

Winter 2020

The LEGACY

A Publication of Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc.

Shoot FOR THE STARS

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

T.R.R. COBB'S
CHANGE OF

Heart

Keeping up
WITH THE
TIME
CLOCK CLEANING 101



Hobe Sound, FL winter home property of
Thomas E. Watson, circa 1918



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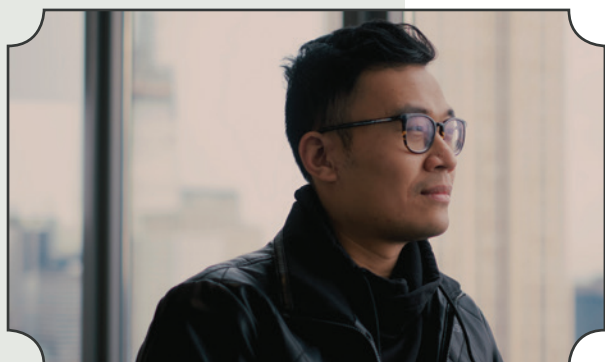
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OUR MISSION

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



MITCHELL BEARD

Mitchell Beard, Sophomore, Georgia Institute of Technology: “I had a fantastic first year at Georgia Tech. I made great friends that made exploring Atlanta fun, and I can’t wait to continue doing so with them. This past year I particularly enjoyed the lantern festival and Stone Mountain State Park. I met some incredible people, including a team of three of my friends that started a company and built a music app from the ground up (Auxbox, check it out on iOS!). I began taking courses in my major of chemical engineering and am excited to continue down that path. I plan to apply for a research position at the Center for Chemical Evolution to explore the origins of life and the creation of organic molecules. Overall, the first year was stressful and difficult, but the memories that stand out are of good times spent with good people.”



TESSA BURGESS

Tessa Burgess, Senior, Auburn University: “This past semester, I finally had the opportunity to do something that originally drew me to Auburn University. At every home football game, an eagle is released from the top of the stadium, and it circles before landing in the center of the field. This is done by student volunteers at the Southeastern Raptor Center, which is overseen by Auburn’s vet school. I started volunteering there this past January. The Raptor Center is responsible for various raptors, including the eagles. There are also falcons, owls, hawks, and vultures. As a volunteer, I feed and weigh the raptors, clean their enclosures (called mews), maintain their equipment, administer medications to the raptors that need them, train them, and help with educational presentations. We have twenty-four raptors that are used for educational purposes. Most of our birds are native to Alabama, and the remainder, with the exception of one raptor, are native to other parts of the country. The raptor that is not native to the U.S. is a Lanner Falcon, which is native to Africa and parts of Asia and Europe. (Fun fact: It’s the species of raptor used as the messenger bird in the movie *Return of the Mummy*.) For presentations, we travel to schools and businesses, or groups can come tour our facility, attend a presentation at our outdoor amphitheater, or attend a flighted show, where we actually fly the birds. At presentations, I am responsible for holding one of the raptors while someone else speaks about that particular species (I am holding one of our barn owls in the photo). This coming semester, I will be assigned as a primary caregiver to one or more of the raptors, meaning that I will be the person

who is responsible for the feeding, training, and care of that/those particular raptor(s). I also hope to help release the eagle at the football games! I am so excited to finally have the opportunity to be a part of this tradition! War Eagle!”

