the quality of memories touched with love and understanding and great humor, freshness and life, and it is sweet without sentimentality and funny without burlesque. It has the quality of magic-lantern pictures, vivid with light, touching and amusing. Indeed, it has quality, just as Mamma and Papa have. It is wonderful to be allowed to know Mamma."

Of all the people in the book, Mamma, Savannahian - Mary Hartridge Green, is most intriguing. She was no serene Edwardian lady or a Southern coquette. She left Savannah and moved to France for love and family to begin anew following financial difficulties. She raised 8 children with limited knowledge of French and with reduced circumstances for her own upbringing. She was an exacting woman whose character is rarely presented in literature particularly in the late 19th and early 20th century. Today we would call her a strong woman

who spoke her mind. (And we know how people feel about them . . .)

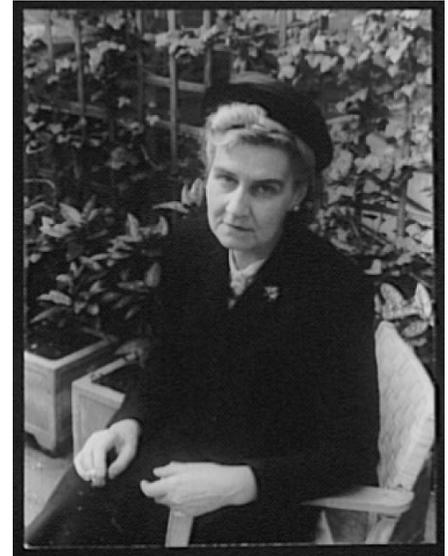
Below are quotes pulled from the book about the Greens and their possessions. Spicing up your tour interpretation with quotes from people who lived in the house is a good thing.

The first line in the book is: "As far back as I [Anne Green] can remember our parents sat close together on the rosewood sofa, talking."

"Their memories and the spectacle of their daily lives, the rosewood furniture, and a perfect childhood were our inheritance."

In speaking about Virginia and "The Lawn": "Grandfather [Charles Green] seldom appears on the Virginian scene. His cotton is in Savannah and he is always traveling, sometimes thrusting into Canada. He carries messages, we are told, hotly espouses the Southern cause until convicted for a trifle: the smuggling in of a pair of Russian leather boots. Cast into jail at Fort Warren for six months he enjoys himself tremendously—barring the fact that he shares a cell with a particularly detested friend and partner. And he is so much beloved by the ladies as to be presented with six damask napkins, *Charles Green, Fort Warren*, crazily embroidered in red cotton across one corner. We had one for years.

"Mary was too young to remember the surrender of Savannah and later would not admit that Mr. Charles Green, father of her future husband, behaved tactfully in offering his crenelated, oriel-windowed mock Tudor house to General Sherman as headquarters. Being English he thought to spare the feelings of citizens definitely



Anne Green.

disliking that energetic officer and his staff."

1876 Savannah: "Each square became a large salon with flowers in the center and, amid much twanging of mandolins and singing, quick laughter flared up like rockets and died down to shoot up again against the dark spangled sky."

During her debutante days: "Mary looked away. 'Oh, I haven't asked the Greens. Mother says they don't really belong to Savannah, they have a place in Virginia they adore and their house here is an awfully gloomy place.'"

"Mrs. Ferguson was in an argumentative mood: 'It used not to be. Mr. Green's mother, worried doubtless into her grave, used to give magnificent receptions. She entertained in a manner you poor ignoramus can't even imagine.'"

"'Mr. Green has some pretty cotton ships himself,' pursued Nellie [Gordon?]. 'They go to Europe with bellies full of bales and return with quarts of scent and soap and sweet-smelling powder for your mother. Mamma says she smells like a well-



kept baby just out of the tub, all thanks to Lubin.”

“Mr. Charles Green sends you his distinguished civilities and begs you to honor his wretched office by your presence. It is said to command a passable view of the harbor. He will await you there, should he stave his meals until you deign to appear.”

“Tell Mr. Green that I’m overjoyed to receive his valuable invitation and to prevent his foregoing dinner, we’ll come directly.’ He dismissed the man by a ‘Thank you, sir,’ and turned to Mary: ‘That must be Green’s Spanish clerk. I bet Green would have a convulsion over that flowery message.”

“Mr. Green’s a foreigner, himself, I believe,’ said Mary coolly.

“No, darling, he’s an Englishman and one of us. Now come up there with me. Don’t disappoint an old dodderer like me, you’re a sunbeam, even if you do spread a white veil like a fog over your charming features.”

