COLONEL BERTRAM T. CLAYTON

The following extracts from other papers will be of interest to the people of Clayton and Barbour County, as this town was the birth-place of Colonel Clayton

COL. B. T. CLAYTON KILLED TUESDAY IN FRANCE BY AN ENEMY AIR BOMB

Was Quartermaster to General Bullard.

WENT TO CONGRESS FROM BROOKLYN

Engaged in Indian and Spanish-American Wars—Requested Active Service—Son of Gen. H. D. Clayton.

(From Montgomery Advertiser, June 5, 1918.

Telegrams received in Montgomery late Tuesday afternoon by Judge Henry D. Clayton, of the United States Court, contained the official announcement of the death of Judge Clayton's brother, ~~Lieutenant~~ Colonel Bertram Tracy Clayton, U. S. A., in action in France Tuesday morning. Colonel Clayton was a son of Major General Henry D. Clayton, C. S. A., and president of the University, and was born October 19, 1862, on the old Clayton plantation near the town of Clayton, Alabama.

Colonel Clayton was educated at the University of Alabama and in 1886 was graduated from the United States Military Academy, at West Point, where he was a class mate of General John J. Pershing. After his graduation, he served as a lieutenant in the army in the West, in Dakota and elsewhere, while the Indians were being subdued by United States troops.

Leaves the Army.

Later he resigned his commission in the army and took up the pursuit of the profession of civil engineering in Brooklyn, N. Y., while there he became Colonel of the 14th Regiment of New York National Guard. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, Colonel Clayton organized Troop C of the New York (Brooklyn) Cavalry and went with it to Fort Alger, near Washington, D. C., and was put in command of the New York squadron, composed of Troops A, B and C, of the New York Cavalry.

Goes to Porto Rico.

He went with General Miles' army to Porto Rico, and commanded the advance guard of the Army in Porto Rico, and his troop was engaged in action at Coamo and Aibonito, P. R., just before the protocol was proclaimed. Upon Col. Clayton's return to New York after the Spanish-American war he was nominated by the Demo- Shortly after Major General Robert Lee Bullard, an Alabamian, took command of the First Division on the firing line, Colonel Clayton was made quartermaster of that division succeeding Col. Cheatham.

It is interesting to note that Major Cheatham, C. S. A., father of Colonel Cheatham, and Major General Henry D. Clayton, C. S. A., father of Colonel Clayton, both commanded Confederate divisions in General Stephen D. Lee's corps of the C. S. A.

A Regular—Not a Hero.

Colonel Clayton was every inch a soldier, tall, erect and muscular, he was of distinguished appearance. Doubtless he could have stayed in the transport service at New York, but he was anxious to see active service and begged to be sent to France. In the language of General Lawton, who was himself a fighter, Colonel Clayton "was a Regular and not a hero." He has died on the soil from which his ancestor, Thomas de Clayton, one of the soldiers of William, the Conquerer, went with the Conquerer to England in 1066.

Robert

Is First to Go.

General and Mrs. Victoria Hunter Clayton left surviving seven sons and four daughters and Colonel Clayton is the first of their children to die. He met the supreme test and made the supreme sacrifice and poured out his life's blood as a "libation to Liberty's cause."

Colonel Clayton is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary D. Clayton, of Salisbury, N. C.; two sons, William B. Clayton, an electrical engineer of Dallas, Texas; and Bertram T. Clayton, Jr., also of Dallas; six brothers, Judge Henry D. Clayton, Lee J. Clayton, assistant United States attorney, of Montgomery; Thomas N. Clayton, Jeff D. Clayton, of Barbour County; J. A. Clayton, of Birmingham, and J. P. Clayton, of Ozark, Arkansas; and four sisters, Miss Mary E. Clayton, of Clayton; Mrs. Harry C. Rogers, of Muscogee, Okla.; Mrs. A. M. Walthour, of Clayton, and Mrs. Wiley Williams of Columbus, Ga.

SERVICES ON PIER HELD FOR 1,255 SOLDIER DEAD

Comrades and Gold Star Relatives Hear Addresses and Sounding of Taps for Men Home on Somme.

MAJ. GEN. BULLARD PRESENT

Separate Memorials Conducted for Heroes of 1st, 27th and 2nd in a cheap pink bonnet, tried to comfort her weeping mother, while she held tightly in her small hand a little silk flag. Boys in uniform, rough "issue" suits, wearing decorations which the best tailored officer might covet, were paying honor to their fallen comrades.

