

**their companions and neighbors succeeded in clearing off the forest and changing the wilderness to its subsequent attractiveness and the homes of the brave, generous, and cultivated people. The foundation of the present beauty and civilization of Madison County was laid by these pioneers and is maintained by their descendants.”**

**“These three brothers were tall, erect, and splendid specimens of manhood, with genial and attractive manners, by which they gained and held many friends. Burwell Clinton married Miss Laura Prudence America Ford of Madison County, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1853, a member of a prominent family, a cultivated, attractive, Christian woman, who died in Huntsville, Ala., July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1908, at the age of 73 years.”**

**“There were ten children born to this couple, to-wit: [1] Burwell Clinton, the third, born June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1854, married Miss Mattie C. Ashford, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 1881. [They had two children, Isaac Alexander Lanier, Jr., born September 17<sup>th</sup>, 1881, and died March 1896, and Joseph B. Lanier, born May 1864, died February, 1907. Burwell Clinton Lanier, the third, died from yellow fever at Decatur, Oct. 23, 1888.]”**

**(Continuing the list of children of Burwell C. & Laura Prudence Ford Lanier) [2] “John Ford (Lanier), born February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1857, married Miss Ada Johnson, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1881. (In 1886 Ada E. Johnson Lanier inherited land in the town of Madison, Madison County, Alabama, from her deceased father in Illinois, per Madison Co. AL Deed Book MMM, page 5. Her descendants still live on Maple Street and Martin Street, on land along both sides of the railroad on the east side of the historic district of the town of Madison.) The children of John Ford and Ada Lanier are: John Fulton, born December, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1882; Katherine Elizabeth, born 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1884, married Mr. Ortis Green of Madison County, April 1904; David Shelby Lanier, born 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1887 – he became a Mayor of Madison for 6 terms; Burwell Clinton Lanier (1890 – 1964); Ada Lorena Lanier (1891 – 1985); and Elsie Lanier (b. Apr. 1896). John Ford Lanier died in Huntsville, Alabama, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1900.”**