“Mr. Green offered his guests glasses of Madeira, mutely refused by Mary and warmly accepted by the General [Ferguson].”

“Look to your left, Mary,’ called the gentleman from the second window, ‘Mr. Green’s ships are escorting their big sister. See *The Highland Prince* and *The Elsie*, they’re proud of her,

not a speck jealous. Ain’t they, Green?”

“Of course, General, they’re just little cotton ships bound for Liverpool. From thence, Miss Hartridge, the bales go straight to Manchester.”

“ . . . in his [Edward Moon Green] seventeenth year an event occurred in his family which considerably altered his future. His father had had a firm hand with his first two wives, effectually reducing their healths and spirits by persuading them to wear a little olive branch every year of so. He never thought to alter his virtuous Victorian course for any female but Nemesis came at him with a boomerang when he laid his heart and fortune at the feet of Miss Aminta Elizabeth Fisher of Baltimore. She accepted him, they married and then, to the old man’s probable consternation, she refused to play his game. She did not understand why she should mother four youngish children and look after six more or less adult sons. No one has ever told me this in so many words, but the girls went off to boarding school and three of the boys went abroad directly she returned from her honeymoon. Then her tastes and her husband’s were dissimilar; she thwarted the nice old bully’s love of magnificence, sending the contents of his cellars to hospitals, rare brandies to paupers’ ward, reducing his expenses, cutting down entertainment. Family chronicles comment mildly on this revolution by saying that ‘Mint was religious minded and a total abstainers.”

“ . . . he [EMG away at school] never confessed to homesickness, nor did he loathe his father for returning his

poor little misspelled letters, mistakes underscored in blue pencil.”

“We have some of the old gentleman’s [CG] passports, bound together with red leather pocketbooks, signed by Lord Clarendon, who begged all be courteous to a British subject.”

“With the passports were notebooks in which Mr. Green scrawled faint pencilings regarding historical events and statistics.”

“Just as certain minds peer bewildered into human emotions, religious experiences and the formation of worlds, so Mr. Green intoxicated himself in facts. He marshaled them into phalanxes, built towns of them, erected future universes, all in figures. The following notes must represent magic dreams: ‘Re Manchester cottons spinners 57 looms 1871, 1991. 5,657,000 bales’ or ‘Catherine de Medici and sons total age respectively 367, French dynasties, rough total, first Capetians approximate.”

“Of course Mr. Green was disappointed in his son, parents always are”

“She [Mary] had made up her mind that she disliked the Greens and succeeded in detesting them for a time, until a miracle took place. She was jealous because ‘they were always ramming Edward down her throat’ and she suspected that old Mr. Green, who undoubtedly loved money, would have preferred an heiress for his son. With the adoring Edward watching helpless, she wreaked havoc among the Greens possessions. She gave away the handsome carved beds, the heavy scrolled, mahogany furniture and replaced them in an outburst of hygienic taste by white enameled bedsteads, painted kitchen tallboys

and milkmaid stools. In Edward's mother's room, now her own, she removed the four-poster draped with red brocade: 'Your sisters chose it for me because my complexion can't stand bright colors and don't 'oh, Mary' me!'"

"She grumbled at the grand staircase where great silver figures bore lamps; she hated the pictures, particularly those represented 'Charles Green, Esquire'; she vowed the house was haunted and that unseen presences puffed and panted by her side when she went up the staircase at night. She laughed at the Greens girls, two of them acknowledged beauties, and described them as placid cows who danced with Presbyterian feet. No one opposed or reproached her, so she was angrier with herself each week, discontented and doubtless ashamed. So much ashamed that she respected the intricate furniture on the first floor and the intricate molding and cornices of the hall and double drawing rooms."

"Then happened the miracle. She fell madly in love with Edward and remained so during all the years in which they lived and fought together."

Speaking of The Lawn, their Virginia house, burning down:

"Without the house, the past disappeared."

"It must be admitted that Edward's vice, I beg his pardon, was speculation."

"He had failed grandly, totally: at a single sweep the toys and cherished possessions of thirty-five happy years vanished."

"The house was dismantled, complicated financial arrangements terminated and the slate wiped clean."

"Edward's friends were sympathetic but it happened that they had no work for him. They bought his cellar at fancy prices and bid for furniture but there was no job in Savannah for poor Green."

"... one fine April day in 1893 the entire family sailed on a French boat."

