“to the Dowlings who served in America's wars”

A MEMORIAL PLAQUE PRESENTED BY.

MAUD DOWLING TURNER

AT THE

1946

DOWLING FAMILY REUNION MEETING

HAMPTON, SOUTH CAROLINA
PUBLISHER’S NOTE

Maud Dowling Turner authored this document in 1946 for the dedication of a plaque honoring those in the Dowling Family who served in America’s wars – from the Revolutionary War through World War II. It was presented at the Dowling Family Reunion in Hampton South Carolina that year. I obtained my copy from a cousin. It contains a great deal of history of the Dowling family. Since it is apparently no longer in print, I have prepared this copy to assist other Dowlings in the search for their family’s history.

The Dowlings honored on the plaque and in this publication are members of the Robert Dowling family, chiefly Robert’s descendants by his son James and James’ son John.

This copy was prepared using Optical Character Recognition of a copy of the original. Due to the differing styles and formatting of the original, the OCR software had difficulty with many words. While I have attempted to proofread it carefully, if you find any apparent typographical errors, please contact me and I will check them against the original.

I have attempted to retain the original wording and punctuation as closely as possible. However, I have resized and relocated the photographs to place them beside the story of the person in the photograph. I also changed the original two-column layout in order to format it for the Web. The few changes or additions I have made to the text are contained within brackets [ ]. Note however that the original author used parentheses () to denote her notes or comments. I have also shown her notes in a slightly smaller font.

The asterisk (*) in front of a name apparently indicates that they were killed in action.

The last page contains some history of the Dowling family. This page was included in the copy I received however it does not appear to fit with the rest of the document. I am not sure if it belongs with it or not. I have no idea what “Dovle” means at the bottom of this page.

When reading this, remember that it was written and presented in 1946.

I sincerely hope this help you with your search for your family history.

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The Story of the Plaque

The story of the memorial plaque commemorating the war services of members of the Dowling Family is the story of the Dowling Family, in miniature, throughout American history.

The plaque records the names of those who served in the War of the Revolution beginning in 1776, the War with England of 1812, the Mexican War of 1848, the War between the States beginning in 1861, the War with Spain of 1898, World War I beginning in 1917, and World War II beginning in 1941.

The recording of the names carries with it the deeper meaning that, generation after generation, the whole of the Dowling Family has done its part toward the preservation of American institutions and the ideal of liberty. And through this deeper meaning can be seen other unidentified Dowling mothers, fathers, husbands, wives, sons and daughters valiantly keeping home fires burning, suffering in mind, body and estate, the while that those named on the plaque made their great sacrifices in the air, on the seas and battlefields and in the camps.

The Dowling Family is a distinguished one. Not so well known through historical works as are the families of Lee and Edwards, the Dowling clan nevertheless has furnished a goodly quota of leaders in all fields.

It is in the ranks of typical Americans - farmers, merchants, skilled artisans, teachers and other professional men and women, home-loving devoted parents - that the Dowling Family also stands in high place. It is as such Americans, and not as the greatest leaders, that the Dowlings with courage, self-reliance, hard work and moral integrity, cleared the land, began our industries, nurtured our culture, provided the money for education, public health and other social needs. In short, it is the Dowlings and other typical Americans who, behind the scenes of actual conflict, provided the sinews for victories and progress.

All of us therefore, as we pay first homage to those who risked or gave life itself in defense of country, honor our family heroes most when in peacetime each - in his or her own way and with full ability - does all possible in the forward struggle for a better world.

As a great American pointed out at Gettysburg, we cannot add to or detract from the record of those who fought in the service of their country. But we can re-dedicate our lives to the unfinished tasks of preserving the good that is in American institutions, the ideal of liberty and human progress. By such re-dedication we can create a living memorial to our family heroes. The plaque therefore should symbolize the moving spirit of the Dowling Family - *Favente Deo, Supero* - with the help of God, I conquer.
"We are not warriors, nor war-loving people, but in all times of danger, our people always have mobilized for duty."

Suggested by Hon. Joel Frampton Dowling, Sr.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF INDIVIDUALS ON PLAQUE

(Data are based on family records and replies to questionnaires. Identical treatment was intended for each name; failure of families to supply data or missing records make sketches incomplete in some instances. Sketches are given in the order in which names appear on the memorial plaque. Every reasonable effort has been made to insure accuracy.)

**1776**

ROBERT DOWLING II. Robert Dowling II was the first Dowling (of our branch of the family) to come to South Carolina. Robert Dowling I, or his antecedents, came to Virginia by way of Wales during the seventeenth century. Robert Dowling I married in Virginia to a Virginian. Robert Dowling II is the child of this marriage. Robert Dowling II grew to manhood in Virginia and married a Virginian. From this marriage there was one child, William Dowling, born in Virginia. The mother died in childbirth or soon thereafter. Robert Dowling II married a second time. By his second wife, Sarah Guinn of Virginia, there were James, John, Elizabeth, Sarah and Millie. Shortly before the War of the Revolution, Robert Dowling II moved to Jeffries Creek, near the present town of Darlington, South Carolina. William Dowling married in Virginia a Virginian and moved near his father in the Darlington region. (These facts are attested by Noel T. Dowling, Nash Professor of Law at Columbia University, and are based on notes dictated by the Rev. Dempsey Dowling in 1857.) Robert Dowling I was born before 1710, but his date of death is uncertain (believed alive in 1800). Robert Dowling II was born in 1730 and died in 1794. Robert Dowling II served throughout the war in Captain William Vause's Company, 12th Virginia Regiment, Commanded by Colonel James Wood. He fought at Musgrove's Mill, Guilford Court House, Cowpens and King's Mountain. (See Maud Dowling Turner's file Natl. D.A.R. #238787, 171982, 137007.)

JAMES DOWLING. Born 1758. Died 1802. Married to former Mary Boutwell; children, William, James, John (Jabez), Willis, Henry, Sarah, Mary and Letitia. Served in Brenton's Regiment, General Marion's Brigade, throughout the War of the Revolution. Son of Robert Dowling II and Sarah Guinn Dowling. Service attested by pay vouchers and other records. His will was on file in Darlington, South Carolina.

JOHN DOWLING. Born 1759. Died 1826. Married to Nancy Boutwell (sister of Mary Boutwell, who was the wife of his brother James); children (see general note given below). Served alongside of his brother in the War of the Revolution and also in Captain Levacher de Ste. Marie's Company, 1st South Carolina Regiment, commanded by Col. Charles Cotesworth Pinckney. Son of Robert Dowling II and Sarah Guinn Dowling.

(*GENERAL NOTE:* Although most of the names on the plaque, below those shown in the War of 1812, are descendants of James (brother of this John) Dowling, son of Robert Dowling II by his marriage to Sarah Guinn, it is useful for family history to note a few additional facts about the descendants of John Dowling. By his marriage to Nancy Boutwell John Dowling had six sons and three daughters, as follows: (A) Dempsey, Elias, Zaccheus (shown on plaque), Levi, Allen; Simpson, Lydia, Rhoda and Jemina. Levi, Elias, Zaccheus and Dempsey came, with their mother, Nancy Boutwell, to Alabama in an early day. Nancy Boutwell is buried in Old Zion Churchyard, near where Zaccheus and Levi settled - eight miles west of Ozark, Alabama. Levi left in the 1850's and carried part of his family to Mississippi.)

As Dempsey, (who married Martha Stokes of Darlington), left numerous descendants in the Southeast who are members of the Dowling Family Association, it is useful to list the names of the descendants of John Dowling's oldest son.

