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## CAPTAIN CHARLES BARROW

Captain Charles Barrow was the son of Jacob Barrow, the son of Moses Barrow, the son of Thomas Barrow, JR; Thomas Barrow, SR; Thomas Barrow(1); [John Barrow?].

Moses Barrow died on December 28, 1801 at his home near Keg Creek and the village Deep Step in Washington County, GA leaving his wife Martha [Smith?] Barrow and children: Jacob (1792), twins William and Mary Drew (1795), Mildridge Smith (1799) and my great-great grandfather, (Rev) James Barrow (Dec. 25, 1801). James ("Jimmy") was only three days old when his father, Moses died and his older brother Jacob was nine.

Martha soon married a Mr. Charles Thompson and the children, other than Jacob, went to live with their mother and step-father near High Shoals, Ocoee County, GA. Jacob lived with his wealthy uncle, brother of Moses, James Barrow of Milledgeville, Baldwin County, GA. Both Moses and brother James were Revolutionary War veterans from North Carolina. James gave Jacob the best education possible and treated him as his own son.

Martha died in 1812 and her Barrow children went to live with their uncle James. Jacob was then 19 years old and as soon as he became of legal age he became the guardian of the younger children. Jacob drew land in the 1826 land lottery for "Orphans of Moses Barrow, Revolutionary War Veteran." James moved to one of the Carroll County, GA lands that the orphans drew in the lottery in late 1830s and became a Baptist preacher.

Jacob was a very successful business man in Milledgeville including becoming Post Master. For some reason he later moved to Columbus, GA and owned a hotel and considerable other properties near the steamboat landing in the main part of town. Many of the boat captains were guest of the hotel. He had several children including son Charles. Jacob died in Columbus in 1854 and is evidently buried there although we can find no record of this. There are no copies of 1854 Columbus papers available in the Columbus libraries.

Charles became a captain on the Columbus Police force. He was killed while in the line of duty on Christmas night, 1871. The microfilm from one of the Columbus papers, *The Columbus Enquirer*, a weekly paper is in very poor condition and difficult to read the entire article. The other paper, a daily,(unfortunately I have misplaced the name of it) is much better to read but is a much condensed story. We have done our best to combine the two articles in an effort to cover as much of the tragedy as we can. The condensed article follows:

"HOMECIDES MONDAY NIGHT—There were two men killed in Columbus at \_?

Monday night, and a third was so badly if not mortally wounded ? a record of which as public journalist we very much regret being called upon to make.

The first of these unpleasant ? occurred between the hour of 10 and 11 o'clock, Monday night, in which policeman Charlie Barrow, which in the discharge of his

official duties received his death at the hands of George Layfield. A young man who about a week ago arrived in the city from St. Louis. The facts of the case as well as we can gather them are briefly these: Young Layfield while under the influence of liquor had been guilty of improper language and threats at the confectionary store of L G. Strupper. Mr. Strupper had ordered him away and it is said that Layfield threatened the life of Mr. Strupper. The later gave a signal and poor policeman Barrow and his partner, McMichael took Layfield in custody. Policeman Barrow told him [Layfield] that he did it unwillingly and would use his exertions to turn him loose. They were proceeding with him to the guard house and just as they had reached the "(this is all that we could read of the *Columbus Enquirer* article. We continue filling in with the article from the daily paper.)

"Just as they reached his brother's bakery Mr. Layfield attempted to enter. Barrow caught him. Layfield drew his pistol and fired four times. Barrow had caught the weapon in his hands endeavoring to take it away. One ball struck him in the forehead, glanced and entered the top of the scull; another his mouth and passed through the base of the brain. Barrow was carried to his home and died several hours after. He was buried last afternoon [In the old Columbus cemetery on Rose Hill] the regular police force acting as pall-bearers. He was a good and reliable officer. For awhile he was a member of the Confederate army.

Layfield escaped to Alabama. Policemen McEachen and Foram arrested him there. When taken he did not know Barrow was dead.

The Coroner's Jury returned a verdict that deceased came to his death from effects of shots from a pistol in the hands of George Layfield. The shooting occurred at 10½ o'clock Monday night."

We do not know how Layfield was punished but my son, Lew Barrow a lawyer in Columbus will try to check this out. I had been told that Charles Barrow was a Captain on a river boat but had doubted this and had always felt that he was a Police Captain.

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## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MUSCOGEE COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE:

Charles Barrow, and

George Layfield

Minute Book "N" Muscogee Superior Court

December 12, 1871, Charles Barrow indicted for Assault and Battery, This would be a felony Page 476. He would have to be out on bond.

December 25, 1871, Charles Barrow shot and killed by George Layfield. See newspapers

December 26, 1871, Charles Barrow buried at Linwood Cemtery, Columbus, Georgia See Death Certificate

June 3, 1872, George Layfield indicted for Murder Page 506

June 15, 1872, Case is Continued Page 544

Minute Book "O" Muscogee Superior Court

December 10, 1872 George Layfield tried for Murder. Twelve person all male jury impaneled. Verdict of "Not Guilty"