



Sarah Hightower Hayes, mother of Adelia.



Elizabeth Hunt, whose husband founded Huntsville, Ala. She was grandmother of Adelia's husband, Joseph Acklen

Washington house on Massachusetts Avenue. Words can't begin to express how my husband felt."

Story of the painting apparently began with the building of Belmont—the mansion Adelia Hayes and her second husband, Joseph A.S. Acklen, built about 1850. They had spent a year in Europe after their marriage, collecting works of art and ideas for their summer home on land that reached from Hillsboro Road to Granny White Pike.

The artist is unknown, but apparently he painted the picture before work on the grounds was completed. And the painting hung in the mansion or in the art gallery on the grounds until Adelia sold Belmont and moved to Washington in 1887. According to information available to researchers in recent years, the house that Adelia built in Washington was on Pennsylvania Avenue. Therein lay the first mistake.

Actually the house Adelia built was on Massachusetts Avenue, along the famed "embassy row," and it was in that home that Adelia's paintings—along with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren—stayed until recent years.

It was in the trunk room of the attic of Adelia's Washington home, at 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, that the painting of Belmont was discovered in 1961.

"That was the house that Adelia built as a wedding present for her only surviving daughter, Pauline," Pauline's grandson, Kaiser, said.

It was during a shopping trip to New York with Pauline, to

Oliver Bliss Hayes, father of Adelia
buy furnishings for that Wash-
ington house on Pennsylvania Avenue
Pauline had married on May 4,
a graduate of Washington University
student th...