(A) Dempsey had seven sons and seven daughters. They were: (1) Wesley, (2) Noel, (3) Fletcher, (4) John, (5) Edward, (6) James, (7) Zinnaman, (8) Lacy, (9) Millie, (10) Elizabeth and (11) Zillah (a twin of Elizabeth), (12) Martha, (13) Anna and (14) Frances.
The descendants of each of these children of Dempsey; son of John, son of Robert are: (1) Wesley Jasper, Martin, Marion J., Frances (dau.). Jasper and Martin died in the War between the States; (2) Noel John W., Angus, Simeon, Massalone, LaFayette, James King (died in Confederate Army), Noel P., Gabriel P. and Anna Jane; (3) Fletcher - Jefferson, Anderson (moved to Texas), Mary and Margaret; (4) John - S. Lawson, Elisha M. C., Noel B., Jerve M., Louis, George Washington, Lancy Ann, Nancy Jane; (5) Edward Jessie, Robert J., Eddie, Margaret, Betsy Ann, Jane, Susan, Ophelia and Eudora; (6) James (killed in Confederate Army, buried in Virginia) - (James and his brother, Fletcher (3) above, married sisters, Caroline and Nancy Martin) - William, Greenberry, Irvin, Sarah, Catherine, Anna, Bluney, Cally and Pandora: (7) Zinnaman - Pinkney, Simpson, LeRoy, Calvess, Laura, Jetson, Joicy, Lonette and Martha; (8) Lacy (m. Elisha Mathews) William Edwards; Melton T., Jane, Martha, Ann, Mary, Aquilla, Talitha, Betsy Ann, Margaret; (9) Millie (m. Wm. Cox) - Fletcher, Jessie and Henry, Martha, Nancy, Elizabeth, Sara, Sophronia, Cornelia, Lillie, Rebecca; (10) Elizabeth - died at age fifteen without issue; (11) Zillah (m. Sam. Hallford) - James, Wesley, Wilburn (died in Confederate Army), Dixie H. (moved to Texas), Gordon, Jessie (died in Confederate Army), Monroe, Susan, Sarah, Josephine and Piety; (12) Martha (m. Emanuel Parrish) - Hill, and Jefferson; (13) Anna (m. James Parrish) - Marcellus (died in Confederate Army), Young (moved to Texas), Lawrence (moved to Texas), Savannah, Rosaberg, Mary and Sarah: (14) Frances (m. Mathias Bracken, brother of the wife of John Dowling (4) above - Simeon, Warren. Hayden, Lawrence, Tarve, Martha, Jane, Lucile, Avila, Piety, Roxy Ann, and Rebecca.

It is seen that just as the sons of Robert Dowling II and Sarah Guinn (John and James) married sisters (Mary and Nancy Boutwell), so also, descendants of John and James frequently were married to brothers or sisters in new lines. This, in part, accounts for the feeling of "close" kinship between various branches of the family.)

* WILLIAM DOWLING. Born 1756. Died January 1, 1783. Married a Virginian, children, Jabez, Micajah ("Cageby"), Elizah. Participated in siege of Charleston, later killed by Tories near the close of the war at his new home in Barnwell County, whence he had moved from Darlington. Son of Robert Dowling II and a Virginia lady whose name is unknown. See additional notes under Dennis and (James) Jabez Dowling.

1812

DENNIS DOWLING. This Dowling fought alongside of his father, (James) Jabez Dowling throughout the War of 1812. Dennis Dowling's father, Jabez, was the son of William Dowling, the son of Robert Dowling II, by his first marriage. Other descendants of William fought in this and other wars, one of whom (not shown on plaque) was John Wesley Dowling, who was captured, imprisoned and tortured to death in prison.

(JAMES) JABEZ DOWLING. Born 1771 (?). Jabez was about forty years old at the time of the War of 1812 but went himself and carried his young son Dennis into battle with him. Jabez' father was William Dowling, son of Robert Dowling by first marriage. Jabez, as a small child standing in his father's doorway, saw the British raiding party murder his defenseless father, William; the infamous British General Tarleton having ordered his Tory parties to take no prisoners from among the "zealot patriots listed" and William was one of those named. (Note: Many of the Dowlings in Northern Florida and South Georgia are descendants of (James) Jabez Dowling. (The "James" is doubtful; Jabez is given in most references.)

JOHN (JABEZ) DOWLING. Born 1782 near Darlington, S. C. Died 1869. Married former Susan Barns; children, James Theophilus (born 1816, died 1882), Rennie, William Madison, Hester Ann, Elbert L., July, Mary, Oliver Perry, Eliza Jane. Served throughout War of 1812. Son of Mary Boutwell Dowling and James Dowling. the latter being the son of Robert Dowling II by his marriage to Sarah Guinn Dowling.

ZACCHEUS DOWLING. Born 1792 near Darlington, S. C. Served throughout War of 1812. Son of Nancy Boutwell Dowling and John Dowling. His Grandfather was Robert Dowling II. Zaccheus (also spelled Zaccheus) (died 1885 and is buried within two miles of Greenville, Ala. He was prominent in Alabama affairs and was Presiding Elder in 'Methodist Church. Pastor of Charleston, S. C., M. E. Church 1819. Zaccheus left no children.
1848

WILLIAM CANE. Half-brother of Mary Ann Long, wife of James Theophilus Dowling. Led charge in final assault on fortifications at Vera Cruz while serving under General Winfield Scott. He was fighting side by side with another descendant of Robert Dowling II, according to family tradition which cannot be verified. His cry of victory, as the two crossed the walls, was "Hail Columbia, Happy Land, Mexico is ours or we're damned." The Cane and Long families are related to Dr. Crawford W. Long of Georgia, first to use anesthesia.

JOHN (JABEZ) DOWLING. See biographical sketch above. Also served in Mexican War.

(Note: Many other descendants of William, James and John - children of Robert Dowling by his first and second marriages also served in the War of 1812 and 1848 but records have not been sufficiently clarified for inclusion with these names. Among such descendants are many whose records are authenticated including William Hampton Dowling, grandfather of the husband of Mrs. Beulah B. Dowling, Family Genealogist, of Manatee Station, Bradenton, Florida.)

1861

ELBERT L. DOWLING. Born 1822. Died 1880 Buried at Hopewell Church. Served in 5th South Carolina Confederate Cavalry as Sharpshooter and Scout. Son of John (Jabez) Dowling and Susan Barnes Dowling. His Grandfather was James Dowling, son of Robert Dowling II.

JOHN V. DOWLING. Born August 23, 1849, near Brunson, S. C. Died December 30, 1930. Attended school at Furman University. Married former Annie Williams; children, Annie Ellis (Heirs), (1) Jamesina Virginia (Weems), Charles Theophilus, (2) Broadsus Estes, Walter Talmadge, Rosa Kirby and Mary Louise - all of whom deceased except (1) and (2). Buried at Hopewell Church - Profession: Educator, Probate Judge and City Inspector, Savannah. Ga. Volunteered at age of sixteen in last year of the War between the States as a scout under Captain Mulligan of Company B, 5th South Carolina Cavalry. Son of Mary Ann Dowling and James Theophilus Dowling. His Grandfather was John (Jabez) Dowling, whose antecedents were James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

WILLIAM HAMILTON DOWLING. Born August 4, 1842, in old Beaufort District, S. C. Died September 9, 1924, buried at Hopewell Church. Married former Clara Louisa Ruth of old Beauford District; children William Hamilton, Jr. (deceased), Mary Susan (deceased), Annie Maud (Turner), Ada May (Cowart) (deceased). Melinda Ruth (deceased), Buist Duncan I. Clara Louisa (Crouch), Geddes Grafton I (deceased). Addie Rosa (West) (deceased) Joel Frampton I, Harry. Profession: Baptist Clergyman. Entered War between the States on November 6, 1861, attached to Company B, 5th South Carolina Cavalry, Butler's Brigade, Hampton's Legion. Fought many battles in Virginia and the Carolinas, serving as Chief Scout acting Captain and Chaplain (being ordained after the war). Was School Commissioner and Probate judge and for sixty years active in all forms of Church affairs in lower South Carolina. Son of James Theophilus Dowling and Mary Ann Dowling. His Grandfather was John (Jabez) Dowling, whose antecedents were James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

(GENERAL NOTE: Among the other Dowlings engaged in the War between the States were: Dr. Elijah Henry Dowling, Assistant Surgeon for South Carolina Armies (son of Decanie Dowling); his brother, John Calhoun Dowling; William Wesley, son of Dennis Dowling (shown on plaque in War of 1812); William Wesley Dowling's son, William Henry Taylor Dowling and William Wesley's son, William Hampton Dowling and the latter's sons, Isaac and Berrien Dowling - all of whom are descended from Robert Dowling II.)

1898

Served in Cuba as Company Clerk, Company F, 2nd Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Spanish American War. Son of Mary Margaret Dowling and Decanie Dexter Dowling. His Grandfather was James Theophilus Dowling, whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

**1917**

ELLERBE DE LOACH. Born 1900 Served in World War I. Son of Mellie Dowling De Loach and Jos. De Loach. His Grandfather was James Theophilus Dowling, whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

BROADUS ESTES DOWLING. Born June 22, 1893, at Varnville, S. C. Attended school at Chatham Academy and Fort Worth Texas Medical College. Married former Louise Cleveland of Milltown, Georgia; children - Edward Cleveland. Business: Distribution of Consumer Products. Residence: Greenville, S. C. Served in U. S. Army 'Medical Corps in World War I; two years overseas, attached to 142nd Field Artillery Hospital Company. Cited for bravery under fire while evacuating wounded. Son of Annie Williams Dowling and John Virgil Dowling. His Grandfather was James Theophilus Dowling, whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

HARRY DOWLING. Born November 22, 1888, at Hampton, S. C. Attended school at University of South Carolina and elsewhere. Married former Inez Nichols of South Carolina; children, Evangeline (deceased) and Ada Maud. Occupation: Writer. Residence: Texas. Served in U. S. Army Coast Artillery, F. C. Gunner. Served on Mexican Border (Villa Campaign) 1916 was attached to Fort Screven base in World War I. Office of Coast Defense Artillery Engineer, as Non-Com. Officer in charge of Post Operations. Son of Clara Ruth Dowling and William Hamilton Dowling. His Grandfather was James Theophilus Dowling, whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

LEON KELEHEAR. Served in U. S. Navy. Son of Sallie Nix Kelehear and O. L. Kelehear. His Grandmother was Aimee Dowling Nix, whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See World War II (1941) for remainder of family line.)

