

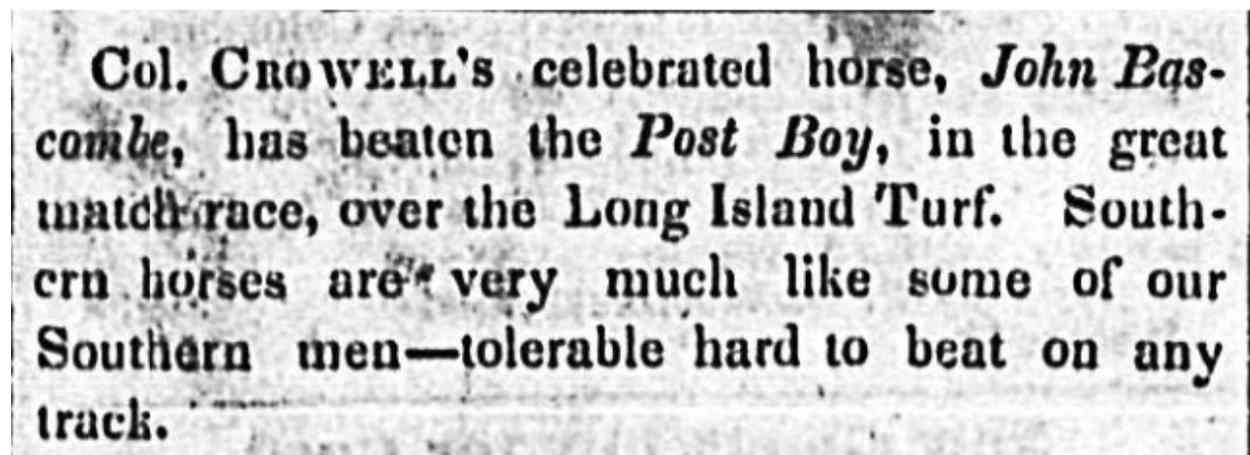
Today in Columbus History: On June 16, 1836, a short piece appeared in the *Columbus Enquirer* announcing the winner of an important horse race – a race that pitted the north against the south. The race was held May 31, 1836, at Union Course on Long Island, New York. It was between Post Boy, from New York, then considered the premier horse of North America, and John Bascombe, a horse owned by John Crowell, an Indian Agent who lived at Ft. Mitchell, Alabama. John Bascombe had won a couple of important races in Georgia but was relatively unknown. As the story goes, John Bascombe walked all the way from Ft. Mitchell to Long Island for the race – and back! The race consisted of two heats, and John Bascombe won both! Northern papers carried more details about the race than the *Columbus Enquirer*. John Bascombe's win put the South on the map in sporting circles. Edward Troye, an itinerant artist who visited Columbus in the 1830s and 1840s, painted a portrait of the celebrity horse, John Bascombe.

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>



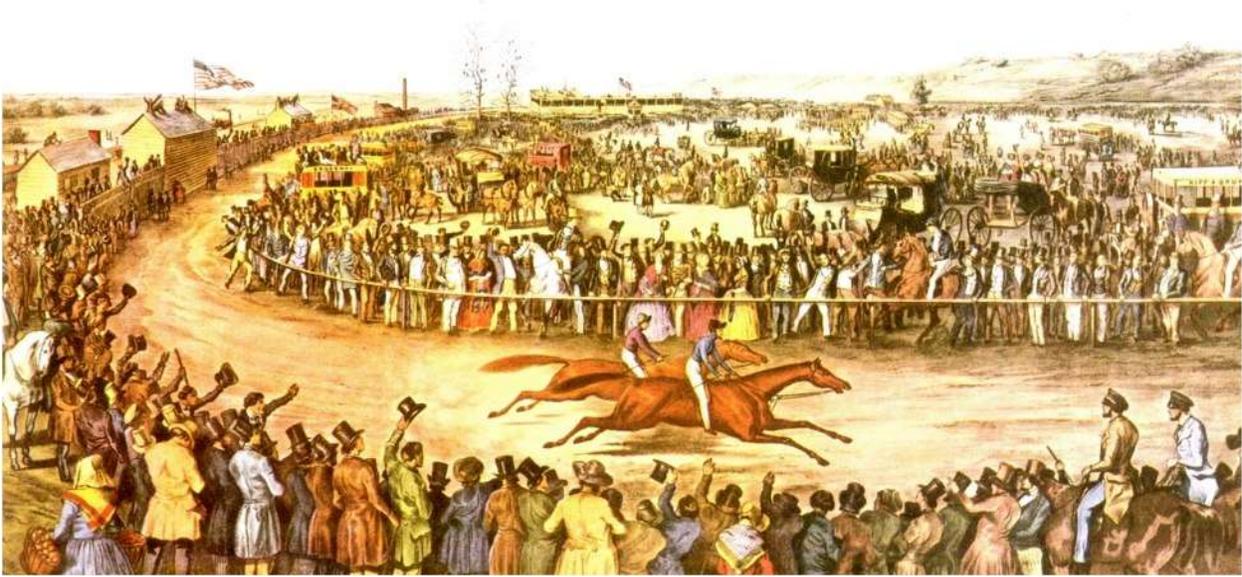
Col. CROWELL'S celebrated horse, *John Bascombe*, has beaten the *Post Boy*, in the great match race, over the Long Island Turf. Southern horses are very much like some of our Southern men—tolerable hard to beat on any track.



Troye's painting of John Bascombe -- in the Yale University Art Gallery.



Etching of John Bascombe based on Troye's painting. Clark Art Museum.



This is a Currier and Ives print of the 1845 North-South race between Fashion (North) and Peytona (South). Peytona won. The race was held at Union Course. Picture from Wikipedia.