Aidan Forster, Sophomore, Brown University: “As a freshman at Brown University, I had the pleasure to pursue a variety of curricular and extracurricular opportunities this year. In the classroom, I took intensive creative writing and public health courses, participating in an Advanced

Poetry workshop with poet Monica de la Torre and taking a class on public health issues in LGBT+ populations in Brown’s graduate school of public health. Over winter break, I completed a Wintersession course in the biology department called HIV/AIDS in Diverse Settings: Focus on Israel. With a member of the Brown University Alpert Medical School faculty and eleven other undergraduate students, I traveled throughout Israel for ten days, visiting hospitals and clinics, conducting interviews with healthcare professionals and HIV-positive patients from a variety of backgrounds, and touring iconic sites from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. This year, my debut chapbook of poetry, *Exit Pastoral*, was released from YesYes Books, and I had the great pleasure of traveling to Portland, Oregon, for the 2019 Association of Writers and Writing Publishers annual conference. I also learned that my prose chapbook, *Wrong June*, won the 2018 Honeysuckle Press Chapbook Contest and will be published later this year. This summer, I plan to conduct research on formal, aesthetic, and material innovation in queer poetics of HIV in the age of PrEP with a member of the Brown University English Department and to conduct a remote publishing internship with Sibling Rivalry Press, a small press dedicated to publishing LGBT+ work based in Little Rock, Arkansas.”



ADIAN FORSTER

Hongyu Guo, Junior, Georgia Institute of Technology: “I had a very fun year this year! Classes were very stressful, but I was able to get pretty decent grades and remain eligible to graduate with highest honors. I also was recruited to join an honor society for computer engineering called Eta Kappa Nu and then got voted to be an officer. Throughout my spring semester, I did a bunch of volunteer work and attended a fun banquet for it as well. I strengthened my friendship with a lot of great people this semester (there’s a few of them in the photo) and had a lot of fun spending long nights studying with them. As for the summer, I plan on working at the Jessye Norman School of the Arts, taking summer classes at Augusta University, and working as a waiter at a local restaurant.”

Jesse Moon, Sophomore, Georgia Southern University: “My freshman year was a roller-coaster ride with many ups and downs. I entered a new world when I moved away from home for the first time. I was nervous for what college had in store for me, but it surprised me how easy it was for me to adapt to living on my own. Throughout my first semester, I had an extremely difficult time with calculus. I hadn’t focused on my other courses and began slacking in them. Georgia Southern was unlike any other school I had ever been to. The classes were much harder, and I wasn’t prepared. Meanwhile, I found a club that really spoke to who I was, TriBeta: National Biological Honor Society. It helped me connect with new people and made me feel like I belonged. I got involved with service activities and met new people. I became the committee chair head of recruitment. As a freshman, it put my name out there to others because not many take such positions. Later on, we took a trip to Jekyll Island, where we went to the Georgia Sea Turtle Center, and I was one of the chosen lucky ones to go. I had so much fun because I got to see sea turtles up close. I had never done that before, and I made a lot of great memories going. I wish I could go again. TriBeta opened the door to many new opportunities for me. Towards the end of the semester, I found a tutor for calculus. I picked up my game and even managed a B in the class. I vowed to do better in all my classes for the following semester. Around the end of the year, I had to move out of my dorm



HONGYU GUO

room because the building was settling. With finals on the rise and having to move within a few days, it was one of the hardest times of my freshman year. When I arrived at my new place, it was painfully hard to adjust. My new dorm was far away, and I was moved with strangers, not my previous roommate. I had a breezy time adapting with my first roommate and living situation, but with my new ones, it definitely was a challenge. After unpacking and pulling myself together, I strove so hard that I made the Dean’s List. To me, this was my greatest accomplishment for the entire year after such a tremendous fallback. Overall, I believe I had a successful year. For my summer, I plan to get a job back in my hometown, but I look forward to another great semester in the fall!”



JESSE MOON



MICAH TAN

Micah Tan, Senior, Clemson University: “This past year felt bittersweet. It was my fourth year at Clemson, and I feel well in the groove of college life. I took some really enjoyable materials science classes in the fall and worked my third semester on co-op in the spring at EuroKera North America. As the spring semester drew to a close, it was quite difficult to say goodbye to some of my closest friends from the past four years. I wrapped up at Eurokera, and all of my fellow seniors in the navigators student ministry graduated as well.