The first service was held at 12:30 o'clock for the dead of the First Division, A. E. F. Colonel Bertram T. Clayton, Q. M. C.; Colonel Hamilton A. Smith, 26th Infantry; Lieutenant Colonel John M. Craig, 16th Infantry, and Major Edwin R. Kimble, 1st Engineers, were among those to whom this service paid tribute.

Major General Robert L. Bullard, Major General Charles P. Summerall, Brigadier General Grote Hutchison, Colonel John J. Bradley and Colonel George H. Penrose were present on the platform. With them were four officers who had been classmates of Colonel Clayton in the class of 1884 at West Point, Capt. Wm. B. Clayton, a son, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Walthour, nephew and niece of Colonel Clayton.

The services opened with a funeral march by a band from Governor's Island. Addresses were made by Chaplains F. J. Bergs and R. C. Deibert of the 27th Division and Chaplain Levinger of the 1st Division. Two hundred soldiers of the 1st Division, with their colors, stood behind the relatives and friends who were present. Six Salvation Army girls who had served with the 1st Division overseas were also among the mourners.

"Taps" Sounded for All.

At the end of each service the band played "The Star Spangled Banner" and Taps was sounded. Quietly, each gathering disbanded. Little groups of women and soldiers then scattered among the rows of flag-draped boxes. Numbers on the floor tallied with those in a book which was kept at the information desk. There they found out which precious box belonged to them.

Under the flag over each coffin are the name and division of the man whose body it contains. Silently the little groups found their dead and stood beside the coffins, most of them dry-eyed, saying nothing, paying the tribute which the service did not include.

From the piers the bodies of the soldiers will start on their journeys to different parts of the country, back to the home places from which they set out three, four and five years ago.

"It is fitting," said Major Gen. Summerall, "that they should return to their native land that their lives may be an inspiration to our people to be worthy of them; to stand ready as they stood and to be ready if necessary to give their lives for our country and flag.

"Their sacrifice will make us all stronger and make us live more worthily as citizens. These silent forms cannot fail to quicken our national conscience and sense of

COLONEL CLAYTON FUNERAL THURSDAY

First American Colonel to Fall in World War Laid to Rest in Arlington Cemetery

(Montgomery Advertiser, May 11, 1921.)

Advertiser Bureau,
Washington, D. C.,
By Jessie S. Cottrell.

Following the funeral services at the Church of the Epiphany at 11 o'clock, the body of Colonel Bertram T. Clayton, quartermaster corps, the first American officer of his rank to be killed in the world war, was reinterred with full military honors at Arlington National cemetery today. Colonel Clayton was killed at Cantingny by an enemy air bomb on memorial day, 1918, and his body was brought to the United States on the transport Somme, which arrived in New York City last Saturday.

Mrs. Clayton and her son, Capt. William Clayton, together with Lee J. Clayton, brother of the deceased officer, and Mrs. D. H. Lippitt and Miss Margaret Lippitt, nieces of Colonel Clayton, attended the services. The list of pallbearers included: General John J. Pershing, Major General Avery D. Andrews of the National Army, Major General Frank McIntyre, chief of the Indian insular bureau; Colonel M. M. Pttrick, corps of engineers; Col. Julius A. Penn, General Chas. L. Menoher, air service; and Colonel Charles C. Walcutt, calvary, all of whom were classmates of Colonel Clayton at West Point, and Major General H. L. Rogers, Colonel William E. Horton, Colonel Frank B. Watson, Colonel B. . Cheatham and General Jesse McCarter, who served with him in his military service.

COL. CLAYTON LAID TO REST IN ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

(Montgomery Journal)

Washington, May 13.—(Special)—The body of Colonel Bertram Clayton, who lost his life in the late war, reached Washington from New York Wednesday. His body was carried to the church of Epiphany where funeral services were conducted. A military escort took charge of the remains upon leaving the church and carried to Arlington, the National Cemetery and where he was buried with military honors.

Colonel Cloyton's brother, Lee J. Clayton, of Montgomery, was here to receive the remains and attend the funeral of his brother. The body of Colonel Clayton reached New York Monday night,