Their possessions in LeHavre: ". . . We have twelve mahogany chairs, a white deal table for meals, a sofa, two rocking chairs, six spindly ones, the whole thing of the finest rosewood, most uncomfortable too. And all my Southern Historical Papers, lots of silver, mounds of china, a game of chess, masses of clothes, some very original children and that's all. . . Oh yes, also a number of iron beds and some awful pinewood chairs brought at the bazaar right here, a box of toys . . . that's all."

"While she aired and cleaned, Retta and Lucy waited in the sitting room which contained the ornate rosewood Savannah furniture, the books and 'Mamma's desk,' red mahogany with a carved shell on the slanted top."

"Now, honey, you run the duster through the carvings of our crazy furniture; then straighten the chairs and pull the room together. . . turn the sofa so that someone tired would long to lie down on it. I mean someone tired with plenty of time."

"Mamma prepared a second meal, applied a match to the dining-room fire. There a deal table painted pink reminded the fanciful of mahogany and with twelve springy chairs from Savannah made a sufficient ensemble."

"Mamma followed Papa into the sitting room where he lay down for ten minutes on the rosewood sofa every

day after lunch. Ten minutes before walking to his office . . ."

"On the rosewood sofa Papa struggled unconsciously against a return to reality."

"To a person of vivid imagination the past and present blend. For Mamma, the Louvre was filled with courtiers in ruffs, pearl earrings and slashed coats."

About an afternoon sightseeing in Paris by herself: "And locked these delightful afternoons within her heart she returned to her family happy."

"It's a damned peculiar fact,' remarked Papa to her as they sat on the rosewood sofa one evening, in the spring, 'that sightseeing is a tonic for you though known to be exhausting. Whereas, a quiet afternoon with the children drives me to drink, or so you say.'"

"The second tale was more frightening and made one careful of prying into Mamma's black trunk with the heavy domed top. Playing hide and seek, a small boy had hidden in a wooden chest. After many meandering remarks by Madame Lafond, and the lid of the chest too great for the child to lift, his mummified body was found centuries later, dressed in strange bright clothes."

"To pare down a long story to a paragraph, Papa who through the years of good behavior now earned a salary of five hundred francs a month on which to support nine persons, became Special Agent of the Southern Cotton Oil Company. He made such a success of their European business that from rise to rise he climbed to dizzy heights of prosperity, all the more pleasant for being unexpected. He was never a rich man but the amount of cash that slipped through

his fingers from 1902 on was equal to a small fortune.”

“Before discussing the dawning glory of the Greens I shall write about Mint. It must be recalled that she was Papa’s stepmother and dropped from this narrative to lead a pious life of her own after her husband’s death. Poor Mint lost a daughter, a big-veined weak child of aging parents, and built an orphan asylum at Old Orchard in her memory. The child’s death was such a sorrow that Mint treated herself to a rich woman’s folly and adopted a boy whose every feature proclaimed that he would lie, cheat and betray the old lady in the end. As indeed he did, for no education, love or kindness could change Stanley.

“. . . Papa trimmed his quill pen nicely.”

“. . . `old Mrs. Green left Edward some of his father’s money and to me thirty-six silver teaspoons, some forks . . .”

“‘Mercy,’ murmured Mamma to herself, ‘it’s July again.’ Another year gone by. She curled up on the rosewood sofa and smiled as one does when alone and happy. For Mamma happiness was not the absence of cares but the blessed, temporary isolation from family.”

“But I am wandering from the picture of Mamma lying on the sofa and considering her universe.”

“. . . ours (cushions) were hard and our parents used the best ones for their rosewood sofa, placed at right angles to the fireplace, in a good light. The sofa was shabby, some day it must be done over in red velvet.”

“. . . so Mama never brought the French into her universe and was

never a part of theirs. Thus in no sense was Mamma an expatriate for she carried her country with her and clung fiercely to her own people. Mamma’s efforts at propaganda were equally nil with the servants but very successful with her own young. Papa knew all the battles and strategy of the war, Mamma knew all the motives and politics; between them they schooled and molded us to understand (and regret) the conflict, but we remain, by proxy, closely allied with the South.”

“He followed Mamma into the open door of the drawing room and peeped in. From being a moderately full apartment it had become crammed with movables. The rosewood set disdainfully viewed a chesterfield, a stiff Empire settee, a roomy French lounge. Armchairs crowded in where they could, the little rosewood chairs were huddled in corners. There were desks and glass tea tables, bookcases and marble-topped round tables, great silver candlesticks and as many vases of flowers as could be distributed. What had once been a largish room contained enough furniture for a small flat. Papa caught sight of a couple of daughters capering sadly in a small open space, right in the middle of his Turkish rug, a real bargain recently purchased from a couple of marauding sailors.”

