

Today in Columbus History:

On September 23, 1861, two different advertisements appeared in two different Columbus papers for the same business. The first, entitled "Stoves, Tin-Ware, &c." appeared in the Columbus Times. The other ad ran in Daily Sun entitled "War in Fact!" Both promoted the business of Louis Haiman & Bro., local tinsmiths.

The first ad had been running since December 1860, prior to Georgia seceding from the United States. It highlighted the stoves and tinware that Louis Haiman and his brother Elias sold in their shop at 76 Broad prior to the war. The second ad shows Haiman's response to the change in circumstances. The brothers began producing swords, bayonets, buckles, shot guns and rifles. They expanded throughout the war and eventually began producing copies of the Colt Navy pistol in a factory on 1st Avenue north of 14th street. Their factory was said to be the largest manufacturer of swords in the South during the war.

The brothers were from Colmar, Prussia (now Chodzież, Poland). They came to Columbus in the 1850's to pursue their tin-craft. An orphaned first-cousin, Rosalie Brasch, also came to America and ended up marrying Louis in Columbus in 1858. She was 15 and he was 30.

The factory was destroyed on April 17, 1865 the day after General James Harrison Wilson's Cavalry Corps of the Department of the Mississippi captured the city in the Battle of Columbus, often referred to as "The Last Battle of the Civil War." Wilson assigned General Edward F. Winslow to destroy anything that might aid the Confederacy. This included factories, mills and warehouses containing raw materials, work in progress and finished goods.

They rebuilt after the war, literally turning their swords into plowshares. L. Haiman & Co. opened the Phoenix Foundry and Machine Shop by September 1865. They sold plows, sugar mills, kettles and made to order anything of wrought iron, cast iron or brass. They later joined with Joseph G. Blount and opened the Southern Agricultural Works in 1870 under the name Blount, Haiman & Bro.

Louis died of a "protracted and wasting illness" in 1871 and Blount died of a similar illness in 1875. Elias relocated to Atlanta and opened a new Southern Agricultural Works there in 1876. In 1882, the Atlanta Constitution lauded him as "probably the only merchant in Atlanta who can boast of having a trade outside of the United States" when he received an order for a carload of plows from Monterey, Mexico.

Elias married Frances Loewenthal of Savannah in Chatham County in 1887. He was 44 and she was 25. Elias sold the business and left for Europe in 1892. By 1895, he had returned to America. He purchased an interest in the Empire Plough Works in Cleveland, Ohio and settled there with his family. He went back to Europe in 1914 and died in Berlin, Germany where he was buried.

Louis was buried in the Jewish Section at Linwood Cemetery after his death in November 1871. Rosalie is buried with him. She died in Tampa, Florida in 1930. Frances returned to Cleveland where she died in 1955.

Compiled by Daniel A. Bellware, Muscogee Genealogical Society

Clipping from Georgia Historic Newspapers (GALILEO).

Our weekly snippets of Columbus history are usually based on a few days-worth of searching through the most popular sources for Muscogee County history. Meant to inspire readers to explore more about Columbus history, they are not exhaustive dissertations on the topic and

may contain mistakes. If you have corrections or additional information, feel free to share them with the group.

STOVES, TIN-WARE, &c.
L. HAIMAN & BRO.
76 Broad Street.

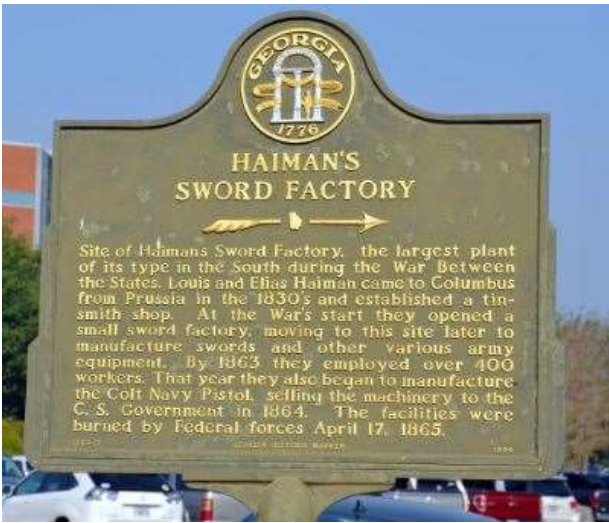


IMPROVED IRON Witch Stoves,—the best Cooking Stove in use.
Parlor, Office, and Box Stoves, of all the latest styles.
Tin Ware of every description on hand, or made to order.
Sheet Tin and Tinnery's Materials on hand and sold to the trade on slight advance on cost.
Roofing, Guttering, &c., done promptly and cheap.
Columbus, Ga. Dec. 21—dtf.

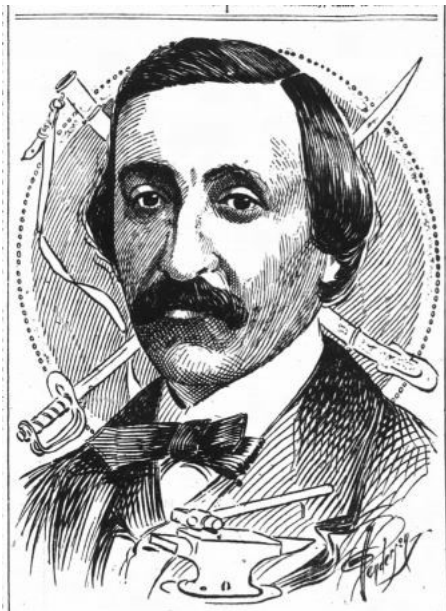
Ad from the *Columbus Daily Times*, September 23, 1861

WAR IN FACT!
LOUIS HAIMAN & BRO.
Manufacture to Order,
OFFICERS and SERGEANT'S SWORDS;
CAVALRY SABRES; BAYONETS to Shot
Guns and Rifles, of the finest finish;
BRASS BUCKLES and PLATES for Belts and
Cartridge Boxes, and MOUNTINGS for Bayonet
Scabbards.
TIN and SHEET IRON FURNITURE for
Camp Service.
Our prices are reasonable. Call first door south
of Dr. Ware's Drug Store, Broad st., Columbus,
Georgia. Orders promptly attended to.
July 8, 1861. ly

Ad from the *Columbus Daily Sun* September 23, 1861



Haiman Sword Factory Historic marker in Columbus on 1st Ave, north of 14th Street. This marker says 1830's but it appears that the Haimans came to Columbus in the 1850's.



Louis Haiman from the *Atlanta Constitution*, March 28, 1898



Haiman sword courtesy of the Columbus Museum