

MAXFIELD WHIDDEN 1805-1865

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Maxfield Whidden was born May 1, 1805 in Georgia, probably in Montgomery County, son of James Whidden, Sr. He grew up in Camden and Ware Counties, Georgia. On May 28, 1828 at the Suwannee River, Maxfield Whidden and Sophia P. Crews were married by Rev. David Bryan. She was born in Colleton District, South Carolina on March 27, 1805, daughter of Alexander Crews. Children of Maxfield & Sophia P. (Crews) Whidden:

1. Eli (Eley) Perry Whidden, born July 10, 1829; married in Hillsborough County on Feb. 4, 1847, Lavenia Platt, daughter of Peter Platt.
2. Lydia A. Whidden (some records give her name as Elizabeth), born Sept. 27, 1831; married 1st, David J. W. Boney on Oct. 8, 1846; married 2nd, Mr. Russell.
3. Sophia Whidden, born May 13, 1833.
4. Maxfield Whidden, Jr., born July 9, 1835.
5. Charity Whidden, born Jan. 3, 1837.
6. Susan Whidden, born March 1, 1840 according to her mother's pension application (tombstone shows March 5th); married 1st, in Hillsborough County, on Jan. 1, 1852, David Brannon; married 2nd, in Fort Myers in 1863, her first cousin, Jesse Whidden, son of Willoughby Whidden (due to poor record keeping during the Civil war, they were remarried on Nov. 3, 1874).
7. Edward Whidden, born Jan. 13, 1842; died Jan. 19, 1910; married on July 14, 1860, Mary Ann (Williams) Mathis, daughter of Rowland and Nancy Ann (Sweat) Williams and first wife of James W. Mathis. (NOTE: In Issue #11 in the article on Willoughby Whidden it was asserted that the above Edward Whidden was possibly a son of Willoughby Whidden. It has now been established that the Edward Whidden born Jan. 13, 1842 is a son of Maxfield Whidden.)
8. Willoughby Whidden, born July 18, 1844.

Maxfield Whidden settled in Alachua County, Florida, probably in that section which was made into Columbia County in 1832. The 1830 Alachua County, Florida census lists Maxey F. Whitton as a resident.

Maxfield Whidden served several enlistments during the Florida Seminole Indian uprisings. He enlisted at or near Fort Gilmore, Ga., on Dec. 28, 1835 as a Private in Capt. William North's Company in the Regiment commanded by Col. Brown. His description at this time was 6' 3", black eyes, fair complexion and auburn hair. He was a Private in Capt. William B. North's Company in the 2nd Regiment of East Florida Mounted Volunteers commanded by Col. W. J. Mills. He was mustered in at Camp North on June 16, 1837 and honorably discharged at Newnansville on Dec. 18, 1837. His brother-in-law, Dempsey Dubois Crews, Sr., was a Sergeant in this company. Maxfield was also a Private in Capt. W. B. North's Company which was attached to General Charles Floyd's command