



**MONTEVALLO ESTATE SALE TO BE HELD
December 3rd, 1855
at the farm of Robert and Nancy Galloway,
both deceased, of Montevallo, Shelby County,
Alabama.**

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This month we present a typical example of a Montevallo estate sale in antebellum Alabama.

The Galloway estate sale was set in motion in two parts. Robert Galloway had died years before, but his Last Will had given his wife the right to live in the house and keep the farm in operation until her death, which occurred before December of 1855. There had been an inventory and some division of Robert's estate, but the bulk of the estate was held together for the remaining lifetime of his wife.

The eight heirs of the Galloway estate were:

1. Avaline Galloway Mink, wife of James Mink
2. Granderson Galloway
3. D. F. Galloway
4. A. M. Galloway
5. Matilda Galloway West, wife of Hugh R. West
6. Laura Galloway
7. Miles Galloway (deceased) his part to his daughter Millie
8. W. W. Galloway (deceased) his part to his daughter Sophronia

Here are some of the items for sale at the Montevallo Galloway family estate sale, and the prices paid for them.

The sale was held on the 3rd of December 1855, and is recorded in Will Book L, pages 264-266, at the Shelby County Archives.

- A bay horse \$75
- An old bay horse \$20
- A cow and calf \$7.50
- 1 steer \$15
- 2 yearlings \$6.10
- A yoke of oxen \$33.50
- 50 bushels of corn \$22.58

- A sow and her pigs \$10.50
- 4 pork hogs \$35.75
- 800 pounds of cotton \$1,400
- A wagon \$10
- A lot of geese \$1
- A chain \$1.88
- A churn 20 cents
- Wash pot \$1.60
- A grind stone \$1.40
- 8 bushels of wheat \$8.88
- 1 chair 75 cents
- A lot of quilts \$4.13
- Bed and furniture \$25
- 1 chest \$4
- A lot of crockery \$2.25
- A box 10 cents
- A looking glass \$1.85
- A bottle of vinegar \$4.25
- One table \$1.30
- Coffee pot and pan 55 cents
- A clock \$15.50
- Fire dogs \$1.75
- A bible \$1.00
- A basket 37 cents
- A saddle \$15.00
- Maria and child Amanda \$1,199.88
- Jacob, wife Mary, & child \$1000
- A side saddle \$3.30
- 100 bushels of corn \$44.50
- A knife and saw \$2.70
- 1000 lbs. of fodder \$6.25
- A wheel 25 cents
- 6 chairs 75 cents
- Lot of quilts \$7.00

Some property had already been divided among the heirs. The farm land was also sold. The best farm land in Shelby County could bring as much as \$10/acre or more in the 1850's. Guardians were appointed by the court for the minor children, and the estate was finally settled after a few more years with equal division among all heirs, equally to the last half-penny! There were several unrelated Galloway families in Shelby County at the time. This particular family lived here over 175 years ago, and there is no implied or intended link to anyone who may be living here today.



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