

Spring 2017

The LEGACY

A Publication of Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc.

Bridging
THE GAP
TRAGEDY AT HIGH BRIDGE

2018
M. MONROE KIMBREL
Scholarship
RECIPIENT

WATSON  BROWN
FOUNDATION

AND THE
Beat
GOES ON
— ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT —

ENCHANTED
Gardens
EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC AT GOODRUM



Photograph of a sidewalk lined with palm trees and plants
at Thomas E. Watson's vacation home in Las Olas, Florida.



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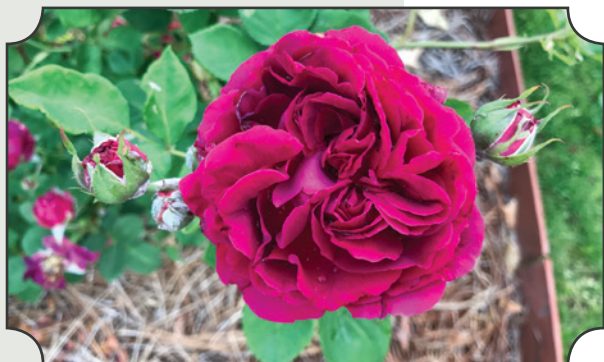
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OUR MISSION

The Watson-Brown Foundation, through creativity, diligence and financial support, labors to improve education in the American South by funding its schools and students, preserving its history, encouraging responsible scholarship and promoting the memory and values of our spiritual founders.

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CAMPUS NOTES

Watson-Brown Scholars in Action



Eniolufe Asebiomo, Junior, Stanford University: “This past year at Stanford was my toughest yet. I took challenging classes in Mechanical Engineering, including Mechanics of Materials, Fluid Mechanics, and Computer Systems from the Ground Up, where I essentially learned how to code a computer from scratch.

“Outside of class, I continued as the sole Sophomore Advisor to Freshman Council, completed my last term on the Undergraduate Senate, and took over leadership of the Stanford Robotics Club as one of its new Co-Presidents.

“This summer, I am interning at Autodesk, a large design company in San Francisco. Next year, I will be a Residential Advisor in a freshman hall.

“One of the highlights of my year was getting to play at the Rose Bowl with the Leland Stanford Junior University Marching Band, of which I am on the drumline.”



ERNESTO BARQUET ARRAMBIDE

Ernesto Barquet Arrambide,

Sophomore, Wofford College: "I have just completed my first-year with a major in Biology under a pre-med track. I am thankful to Watson-Brown Foundation for their support to follow my dreams in my higher education. This summer, I am honored to participate in an amazing opportunity to help people with special needs through The Ability Experience and, more specifically, being able to participate in Journey of Hope.

"Journey of Hope is a 3,555-mile cycling trip from Long Beach, California, to Washington, D.C., to raise money for The Ability Experience. The Ability Experience is a nonprofit organization exclusive to the Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity whose purpose is to serve people with disabilities. A typical day during Journey of Hope will involve cycling an average of 75 miles in the morning. We will then go to friendship visits with local groups that support people with disabilities. This includes meeting and dancing with people with special needs, participating in a game of wheelchair basketball, sharing my story of faith and hope, and performing puppet shows to educate children on the abilities of people with disabilities."

Kelsey Bledsoe, Junior, Converse

College: "This year I accomplished many things! My favorite accomplishment would



KELSEY BLEDSOE

have to be applying for, interviewing for, and ultimately receiving the positions of a 2016 Orientation Leader and a Trailblazer Mentor. As a Trailblazer Mentor, I will help incoming first-generation college students become adjusted to college. I will also be going on my second foreign mission trip this summer with my church to Nicaragua. I feel as if it is my second home, and I am so blessed to be able to go again!"

Savannah Carroll, Junior, University of Georgia: "During this academic year, I strove to be more involved in my college



SAVANNAH CARROLL

and meet more people, and I did just that. I am now the Assistant Director of the Student Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, and I was able to garner many new friendships and connections through this organization and through simple conversations with those around me. I was able to attain a job that I loved that allowed me to get more involved and meet even more people. This academic year broadened my outlook on college and what all it has to offer. I look forward to the challenges and opportunities that my remaining years present."

Averi Davis, Junior, Georgia Southern University: "Another year has flown by. I would like to thank the Watson-Brown Foundation for everything they have done for me the last two years. Without this scholarship, I would not have been able to attend Georgia Southern University. Over this past year, I have been able to open my heart to some very special children in my child development classes. I have been able to go and tour hospitals in Savannah and Jacksonville, where one day I would like to be able to help young children with cancer. I have also been able to go to the local Ronald McDonald House to learn how this charity works. This year, I was also able to join Delta Phi Epsilon, where I have had so much fun. I have met so many new friends and over spring break was able to go on my first cruise with these amazing new 'sisters.' Thanks again, Watson-Brown!"