“Even though there were so many farewells, it’s still a very exciting season. I got engaged in March and am planning to get married in November this year! My younger brother will be joining me at Clemson in the fall as well, which I wait with eager anticipation. It’s thanks to the Watson-Brown Foundation and other scholarships that it will be possible to finally attend the same school as my brother, who is younger by four years.

“I also plan to begin coursework toward a master’s degree this year, even though I have not finished my bachelor’s yet. This is thanks to the engineering department at Clemson and their willingness to work with some of the open class space in my schedule, which helps me get another step closer toward my hope of graduate school after I finish this upcoming year.

There’s quite a bit of change on the horizon, but frankly I can’t wait to see what this school year holds.”

Mehika Patel, Sophomore, Yale University: “I have had an amazingly crazy year. I’ve experienced (personally) unseen growth and increased self-awareness through this year. I fell in love with new topics, including sociology, and found myself engaging in conversations I never thought I could articulate in a social setting. I’ve found myself at home in a place that understands all the thoughts I previously believed too arbitrary to be of sustenance. I started therapy and have become more cognizant of how my emotions work



MEHIKA PATEL

and have developed such a stronger understanding of myself and the ways my brain and heart work. I made friends and connections with people who remind me of the good in the world and that I have already grown to cherish and love. I am currently doing a summer session at Yale in which I spend the first month in New Haven and the preceding month in Spain. I’ve never been to Europe so I’m extremely excited to be on this journey and to make new friends. I’m also currently working on creating an application I’ve wanted to make forever.”



Haejin Kang, Junior, Emory University: “During my sophomore year, I was particularly proud of the fact that I took the courage to carry out another passion of mine, even though I knew of the potential drawbacks. This other passion was business. I couldn’t help but feel drawn to the world of business at the time, especially after a part-time job I had on campus. It got me thinking of all the possibilities in life. There really was no reason to restrict myself to one field, especially since I felt very passionate about it and saw good reason to pursue such a track. I was drawn not only to the applicability of business to the real-world but also the extremely creative and social aspect of business. Because of that, I was specifically interested in entrepreneurship and business management. My future goal is to have my own small creative business or at least take part in one for some portion of time in my life, while also working as a doctor in the neuroscience field! My interest in neuroscience and the medical field still stands. Although it will be extremely difficult to achieve, I believe I can achieve my goals as long as I set my mind to it and put forth hard work. Even if I don’t end up having my own business, I can apply my experience from business school to any aspect of my life—even in science. You can never be sure of what the future holds. I may end up in hospital management or working for a biotech company. All I know is that I want to make the most of my educational career and pursue my passions without any regrets.

“Throughout my college career thus far, I have been able to tie my interests in my extracurricular activities. Some of these activities include my involvement in Emory University Medical Review (EUMR), Emory Economics Review (EER), and Asian American,

Pacific Islander, and Desi American (AAPIDA) Student Activist organization. As an Asian-American who is interested in healthcare, research, business, and real-world events, the organizations tie in all my interests, with each covering a wide-range of topics and fields. Through my contributions in the organizations, I have actively sought to increase awareness of different perspectives on current events, updates in the science and medical realm, and important subjects that are affiliated with the Asian population. Through EER, I have covered a variety of topics related to the economy and/or business. The same goes for my contributions in EUMR with topics related to healthcare, medicine, and research. Additionally, another way that I have sought to foster my interest in the community is through committee membership in AAPIDA. As a member of the events committee, I have helped coordinate biweekly discussions, panels, and collaboration events that focus on sociocultural and political aspects of Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Desi Americans. I have also assisted with Asians in Academia, an event in which Emory professors discuss their experiences and advice with students as Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in their work field, and Asians in Arts, an event in which local artists, dancers, writers, and poets discuss their journey in their field as AAPIDA-identified individuals. Because of my interest in media, visual arts, and creative fields in general, I felt a tremendous need to support the artists, especially in a country that could use more diverse representation in the media and entertainment industry. Additionally, I think it is extremely crucial for society to be aware of misconstrued concepts, prejudices, discrimination, cultural appropriation and appreciation, and ideals that are associated with Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, whether they are projected onto them or out to the public. In the future, I hope the organization grows to become more inclusive and branch into more universal topics that many students can sympathize with on a personal level.”

