

We have heard, probably through May Read, that Savez's sword was presented to Confederate Memorial Hall, 929 Camp St., New Orleans. It was supposedly taken there in 1924 from Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

#### Rosa Hall's Background

I'll give Rosa's background very briefly. If you need more information you can write or call. Rosa was born in 1843 in Hinds County, Mississippi, the daughter of Howell A. Hall and Elizabeth Ann Benson. Howell was from Monticello, Mississippi, the son of Alexander Hall and Bethany Runnels. His father owned a large plantation in near Monticello. Howell's grandfather was Harmon Runnels, a prominent Mississippian and earlier a Georgian. Alexander and Harmon founded the town. They established the first church and the first school. Harmon cleared the land and sold off the town lots. You can find many sale slips in his estate papers in Monticello. Much later, a tornado destroyed much of what remained of the old town. Alexander was also a Primitive Baptist minister. Harmon helped write the Mississippi Constitution in 1817 and the Georgia Constitution in 1795. Harmon represented his area in the Mississippi legislature from 1800-1804. He was in the legislature in Georgia in 1787, 1789 and 1799. He had a son who became governor of Mississippi and a grandson who became governor of Texas. The Halls and the Runnels were from Georgia and before that from North Carolina. Earlier the Runnels were probably from Virginia. Harmon fought in the Revolution. Family tradition says that he was an Indian fighter and the Indians gave him the name of "Old Bloody Shoes". He was said to be one of the twelve brothers who along with his brother, Dudley, crossed the Delaware with George Washington. Harmon Runnels and his many sons ruled Lawrence County politically. Harmon was married to Hester Hubert, daughter of Benjamin Hubert, a French Huguenot, who immigrated to America around 1740. He settled in the Winchester, Virginia, married a landed widow, then moved to North Carolina in Caswell County where the Runnels were. Then they all went to Georgia. Benjamin established a wonderful plantation not far from where Warrenton, Georgia is today. This property remained in a branch of the family for 100 years. The original property is still pretty much in tack. We visited it in April. It's now a hunting lodge, conference center, and farm. Beautiful spot, a first class operation.

Howell Hall, born in 1812, was a planter, a hotel keeper, (the Oak Tree Hotel in Raymond) and a farmer. Most of his adult life was lived in Hinds County. He married Elizabeth Ann Benson on April 15, 1836 in Jackson. They had five children.

Elizabeth Benson was born in 1815 in Greenville or Spartanburg County, South Carolina. She died in 1852. Her parents were Joshua Benson and Rosannah Nesbitt. Elizabeth moved from South Carolina with her family to Lawrence County, Mississippi at an early age.

In 1855 Howell Hall married Mary Elizabeth Read, Savez's aunt, youngest daughter of John and Dicy Read. There were more children by this marriage. In 1860 Rosa was living with them at the Oak Tree Hotel. Also a border at this hotel in 1860 was C. A. Rice, a physician. This is the same doctor who attended Savez in his final illness in Meridian thirty years later. Howell probably died around 1873.