AVERI DAVIS

Aiyetora Finch, Freshman, Kennesaw State University: "Beginning my freshman year at Kennesaw State University was quite terrifying at first. I did not know what to expect or if I would make any friends. I did have times where I did not do my best and could have done better. Overall, my experience was wonderful. I made friends and joined organizations such as, Engaged Owl Leaders. It amazed me that within a year, I met some fantastic people that I would not trade in my life. The opportunities are endless here at the university. This summer I will be working at the university as a Supplemental Instructor for the Bridge to Success program."



AIYETORA FINCH

Emaleigh Fleeman, Sophomore, Georgia College and State University: "When asked about how my first year of college went, I always replied that it was not what I expected. So naturally, the next question asked was, 'Well, what did you expect?' Prior to starting my freshman year, I tried my best to come in with little preconceived notions. Everything I knew about college came from media portrayals, considering I'm the first in my family to move away from home to further my education. As I reflect on my first year at Georgia College, I realize how much time truly does fly by. I've made so many friends and pushed myself harder than ever in such a short amount of time.

"The classroom was a definite adjustment, because I grew up with the same faces since kindergarten. It was weird



EMALEIGH FLEEMAN

having every single face being unfamiliar in all of my classes. The curriculum is difficult and rigorous, so it was vital to network and make friends to form study groups. When I realized that we were all in this together, things became a little easier. There were several nights I thought to myself, there's no way I can finish this paper, study for this test, and complete this assignment, but I somehow managed to surpass every obstacle.

"Outside of the classroom, I did something I thought I would never do—join a sorority. A few months into the school year I was still not involved in anything. This was so odd, because I'd been a part of several organizations in high school. I decided that it was time for something to change. After pledging ZTA, I learned that every stereotype about a sorority is

dead wrong. I have an incredibly strong support system, and through ZTA, I met my best friend. I also picked up a leadership position on our program council: As of this fall, I'll hold the position of Fundraising Chair for our philanthropy.

"This year was a complete and total whirlwind, but I'm thankful for every single gust. I'm proud to say that I consecutively made the Dean's List both fall and spring semester. I've had the privilege to attend an amazing university and to make some unforgettable memories. I can only hope that the years to come will be filled with just as much, if not more, splendor."

Meredith Gentry, Sophomore, Clemson University: "Clemson University was my number-one choice, and it did not disappoint. I absolutely love it here! The

classes and professors are fantastic, and I love learning about what I am passionate about. I was able to do an independent research project for one of my behavioral ecology classes on crayfish, and it was a great opportunity for hands-on learning and allowed me to get to know my professor well.

"My favorite thing about Clemson so far is the people I have met. My roommate is now my best friend, and I have met a lot of new people who happen to live in my hometown through a campus ministry I am involved in. I went on a mission trip over spring break with this ministry, and I am serving on the leadership team next year. I also have a job at our academic success center next semester. I am so thankful to be a tiger and am appreciative of the opportunities and friendship Clemson has provided me with!"



MEREDITH GENTRY

Joshua Greenway, Sophomore, Valdosta State University: “My Freshman year at Valdosta State University was phenomenal. It was more exciting and better than I imagined it would be. In my first year at VSU, I became a part of so many opportunities and my accomplishments exceeded my expectations. I was able to complete my freshman year with a 4.0 GPA and obtain an Intramural Men’s Softball Championship with a group of my friends.

“One of my greatest experiences has been my involvement with the campus BCM (Baptist Collegiate Ministries), in which I have been able to accomplish so many things. I was able to become a part of the Leadership in this organization, and through our volunteer work and outreach programs, I have been able to make so many new friends. We have grown closer to God and each other in everything that we do. I have been very fortunate to become a part of a program that does influential and inspiring work for the community. This year formed some of my greatest memories, and I have been so proud to be a Valdosta State Blazer!”



Jamarr McCain, Sophomore, Rhodes College: “My first year of college was exhilarating, to say the least. The academic and social rigor at Rhodes was unprecedented and a challenge that I enjoyed overcoming. Of course like any other freshmen out there, first semester was a transition period. It came with many lessons on time management and exercising the use of the word ‘no.’ Second semester cemented those lessons and exposed me to the steady (and stressful) routine of being a college student.