Alicia Key, Junior, Furman University: “My sophomore year, overall, has been a year of strides and self-accomplishments. It was a year of me getting out of my comfort zone and becoming more involved in my university and my future. While I do regret letting my mom and sister’s fear and my own self-doubt let me decline the opportunity to do an exchange program in Japan for a semester, I am happy for all the chances I took and the opportunities I did take. I got out of my comfort zone and started trying to enjoy my life and remind myself that academics was only one part of me, not my whole identity.

“I became friends with amazing people, furthered friendships and made memories that will last me a lifetime. I participated in the creation of a game for my Game Design and Development class by creating amazing artwork and icons. I found confidence in my voice, thanks to my director Leander Jones, and led a song in the Furman University Gospel Ensemble (FUGE). I went to Alabama for our 2019 FUGE Tour and had an eye-opening experience while visiting the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. I was initiated in Phi Eta Sigma, awarded the Dr. Heatherington Scholarship, and nominated to join Omicron Delta Kappa, was a commencement marshal. I also participated in two dance performances with my Korean Club.

“This summer I will be taking an ‘Intro to Korean Language’ MayX class and doing an interdisciplinary summer research with the Asian Studies and Computer Science Department. For my junior year, I will be a teacher assistant for Discrete Mathematics and a Pathway Peer Mentor, and will be living in the Japanese Language House.



ASHLYN BRISLEY

Ashlyn Brisley, Senior, Young Harris College: "This year was a record high for me as I studied abroad at the Queen's University of Belfast. I got to experience a different culture while also making friends with some amazing people that I am sad to be leaving. I got the opportunity to be a study abroad ambassador for the school, while also being accepted into the Alpha Chi honor society back at my home university, Young Harris College. This year has been ... something I was never expecting it to be. My writing has improved and was awarded honorable mention in the Agnes Scott Writing Competition. I was published in Young Harris's Corn Creek Magazine and even got to write an article or two for Queen's University. I am excited to be moving into my senior year but sadden as I spend my last few days with floormates who have become lifelong friends."



ALICIA KEY

TONY TRAN



Alumni Spotlight

BY SHANNON FRIEDMANN HATCH

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHNNY HWONG

Tony Tran amplifies things. When he was sixteen, it was Jupiter. In the farmland outside of Furman University, he constructed an interferometer, essentially a scrappy network of lower-resolution dishes strategically placed apart that together do the work of one large, expensive, high-resolution telescope for a fraction of the cost. Three or four times a week, he'd leave his high school in Greenville, South Carolina, and drive to a large plot of land to work on the project with a professor of astronomy. He used his knowledge of computer programming, and he remembered that "it took awhile to eliminate

the static noise." But once he got it to work, the Gas Giant, 543 million miles away from the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, snapped into such sharp focus that he won third place in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

These days while his sights are less galactic, you could say that as CEO and co-founder for an influencer media startup, Lumanu, which has partnered with blockbuster brands like Rent the Runway and Rothy's, he still works among the stars.

But before he was fundraising for his company and gaining the support of former C-level executives from iconic powerhouses

like Macy's, he started like many entrepreneurs at the humble intersection of hope and hard work.

Raised in Greenville, Tony says the South made him who he is today. "I was very lucky to grow up in the South," he said. "It gets a bad rap, but the values I gained—my approach to things, values around empathy, the importance of being nice and considerate—were so important."

In fact, Tony was lucky to land in the United States at all. The son of a Vietnamese POW who fought for the Americans, Tony and his family immigrated to the country as refugees in 1994. He was only four years

old and spoke very little English. “We were supported by the local church,” he recalled, and his parents went to work at a textile factory coincidentally named American Home.