ROBERT LEE NETTLES I. Major Robert Lee Nettles, U. S. Army, served in both World War I (1917) and World War II (1941). See his sketch under 1941.


(J.) ARTHUR TUTEN. Born 1894 at Gifford, S. C. Attended school at Univ. of South Carolina. Resided in Charleston, S. C. Died March 19, 1945. Married former Ethel Kroeg; children, Margueritte, Charlotte and John Arthur, Jr. Served one year and seven months in World War I as Non-Comm. officer, participating in most of the French and Belgian salient engagements with 30th Div., Engineers. One-time editor of Hampton County Guardian; President of Protestant Episcopal Churchmen's Association of Diocese of South Carolina and member of vestry of St. Luke's Church; member of the St. Andrew's Society. Son of Eliza Stokes Tuten and
Southwood Walter Tuten. His Grandmother was Susan Dowling Tuten, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


1941


EDWARD V. BOWERS. (No data. Name supplied in response to questionnaires.)


BROOKS DOWLING. See Brooks Dowling Harrison.

ARCHIE DOWLING. Born Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Brunson. Non-Comm. Officer, U. S. Army, European Theatre. Son of Edith Barker Dowling and Abram D. Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brothers on plaque.)
DUNCAN BUIST DOWLING II

Born December 11, 1911, at Augusta, Georgia. Attended Richmond Military Academy and United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., (class of 1936). Married former Marjorie Thayer Mason of Benton Harbor, Mich.; children, Deanne Daniel, Marjorie Thayer and Duncan Buist III. Lieutenant-Colonel U. S. Army. Participated in defense of Pearl Harbor; Battalion Commander, 28th Div., France. Purple Heart and Bronze Star posthumously. Died in action August 11, 1944, Mortain-Vire sector in Normandy Invasion. The sacrifice made by his battalion (almost wholly wiped out), and by him, enabled General Patton to complete the gigantic encirclement movement which ended in the annihilation of almost all of the enemy forces in Western France. The particular engagement in which he lost his life was a turning point of World War III as Verdun was in World War I. Son of Essie Daniels Dowling and Duncan Buist Dowling I. His Grandfather was William Hamilton Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

EDWARD CLEVELAND DOWLING

Born January 22, 1922. Unmarried. Attended school at Greenville and Univ. of South Carolina. Served in World War II for twenty-nine months in Burma-India Theatre as Sgt. U. S. Army Air Force. Son of Louise Cleveland Dowling and Broadus Estes Dowling (see father's name on plaque). His Grandfather was John V. Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

FRANK DOWLING

Born at Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Brunson. Non-Comm. Officer, Italian Campaign, European Theatre, U. S. Army. Son of Edith Barker Dowling and Abram D. Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John, (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See others of same family on plaque.)

GEDDES GRAFTON DOWLING II


HENRY DOWLING

Born at Fairfax, S. C. Attended school at Brunson. Sgt. U. S. Army Air Force, European Theatre, based in England. Son of Essie Sullivan Dowling and Benjamin Wyman Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

HENRY ATWILL DOWLING

Born April 9, 1918, at Barnwell, S. C. Attended Savannah, Ga., and St. Petersburg, Fla., schools. Married former Dorothy Hodges of Norfolk, Va.; children, Nancy Lee. NonComm. Officer U. S. Army with 71st Division. Entered service May 27, 1944, and fought in European Theatre (E. T. O. ribbon with battle stars). With Army of Occupation in Austria and engaged in "every type of military operation save a retreat." Formerly Chief Clerk, Norfolk Navy Yard. Son of Ethel Ford Dowling and Charles Theophilus Dowling. His Grandfather was John V. Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.
JAMES DEXTER DOWLING. Born July 12, 1913. Attended school at St. Petersburg, Fla. Unmarried. Sgt. U. S. Army, 103rd Division, European Theatre. Son of Lilly Maude Boyd Dowling and Wilbur Boyce Dowling. His Grandfather was Decanie D. Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


JULIAN DOWLING. Born at Fairfax [S.C.]. Attended school at Fairfax. Resides in North Carolina. Second Lieutenant U. S. Army Air Force. Son of Essie Sullivan Dowling and Benjamin Wyman Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brothers, also listed on plaque.)

MARION MILLER DOWLING. Born July 23, 1920, at Greenwood, S. C. Attended Greenwood and Spartanburg schools and The Citadel and Wofford College. Married former Clementia Shanks of Selma, Ala.; children, Martha Lamar. First Lieutenant U. S. Army, now with Army of Occupation in Germany. Entered service June, 1942, sent to Panama Canal Zone and after return for advanced training, attached to 71st Division in France. Participated in numerous battles including push through Maginot and Siegfried Lines and, on V-E Day was with Easternmost element of ground forces in enemy territory - making 600 mile advance on foot without basic rest. Son of Mattie Miller Dowling and Joel Frampton Dowling, Sr. His Grandfather was William Hamilton Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (Brother of Joel Frampton D., listed above.)

MOYE CLIFTON DOWLING II. Born March 12, 1906, at Augusta, Ga. Attended school at Augusta, Ga., Fairfax and Greenville, S. C., also The Citadel. Second Lieutenant, U. S. Army Coast Artillery. Son of Maude W. Dowling and Moye Clifton Dowling I (see father's name also on plaque). His Grandfather was Decanie Dexter Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling. John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

NED JEFFERSON DOWLING. Born April 21, 1915, at Brunswick, S. C. Attended school at Brunswick and Orlando, Fla. Married former Ruth O'Lerry; children, Evelyn Ann. Served throughout war in U. S. Navy. Son of Edith Barker Dowling and Abram D. Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James
Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brothers also listed on plaque.)

OLIVER DOWLING. Born at Fairfax, S. C. Attended school at Fairfax. Resides in North Carolina. Non-Comm. Officer U. S. Army, European Theatre, based in Ireland. Son of Essie Sullivan Dowling and Benjamin Wyman Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

WILLIAM B. DOWLING. Born at Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Brunson. Married former Tena Hoffman. Officer U. S. Army, European Theatre, based in England. Son of Edith Barker Dowling and Abram D. Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

WILSON DOWLING. Born at Fairfax, S. C. Attended school at Fairfax. Resides in North Carolina. Non-Comm. Officer, U. S. Army Air Force, based in England and fought in European Theatre battles. Son of Essie Sullivan Dowling and Benjamin Wyman Dowling. His Grandfather was Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), whose antecedents were John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


BROOKS DOWLING HARRISON. (Listed as Brooks Dowling on the plaque.) Born December 13, 1926, at Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Brunson. Served throughout war with U. S., Naval Air Corps as Petty Officer (M. M.). Son of Edith Dowling Harrison and John Gary Evans Harrison I. His Grandfather was John C. Dowling, Sr., whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brothers listed below.)

JOHN GARY EVANS HARRISON II. Born February 4, 1919, at Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Clemson College. U. S. Marine Corps. Son of Edith Dowling Harrison and John Gary Evans Harrison I. His Grandfather was John C. Dowling, Sr., - whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

RALPH MARION HARRISON. Born March 11, 1921, at Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Univ. of South Carolina. Sgt. U. S. Army. Son of Edith Dowling Harrison and John Gary Evans Harrison I. His Grandfather was John C. Dowling, Sr., whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brothers listed above.)