“I continued competing in Mock Trial, which went well for my first time on a collegiate team—my team(s) advanced through each round of the playoffs, regionals, super-regionals, and advanced to the national championship.

“I joined a charity organization called The Bridge. The Bridge spends three hours on Thursdays distributing newspapers to local homeless shelters so that the homeless can sell the newspapers and keep whatever profit they make. In short, it’s awesome!

“Last, but not least, I became a mentor with our multicultural mentor-mentee program called Serving Our Students (S.O.S.) and will be meeting my mentee this fall. Oh, and whenever I was free this past year, I would work with Admissions on student panels that spoke to high schools





SAMUEL REIDT

from local area or nationwide about why Rhodes is a wonderful place to come to.

"It has been a phenomenal year, and the next three will continue to be even better! A good chunk of this is possible because of the Watson-Brown Scholarship. I will be forever grateful for my eighteen-year-old self applying for the scholarship and the Foundation for granting it to me."

Samuel Reidt, Sophomore, Brown University: "My first year at Brown was varied, interesting, and one of the most transformative experiences of my life. I honestly didn't know what to expect when I arrived on campus, but I quickly met some of the most dynamic and caring people I have ever had the pleasure of interacting with, who I both lived through my first year with and will hopefully continue to explore the world of college and beyond with.

"In addition to meeting a truly amazing group of people, I've been able to better explore my interests, both in and out of the classroom. Through service organizations such as Generation Citizen, I've been able to discover and cultivate my love for nonprofit work, and by delving into the nuances of disciplines like economics, I've been able to narrow down my academic interests.

"I sincerely hope that the next three years help me to grow just as much—there's no other school I'd rather be at, and I'm reminded every day how lucky I am to have the opportunity to attend such an amazing college with such unique and passionate students, professors, and staff.

"The picture I've included is one taken in front of the Van Wickle Gates with my mom right before move-in day! They're opened twice a year for convocation and graduation.

Rebekah Ross, Junior, North Greenville University: "I loved my sophomore year at North Greenville University. I made some friends, had a lot of fun, and learned more than I ever dreamed I could. As an Early Childhood Education major, I took a class that allowed me to observe in various preschools and child development centers. I enriched this class for an honors credit and got to do an experiment in which I asked the children at the centers questions, compiled the data, and presented it to the class. I chose to do this project on the Multiple-Intelligences Learning Theory by Howard Gardner, and related my questions to the theory. My presentation was about how each



REBEKAH ROSS

child's 'intelligence,' or what they are good at and enjoy, affects how they learn. I learned a lot from this experience.

"I was also a part of the Concert Choir at North Greenville, and we traveled around to various churches throughout the year. We had a Christmas program at the beginning of December and performed Handel's Messiah. We took a tour over Spring break, and had the opportunity to visit several churches throughout South Carolina and Georgia, singing in a cathedral in Savannah. We ended our year by performing Dan Forest's Requiem for the Living.

"I was involved in the Campus Ambassadors at North Greenville, as well, and, as such, helped to host several events on our campus, such as Open Houses and Sneak Previews. Our mission is to serve and to have fun doing it.

"In my free time, I enjoyed hanging out with my friends, going to on-campus plays, and simply enjoying my time as a college student. Thank you for allowing me to have these experiences!"

Marina Sorial, Sophomore, Furman University: "My freshman year was nothing like I had expected. It actually exceeded my expectations. I began the year a neuroscience major, afraid of not making any friends, and feeling very homesick. By the time May had rolled around, I was in six different organizations, had a great group of friends, and was a biology major on a pre-medicine track. The organization that I am most passionate about is the TEDx FurmanU Organization. I am part of the curation team, which means that I am involved with selecting speakers to come to the conference and share ideas with the student body and city of Greenville. I had such an amazing time connecting with my team members, speakers, and sponsors of the conference. I can, without a doubt, say that it has been one of my favorite parts of freshman year!"



MARINA SORIAL



M. Monroe Kimbrel, c. 1970

M. MONROE KIMBREL SCHOLAR NAMED



BY MATTHEW MARCANO

PHOTOS BY MICHELLE ASHE

In 2000, the Watson-Brown Foundation endowed a scholarship to honor the life and memory of M. Monroe Kimbrel. The Monroe Kimbrel MBA scholarship allows a graduate student to follow in the footsteps of its namesake and was designed to award candidates who not only share professional goals with Mr. Kimbrel, but also his ideals and passion.