He excelled in school, especially math, and a high score in that area on the SAT in seventh grade got him into Duke University’s Talent Identification Program (TIP), an all-expenses-paid summer camp that first exposed him to the basics of JAVA and programming video games. His mom had been a teacher in Vietnam, and he describes his dad as “sharp”. Neither were aggressive when it came to pushing him to do well, but he does remember on school breaks that his mom would place multiplication worksheets next to food when she went to work. He credits his cool approach to test-taking from his dad’s constant reminder that “at least there’s no bombs blowing up behind you.”

He majored in computer science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and interned at Google and Booz Allen, a prestigious management consulting firm. His knack for problem solving led him to a business analyst role at McKinsey & Company. “They’re all about strategy consulting,” Tony said. “I was a twenty-two-year-old analyst, advising global companies.” He said that it was there that he learned about the world of “TMT”, or technology, media, and telecom.

Two years in at McKinsey, he had a chance to branch out on his first startup with his mentor at a company called Outpace. It was at Outpace, a marketing automation platform grounded in personalized content, that Tony began to formulate his own business plan for Lumanu. It started as “skunk work” but has now evolved from seven employees four years ago to twenty-five.

Lumanu began as a marketing solution that brands use to amplify their influencer campaigns and optimize their results. The company

is currently evolving under Tony’s guidance to tackle a larger and problematic aspect of the industry: digital rights management. Here’s how Tony explains it: “Right now, it’s a lot like the music industry before it was regulated. You can take images off of Instagram of any celebrity or person. Celebrities want to know if their image is on a billboard in Missouri. We had to solve for digital-rights management.”

According to Tony, “startups have their ups and downs, but you have to enjoy the journey.” He has been busy this year fundraising, developing product, hiring, and acting as a cheerleader for his team, all while splitting his time between New York City, where he moved just a few months ago, and San Francisco, where his girlfriend still lives. The hustle is worth it when he says when he “sees something from my head onto paper, and my vision becomes a reality.”

As a teenager in a tiny Southern town, he managed to pull a planet into view. As he continues to set his sights higher, it’s clear that the sky’s the limit.

*“You have to
enjoy the journey.”*





BLOOD IS THICKER THAN WATER



T.R.R. Cobb House

BY SAMUEL N. THOMAS, JR.

Rarely do we come across a document or artifact that confirms a set moment in time when a particular decision was made that will set an individual or individuals on a course with destiny. September 16, 1856, was just that date when Thomas R.R. Cobb changed direction and set himself on a new course; one that would eventually lead to war and his death in battle.

While transcribing a few of Cobb's personal letters I came across one in particular that immediately caught my attention. It was a letter to one of his wife Marion's sisters, Callie (whom Tom and Marion named their third daughter after), who lived in Alabama and to whom Marion was very close.

Callie was the youngest daughter of Joseph Henry Lumpkin and four years junior to Marion. She married Edwin Porter King, a prominent member of the King family of Alabama and Georgia. When war broke out, King became Captain of Co. G, 4th Alabama Infantry.

"Tell Porter I am with him now a fire eater & a disunionist," Cobb wrote to Callie. With this one sentence, Thomas R.R. Cobb was transforming his political thinking from that of a Unionist, like his older brother, Howell, who at the moment was involved in trying to get his good friend James Buchanan elected President. Howell tried to maintain his Unionist standing up until the moment he arrived back in Georgia in November 1860 to assist his brother in leading Georgia out of the Union.

What could have prompted this abrupt change of face on the part of Tom Cobb, and so forcibly that he felt it important enough that he needed to have his sister-in-law convey the news to her husband? To find out, we needed to look deeper.

The next two sentences give us important clues into this monumental shift in political thought: "I fear & believe that Fremont's election is certain & I am for immediate disunion. I can't see that the South can remain in the Union without humiliation & degradation."

