

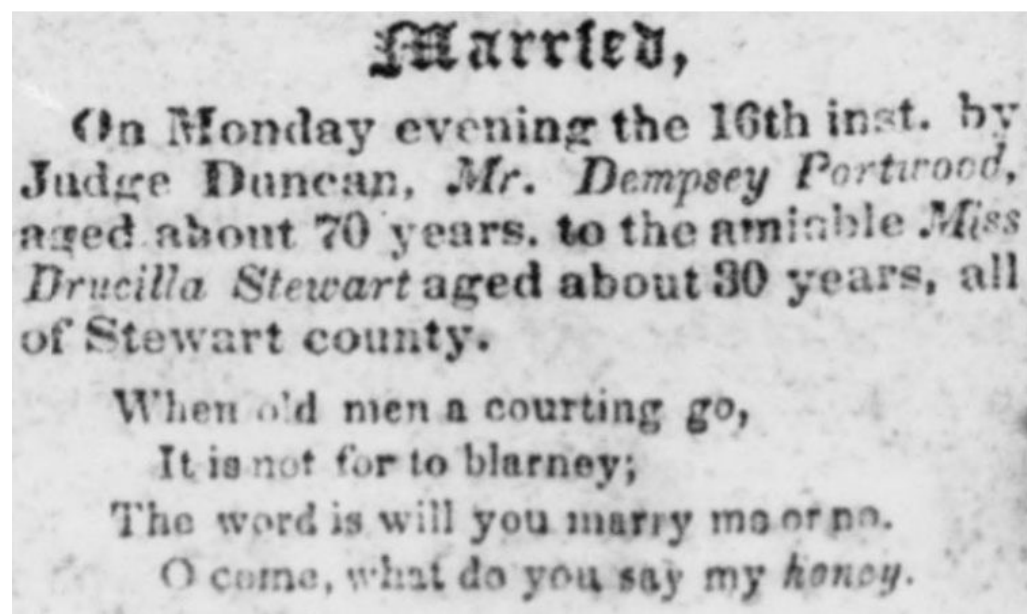
Today in Columbus History: In a very early issue of the Columbus *Democrat*, May 28, 1831, a marriage announcement appeared for a Stewart County couple: Dempsey Portwood had married Drusilla Stewart on May 16. According to the article, this was a May – December marriage: Dempsey was around 70; Drusilla, around 30. However, some quick research on Dempsey reveals some discrepancies with his age. Census records list him as around 35 in 1830; 65 in 1840; and 100 in 1850! If he was about 70 when he married in 1831, he would have been around 90 in 1850 – not 100. Portwood researchers seem to think he was born around 1782. If so, he would have been around 50 when he married Drusilla. Maybe he looked older than he was and enjoyed fooling people. Dempsey lived in the Moccasin Gap area of Stewart Co. (possibly just NW of Lumpkin). Again, according to some Portwood researchers, Dempsey and Drusilla had at least five children – plus Dempsey had 5 children by his first wife. He is thought to have died in 1855 in Wilkes County; many of his children moved to Taliaferro Co.

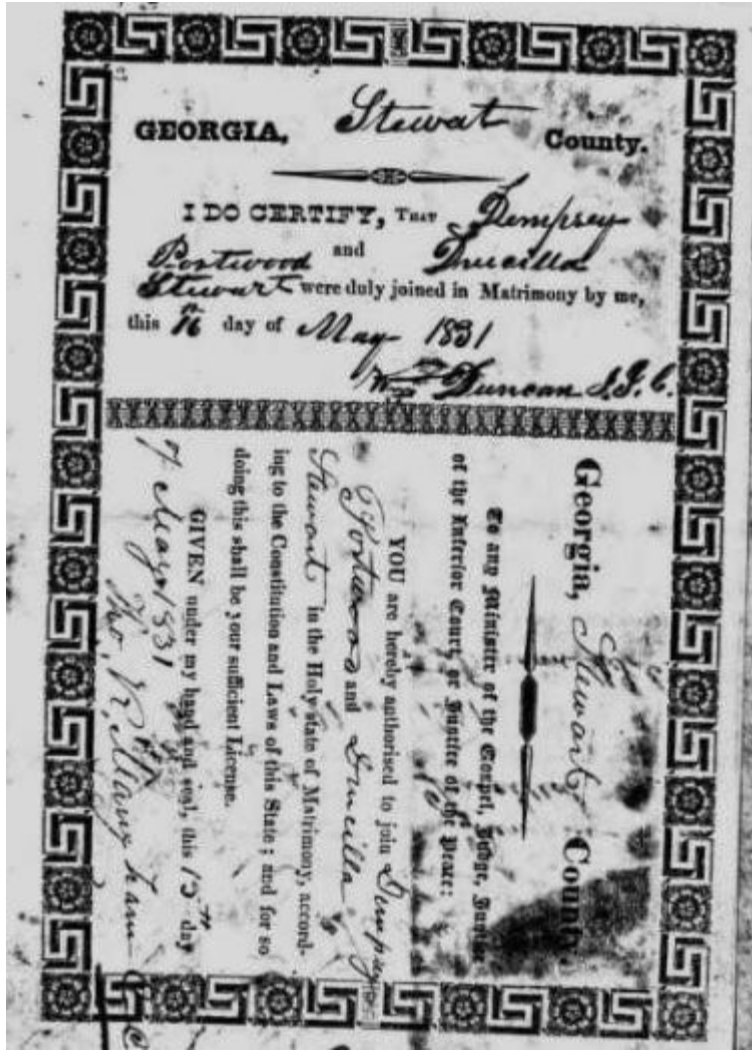
Compiled by Callie McGinnis, Muscogee Genealogical Society

Our 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.

Clipping from Georgia Historic Newspapers (GALILEO).

<https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>





The marriage license and certificate from Stewart County. The judge who married them was William Duncan, an early settler of Stewart Co.

<i>Dempsey Postwood</i>	<i>100 m</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>N.Y.</i>
<i>Trucilla</i>	<i>55 f</i>		<i>Ido</i>
<i>Emily</i>	<i>10 f</i>		<i>"</i>
<i>Thomas Stewart</i>	<i>22 m</i>	<i>Farmer</i>	<i>"</i>

The 1850 U.S. Census record for Dempsey. He and his family were living in the Moccasin Gap area of Stewart Co. Dempsey's occupation was "none." His age of 100 is erroneous. Also it appears to say he was born in N.Y. Actually, he was born in N.C. Drusilla is listed as "Trucilla" -- again, an error. Living with them and their daughter Emily is a relative of Drusilla's -- possibly a nephew.