BEN FRANKLIN HAY. Born April 12, 1909, at Knoxville, Tenn. Attended Military Institute, Tupelo, Miss. and Young Harris College, Ga. Profession: journalist. U. S. Army Transportation Corps., First Engineer, Small Ships Branch, Pacific Theatre. Married former Lucy Bruce of Atlanta, Ga.; no children. Son of Alma De Loach Hay and late James W. Hay. His Grandmother was Mellie Dowling De Loach, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

MAURICE DOWLING HIERS. Born September 5, 1916, at Columbia, S. C. Attended school at Waycross, Ga., and Clemson College. Married former Jeanne Purdom of Blackshear, Ga.; no children. Profession: Teaching. Captain U. S. Army. Began service August, 1941. Served in Pacific Theatre and engaged in various operations including Okinawa Invasion. Twice commended for action on battlefield. Ordnance Specialist. Son of Jamesina Dowling Weems and Maurice Earl Weems (Maurice assumed name of Hiers out of family devotion to Annie Dowling Hiers and John S. Hiers - his Aunt and Uncle.) His Grandfather was John V. Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brother, James Acton Weems, listed below.)
JOSEPH KELEHEAR. Born at Hampton, S. C. Attended school at Hampton. Sgt. U. S. Army. Son of Susannah Rosier Kelehear and Zacharias T. Kelehear. His Grandmother was Clementine Dowling Rosier, whose antecedents were William Madison Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

JOHN ALLEN MILES II. Born May 4, 1927, at Asheville, N. C. Attended Porter Military Academy and Clemson College. Unmarried. Entered U. S. Navy in July, 1944. Son of Susie E. Tuten Miles and John Allen Miles I. His Grandfather was Southwood Walter Tuten, whose antecedents were Susan Dowling Tuten, James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


*R HEBER NETTLES II. Born November 21, 1923. Attended Univ. of Tennessee. Resided at Charleston, S. C. Entered U. S. Army Infantry at outbreak of war. Died in action, October 25, 1944, European Theatre, while attached to 3rd Army having served in North African, Italian and South France campaigns. Son of Stella Nettles and Heber Nettles I. His Grandmother was Laura De Loach Nettles, whose antecedents were Mellie Dowling De Loach, James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


ROBERT LEE NETTLES II. Born August 26, 1921. Served in U. S. Navy Q. M. Corps. Son of Major Robert Lee Nettles I. His Grandmother was Laura De Loach Nettles, whose antecedents were Mellie Dowling De Loach, James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

ARCHIE NIX. (Brother of John Nix, who also is believed to have served in World War II but on whom no data were received.) Born at Brunson. Entered U. S. Navy as Seaman, 1st Class. He is son of Maude Nix and John Nix. His Grandmother was Aimee Dowling Nix, whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II

HENRY LAMAR NIX. Born August 18, 1924, at Brunson. U. S. Navy Seaman, 1st Class. He is the son of Beulah Shipes Nix and Thomas Jefferson Nix I. His Grandmother was Aimee Dowling Nix, whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brother, listed below.)
* THOMAS JEFFERSON NIX II. Born December 12, 1919, at Brunson, S. C. Attended school at Univ. of South Carolina. First Lieutenant U. S. Army Air Force. While serving as Group Navigator with the 95th Air Group in a mission over Germany he was reported missing in action July 28, 1943 and reported as dead on July 28, 1944. Air Medal, Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart (awarded to Mother). Son of Beulah Shipes Nix and Thomas Jefferson Nix I. His Grandmother was Aimee Dowling Nix, whose antecedents were Oliver Perry Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


WILLIAM J. SPEAKS II. Born at Fairfax, S. C. Attended school at Fairfax. First Lieutenant U. S. Army in European Theatre. Son of Richardine Folk Dowling Speaks and William J. Speaks I. His Grandmother was Emma Dowling Speaks, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (Edward F. Speaks, a brother, is believed to have served in U. S. Army as a Non-Comm. Officer in the Railway Operations Unit in the European Theatre but no direct confirmation received in time to include name on plaque.)

PHILIP TERRY II. Served in U. S. Navy Seabees, Pacific Theatre. Son of Ronella Kelehear Terry (sister of Joseph Kelehear listed on plaque) and Philip Terry I. His Grandmother was Susannah Rosier Kelehear, whose antecedents were Clementine Dowling Rosier, William Madison Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

RALPHEAL TERRY - Served in U. S. Army as Sgt., European Theatre. Son of Ronella Kelehear Terry and Philip Terry I (brother of Philip Terry II, listed above). His Grandmother was Susannah Rosier Kelehear, whose antecedents were Clementine Dowling Rosier, William Madison Dowling (brother of James Theophilus Dowling), John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

BOYCE HOPKINS TUTEN. Born February 5, 1919, at Greenville, S. C. Attended school at Greenville and also Panama City, Fla., and Furman University. Unmarried. Profession: Teaching. Served in U. S. Navy from July 4, 1942, as Lieutenant, S. G., in Pacific Theatre. Son of Mattie Dowling Tuten and Frank Tuten. His Grandmother was Susan Dowling Tuten, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brother, listed below.)

HAROLD TUTEN. Born January 21, 1924, at Furman, S. C. Attended school in Furman. Unmarried. Entered service from school in June 1942 and became B. M. in U. S. Navy. Saw action in Pacific Theatre. Son of Mattie Dowling Tuten and Frank Tuten. (Brother of Boyce, listed above.) His Grandmother was Susan Dowling Tuten,
A SHORT SKETCH OF DOWLING FAMILY HISTORY

(The following notes are but introductory comments to Dowling family history - a history which deserves recording and which, under the leadership of Mrs. Beulah B. Dowling, may become available in future years. In the interest of accuracy it should be observed that much obscurity surrounds the early times of the Dowling family - an obscurity not made easier to penetrate and clarify by the ravages of wars, fires, untimely deaths of learned and informed elder members of the current generation of Dowlings. So far as is known no statement is given below but which can be authenticated; however, space limitations prevent citation of all reference sources. - M.D.T.)

One of the traditions as to the origin of the Dowling family in America - at least of that branch which is represented in the South Carolina reunion group is that there came together to the Colonies three Dowling brothers. One of these brothers arrived in Virginia, another landed in Carolina and a third set up in western Virginia, Pennsylvania.

In 1674, the will of one Mathew Dowling of Charleston, S. C., was proved. By this will the estate was left to a Captain O'Sullivan, first Surveyor-General of South Carolina. In 1671, the Grand Council gave one Joseph Dowling (Dowden) liberty "to go to Barbadoes to better manage his extensive affairs." In 1659, one Hugh Dowling (Dowding) bought land in Upper Machodich Neck, Stafford County, Va. (One Hugh Dowling (Dulin) whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

HENRY ASA TUTEN. Born September 25, 1911, at Furman, S. C. Attended school in Furman. Married former Mary Scarborough; children, one son. Business: Labor Union Official. Petty Officer, U. S. Navy, serving in Pacific Theatre beginning in 1944. Son of Cleo S. Tuten and Cleveland Tuten. His Grandmother was Susan Dowling Tuten, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.


JAMES I. WEST. Born June 28, 1920, at Greenville, S. C. Attended school at St. Petersburg, Fla. Married former Jacqueline Cooper of St. Petersburg; Children, Carey Lance. Entered U. S. Army as volunteer July, 1939, and served in Canal Zone with Infantry. In December, 1943, transferred temporarily to Air Service, later becoming Captain in Infantry. Severely wounded in action; Purple Heart and Citations. He is the son of the late Addie Dowling West and the late Charles D. West, Sr. His Grandfather was William Hamilton Dowling, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.

EDWARD TATE ZEIGLER. Born November 9, 1924, Fairfax S. C. Attended school at Fairfax. Sgt. U. S. Army Transportation Corps, beginning June 1943. Sixteen months overseas, based in England. Son of Maude Speaks Zeigler and E. A. Zeigler. His Grandmother was Emma Dowling Speaks, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II. (See brother listed below.)

MARION ZEIGLER. Born February 20,1926, Fairfax, S. C. Attended school at Fairfax. Tech. 4th Grade (Radar) U. S. Army Air Force, beginning June 1944. Son of Maude Speaks Zeigler and E. A. Zeigler. (Brother of Edward, listed above.) His Grandmother was Emma Dowling Speaks, whose antecedents were James Theophilus Dowling, John (Jabez) Dowling, James Dowling and Robert Dowling II.
died, in 1680, in Maryland, leaving valuable property. In 1697, one James Dowling of St. Mary's County, Maryland, successfully engaged in a suit for damages in a breach of contract action. One William Dowling (Dowlin) was a Corporal in Talbot County in the same state from 1694 to 1697. In Pennsylvania in a record of 1685 appears the name of Philip Dowling (Doling) and other early records in that state refer to various Dowlings - one of which arrived from Wales, by way of Bristol in 1685. Richard, Elizabeth, Murdock, George, John, James and William are the Christian names of many early Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania Dowlings.

It is my belief that the Robert Dowling line which we honor, memorialize and from which we are directly descended was originated here through Fr. (Frampton) Dowling who arrived in Virginia August 1, 1643 - over three hundred years ago.