This part of it is easy enough to figure out. In 1856 Howell worked to get James Buchanan elected President, and, in the political election that year, there was a three-way campaign for President between James Buchanan, Millard Fillmore, and — John C. Fremont.

Although we know that Fremont caused the change, we still don't know precisely what Fremont did or said that caused Cobb's change in course. We need to keep looking to get to the bottom of Cobb's thinking.

John C. Fremont, better known to schoolchildren as "The Pathfinder" and leader of the "Bear Flag Revolt" in California in 1845, was born in Savannah, Georgia, and educated at the College of Charleston. Fremont was a strong champion of Manifest Destiny, an outspoken opponent of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, and a strong voice in opposition to the spread of slavery into the newly opening western territories the United States, gained through the annexation of Texas in 1845 and in the immediate aftermath of the War with Mexico from 1846 to 1848. Southerners wanted these lands to be available to slave owners, while Northerners wanted the new territories to be off limits to the institution, as this would lead to the control of power within Congress.

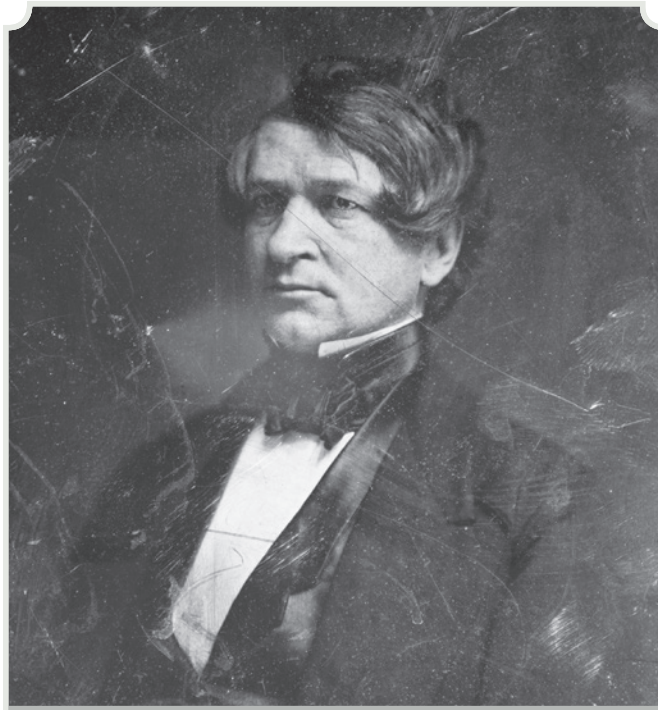
So, after ten years of argument and attempts at compromise leading to little more than hard feelings on both sides, a new party was born in the chaos of the 1856 election — the Republican Party. The first Republican National Convention was held in the Musical Fund Hall

in Philadelphia June 17 to 19, 1856. After much indecision as to their party's nominee for President, John C. Fremont was nominated on the eleventh ballot. The convention then moved to approve the party's platform, which included planks to end the spread of slavery in the country, end polygamy in Mormon settlements, and fund federal assistance for a transcontinental railroad. The platform set out to accomplish the first plank of ending the spread of slavery through the repeal of the Missouri Compromise and Kansas-Nebraska Act (which enacted the policy of popular sovereignty, allowing new settlers to decide for themselves whether their state would enter the Union as free or slave).

With the slogan of "Free Speech, Free Press, Free Soil, Free Men, Fremont and Victory!" Fremont set out on his path to the presidency. Opposing Fremont was James Buchanan and the Democratic Party and Millard Fillmore of the Know Nothing Party. Fremont and the Republican Party decided they could garner enough support from the Northern states and therefore not need to run a Southern campaign eliminating the need to even be on the ballot in the South (something the Republican Party did again, this time successfully, in 1860).