Ian Elijah Calhoun is the 2018 M. Monroe Kimbrel Scholarship recipient. The scholarship will cover the full cost of tuition at the University of Georgia Terry College of Business, where Ian will earn his MBA. The scholarship also provides Ian with an opportunity to intern at the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta, where Monroe Kimbrel served as president for twelve years. In addition to pursuing an MBA, Ian is also working on his Juris Doctorate from the University of Georgia's School of Law.

Ian attended Young Harris College, located in his family's hometown of Young Harris, Georgia. During his time as an undergraduate, Ian participated in a number of school activities, such as serving on the Leadership Council of the Bonner Leader Program and serving as Treasurer of the Alpha Chi Honors Society. In the spring of 2012, Ian joined forces with the Study Abroad Director and Vice President of Finance to create a study abroad program with the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) in Barcelona, Spain, and improve the general policies and procedures of the study abroad program. As a result, he was awarded additional funding to travel and study at UPF in Fall of 2012. In 2013, Ian graduated summa cum laude with the highest GPA in his graduating class, earning a Bachelor of Science in Business and Public Policy. He was also voted Outstanding Graduate by the faculty.



Ian Elijah Calhoun and family

Much like Monroe Kimbrel, Ian began his career after college by serving in a local, small-town bank. After serving as a Commercial Credit Analyst at United Community Bank in Lawrenceville, Georgia, Ian set his eyes towards graduate school. Upon his acceptance into not only the Terry College of Business but also the School of Law, Ian began to distinguish himself. In addition to the M. Monroe Kimbrel MBA Scholarship, Ian also earned the Law School Association Scholarship and the Terry College of Business Lorberbaum Fellowship. During his time in graduate school, Ian has joined the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, completed a Legal Research Clerkship with a faculty member, and interned at Tittle and Corn, LLC.

Even though he excels as a student, what may be most impressive about Ian is his character. Much like Monroe Kimbrel, Ian possesses the spirit of a true Southern gentleman. Monroe Kimbrel was said to have the gift of “working the room,” moving amongst those present, recalling some personal detail about each person and showing a genuine passion for people. Ian was observed to employ the same type of mannerism, taking the opportunity to speak with every person attending his honorary dinner, engaging staff and guests alike in conversation not just about himself, but also about their personal and professional lives. Despite his accomplishments, Ian approaches life with a humble demeanor and a twinkle of excitement in his eye. When discussing the rigors of pursuing multiple graduate degrees at once, Ian focused on opportunities his hard work will present rather than complain of sleepless nights full of study.

It is safe to say that Monroe Kimbrel would be impressed with Ian, who seems to embody the ideal candidate envisioned when the scholarship was first endowed. It is clear that Ian will go far, valuing hard work, family, and a passion for finance, law, and people.



Scholarship recipient Ian Elijah Calhoun

MASON BAYNE



Alumni Spotlight

BY SHANNON FRIEDMANN HATCH

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL GIBBONS



What if our lives were set to a soundtrack? How many songs would be soft and sweet? Wild and improvisational? Upbeat and carefree? Music has been so important to Mason Bayne that he probably could argue that we all have a backbeat to our days if we only just tune in and listen.

Since he was twelve years old, Mason has heard the music. That's around the time he started to listen to rock albums and work out the cords on a guitar. Even Sundays took on a new meaning, as he picked up what he could from a fellow member of his church. "He was a monster guitar player!" Mason recalled.

He couldn't read music at first, but that didn't stop him from sitting in front of his computer screen for hours on end, watching guitar demos and picking up licks and riffs off of a sluggish dial-up connection that delivered YouTube to his home in Travelers Rest, South Carolina.

Mason's twelfth year was significant for another reason, because it was also the year he had a bike accident. In a rare turn of events, the accident escalated into a Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease diagnosis eight months later. "Basically, your femur dies and crumbles, due to lack of blood to the bone," he explained. He was in and



*“Editors are like drummers,” Mason says of his craft.
“You have to time the cuts with the music a lot of the time.”*



out of Duke University for the next six years for treatments. That first Christmas, he remembers playing the guitar while he healed. As he learned to pick the strings and pick out chords, the music picked up his spirit.

Surprisingly, as a high schooler Mason did the one thing you wouldn't initially think possible for someone who had a two total hip replacements junior year and re-learned to walk senior year: He was an active member of the marching band. “The band director asked me to join,” he said. Mason played in the pit. “I never was a good marimba player,” he said of the instrument that resembles a supersize xylophone, “so I was able to open up and try a lot of stuff.” His band needed a keys player, so he learned piano, an experience he describes as “jumping into the deep end of a lake.”

