

## Dies at Age of 96

### Mrs. Hanna O'Bannon Long Active in City's Patriotic Affairs

Mrs. Hanna Shields O'Bannon, who nursed wounded Confederate soldiers at the home of her father, Gen. William Shields, at Lexington, Mo., during the civil war, died yesterday at St. Luke's Hospital, where she had been a patient for six and a half years. She was born August 7, 1845.

Mrs. O'Bannon belonged to the old school of Southern aristocracy, trained in days of slavery to consider less fortunate members of the community as a personal charge. For nearly 50 years she spent every Sunday afternoon visiting patients at City Infirmary and other institutions, taking them sugar, coffee and tobacco and other delicacies. Mrs. O'Bannon often explained that she acquired the habit by going to the Gratiot Street Prison to take soup and fruit to Confederate prisoners.

She married John T. O'Bannon, a cotton broker of St. Louis, and came here to live. For a time she and her husband boarded at the home of Mrs. Margaret A. E. McClure, for whom one of the first chapters in St. Louis of the United Daughters of the Confederacy was named. Mrs. O'Bannon was a charter member of the chapter, as she was of the Cornelia Green Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and for years she was one of the most active leaders in the affairs of patriotic organizations in St. Louis.

She loved to indulge in reminiscences of the civil war, as when Union officers searched the McClure home for letters from Confederate soldiers which were smuggled through the lines, but failed to find any because she had burned them in the fireplace at the first alarm that "bluecoats" were coming. Mrs. O'Bannon's father was the paymaster general of the Trans-Mississippi Department under Gen. Sterling Price, and one of the three men who first printed Confederate money in New Orleans.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. Friday at the Church of the Holy Communion, 2803 Washington boulevard, of which she had been a member of more than 40 years. Burial will be in Bellefontaine Cemetery.

Surviving are a son, Thomas Shields O'Bannon, 6124 Pershing avenue, a daughter, Mrs. Charles E. Rev of Shreveport, La., two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Her husband died 40 years ago.

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