Was Fremont's nomination to head the Republican Party the reason for Thomas R.R. Cobb's seemingly sudden epiphany in becoming a "fire-eater"? It seems a bit unlikely that this alone could have pushed him over the line, especially since Fremont was nominated in the middle of June; three months ahead of this letter. There had to be a final straw.

So, perusing through Georgia newspapers we go. The pages of newspapers published in Georgia during September 1856 are filled with negative statements and outlandish claims pertaining to Fremont. *The Georgia Telegraph*, published in Macon on September 2, 1856, spoke of



William L. Dayton

the "Northern plan of bringing Greeley's [abolitionist Horace Greeley] 'Gospel of Anti-Slavery' into the pulpit" throughout the South "through the encouragement of John Fremont." Another printed opinion piece claimed that in Indiana the Fremont and Fillmore groups were uniting on Fremont's terms to stop Buchanan and promote the ideals of the free-soilers.

The newspapers that month are full of these. So, again, why would this so suddenly turn Cobb's mind away from his brother's thinking as a Unionist? Then something else caught my eye as I skimmed through the pages, closer and closer to the date of Cobb's letter of September 16. The majority of the newspapers are for the first time displaying the ballot for the upcoming election. It's only now that folks were seeing not only who the nominees were for president but also who the nominees were for vice president.

Listed as the running mate for John C. Fremont is William L. Dayton. From New Jersey, Dayton was a graduate of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton). He was selected to serve in Congress from 1842 – 1845 and then elected to the New Jersey Legislature in 1845, serving in that capacity until 1851. During his time in Congress, Dayton was a supporter of the unsuccessful Wilmot Proviso put forth in Congress by David Wilmot of Pennsylvania in 1846 to ban the expansion of slavery to Western territories, and an outspoken critic of the 1850 Compromise which he declared was nothing but an agreement "based upon the log rolling principle of legislation."

This support of Wilmot and opposition to the Compromise would have placed Dayton directly opposite Howell Cobb in politics and placed a bullseye on his back from Thomas R.R. Cobb. Tom Cobb always claimed that he was not political, but in the case of his older brother Howell, blood was certainly thicker than water.

Is this why Thomas R.R. Cobb changed so abruptly from Unionist to fire-eater? We may never know for sure, but as a brother, there is certainly something to be said for blood being thicker than water.



John C. Fremont



TICK-TOCK: CLEAN YOUR CLOCK



Sticks & Stones

BY MICHELLE ZUPAN

Time has not been on our side since 2500BC when the Sumerians developed the sexagesimal system (based on sixty units) that we use to keep time today — think sixty seconds in a minute. Sundials and water clocks were the first to measure time passage(s). One could not rock around the clock until the fourteenth century with the invention of mechanical clocks. But the broad sweep of the pendulum clock would not begin to swing between sense and nonsense until the mid-1600s.

Taking time to care for your antique timepieces is worth the effort to keep them on the clock for years to come. Hickory Hill has five clocks in its primary collection — two case, also called grandfather, clocks and three mantle or shelf clocks. We do not wind out clocks, as running them causes deterioration in the mechanisms and tends to scare the daylights out of visitors when the clock strikes thirteen.

Antique clock care is often best left to the horological specialists, especially if your clock's days seem to last like years. However, there are ways you can punch the clock and ensure the chimes ring at six and seven until you're in seventh heaven with some basic cleaning and oiling!

The first steps include knowing the type of clock you have, the materials it is constructed from, and the parts of the clock. Most antique clocks are a thirty-hour or an eight-day — it is crucial to know which to avoid over-winding, which will damage the mechanism. A thirty-hour clock tends to have a 3/8-inch wide compact spring and three wheels, whereas an eight-day clock has a 3/4-inch wide or greater large spring and four wheels. Always wind a clock to the right — clockwise, never widdershin. The same holds true for adjusting the hands when adjusting the hands of time.