By the time he was ready to apply to college, he knew he wanted to focus on music. He was accepted to all three of the schools he applied to but chose North Greenville University in South Carolina.

“I started out as a music major so I could write music for film, but the only degrees offered were suited towards education or performance. I didn't seek to do either, so I switched and learned how to make films,” he said. In the broadcast media degree program Mason “made an absurd amount of short films—probably around 150” with friends studying the same thing. They all acted, directed, and filmed, but Mason said he “held the monopoly on making music—no one else wanted to do it, and I loved it!”

As graduation approached, he was unsure exactly what he was going to do afterwards. He had interned at Let People See, a media company in Greenville, South Carolina, senior year that he freelanced audio editing for here and there, but he also worked at a local pizza shop to pay the bills. In a moment of serendipity, just after he walked across the stage at commencement, he checked his phone and discovered an email offering him a job at a local radio station. There, he fine-tuned his live editing. He also picked up a job at a music store and

started teaching lessons. Most recently, he worked as an editor and audio engineer at Let People See alongside some of the same movie-making college friends he ran around campus with a few years before.

“Editors are like drummers,” he says of his craft. “You have to time the cuts with the music a lot of the time. Being able to write music makes it easier.”

At the moment, Mason is freelancing full-time and contemplating a move to Los Angeles, where he would jump at the opportunity to work with a composer. He describes the creative process as a “rollercoaster of alright and terrible,” he says with a laugh. “It's a constant up and down of loving what you are making ... and then five minutes later not liking it at all ... and then a few hours in, you love it again!” What keeps him going is his desire to learn and improve. While he decides his next step, the music plays on, working toward the crescendo still to come.



A SOLDIER'S LETTERS



T.R.R. Cobb House

BY SAMUEL N. THOMAS, JR.

Personal letters of Civil War soldiers are excellent sources of information on different battles and movements of troops, but they are also indispensable in giving insights into what the soldiers were thinking, hearing, and seeing at that moment. In the case of eighteen-year-old James Hamilton McWhorter of Greene County,

Georgia, we have two letters from the Hargrett Rare Book & Manuscript Library at the University of Georgia that give us a snapshot of a young man on the cusp of one of the most monumental events in this country's history. The two letters give us a view of what he was thinking and what was important to him at that time.

On April 9, 1861, James wrote from

Athens, where he had recently enrolled in the University of Georgia, to his seventeen-year-old sister Mary. He sounds like most other students early in their college education. James and Mary, or Mollie, as he called her, were apparently close, and he wanted to remind Mollie, a little boastfully, of just how difficult college-level academics were.

*At University of Georgia Athens
Miss Mollie B. McWhorter
April 9, 1861
Madison, Georgia*