Fr. Dowling was eighth on the list of passengers with Captain Samuel Matthews, who sailed from Bristol Channel ports with numerous colonists. In accordance with the practice of the time Captain Matthews received a large tract of land (4,000 acres) for bringing over colonists and Fr. Dowling took adjacent land as a grant from the Crown. The Matthews tract was on the North side of the Rappahannock River, was bounded on the West by Cassawomac Creek, on the South by the head of the Viecomoco River and the Rappahannock River and on the East by the main bay of the Chesapeake (see Patent Book No. 1. p. 882 recorded by Sir John Harvey). This region, in 1643, was a virtual wilderness - the first colonists coming to this point about 1634. By 1652 it was well settled. Fr. Dowling came between those two periods. This section is today Lancaster County, Virginia.

It was but a few miles north by water - the only means of communication - to St. Mary's, in Maryland, the area next settled, where many records refer to Dowlings of a generation or so later. Some of the children of Fr. Dowling, finding the original lands taken up, might have moved up on the next neck of and into what is today Maryland. Others might have moved westward. A Robert Dowling is referred to in the record of Augusta County, Virginia (in Volume I, P. 174) about the year 1700. One Jeremiah Dowling is referred to in the same Virginia records (in Volume II, pp. 316 - 329) under date of 1795 and 1798 - long after Robert Dowling II (from whom our group traces its descent) is known to have settled or, at least moved, to South Carolina.

This is my explanation of the "three brothers" legend. Indeed, I find no conflict with this explanation and another tradition that Robert Dowling I with a small child or children came to Virginia from "Wales." Prior to about 1750, it was common for most colonists to speak of their across-the-water origins and not of some little known, sparsely-settled community which would not be known to other colonists. Therefore I conclude that Robert Dowling I was born in Virginia of a line settling there earlier, originating in Wales or embarking from Bristol Channel ports - major points of exodus for Welsh, English, and Irish colonists bound for the new world. Also I conclude there is a strong possibility that Fr. Dowling was the original ancestor in America of the Robert Dowling line.

When Fr. Dowling arrived, hailing possibly from old "Frampton" in the Wales-England border region, there were only about 15,000 whites left in the Virginia communities following the second bloody Indian Massacre of 1643 - 1644. These few whites included however all classes - nobility and gentry, yeomanry, indentured servants and some who were purposely devoid of identity. There were very disturbed conditions in England, Wales and Ireland about this time, not the least of which were those arising from religious and the Parliamentary-Crown struggles.

That the religious faith of most of the Dowlings who are descended from the Lancaster, Virginia - Robert Dowling lines is strongly Protestant (and Non-Conformist) suggests that the historic ties of the very ancient Dowling name in Ireland may have been broken some time before the family came to America. As is well known many Welsh and English adventurers were given lands in Ireland by Oliver Cromwell and his aides during the period 1640 - 1660 (see J. O'Harts Pedigrees, Volume 2, p. 698 for Dowlings so listed). Possibly our lines come down from Welshmen who went to Ireland, returned to Wales, and then journeyed to the new world.
We know, for example, that both sons of Robert Dowling by his marriage to Sarah Guinn chose wives who were Welsh - the daughters of Burtonhead Boutwell of the distinguished Virginia and Carolina family.

Here it may be well to state again, some of the facts detailed in connection with the biographical sketches of Robert Dowling, of William, John and James - the children of Robert, of James' son, John (Jabez) and of John's son, James Theophilus Dowling as an aid in tracing descent in reading the sketches. Robert Dowling II came (without his father Robert Dowling I) from Virginia to settle near the present town of Darlington, S. C., on Jeffries Creek. By Robert II's first wife, an unknown Virginian who died in childbirth, there was one son, William. William, who had married in Virginia to a Virginian left numerous descendants, although he was killed in the War of the Revolution by the Tories. Before his death he had settled in old Barnwell District of S. C. By Robert Dowling II's marriage to Sarah Guinn (sometimes Gynn or Gyuin) the children were James, John, Elizabeth, Sarah and Millie. The plaque names include principally those of the line of James and James' son John (Jabez), John (Jabez)'s son James Theophilus Dowling and collaterals. Some of the descendants of the original John - son of Robert II are included in the plaque, as are William and a few of his line.

A general note has been prepared and included with the plaque sketches of the lines through William and the original John, but it is by no means complete. It has been stated that the original James and the original John married, respectively, Mary and Nancy Boutwell. Historians of the family record that John remained in the Darlington area but that most of his children moved to Alabama and some to Mississippi.

James Dowling and Mary (Polly) Boutwell also remained in Darlington and their children were William, James, John (Jabez), Willis, Henry, Sarah, Mary and Letitia. (Note: (James) Jabez Dowling, shown on the plaque is apparently descended from William Dowling and, in any event is not to be confused with John (Jabez) Dowling, James' son.) It is through John (Jabez), who married Susan Barns, that most of the names shown on the plaque have a common ancestor. John (Jabez) and Susan Barns Dowling's children included James Theophilus (eldest), Madison, Jefferson, Elbert, Oliver Perry, Renie, Hettie, Julia, Mary and Eliza. These children were all born in Prince William Parish of old Beaufort District as, about 1807, their parents and several of their father's brothers and sisters had taken residence in the "low country."

James Theophilus Dowling, my grandfather, married Mary A. Long and their children were Rev. William Hamilton Dowling, John Virgil Dowling, Lucius Rhett Dowling, Decani Dexter Dowling, Susan D. Tuten, Orrie D. Rivers, Mellie D. De Loach, Emma D. Speaks, and Annie R. Dowling (unmarried). The remainder of the lines are set out in the sketches.

Despite the removals to the low country and to Barnwell District, old Darlington, with Hampton of today, may be regarded as the Carolina family seats. Robert Dowling II and his sons were instrumental in establishing the old Philadelphia Church in Darlington - the first Methodist Church in that section. With the exception of those who moved to Beaufort District most of the family in South Carolina were Methodists. Robert Dowling II is buried in a private plot across the road from the original site of the first Philadelphia Church near Darlington (there being a later church built on a new site but taking the old name).

And that is the story. Taking into account all the known facts it appears that Robert Dowling I, father of Robert Dowling II, may have been the second or the third generation in this country. We do not know whether the original settler was of long residence in Wales or if he came from Ireland or Scotland by way of Wales.

It is recalled that the sea channel - connecting Wales and England and Ireland - is scarcely more than fifty miles wide at a point opposite Wexford. The maximum length of Wales itself is about 150 miles. By the addition of County Kilkenny, in Ireland, there results an extreme range of 200 miles from the English border to the boundaries of the ancient Irish Kingdom of Leinster. in this 200 miles is the Dowling family base.

It is in the Leinster region where Dowling history certainly begins or has a permanent connection. Irish families regularly settled in Wales from the fifth century onward and the converse was true. For more than a thousand
years - those bearing the Dowling name, in one or more of its variations, have had seats in Ireland. Ancient Leinster embraced what is today Wexford, Wicklow, Carlow, Queens, much of Kildare, Kings, Kilkenny and part of Dublin (south of the River Liffly). One of the early Dowlings was Murdock, whose brother was ancestor of the famous Duncan line; another was Eochaidh, King of Leinster who eventually moved to Scotland. His son, Brandubh (Raven Black Hair) was also King of Leinster, being the 10th Christian monarch in 594 A.D.

The ancient spelling of Dowling - aside from other anglicized forms such as Dooley, Doolin, Dorden, Dowlinge, Dowdoin, etc. - was O'Dubhlaoide. Those of this name were chiefs of Siole-Elaigh and Lagan (today the Barony of Shilelahgh) and Lords of Fertullaigh (O'Dunlaing). Even beyond the time of Eochaidh the family can be traced to King Baiceada, 144 A.D. Some Irish genealogists say the line can be traced to Prince Feidlim, and King Heremon, the latter being one of the very first monarchs of Ireland about 1698 B.C. Ireland had many settlers from Spain. One family tradition has it that a brother of the last Spanish King to rule over Ireland, Milesius, is connected with the Dowling line which settled in colonial America by way of Wales.

The original meaning of the name Dowling is doubtful. One authority gives the meaning as the "Black Calf Kings." Another spelling of the ancient name signifies "Men of Defiance." The coat-of-arms shown on the memorial plaque has a top lion which is the Royal English Lion, a second lion which is the Irish lion, and a tree which is the Scottish Oak. This suggests blood lines originating in England or Wales, Ireland and Scotland. The trefoil signifies perpetuity, the lions deathless courage and the tree refers to holiness. When in color the coat-of-arms denotes royalty where purple, truth where blue, friendship where yellow. The clover leaf design denotes industry. An English translation of the Latin words Favente Deo, Supero, is "With the Help of God, I conquer." (The foregoing so authenticated to Emma Dowling Speaks.) One of several coats-of-arms granted to Dowlings, this one was (apparently) granted to Mortagh Dowling, Esq. in 1662 or earlier to Major Jeremiah Dowling about the year 1640 - probably of the same blood line as Fr. Dowling who came to Virginia in 1643 - Jeremiah served with distinction under King James II at the battle of the Boyne for "liberty of conscience."