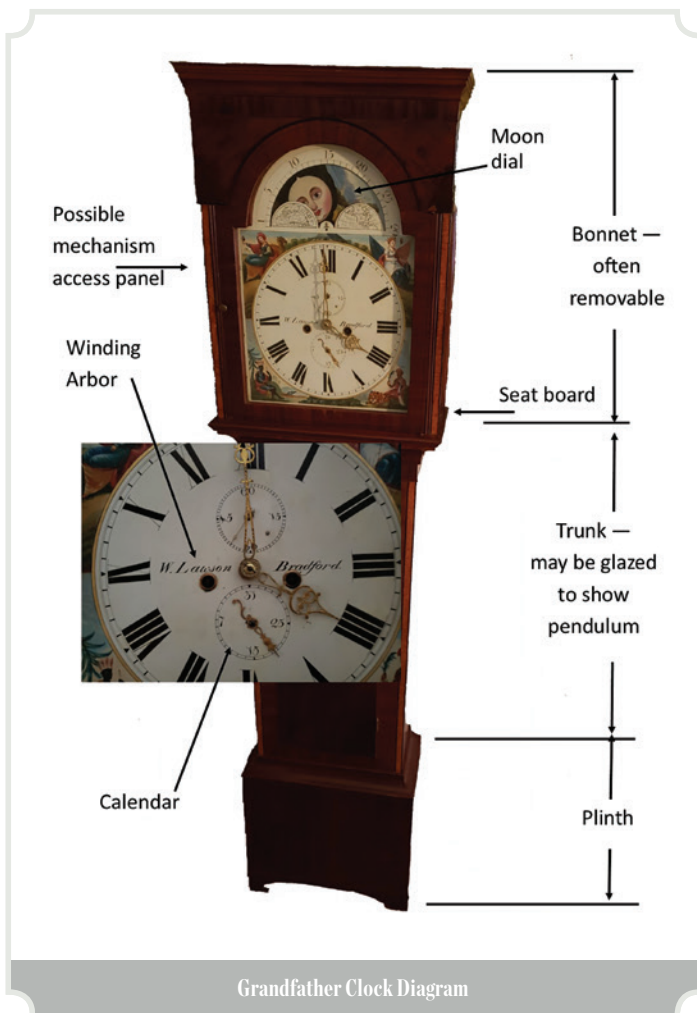
Clock cases can easily be damaged through light exposure and improper handling. They should always be kept away from heat sources, such as fireplaces and furnace vents, as well as out of direct sunlight. Cases containing tortoiseshell, ivory, and wood require higher humidity levels to prevent cracking. Cleaning inlaid and painted elements should only be done with a lint-free cloth and only if the inlay or paint is not lifting from the substrate.

Cleaning and maintaining the interior of the clock is where it can get challenging and should only be done every five to ten years. If your clock has elements that appear to GLOW in the dark STOP and do

not proceed. Radium was used to create that glow and is a radioactive carcinogen. Case clocks will often have an access panel on the side. Small chapel or ogee clocks may require removing the face of the clock. Be especially careful as these surfaces are often painted or gilded. Stabilize or remove the pendulum and weights before moving the clock. Wear latex or nitrile gloves when cleaning the interior of the clock to avoid etching fingerprints into the mechanism. If you find a flowing silver fluid inside a glass tube STOP — your clock has a mercury mechanism or pendulum and must be handled by a professional.

With a soft-bristle brush gently brush away any dust or webs that may have accumulated. There are two key items required to oil a clock, first a clock oil bottle with syringe tip and clock oil such as Le Perle (WD-40 or 3-in-One is not advised). To oil, place the mechanism face down on a soft towel and locate the *oil sink* — a small hole or two. Using the oil bottle, carefully drip oil into the sink; wick up with a cotton swab any oil that bulges out of the sink. Wick up oil that may have dripped outside the sink or onto the gears.

Follow these simple steps time after time or contact a clock professional, and your Big Ben will have nothing but time.





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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.