

Today in Columbus History: On August 31, 1848, an ad appeared in the *Muscogee Democrat and Mercantile Advertiser* announcing the opening of the Columbus Female Academy. The school was run by Nicholas Hentz, a native of Metz, Franz, and his wife, Massachusetts-born Caroline Lee Whiting Hentz; they had married in 1824. Between 1824 and their arrival in Columbus in 1848, the Hentzes operated schools in 5 other locations: Covington (KY), Cincinnati (OH), Florence (AL), Tuscaloosa (AL) and Tuskegee (AL). The couple stayed in Columbus from 1848 until 1852, at which time they moved to Marianna, FL, where one of their adult children lived. Nicholas was ill, and Caroline supported the family – with income she made from writing. In addition to teaching and raising a family of 4 children, Caroline was a serious writer – of plays, short stories and novels. She was very popular in her day – one of the most popular female authors in the mid-nineteenth century. One of her most famous novels was "The Planter's Northern Bride" (1852), written as a rebuttal to "Uncle Tom's Cabin." In 1856, she published the work she is best known for in Columbus: "Ernest Linwood, or, The Inner Life of the Author." This story is about a young woman, Gabriella Lynn, who marries Ernest Linwood, a man whose jealousy verges on insanity. The book was very popular. The same year it was published, Columbus named a neighborhood "Linwood" in its honor. And later, in 1894, the City of Columbus named its oldest cemetery "Linwood Cemetery" for the same reason.

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>

COLUMBUS
FEMALE ACADEMY.
SECOND SESSION.

THE Exercises of this Institution commence on the 14th inst. under the direction of
N. M. HENTZ, A. M.
 AND HIS WIFE,
Mrs. CAROLINE LEE HENTZ.

—
Rates of Tuition.

Primary Class—per session of five months.....	\$15 00
Other Classes, each.....	20 00
Contingent Expenses,.....	1 00

EXTRA BRANCHES.

Ancient and Modern Languages, each.....	\$10 00
Drawing and Painting in Water colors.....	10 00
Painting in Oil.....	25 00
Instruction on the Piano.....	25 00
Use of the Piano.....	5 00

One-half of the Tuition fee to be paid in advance, the other half at the close of the session.

No deduction for absence will be made, except in case of protracted sickness.