Except for the Scottish branch noted above, the Dowlings do not appear in Scottish and English records much before 1500; after that time references are frequent. Somerset, in Southwest England, is the present seat of knighted English Dowlings and there are numerous family branches elsewhere, notably in London. One of the Dowlings gave his name to a large county in New South Wales, Australia and founded a town named, curiously, Darlington Point. A map of Erin, showing its "first families," published March 17, 1946, in New York, lists two Dowlings as eminent in Wicklow and one Dowling as chief in Leix.

There have been many distinguished Dowlings in both the old and new worlds. In the ranks of high Church dignitaries - Catholic and Protestant - are found many famous Dowlings. Vincent George D. was a famous journalist, Thady D. was an Ecclesiastical Chancellor of the See of Leighlin, John G. D. was head master of the famous Crypt School of Gloucester, Alfred Septemus D. was High Commissioner of the Yorkshire Courts, George T. D. was one of the great Baptist divines of the last century, Joseph D. was a famous judge and spotless sachem of Tammany Hall at a time of unparalleled corruption among political contemporaries; Angus and patriarch Dempsey D.of the old Darlington branch - were famous Methodist clergymen, Oscar D. was a great physician and organizer of Louisiana’s public health system, Gabriel P. D. was a noted banker, John W. D. of Alabama was a distinguished legislator, Noel T. D. (direct descendant of Robert Dowling II) is Nash Professor of Law at Columbia University. The list is long; these are just a sample. But standing alone, mere claims of "kinship" with those of greatness is not the basis of genuine family pride. Indeed, unbalanced family pride can be self-debasing.

I rather think of the greatness that lies in the spirit of one Michael Dowling of Minnesota. Young Michael, an orphan at the age of seven, once became lost on the plains in a blizzard - with the temperature down to forty below. He found a pile of wood and reasoned that a house must be near. Moving to avoid freezing, he threw logs as markers in all directions in ever widening circles, re-tracing and then expanding his base. His last log finally located, in the blinding snow, a farmhouse. The well-meaning, but uninformed, farmer who answered his
call bathed his frozen limbs in hot water to revive him. The result was that young Michael lost both legs and one arm. In the almshouse where he lived the orphan refused a "gift" of artificial limbs but soon found ways to earn enough to buy them. Starting in business at the age of thirteen, he became, eventually, the owner of a bank and a newspaper and Speaker of the House of Representatives in Minnesota. He was - as with many other Dowlings - never "whipped." It is upon such a spirit of family tradition that Dowlings live today and prepare for tomorrow. Let us do our best - as did young Michael. That will be enough. That is the Dowling spirit.
IN MEMORY OF [REV.] WILLIAM HAMILTON DOWLING

(The mortal remains of William Hamilton Dowling were placed in the old-fashioned, hallowed Hopewell churchyard, Hampton, South Carolina, more than twenty years ago. But it would be an over-statement to say that "Brother Ham" as he was known to thousands - has died. His personality and spirit of helpfulness are as vital today as they were during the more than sixty years that he toiled among us.

He was an official participant and an unofficial friend in the affairs of nearly everyone - from birth to death - at baptism, marriage, funeral, family council in illness and sorrow, in affairs of education and training and many other matters. Above all, he gave moral and spiritual leadership to the community as a whole.

"Brother Ham" lived through the period of the Mexican War, the war between the States, the Spanish-American War and World War I. In his childhood he talked with those who had fought with Generals Washington and Jackson in the wars of 1776 and 1812; he lived in the atmosphere of alternate crises of war and peace. He saw a nation built, torn apart and rebuilt. His eighty-three years of life was the time-link between America as a gangling youth and America as a mature man. The following incidents will convey some idea of the conditions under which my father, the late Rev. William Hamilton Dowling, lived and served his fellowman. - M.D.T.)

One hundred and four years ago when William Hamilton Dowling was born, on the fourth day of August, 1842, near the present town of Brunson, then in Prince William Parish of the old Beaufort District and now in Hampton County, South Carolina, conditions were tranquil. Colonial strife with the Spaniards, pirates and Indians, warfare against British regulars and local Tories, the second war with the mother country in 1812, were followed at last by three peaceful decades in which the agricultural life of the "low country" and "uplands" of South Carolina developed and matured. This period of tranquility was ended by the Mexican War in 1848 and the increasing tension in the 1850's regarding States' rights and slavery.

My father's plantation, like those of many of his neighbors, was worked by slave labor. Yet in his own household, as well as in those of many other planters of the time, there was frank recognition that, morally and economically, slavery was no longer to be desired. At all times a very large part of the white population was entirely divorced from the slave question and thousands of "free negroes" lived in the state. It is to be remembered also that the local Carolina view of the war between States was not that of rebellion against Federal Government as much as it was a fight to protect and preserve the right of state and local government, each to be supreme in its sphere, even to the point of secession from the central body - one originally conceded under the constitution to have very limited powers. Had such an issue not transcended the slavery question in importance the general harmony and solidarity of the region which existed before and during the so-called civil war would not have prevailed. I have lived long enough to see this same question of central and local-state government again loom up as the issue of the hour, an issue in which the liberty of all the people is this time involved.

Because of the part played by my father and the Dowling family in connection with this issue and other issues from Colonial times to the present, the following incidents may be interesting to the Dowling Family Reunion. The more formal history, his life and times, I leave to abler hands than mine.

Descended from a line of soldiers and scholars, my father's immediate branch of the family stemmed, as noted, from Robert Dowling of Virginia, a soldier of the American Revolution. Other ancestors, as shown on the memorial plaque, fought in that and other wars. A relative is believed to have died with Travis and Crockett at
the Alamo. But it should not be thought that my father and his people devoted their lives to military
engagements; many of his family, in fact, were equally busy (as he was) in fighting for mankind's advancement
in religion, education, law and politics.

It seems natural, therefore, that when my father prepared for his life's work, he early expressed a wish to teach.
He was proficient and soon passed from the hands of private tutors to the Pineville Academy, then the leading
local institution. His further formal training was delayed by the outbreak of the war in 1861. The oldest child in
his immediate household, he assumed responsibilities not typically acquired in early life.

His vitality, energy and quick wit endeared him to his associates. His stamina was unusual; he outraced and
outfought all of his friends, yet he was equally noted for his intense powers of concentration during many hours
of daily instruction in the old-fashioned academy schoolroom with its long, unrelieved and unbelievably hard
benches. He learned to ride in childhood and was famed as a horseman, which prepared him for his later
distinguished career as cavalry officer and scout. His splendid physique, coupled with an erect, soldierly
bearing, was retained by him throughout life. He was never ill until immediately prior to his death in his eighty-
third year.

Father, from his early youth, was noted for his friendliness and sympathy for the poor and lowly of both races.
Long before any sort of education was available to the negroes, he taught many of them the elements of the three
"R's"; some of them he instructed at their work in the fields, others in small groups. In this work he often began
by teaching them to count to one hundred, using cattle, flintstones and passing birds to convey the basic
principles of mathematics to his wholly untutored friends. At later stages, he would present the negroes with
slates for writing letters. (He freed his own slaves before the war began.)

The negroes were especially interested in the white man's "Bible" and "Church" and much of father's early life
was spent in reading and interpreting the Holy Word. He counseled them to forsake their African notions of
witchcraft or evil spirits and to think of the Ten Commandments, the Golden Rule and the love of Jesus for all
mankind.

My father, not only by inheritance but by environment as well, came naturally to an emphasis upon spiritual
values and community service. Brought up in an atmosphere of comfort but without luxury, in a happy Christian
home, he perceived his own father's satisfaction in the simple verities of a good life. His parents both were
devoted Baptists. His father was a deacon for many years in a local Baptist Church. His mother, energetic and
ambitious, was singleminded in her attention to the needs of her family in both physical and spiritual matters.
No sacrifice was too great. Once, an itinerant book-salesman visited a school my father was attending at some
distance from his home. The school master decided that all students ought to buy the new books offered as it
might be some considerable time before any other books good or bad - would be available. But, unlike the
viewpoint held by some of our modern book-salesmen, full payment instantly was paramount. My father had no
money with him and his father was away in Charleston. That evening he tried to salve his disappointment by
vigorous absorption in home duties, but his mother understood his thirst for knowledge.