“. . . [Mary to Edward] You couldn’t go home [Savannah] now. Everybody’s gone. Gone with our good times. We’d be followed by troops of ghosts that would dog our footsteps and sit with us at parties and egg us on to criticize. And the young people we never knew would wish we’d go home so the fun could begin. No,

no, we’re happy over here [in Paris] with our children.”

“‘It’s devilishly hard to be a stranger always, Mary.’”

“By three o’clock the sandwiches were made, tarts and little cakes arranged on the Minton plates with blue borders.”

“The family sat exhausted in the drawing room where the flowers alone had remained fresh.”

“The dining room was empty, Julian considered it seriously before approaching the table. A ladle stood desolate in the great, vacant, crystal punch bowl. Glasses everywhere: on the floor, the mantel-piece, the marble hearthstone. Half-consumed cigarettes mingled with stale scent and the steady perfume of roses.”

“Sometimes Papa would sit at the old piano playing a few favorite tunes lightly, softly, airily: ‘Batti, batti’ or ‘The Dissolution Wagon.’”

Below see the remainder of *Slice of Life* quotes for the August 2025 newsletter.

eight o’clock, and had gone down Harrison-street to a little below the corner of St. Gall, when he heard the report of a musket, and felt himself shot. Several shots entered his leg and foot. He is not aware of having any enemies, and thinks it probably that he was mistaken for some other person. Owing to the darkness he was unable to recognize his assailant. *Savannah Morning News*. August 11, 1855.

Macallister opened his ‘*Temple of Magic*,’ last evening, at the Athenaeum, to a fair audience. His performances, as usual, were both finished and successful, and appeared to give

much satisfaction. He will give his second entertainment to-morrow evening.

It speaks well for the health of the city that the Athenaeum should be opened at this season of the year. It shows that the people are free from apprehension, and calm and confident. The building is well ventilated, and an evening spent within its walls will go far towards relieving the monotony of the season.

Savannah Morning News. August 14, 1855.

Crops in South-Western Georgia. –

A mercantile house in the city has recently received a letter from a reliable correspondent in Albany, Dougherty County, who states that cotton is opening very fast, and that the planters

are now generally engaged in picking. The crop is much less than anticipated two months since, the almost constant rains

for some weeks past having caused much injury. The boll-worm has also made its appearance, and in some sections of the county is reported to have done great damage.

Savannah Morning News. August 14, 1855.

We learn that a case of supposed poisoning occurred yesterday morning in the family of **Mr. Patrick Curran**, which was near being attended with fatal results. The whole family, including the servants, were seized with violent vomiting soon after breakfast. A physician was called, when it was found that the coffee, of which they had all partaken, had some deleterious substance in it. The coffee was ground in New York and imported to this city by one of our most respectable retail

grocery merchants, and is supposed to have contained the seeds of some weed, which had become mixed with it, and ground up. It has also been suggested that the coffee, when purchased, may not have contained the deleterious substance, but that it may have been mingled with some other ingredient which caused the sickness of the family. This belief is founded on the fact that some of the same coffee, taken from the same barrel, was used by a family yesterday morning, and no ill effect resulted from it. No individual can more regret the occurrence than the worthy proprietor of the store where the coffee was purchased. It has been his aim to keep the best articles for sale, and we feel confident that no censure will be visited on him. The whole matter is involved in mystery, and there are various rumors afloat as to the cause which produced the sicknesses of the family alluded to. We are pleased to learn that all the family are now considered out of danger.

Savannah Morning News. August 25, 1855.



Miraculous Escape. – Yesterday afternoon two horses made their escape from a stable in the rear South Broad Street, and after prancing through several streets of the South Common, came dashing down the pavement on Habersham street. When near the corner of South Broad street lane they encountered a negro man with a colored child in his arms. One of the horses attempted to jump over the man, but in doing so, struck the colored child on the head and breast with this feet, inflicting a severe, but we learn, not a dangerous wound.

Savannah Morning News. August 16, 1855.

Business Under the Bluff. – At this season of the year there is generally little doing under the Bluff and on the wharves; but the favorable wind which has prevailed for some days past, has brought into port quite a number of vessels, and the activity on the wharves at present reminds us of the commencement of fall business. Goods for the interior of this State, Alabama, and Tennessee, are now daily arriving, and are being sent off with dispatch to their various points of destination. From present appearances, the fall trade will commence earlier than usual; and as the abundant harvests which have rewarded the labors of the planter, will enable them to be liberal purchasers, it is to be expected that our merchants will lay in larger stocks than usual.

Savannah Morning News. August 16, 1855.