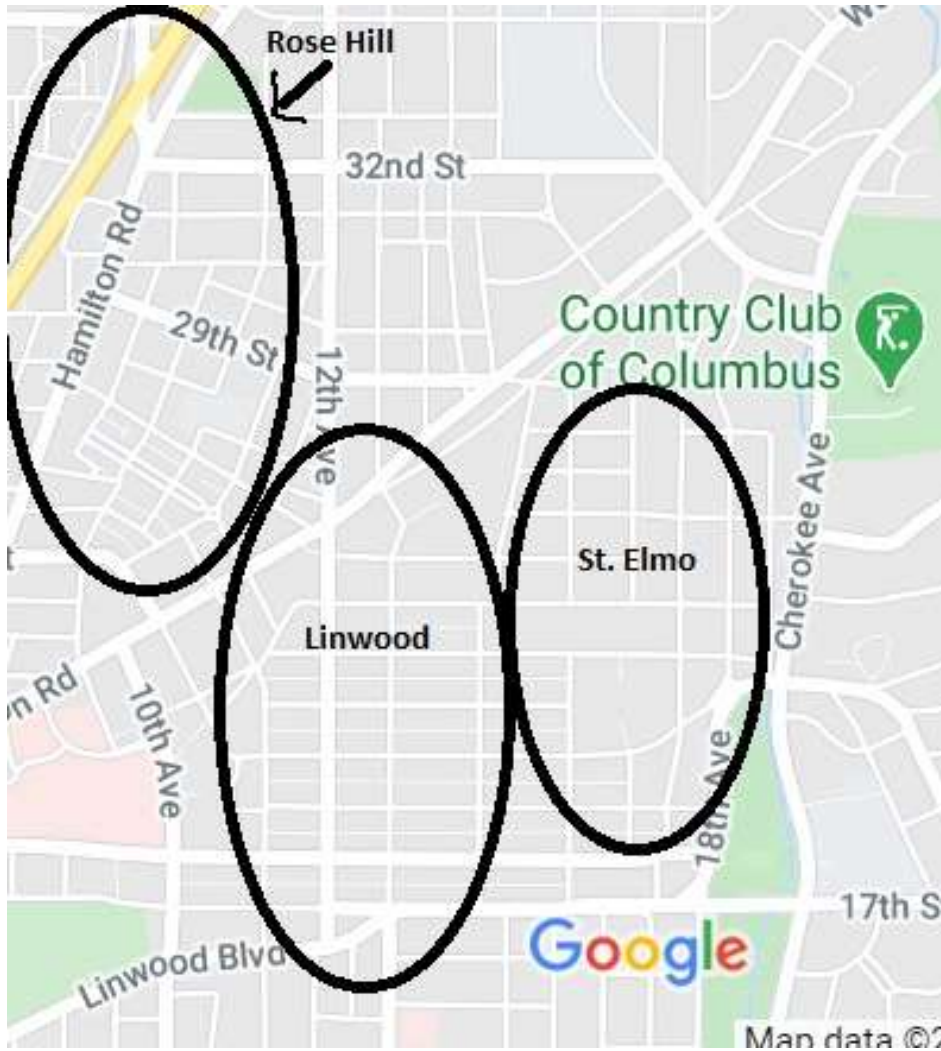
When a pupil is entered after the beginning of the session, the charge will be made only for the remnant of the time; but each week will be counted as one-twentieth of the session.

Columbus, June 22, 1843. 25 tf



Prof. Nicholas M. (1797-1856) and Mrs. Caroline Lee Hentz (1800-1856) who from 1834-1843 operated the Locust Dell Academy on the present site of Willingham Hall on the University of North Alabama Campus.

Nicholas and Caroline. From the digital collections of the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library (Alabama)/



A ROUGH approximation of where the Linwood neighborhood was/is located. According to Ken Thomas: "...Linwood as being between "Rose Hill" and what today is the St. Elmo residential area." Info from "Placenames in Columbus and Muscogee County: Part One," by Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. *Muscogiana*, vol. 22(2) Fall

2011. <https://csuepress.columbusstate.edu/muscogiana/47/>

This is a google map edited by me to roughly show the position of the neighborhoods -- according to Ken's description. CBM

ERNEST LINWOOD.

CHAPTER I.

WITH an incident of my childhood I will commence the record of my life. It stands out in bold prominence, rugged and bleak, through the haze of memory.

I was only twelve years old. He might have spoken less harshly. He might have remembered and pitied my youth and sensitiveness, that tall, powerful, hitherto kind man,— my preceptor, and, as I believed, my friend. Listen to what he did say, in the presence of the whole school of boys, as well as girls, assembled on that day to hear the weekly exercises read, written on subjects which the master had given us the previous week.

One by one, we were called up to the platform, where he sat enthroned in all the majesty of the Olympian king-god. One by one, the manuscripts were read by their youthful authors,— the criticisms uttered, which marked them with honor or shame,— gliding figures passed each other, going and returning, while a hasty exchange of glances, betrayed the flash of triumph, or the gloom of disappointment.

“ Gabriella Lynn ! ” The name sounded like thunder in my ears. I rose, trembling, blushing, feeling as if every pair of eyes in the hall were burning like red-hot balls on my face. I tried to move, but my feet were glued to the floor.

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The first page of the popular novel. In addition to Columbus naming a neighborhood and a cemetery after the famous character, many couples in the 2nd half of the 19th century named their sons "Ernest Linwood!" Page from Digitized Collections at the University of Kentucky.