

In Manatee County in December of 1863, Dempsey D. Crews married Molcy Hair. Rev. Jeremiah Hayman performed the ceremony. Molcy was born on Dec. 23, 1837 in Columbia County, Fla., daughter of William Calvin Hair, Jr. and Sarah Jane (Parker) Hair. She was the granddaughter of William Hair, Sr. and Luke Parker. Their children:

11. Sarah Jane Crews, born Nov. 13, 1864, died young.
12. William Calvin Crews, born Nov. 30, 1866, married on Aug. 29, 1888 in DeSoto County, Cornelia Whidden, daughter of David D. and Penina (Driggers) Whidden.
13. Isham Crews, born July 17, 1869, died Aug. 5, 1938, married Mary Azeline Gill, daughter of James Gill.
14. Sophia Lee Crews, born Jan. 1, 1872, married on Jan. 17, 1889 in DeSoto County, Lewis (Luke) H. Altman son of John Altman.
15. Thomas Jefferson Crews, born Jan. 25, 1874, married Ava Bailey daughter of Willoughby Bailey.
16. Edward Crews, born Oct. 15, 1877, died young.
17. Charity Crews, born June 18, 1879, married 1st, Chester Burnett; married 2nd, Leslie Allen.

In 1870, Dempsey & Molcy Crews and family were living in Township 34 which covers the Fort Hartsuff, Zolfo & Popash area. Others in this same district were John Collier, Hugh Bethea, Thomas Sellers, Alex Rymer and David Whidden.

On October 17, 1874, Mrs. Molsy Crews registered the following mark and brand: swallowfork and underbit in one ear, upperbit in the other, branded "NC".

On August 6, 1889 while living at Zolfo in DeSoto County, Dempsey applied for an invalid's pension. His description was given as six feet tall with dark complexion, black hair and blue eyes. His partial disability was due to the measles and mumps which he contracted while serving with Capt. North's Company of Brown's Georgia Volunteers, which resulted in nearly total blindness. He also received leg injuries while marching through the Okefenokee Swamp.

Dempsey D. Crews died July 24, 1892 at Zolfo. His will was dated July 4, 1877. He mentioned "my wife Molly Crews and my children begotten of her body (to wit): William C. Crews, Isham Crews, Sophia T. Crews, & Thomas J. Crews". Among the items he left to them was his stock of cattle marked swallowfork & underbit in one ear, upperbit in the other, branded "NC" and one bay mare & colt. The rest of his estate to be divided "between all my heirs". He was buried at New Hope Cemetery.

On August 29, 1892, Mrs. Molcy (Hair) Crews applied for and received a widow's pension based on her husband's Seminole Indian War services. In her will dated Oct. 27, 1879, she left to William Calvin Crews, Isam Crews, Sophia Lee Crews, Thomas Jefferson Crews, Edward Crews and Charity Crews their equal share of cattle branded "NC" and "DC". Molcy died on May 31, 1925 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Charity Allen at Balm, Florida. She was also buried at New Hope Cemetery near Zolfo Springs in Hardee County.

REFERENCES: Census: 1850 Columbia Co., 1860 & 1870 Manatee Co., Fla, 1840 Ware Co., Ga.; PIONEERS OF WIREGRASS GEORGIA by Folks Huxford, Vol. 2 & 5; Marriage records of Hamilton, Manatee & DeSoto Counties; New Hope Cem.;