The Ladies are aiding us.

We have before alluded to the deep interest the ladies, who so seldom interest themselves in strictly political strifes, feel in the great contest now coming on. They vividly comprehend, with that quick instinct of their sex which gives them prophetic warning of social dangers, that the great struggle the country is now engaged in, is one more momentous than the issue merely of political ascendancy among the contending parties. They feel that it is a religious war that lowers upon us — that the peace of society — the sanctity of their homes, and the harmony of their domestic hearth-stones are in danger. — Under these strong impelling motives they cannot all keep silent, an some have even felt an imperative call upon them to speak to the public, through the press, on that which concerns them so deeply. *Constitutionalist & Republic.*

Savannah Morning News. August 21, 1855.

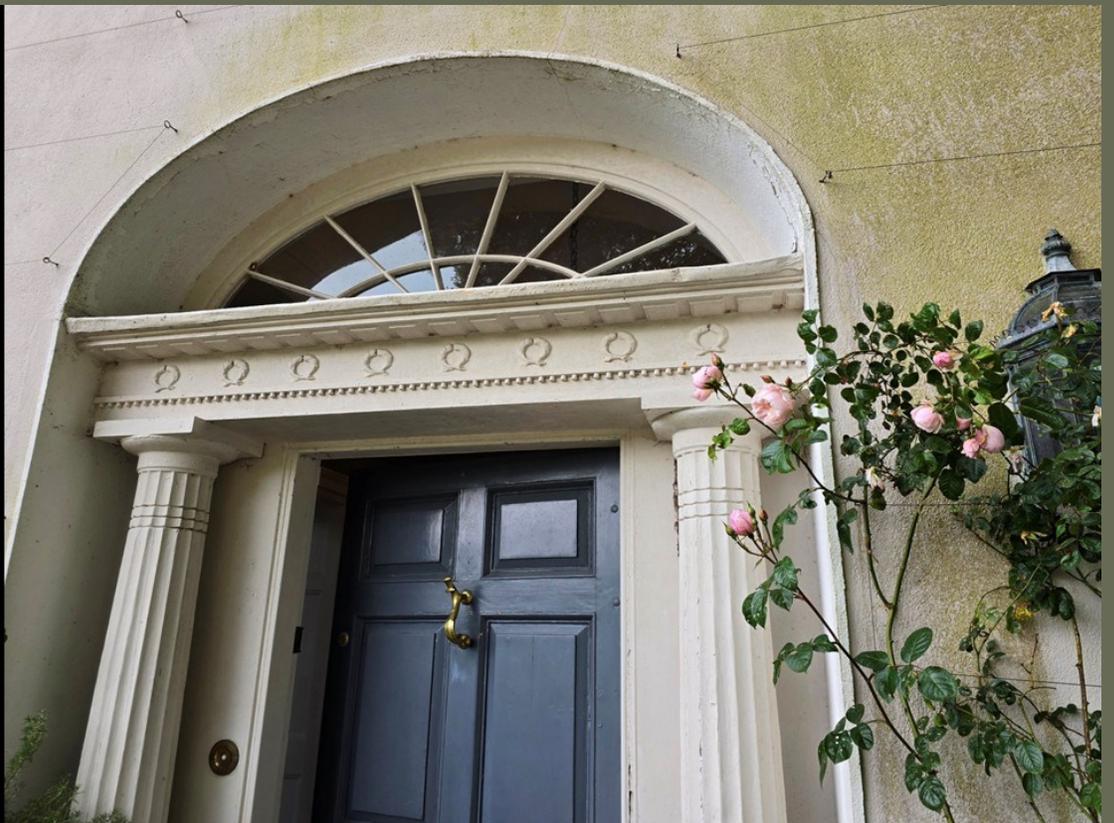


GREEN-MELDRIM HOUSE SUMMER INTERN SHOWCASE
 Friday, August 15 from 11 am.to 1 p.m.- First Floor-Cranmer Hall



HOUSES AND
 GARDENS:
 Jamie's Irish
 Adventure

Monday,
 August 25
 10:30 a.m.
 Green-
 Meldrim
 House



Green-Meldrim House

Gearing up for Fall 2025 Programming!

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR:

Castles and Flames, Gardens and Guardians:

The Historic House of Ireland—September

New Living History Program - October

The Needle and the Haystack:

Fort McAllister and the Civil War - November

Partner Programs with

Savannah VOICE Festival and

Savannah Chapter of the Victorian Society in

America—Throughout the season

Christmas Festivities including

Christmas in Wartime between Christmas and
New Year's



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