Soon after "supper" (as dinner is called in the South) his mother placed all the children in bed. When they were
asleep she saddled her mare, "Ladybug," and through the dark night on the rough bridle paths (then called
highways) rode fifteen miles to a country store where the book-salesman had been known to stop. The
storekeeper was asleep at his residence but she made him open his shop and sell her the desired books. Often I
asked Grandmother if she was frightened on the long, dark ride which ended only just before dawn. "Oh, no,"
she told me, "I trusted in God to guide me safely and I wouldn't have slept anyway worrying over Hamilton's
disappointment. Hamilton was so happy over the new books and I was so happy for him, we both cried."

As the eldest child, and in view of the limited school facilities, father had a large share in the education of his
brothers and sisters. Thus early training in teaching perhaps predisposed him further for his subsequent career.
Father even was permitted to name several of his ten brothers and sisters.
The homecoming scene of this devoted family, upon Hamilton's return after four wearying years of victoryless war, has been described touchingly. The smaller children, nourished only by skimpy war rations and stories of the heroism of their older "bubber," lined up at the driveway to the home military fashion to receive him with accolades of praise and warm rejoicing. And, of course, Grandmother and Grandfather felt a profound thankfulness.

My father's grandfather, John (Jabez) Dowling, lived nearby. I understand that my father, as a boy, used to visit his grandfather daily. According to my father, his grandfather John (Jabez) Dowling, was noted for his minor oddities. He would have a servant pick up leaves immediately that they fell from the trees so that the grounds were meticulously groomed at all times, and he would refuse to go to any religious service without high top-hat and silk broadcloth suit. My father's great-grandfather (my great-great-grandfather) withdrew from the Church when a neighbor caused it to be turned into a primitive (hard-shell) denomination. This neighbor had been a Tory and this fact was another cause of dissension between the men. Otherwise, there was little community dissension.

I was not quite in my "teens" when my paternal grandfather died, but my father's mother lived to be present at my wedding. As my maternal grandparents both died before I was born. I was especially impressed by the personalities of my father's parents and was devoted to them. I made many trips about the countryside with them. I recall those occasions when Grandfather would lift me up on his saddle and drive off with me to one of his mills on "grinding days." There were set dates each month when cornmeal or "grits" were milled by grandfather's mills for all the surrounding planters. At various seasons, sugar-cane grinding and cotton ginning also occupied his attention, the latter enterprise being a joint venture with Joseph Rosier, a neighboring planter and lifelong friend (an ancestor of the Kelehears and Terrys shown on the plaque). It was the practice of the hired hands or employes of the mills to receive part of their compensation in goods; that is, to receive, for example, a part of the cornmeal ground. Grandfather always saw to it that for poor people and widows "no charge" was made.

To my mind, at the time, these mills seemed the most picturesque spots in the world and the perchfishing I learned to do in the mill ponds added to the glamour. Grandfather also made me a little trap in which I caught redbirds and sparrows, hoping to tame them (but they always defied me and escaped).

An outstanding expedition I shall always remember is important only because it shows how little suffices to provide the material for childish ecstasy. One day he carried me to a country store nearby. It was only a typical shop, of course, but to me it was like a later-day trip to New York.

At the store he purchased for me a pair of red shoes. That was an event! And then he handed me a large bag of fancy candy. It was the first time I had ever "held the bag" containing real "store candy." I was almost delirious with joy. I was admonished to share it with my brothers and sisters but, of course, I now suspect grandfather knew I would sample every type in the bag first. This simple incident loses its meaning today when nearly all American children have as much candy as they want whenever they want it, but perhaps the joy I had might be likened today to a war-refugee hungry child unexpectedly receiving, instead of a crust of bread, a whole banquet.

On the last day of grandfather's life, when returning from my school, I went by to see him. I did not know he was ill but I missed him outside the house and searched for him inside. As I stood at his bedside he said, "Daughter, go and help grandmother. I'm mighty bad off. Take a basket of figs home with you."I did as I was told and then at home talked with Mother about grandfather. Mother and father quickly left for grandfather's home. He had gone into his final sleep just after I left his bedside and never awakened in this world. I think I was about ten years old at the time of this occurrence; it was my first real experience with grief. His death was a terrible shock and it nearly broke my heart. I remembered many of the things he had taught me about the Holy
Sacrament - the Lord's Supper - and about life after death, and this comforted me. Then too, my father's ardent religious beliefs also eased the shock.

My father, at the age of sixteen, in the year 1858, was converted to Christianity under the preaching of the Reverend J. M. Hoover. Father was baptized by him in August of the same year. In 1859, 1860 and part of 1861, father taught school in the Bethel Church Community, continuing his studies and preparing for his entrance into the Seminary. He was fully prepared and licensed to preach in 1861 when the war broke out. Thus, at the age of nineteen, he interrupted his academic work to volunteer for the Army.

He served under General Butler and General Wade Hampton (afterwards U. S. Senator, for whom Hampton County is named), until after the surrender of General Lee. He fought in twenty-five major engagements in Virginia and Carolina and acted as both fighting officer and spiritual leader. For a time he was aide and adjutant to General Hampton.

General V. R. Brooks in "Butler and His Cavalry" places father in the center of a group termed "bravest of the brave." Colonel Zimmerman Davis, of the 5th S. C. Cavalry Regiment, and the Charleston Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy sent him the "Cross of Honor" with the inscription "none deserve it more than you; you were loyal to the banners of the Confederacy and loyal to the Cross of Christ." His formal record is a part of the State Historical Archives of Georgia and South Carolina and his official service to Hampton, S. C., is memorialized in a marker on the walls of the court house in that place.

Incidently, when the new court house is erected at Hampton, there will be found within the old cornerstone a sealed document, prepared by my father and placed therein, possibly describing the circumstances leading to the creation of the county. I am sure the family would be grateful, and the public at large interested, if the contents of this document are made known when the sealed stone is opened.

At the battle of Lee's Mill he commanded and held the right wing of the Confederate forces until surrounded by General Sheridan's overwhelming numbers. He once captured eleven prisoners single-handed while on picket duty. Bullets and shells cut down horses under him and tore his clothing but he was never injured. In one engagement he fought from Thursday evening to Monday morning without basic rest, pausing only to eat meals of cold parched corn and water.

My father's piety and character were such that this company and regiment never had any other chaplain. Under his influence many were converted, especially during that period when his part of the Army was in North Carolina. He was a leader in organized religion in the army throughout the war. He was especially useful to General Hampton in maintaining troop morale and the General esteemed him highly.

During reconstruction days, father often rode day and night among the notorious negroes, admonishing them and generally curbing the savage instincts of the very worst element. Once on the River Plantation near Saint John's Church in the Barnwell Community, father went boldly into a camp of more than one hundred of them who had just convened upon return from a murderous tour of the region. He talked with them and although they pulled him off his horse and threatened to kill him as they had done the others (the bodies of other white men were lying in his clear view), he at last convinced them he came as their friend to help them. He preached to them for hours, explained their political and economic position, and thereafter these particular negroes gave little trouble.

Some scoundrel leaders came to the broken South in the wake of war and told the younger negroes they should kill off all the white men, take all of their property and all of their white women. I recall going to a certain home where all the women and children for fifteen miles around had gathered for mutual safety to sleep. Meanwhile, the few able-bodied men who survived the war patroled the community. This was continued until the roving negro gangs were dispersed. (A system of communication from house to house and section to section was used to spread alarms, causing people to gather.) I remember sleeping on a long "pallet" with many children I had
never before seen. We weren't even permitted to whisper for fear of attracting attention. Every grown woman had a gun and kept it constantly with her, even when feeding her children. Even as late as 1888 - ten years after Federal Troopers were withdrawn - this lawlessness made life dangerous indeed.

When the war was over, father felt that he had been spared for a Holy Warfare in which he would not lose the victory. The "low country" had been laid waste by General Sherman and, of course, the whole life of the region was disrupted. Someone had to assume the task of preaching even though no one could pay a clergyman a living wage.

With burning zeal he consecrated himself to the work. The ordaining Presbytery included J. M. Hoover, H. S. Boynton and W. H. Shuman. He was married to my mother Clara Louisa Ruth, daughter of Hon. A. M. Ruth, of old Beaufort District, on May 19, 1867. Immediately after the ceremony he preached his first sermon in Hopewell Church.

