Today in Columbus History: On June 26, 1860, R.G. Mitchell, City Collector and Treasurer, put an announcement in the Columbus Daily Times telling citizens of Columbus to pay their taxes NOW (actually, they should have paid them by the 25th of June - the day before the paper came out). There are tax records for Columbus housed in the Government Center going back to 1832. These records, called Tax Digests, can be used by genealogists and family historians to learn about their ancestors - mainly where they were living in a certain year and how much property they owned. Columbus residents were required to pay a poll tax (on every white male over 21), as well as taxes on land, personal property - including carriages - and, before the Civil War, taxes on slaves. Many of these old records are available at Ancestry.com (Georgia, Property Tax Digests, 1793-1892). Also, Mary Jane Galer transcribed many of the old Columbus tax digests (and other records) at the Government Center and published them in her book, Columbus, Georgia: Lists of People in the Town, 1828 - 1852 and Sexton's Records to 1866 (Iberian Pub., 2000).

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


## CITY TAX LIST, 1832

L. J. Davis \&Co.23.87½
for D. Hungerford 28.20
R. N. Diggs 2.00

Geo.W.Dillingham60.75
M. R. Evans \& Co. 12.50
M. R. Evans 2.00
F. A. Fairchild 2.00
G. Fisher 2.00
E. Featherstone $21.213 / 4$
P. W. Flynn $4.441 / 2$

John Fontain 23.75
Fontain \& Cook 66.35
H. P. Garrison $2.61 \frac{1}{4}$

Jas H. Green 2.00
Thos. H. Green 2.00
Collin Gardner 2.00
Richard Gray .50
H. P. Garrison for Mrs.

Sarah Bosworth 5.46
James J. Hill 3.09 ½
Hill \& Townsly .62 ½
John Harris 3.75
Richard Hooper 2.00
Harvey Hall 10.81 1/2
John D. Howel 2.00
Anderson Hunt 18.24 3/4
Augustus Haywood 2.00
L. M. Hall 2.00
G. Hallenbeck 2.00
S. K. Hodges \& Co.

Geo.Hargraves, Jr. 66.07
for Geo. Hargraves, Sr
3.75

Moses Jones 2.00
Thomas Jepson 2.00
S. Jepson 2.00
A. Iverson 10.52 1/2

Do John Forsyth $21.37^{1 / 3} 3$
Magirt Ivy 3.62
Joel Slodgehill 2.00
Thomas Kelly . $543 / 4$
J. T. Kilgore 5.27

Samuel Koockogey 4.09 3/4
James Kivlin $25.921 / 2$
Do Martha Dillard 3.50
John Logan 2.81
T. A. Lawhon 2.00

Lawhon \& Howel 39.15
John Love 14.00
John Loomis 2.66
S. Lanier 2.00
J. R. Lyon 4.62 ½

Thos. McCarty 3.96
Adam Moore 2.00
John Miller 2.00
Charles E. Mims 7.50
Rossende \& Mims 11.25
Patrick McCarty 3.77
A. P. Manly 23.46
B. Martin $36.871 / 2$

John Milton $35.10^{3 / 4}$
C. E. Mims for
R. P. Guyard $3.121 / 2$
D. B. Nafew 2.00
E. S. Norton 10.10

Nourse \& Clark 20.68
A. E. Patton \& Co. 8.98

Powers \& Nafew 18.75
E. E. Powers $15.433 / 4$

John N. Philpot 4.00
Robert Price 2.00
Samuel Paxon 2.00
M. W. Perry 7.85

Stoddard Rockwell 2.00
D. D. Ridenhower 4.12

Charles Rosande 2.00
H. S. Richardson 3.25

Bird Robinson 3.00
Wm. B. Robinson 7.12½
Job Rogers $3.583 / 4$
R. Slatter 2.00

Smith \& Morgan 31.25
H. S. Smith $30.501 / 2$
J. H. Shorter 7.00
\& for Iverson \& Shorter 8.50

Joseph Saunders 1.00
Stephen Stanly 2.00
Geo. Smith 14.27
John Schley 7.00
Stewart \& Fontain 192.50

Charles D.Stewart 14.00
J. S. Smith \& Co.

$$
16.50^{1 / 4}
$$

Frederick Toby 8.29
John Townsend 2.00
Terry \& Young 1.25
G. B. Terry 2.00

William Toxey $14.73^{1 / 2}$
Seaborn Thorn 4.00
B. Tarver \& Co. 3.01

Tarver \& Squire $10.311 / 4$
B. Tarver 2.00
G. E. Thomas $21.871 / 2$

Moses Taylor 2.96
Mrs. Tanner 4.00
John Vance 7.00
John Whitesides 4.443/4
Whitesides \& Calhoun . 31 1/4
E. Wells \& Co. 14.90 3/4
E. Wells 2.00
C. Woodruff \& Co. 50.00
C. Woodruff 2.00
P. D. Woodruff 14.64

Wm. L. Wynn 12.61
Virgil Walker 8.42
Thacker Walker 4.55
James C. Watson 15.00
Robert Young 3.25
Samuel Koockogey 4.99

Page from Mary Jane Galer's book, showing some people in 1832 who had to pay taxes -and the amount paid.


Beginning of "B's" in 1845 Tax Digest for Columbus,Militia District 772. Show John Bethune with 5 pieces of property.


2nd page of 1845 Columbus Tax Digest -- starting with John Bethune (first 5 lines). From Ancestry.com