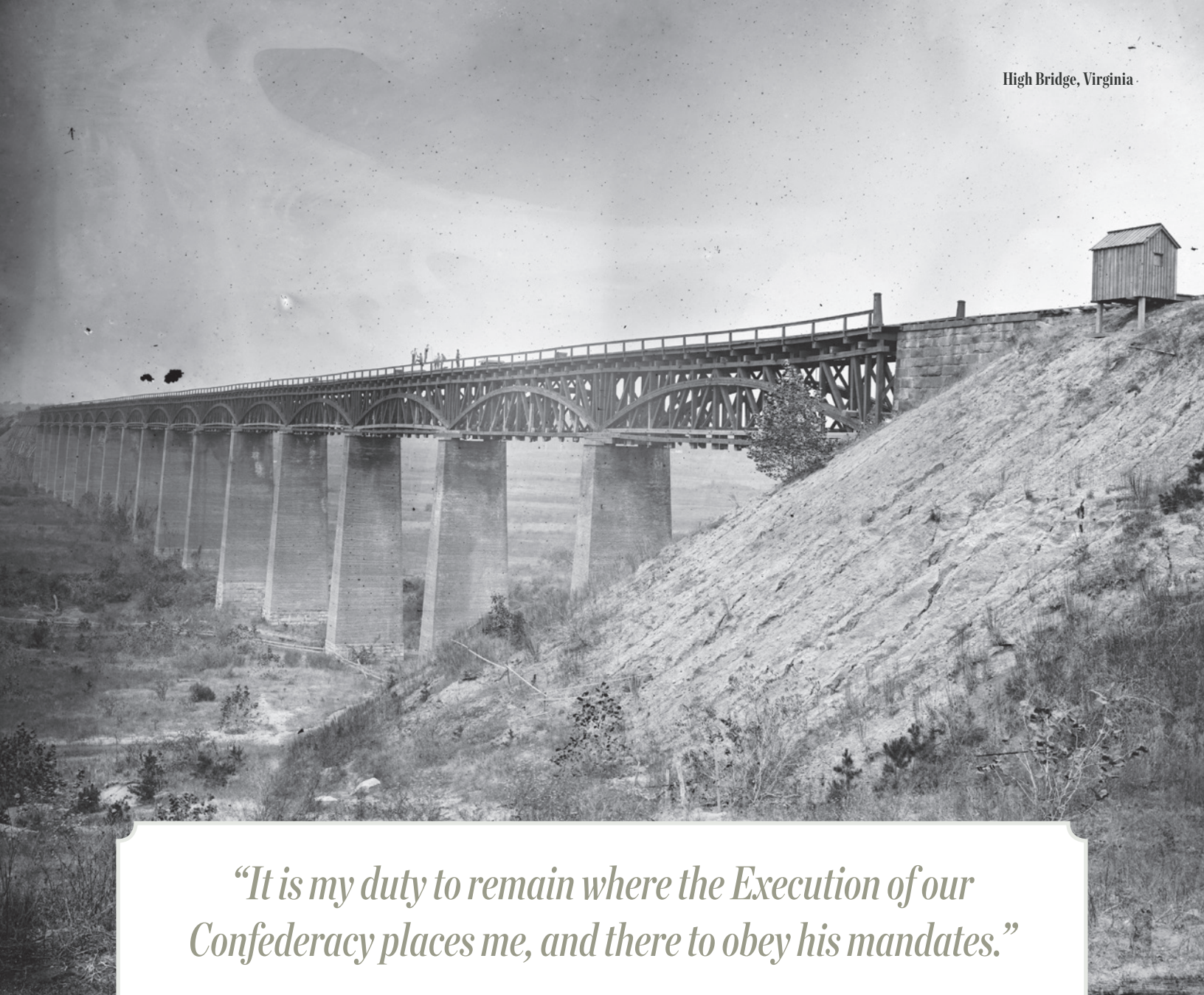
Dear Sister,

I determined immediately upon my return to Athens to commence a correspondence between you and I and not wait in a formal manner for a certain definite period of time and then write a formal and uninteresting and short letter or as some one of my correspondents I know not who called it epistle. I arrived in Athens "safe and sound" one week after I went to Madison which was last Monday. I thought that I knew what long lessons were before now, but I was entirely mistaken. We think it a very short lesson this term to have only fifteen pages to recite. I have just been in Dr. Mill's recitation room where the class recited over twenty pages in Moral Philosophy. We will review in six weeks all we have been over in College.

Pa and Sister Matilda went to Uncle William McWhorter's some time last week and when they came back they said that Uncle William as well as Cousin Jane and Laura were all very much disappointed that yourself, Ma, and I did not go to his house and Uncle William told Pa that if Pa's horses were too poor to carry you to his house that he intended some time when he was in Madison to go over to Mr. Browne's and carry you to his house himself which he will be certain to do as he is in Madison very often.

I believe now that war must inevitably come and destroy many pure and noble southerners whose lives will be sacrificed [sic] upon the altar of their most devoted country but although this is true, although these things and perhaps much worse may overtake them yet I only have to add, "Let it come" we are prepared to meet any fate, any contingency [sic] and we will welcome the foes "with bloody hands to hospitable graves." The Governor has sent orders to a Company in Athens called the "troup Artillery" to repair immediately to Fort Pickens at Pensacola in Florida where they will be required to do active service. I would not be at all surprised if the news you received from Athens would bring tidings of the Athens Guards being sent to the same destination with the Troup Artillery and you must remember that our Brother Bobbie is a member of that company. But let us rest contented because some one must do the fighting for the country and the Government is "no respecter of persons." Bobbie has as well go as any one else. I am at present very well my weight diminished five pounds while I was at home but I have almost caught up again. We have a good deal of rain and it is cloudy all the time.

*Write soon to your Brother,
James H. McWhorter Jr.*



“It is my duty to remain where the Execution of our Confederacy places me, and there to obey his mandates.”



At the same time as James was embarking upon his college career, those back home in Green and Oglethorpe counties were forming a company under the direction of James' uncle Robert L. McWhorter. During the war, Uncle Robert rose from the rank of Captain to Major to Assistant Quartermaster of Wright's Brigade. Not only did James' uncle command the company as Captain, but James' two older brothers, Robert and William, were also on the company's rolls.