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"Colonel Clayton was born tober 19, 1862, and was the son of the late General and Henry D. Clayton, of Cla Alabama. He was educate the University of Alabama graduated from the Military demy with General Pershi 1886. In May, 1888, he saw vice in the West during the I Wars, but afterwards resign take up engineering in New City. At the outbreak o Spanish-American War, hov he organized Troop C, N. Y unteer Cavalry, and as com ng officer of that squadro participated in the Porto campaign at Coamo, P. R., a several skirmishes in Arb Pass; it was at this time Troop C prevented the de tion of important bridges, ed Spanish forces and hel American Advance Post. C l Clayton was honorably m ed out of the volunteer se November 25, 1898, and was ed to Congress from the New York district, serving i capacity for one year at time he was appointed by dent Roosevelt as Captain, C. From 1901 to 1904 he s in this department in the I pine Islands, returning to States in April, 1904. His station was at Jackson Bar La., in charge of constru work; and in 1907 he was or in the office of the Quartern General, Washington, from ust, 1907, to May 18, 1911 received his Majority Mar 1911, and in the following r was ordered to the U. S. Mi Academy as constructing qu master and disbursing o In June, 1914, he was relieve ent to the Canal Zone on struction duty, where he re ed for about one year. Unt following year Colonel Cla was on leave of absence ar detached service at headqua Eastern Department, Gover Island, N. Y., but in August, he returned to Ancon, Canal as constructing quartermast

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Appointed a Captain.

At the expiration of his service in congress he was appointed a captain in the regular army by President Theodore Roosevelt. He served three years as quartermaster in the Phillipine Islands and afterwards superintended the erection of the army barracks at Fort Jackson, near New Orleans. He also served several years as quartermaster at West Point and while there superintended the completion of the new academy buildings.

Colonel Clayton served several years in the Quartermaster's Department at Washington and was afterwards sent as quartermaster to Panama. At the outbreak of the war with Germany he was detailed to serve as second in command of the transport service at New York. He requested an appointment to the line and asked to be sent to France to serve his country there.

Colonel.

He was promoted to colonel but was kept in the quartermaster's department because of his large experience and sent to France.

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MAJ. GEN. BULLARD PRESENT

Separate Memorials Conducted for Heroes of 1st, 27th and 2nd Divisions.

(New York Tribune, May 8, 1921.)

Services for soldiers who died on the battlefilds of France were held yesterday afternoon at Pier 4, Army Piers, Hoboken, N. J. The United States transport Somme arrived here Thursday bearing 1,255 soldier dead. Former comrades, members of the families and friends of many of the men attended the simple ceremonies.

Plain pine boxes were arranged row on row the length of the pier house. Over each was laid an American flag. Here and there a a wreath or cross of flowers had been placed on the flag, showing that a friend or a mother had found the box bearing the name of a loved one. The rafters of the pier house were hung with flags; plain military flags, not draped, but hung according to military regulations.

It was not a well dressed crowd that gathered at each of the three services yesterday afternoon. Mothers in shabby black were accompanied by youths too young to have entered service in the war; gray-haired men in dingy suits sat with their shoulders squared as the band played "Onward Christian Soldiers." A little girl present. Six Salvation Army girls who had served with the 1st Division overseas were also among the mourners.

"Taps" Sounded for All.

At the end of each service the band played "The Star Spangled Banner" and Taps was sounded. Quietly, each gathering disbanded. Little groups of women and soldiers then scattered among the rows of flag-draped boxes. Numbers on the floor tallied with those in a book which was kept at the information desk. There they found out which precious box belonged to them.

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"Their sacrifice will make us all stronger and make us live more worthily as citizens. These silent forms cannot fail to quicken our national conscience and sense of duty to ourselves and to our nation."

A second memorial service for all the members of the Twenty-seventh Division and the National Guard and National Army (drafted) men followed and Chaplain Levinger and Chaplain Charles Hanscom of the Twenty-third Regiment spoke at this service.

"These men are my comrades," said Chaplain Edward Hazard, who was overseas with the Twenty-seventh Division. "I took many of them by the hand when they were dying and closed their eyes and laid them in Flanders fields.

"The greatest tribute I can pay them is that they did not fail their rendezvous with death."

J. T. McLENDON
Contractor and Builder.
Prompt attention given all kinds of building, etc.
Rt. 1. Clayton, Ala.

WELLS DRILLED FOR PLANTATION SUPPLY.
.....or old wells repaired.....
Work Guaranteed.
Y. T. BRADFORD
P. O. Box 43. Ft. Davis, Ala.

bearers included: General John J. Pershing, Major General Avery D. Andrews of the National Army, Major General Frank McIntyre, chief of the Indian insular bureau; Colonel M. M. Pttrick, corps of engineers; Col. Julius A. Penn, General Chas. L. Menoher, air service; and Colonel Charles C. Walcutt, calvary, all of whom were classmates of Colonel Clayton at West Point, and Major General H. L. Rogers, Colonel William E. Horton, Colonel Frank B. Watson, Colonel B. . Cheatham and General Jesse McCarter, who were associated with him in his military service.