With father, a soul was a soul. Wealthy planter, plain farmer, and negro - all were one spiritual class to him. In the first year after his ordination, he baptized one hundred and thirteen converts. The first pastorate were at Mount Pleasant, Steep Bottom, Saint John's, Allen's Chapel, Cannan, Seven Pines and Bethesda. He visited many destitute places and aided the unfortunate everywhere in the region. He later accepted calls to preach at Peniel, Doctor's Creek, Smoke, Antioch and Edisto Churches. In 1878 he moved back to his old Hampton County home and thereafter served thirty-three churches in the Savannah River Association. In his later years he was pastor of Sandy Run, Dry Swamp, Mill Grove and Black Swamp. He organized the Barnwell County Sunday School Convention and was clerk of the Savannah River Sunday School Association for thirty years.

To maintain his own growing family, he taught school. In all his schools he maintained or developed a Bible and catechismal department. Many of those taught were later brought into the Church where, in turn, he married them, baptized and trained their children, preached their funeral services and buried them. Many South Carolinians, who later became distinguished in public affairs, passed through his guiding hands as pastor, teacher or as counsellor - among them Governors, Senators and the present Secretary of State. He was acquainted with four generations of South Carolinians by virtue of his long life and professional duties.

I once accompanied father when he went to see some extremely poor people. All were ill with measles and there was no food, no money and no medicine. Father had been paid that day for a full year's salary by the Church - a total of $5.00 - but, despite the needs of his own family, he immediately gave the $5.00 to the poor people. Happily they recovered, possibly largely due to the food and medicine the $5.00 bought.

Returning home that day, he met an eloping couple on their way to his home seeking him for a marriage ceremony. With a neighboring farmer's family for witnesses (no licenses being required in those days) he married the couple right there in the middle of the road. The bridegroom paid father $10.00 - twice as much money as he had received before his kind act.

When the wonderful story was told to the family circle all father said was, "I had faith that God would provide in some way. Sometimes it is no duty to give all I have to those poor people."

Father bought his own first land in 1870, before I was born. The circumstances are interesting. Grandmother Ruth rode all the way (about thirty miles) on horseback from the Ruth homestead to Allen's Chapel in the Barnwell region, near Saint John's, to tell her son-in-law that if he would pay taxes (which the carpet-baggers had inequitably levied) on the large tract of land, known as Jordan's Bay, she would give it to mother. Few people had any cash so soon after the war as all economic life was disrupted and almost everyone was fully involved in the now valueless Confederate currency. This, of course, was the new situation which the carpet-baggers had counted upon to give them a chance to grab all good lands. Fifty United States dollars then would buy what $30,000 wouldn't buy today (1946) in real estate. Since father was receiving some pay in "cash" as a schoolteacher, he was a little better off than most people. The land on the bay had been kept as a hunting
preserve and had never been cultivated or even timbered. This same land today is included in one of the estates of a great mid-western industrialist. It was the timber on the land, sold at $1.00 an acre to Northern mills, which later supported all of us through the awful reconstruction period which continued year after year for nearly fifteen years.

Well, father succeeded, of course, in getting this land but he was forced to let it go later. Land then sold for twenty-five cents an acre later brought $590 an acre. It was about the time of the Grandmother Ruth Jandon Bay situation when Grandfather Dowling moved down-state, near Nixville. Anxious to have their oldest child back near them and in view of the perilous times, another move was planned. Later, in response to an opportunity offered, when a man named Jonas Travell decided to sell out, father bought 500 acres at fifty cents an acre. Later he built a house on this land, moving in when my brother Buist was six weeks old. This was what we called the "old Beldon place." All the brothers and sisters, from Louise down to Harry, were born there.

My sister, little Mary Sue, had died in September, before Buist was born in the winter months. At this time we had some of the coldest weather on record for the region. It was too dangerous for the health of young children so many families lived together to combine fuel, feeding, shelter and for common protection.

We were all bundled up in quilts and covers and trekked off together to Grandfather's section in the only buggy available - the smaller children going with mother. My oldest brother, the late Hon. W. H. Dowling, Jr., and I went in a wagon. We crossed the river in a flat ferry - there were no bridges then - at Nyles Ford.

At the Beldon place father continued to buy land adjoining his home. At one time he owned a mile square in a single tract.

Father cut off from the main tract and gave to Peter Speaks' (colored) wife, Libbie, a faithful old negro woman who had washed for us over twelve years (charging, incidently, forty cents per day for her services), ten acres and the little house in which she lived free all those years. I know the names of many of the old slaves who belonged to the family. I have gone with my father many times to see them. He often went to them when they needed help.

Later in life, accepting posts such as Commissioner of Education and as Probate Judge, father felt that he would not injure but would help his ministry. In these lay tasks he kept in touch with the education of youth and, in a sense, acted as guardian of the widows and orphans. Father served as the first School Commissioner of Hampton County until 1880, at which time he was elected, by popular vote, Judge of the Probate Court, which office he held until 1892. Until his death, in 1924, father was a member of the Board of Education of Hampton County.

Few have married as many couples, written as many obituaries, organized and built as many churches, baptized and educated as many persons, as did my father.

I think he viewed life this way - there is no happiness on earth worth having outside of that of knowing you've been useful and have performed your duty. He was happy while he lived in trying to do good work. He was happy when he preached his first sermon at old Hopewell Church and he was happy when he preached his last sermon there a few days before he died. I last saw him at his life's work here in this very spot where today we dedicate this memorial plaque to him and to other "heroes" of America's wars.

Maud Dowling Turner

San Antonio, Texas,

July 4, 1946
# THE DOWLING FAMILY ASSOCIATION

## OFFICERS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>Moye C. Dowling Sr.</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>St. Petersburg, Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>John C. Dowling Sr.</td>
<td>First Vice-President</td>
<td>Brunson, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. B. Dowling Sr.</td>
<td>Second Vice-President</td>
<td>Augusta, Georgia</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. R. Speaks</td>
<td>Third Vice-President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maud Zeigler</td>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie Dowling Bailey</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Allendale, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>John C. Dowling Jr.</td>
<td>President, Junior Group</td>
<td>Brunson, South Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Mixon Farrell</td>
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## STANDING COMMITTEES

### OBITUARIES

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<tr>
<td>Clarence Dowling</td>
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<td>G. G. Tuten</td>
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### PUBLICITY

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<td>Mrs. Jamesina D. Weems</td>
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<td>Wideman De Loach</td>
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### GROUNDS AND TABLES

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<td>Mrs. Nonnie D. Mixson</td>
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<td>H. E. Gooding</td>
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<td>J. V. Youman</td>
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### RECEPTION AND ENTERTAINMENT

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<tr>
<td>A. L. Dowling</td>
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(Copies of this booklet may be obtained - so long as the supply lasts - from Mrs. Maud Dowling Turner, c/o James Hamilton Turner, Executive Offices, San Antonio Transit Company, Transit Tower, San Antonio, Texas, or from Dr. Wm. Homer Heyward Turner, Attorney-at-Law, who resides in Hartsdale, New York. Dr. Turner, youngest son of Maud Dowling Turner, is custodian of the historical documents upon which family records herein described are based.)
Dowling

The DOWLINGS were one of the "Seven Septs of Leix." In the confiscations that were part of the English policy in Ireland after the "flight of the Earls" the leading members of the Dowling clan were transplanted to Tarbert in north Kerry in 1607 A. D. Although they never established in this new home the power and influence they held in their ancient territory of Leix, some of them prospered and from these the DOWLINGS of Kerry and Limerick spring.

Notwithstanding this break up of the ancient clan holdings and traditional way of life, many of the rank and file of the DOWLING family managed to remain near their ancestral possessions in Leix, and not only flourished but spread out to the adjoining counties of Carlow, Kilkenny and Wicklow. The fact that there are four place names called Ballydowling (or Dowling's town) in Wicklow is ample evidence of their vitality and power in these areas.

Love of learning which marked many of the ancient Celtic families was a characteristic tradition among the DOWLINGS. Thady. Dowling (1544 - 1628) was one of the most renowned of Irish annalists and an authority on Irish grammar. And while this devotion to bardic lore suffered eclipse during the bitter persecutions of the Penal Laws which aimed at destroying the Irish language, culture and way of life, it came back with renewed vigor after Catholic Emancipation in 1829.

Among the DOWLINGS who gained prominence in the field of letters during the nineteenth century were: Vincent Dowling (1778 - 1844) prominent judge and learned author; Vincent George Dowling (1787 - 1852) founder and for thirty years editor of BELL'S LIFE and FISTIANA; his son Frank Lewis Dowling (1821 - 1867) who carried on his father's publications; Richard Dowling (1846 - 1898) novelist and editor of Dublin's witty journals: ZOZIMUS and IRELAND'S EYE and Doctor Jeremiah Dowling (1830 - 1906) author of THE CLADDAGH BOATMIAN.

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