Whether through a sense of loyalty, family pride, or all the difficult recitation, just a few short months following his letter to Mollie, James enlisted himself

on September 20 as a private in the same company, the Dawson Grays. This company became Co. C of the 3rd Georgia Infantry, a regiment that also included two companies from Athens-Clarke County (Athens Guards and Clarke County Rifles).

The 3rd Georgia Infantry played a very storied part in the Army of Northern Virginia during the war. The 3rd took part in every battle in which the army fought, from Seven Pines, Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, and Second Manassas to Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, The Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, and Cold Harbor. Going into the trenches around Petersburg in

1864, James' brother, Robert, was killed in June while on picket duty. When the 3rd Georgia Infantry surrendered on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House it was listed as one of the largest regiments in the Army of Northern Virginia.

Just a month before the surrender of the 3rd Regiment, James penned his last letter to Mollie in which he sounds homesick as any other young soldier does in the same situation. Yet, he declared that, “It is my duty to remain where the Execution of our Confederacy places me, and there to obey his mandates.”



High Bridge, Virginia

*Co. C 3rd Ga Regiment
Mch 10th 1865*

Dear Sister,

I received your letter a few days ago and as an opportunity now offers by which my letters will be carried beyond Genl Sherman I make an early reply.

It is certainly distressing to learn of the extended amount of sickness in our country and especially in my own home. Pa writes me that you will remain with Ma this year. I am glad to know it and hope that your presence there may do some good towards attending to the necessities of our parents, who are now in ill health at present, and when none can so well administer to as a fond devoted daughter. I would be glad to come home and see "Mary Willie" as well as all my friends there but that will be impossible this winter or spring. It is my duty to remain where the Execution of our Confederacy places me, and there to obey his mandates. If he decides to permit me to visit my home I will most assuredly do so. The exigencies of the service required that I should with all Soldiers be always present with my commands. Present my regards to Uncle George. Tell Cousin Emma to write to me that I wrote last. I am glad to hear that she has obtained some employment by which she can amuse herself and become in a matter—independent.

Your letter is filled with doleful news. Mr Fleming is the sole manager in his family. Sister Jane however do a great deal. She is a very intellectual woman although necessity have never been imposed but little hardship upon her Mammie. You wrote very strangely about your conversations with Uncle H. You did not state why you could not converse with him nor did you say any thing as a reason that you were incompetent &c &c. You must have a very poor opinion of my judgement of human nature. The most ignorant are oftenest the most talkative.

You have not written me the post office &c to which you direct your letters when writing to Miss Sample as I requested. In what family is she teaching?

It is unnecessary to say that you and my dear Mother have my sincerest thanks for the clothing you sent, received words cannot tell what I feel. I cannot tell yet whether or not they fit me as Uncle R has not yet sent them to me and as we have moved ten or twelve miles from his camp and he has not been able to come up and I cannot go after them. Give my love to Ma, Mattie & Pa.

Tell Mattie to write to me and not to throw away his time and thereby make a unck [sic] of himself. Pa ought to make him do something if it is possible for him to do any thing.

*Your Brother
Js H. McWhorter Jr.*

James and Mollie would have no happy reunion. On April 7, just two days before his company surrendered, James was accidentally killed at High Bridge, Virginia, in an attempt to burn the railroad bridge

spanning the Appomattox River valley as part of James Longstreet's rear guard action to prevent the Union forces from following the Confederate army as they retreated toward Appomattox. The

attempted burning of the bridge failed and the Union forces were able to catch the Confederate army two days later.



THE GARDEN OF GOODRUM



Goodrum House

BY BARBARA HYDE



George/Georgina Chipmunk

*Earth's crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees, takes off his shoes,
The rest sit round and pluck blackberries ...*

—From “Aurora Leigh” by Emily Dickinson

If you drop by Goodrum House unannounced, chances are you will find me traipsing around barefooted, toting a camera through the garden. This never fails to catch an admonishing comment from the itinerant visitor. Indecorous? Yes! But the feel of the grass and red clay earth on my feet gives me a sense of physical connection this place. Having spent the past year watching the gardens transition through the seasons, I realize I know just enough about landscaping to be dangerous. My desire to leave my mark on the property causes me to color just a little outside the lines of Spencer Tunnell’s original master landscape plan by sneaking in an unspecified cultivar or variety of plant here and there.

