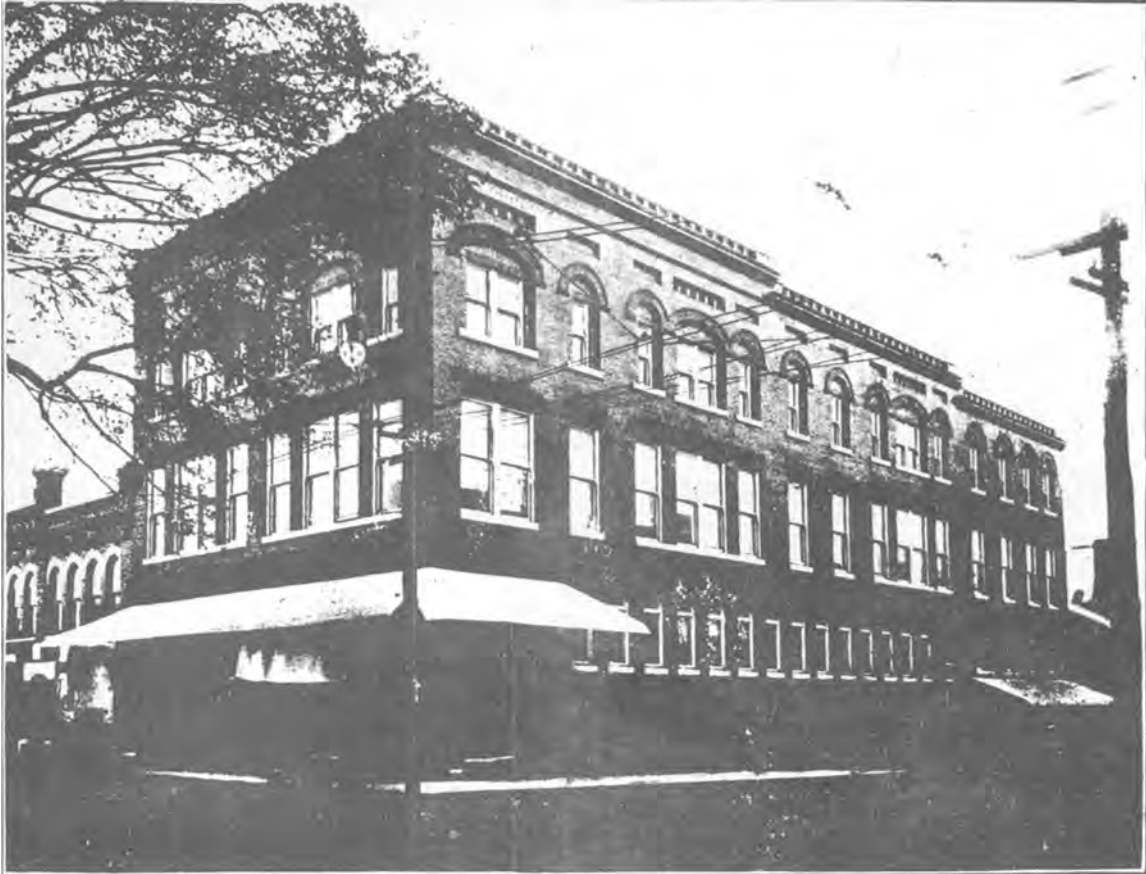


“When we were going to shop, we’d go to Huntsville. We’d go to T.T. Terry’s for food and clothing. To get there we’d come through Merrimack. We carried our corn there to be ground.”



The Terry Brothers Company Department Store in Huntsville. (Source: Business Men's League of Alabama 1908). This is where Emma Lankford and others from the pre-arsenal communities came to shop.

In discussing the foods, Emma said:

When I was a girl, my parents raised chickens, pigs, and cows. Some people had goats. The peddlers came through, and we’d sell eggs to them. Sometimes we’d sell chickens. Many people did this—traded them for other things.

Most people had hams and pork, and some people had turkeys. A peddler went around selling beef in the wintertime, an old man named Troddler. That was 75 years ago.

Tasks Women Did. Emma said her mother cooked, canned, washed the clothes, made soap, sewed, and traded the eggs to the peddler. Women worked in the garden. Most women worked in the fields. Girls learned to do everything.