

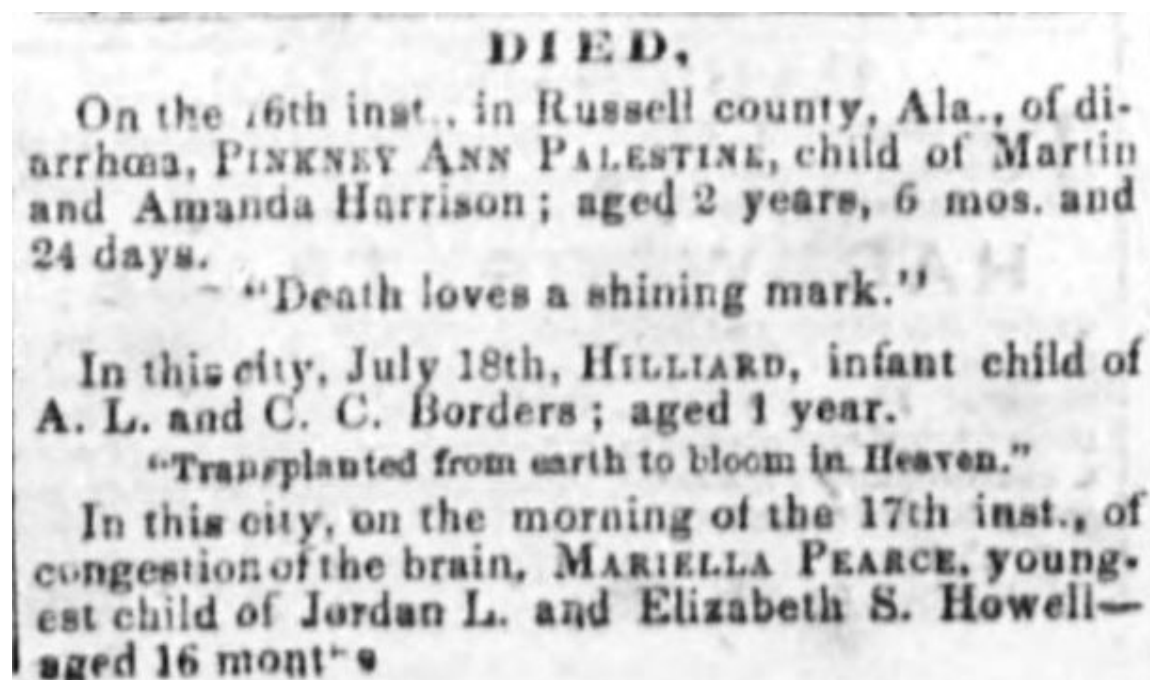
Today in Columbus History: On July 22, 1856, 3 deaths were reported in the *Columbus Enquirer* – all young children under the age of 3. In fact, according to existing city sexton's records, of the 32 people who died in Columbus in the month of July 1856, 14 were three and under – that's about 44%. The cause of death for the Harrison child is unknown, however little Mariella Howell died of congestion of the brain, while Hilliard Borders's cause of death was "teething." Nowadays, modern science holds that teething was not a valid cause of death – that, in the 19th century, the term was a catch-all for other undiagnosed serious illnesses. BTW, during July 1856, of those 14 children's deaths, 5 were from teething, 4 were from measles, 1 was from bowel complaint and the others were undiagnosed. In 2019 Georgia ranked 45th among the states in infant mortality (1 year and younger)– with a rate of 7.6%. Not as bad as 44%, but not good. Lowest is New Hampshire with 3.9%; worst, Mississippi with 9.1% (2019 statistics from [Americashealthrankings.org](https://www.americashealthrankings.org)).

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>





Children's graves often have a lamb on them -- signifying innocence.



The Borders and Howell children were buried in Linwood -- but do not have markers. The Harrison child was probably buried in Russell County. The tall monument on right is the marker of the Borders's child's grandmother, Rhoda Clark Smith Osborne, who was first married to Abner Bedell. The child's mother, Cornelia Osborne Borders, is also buried in this lot. Perhaps her child Hilliard is as well. From [Findagrave.com](http://Findagrave.com)