After touring the home and grounds, one recent visitor exclaimed, “This place is magical!” I couldn’t agree more. The gardens never cease to enchant me, regardless of the prevailing weather or season. Once again, spring brought pails full of pink Sarah Bernhardt and white Festiva Maxima peonies cut from sixty bushes growing in the Rear Terrace and Serpentine gardens. Their heady sweet fragrance filled the



“I’m captivated by the small creatures who make this their home and can’t help but lay claim to them.”



house for days. The bearded irises planted last November sprouted blooms of lavender, deep purple, and pastel pink this April. The butter yellow Lady Banks roses bloomed a month early, their petals gently cascading over the stone staircases by the end of February.

These days, I tend to the Brown-eyed Susan like children, awaiting the arrival of their golden faces; wrap intertwining vines of pink and white Painted Lady sweet peas and amethyst Jackmanii clematis who reach for the trellised walls of the pavilion; and diligently fertilize the water lilies in anticipation of their pads unfurling to shade and shelter the goldfish. Each morning, I walk through the Monogram Garden, lamenting the spider mites and leaf miners while calculating how much dirt will be needed to backfill the holes of the budding Thomas Edison dahlias and mentally noting the time it will take me to deadhead the Delta Blotch Blue pansies, Liberty Crimson snapdragons, and spent roses on the thirty-seven heirloom bushes. I loathe

to leave the task to the weekly gardeners, fearing they might injudiciously prune more than I would.

It’s not just the flowers I fret over—there’s an abundance of fauna, too! Harkening back to my favorite childhood books by Beatrix Potter, I’m captivated by the small creatures who make this their home and can’t help but lay claim to them. Franci the Bullfrog, and his brood of five children, share the koi pond with the school of goldfish. George and Georgina the Chipmunks (aptly named as I am unable to tell who is who) scamper through their network of underground tunnels connecting the Rear Terrace and Serpentine gardens, teaching their young the best spots to find the carefully laid out cracked corn. Lime green anoles (affectionately called Larry and Lily) scoot in and out of the Lady Banks, catching bugs while turning shades of sepia and umber to camouflage themselves from the pair of swallows who’ve formed a nest in the roof peak above the garden door.

It’s the ethereal quality of the house and gardens which draw me back every day—a strange amalgamation of the static, yet shifting passage of time which hangs over this place. Like the gardens, the house continues to go through its own transition of seasons. Goodrum House has weathered eighty-seven years of love, decline, and neglect, anxiously awaiting spring to return. I’d like to think it is well on its way.

*The Dandelion’s pallid tube
Astonishes the Grass—
And Winter instantly becomes
An infinite Alas—
The tube uplifts a signal Bud
And then a shouting Flower—
The Proclamation of the Suns
That sepulture is o’er.*

—“The Dandelion’s Pallid Tube”
by Emily Dickinson

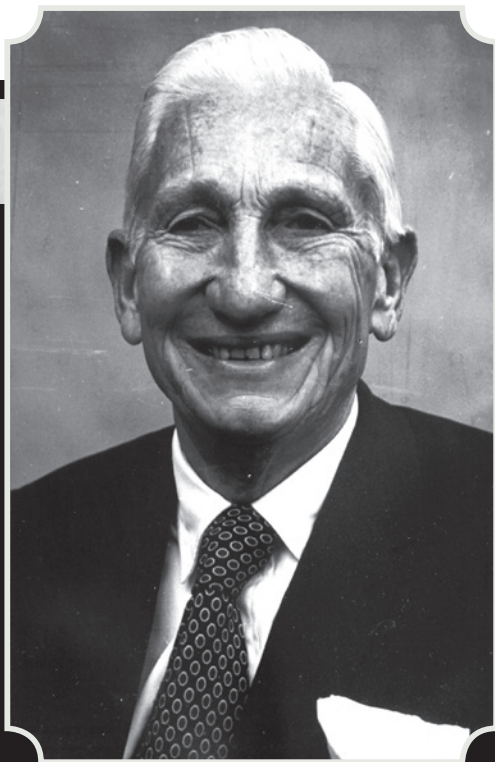




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OUR FOUNDER

Walter J. Brown was a journalist and a broadcast pioneer who built and chaired what would become Spartan Communications, Inc., one of the larger privately held TV companies in the country.

Early in his career, Brown had an office in the White House when he served on the staff of Secretary of State James F. Byrnes. Brown's enduring love for politics was eclipsed only by his respect for Jimmy Byrnes. Inspired in part by Byrnes's philanthropy—which in 1948 established the James F. Byrnes Foundation—Brown created his own private Foundation in 1970. Named for Thomas E. Watson and J.J. Brown, the men to whom Brown attributed his success, the Watson-Brown Foundation today continues to ensure that hundreds of deserving students are provided the opportunity to excel at the college of their choice.