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Colonel Cloyton's brother, Lee J. Clayton, of Montgomery, was here to receive the remains and attend the funeral of his brother. The body of Colonel Clayton reached New York Monday night, having been removed from his foreign grave to his own beloved land and in whose defense he lost his life. Colonel Clayton was a member of one of Alabama's most prominent families. He had a host friends who were deeply touched by his death.

The funeral services at Washington were conducted by Rev. Bertram E. Brown, of Tarboro, North Carolina, and Dr. Wyatt Brown, of Baltimore, Maryland, cousins of Colonel Clayton, and both of whom were also born in Barbour County, Alabama.

A bronze tablet in memory of Colonel Clayton will shortly be erected at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

Fort Clayton, Canal Zone, was named in honor of Colonel Clayton.

The following sketch is from The Tropical Breeze, published at Fort Clayton, on November 26, 1920:

"The following is a short history of the life of Colonel Clayton, in whose honor this post was named. It should be of particular interest to all members of the 33rd (U. S. Infantry) to know

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"As was aptly said of Colonel Clayton by a prominent member of Congress:

> "'I have known him well for many years. He was one of the best officers in the army. A part of the time he was stationed at West Point where he made a most efficient officer in the Quartermaster Department. He could have remained in that line of service if he had wanted to. If he had been the kind that would have liked an easy time he could have remained in that branch of the service and remained in a place of safety. Instead of that, he chose to go to France in the service of his country, in that part of the army engaged in active and dangerous service, and unfortunately he was killed * * * * there was never a finer or braver soldier."

"A distinguished and deserved tribute has been paid this officer whose widow has received a handsome embossed parchment copy of a General Order announcing that the camp at Chateau Du Loir, Department ofGarthe, France, is designated and will hereafter be known as Camp Clayton, in honor of the late Colonel who gave his life in the line of duty, while serving with a combat division at the front. Accompanying the parchment was a card, saying:

> "'This order is issued by the direction of the President, who wishes to express his sincere and deep sympathy.'

"The card certified that B. T. Clayton, Colonel Q. M. C., died with honor in the service of his country.

"Colonel Clayton was the first officer of high-rank in the United States Army to be killed in action in France.

"With the bereaved widow, two sons, a number of brothers and sisters, and a host of friends will mourn the loss of Bertram Clayton, who was beloved by all for his cheerfulness, calmness and ever considerate thoughtfulness for others."

J. W. ROBERTSON
Physician and Surgeon.
Office next door to W. H. Robertson, Jr.,
Leave calls at Clayton Drug Co.
—Phone 134—

NO. 63, R. A. M
CLAYTON CHAPTER

Regular meetings first and third Monday nights, in the Masonic Building. Members and Visiting Compaions are invited to attend.

Chas. Morrison,
J. S. Snead Secy.

ROYAL WHITE HART LODGE
NO. 10, A. F. & A. M.

Meets every 2nd. and 4th. Monday nights in each month. Members and visiting Brethren are invited to attend all meetings.

A. W. Warr, W. M.
C. C. Scheffer, Sec.

The Hardware Question Solved

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Fort Clayton, Canal Zone, was named in honor of Colonel Clayton.

The following sketch is from The Tropical Breeze, published at Fort Clayton, on November 26, 1920:

"The following is a short history of the life of Colonel Clayton, in whose honor this post was named. It should be of particular interest to all members of the 33rd (U. S. Infantry) to know work; and in 1907 he was on duty in the office of the Quartermaster General, Washington, from August, 1907, to May 18, 1911. He received his Majority March 3, 1911, and in the following month was ordered to the U. S. Military Academy as constructing quartermaster and disbursing officer. In June, 1914, he was relieved and sent to the Canal Zone on construction duty, where he remained for about one year. Until the following year Colonel Clayton was on leave of absence and on detached service at headquarters, Eastern Department, Governor's Island, N. Y., but in August, 1915, he returned to Ancon Canal Zone, as constructing quartermaster.

"His next duty was in the Army Transport Service from July till September, 1917, when he was ordered overseas with the Quartermaster Corps in France, where he met his death in action. The bomb dropped by a German aviator killed at the same time several other officers.

"As was aptly said of Colonel Clayton by a prominent member of Congress:

'"I have known him well for many years. He was one of the best officers in the ar-

sons, a number of brothers and sisters, and a host of friends will mourn the loss of Bertram Clayton, who was beloved by all for his cheerfulness, calmness and ever considerate thoughtfulness for others."

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