

Sunday november the 16

met according to adjournment preching was performed by brother MAIN  
And exortation by brother J. TUCKE Confernce was the opend also a  
doore of the church for the reception of members none came foward ther  
being no bisness meting

(Here ends the minutes of the church as found in the old notebook)

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EPHRAIM WASHINGTON THOMPSON 1830-1921

Ephraim Washington Thompson was born on January 17, 1830 in Gwinnett County, Georgia, according to his pension applications. He was a son of Ephraim and Naomi (Nettles) Thompson. His parents were living in Gwinnett County, Georgia in 1830 and in Paulding County, Georgia in 1840 and 1850. In 1850, they were residing in the 950th district.

Ephraim came to Florida in 1851 and was a member of the surveying corps who made a government survey of south Florida in 1855.

At Fort Brooke, Hillsborough County, Florida on February 24, 1857, Mr. Thompson enlisted as a Private in Capt. Leroy G. Lesley's Independent Company of Florida Mounted Volunteers during the Seminole Indian wars. He was described as being five foot, five inches in height with blue eyes, black hair and dark complexion. He stated in 1915 that he had "served in 1857 in the everglades in south Florida". He was mustered out at Fort Brooke on August 23, 1857. He was mustered in August 24th as a Corporal in Capt. Lesley's Company. Company rolls show that from September to November of 1857, he was on detached service at Fort Hartsuff in charge of detached men. Ephraim was mustered out with the company on February 23, 1858 at which time the rolls showed that he was sick at Fort Hartsuff.

It was while Mr. Thompson was stationed at Fort Hartsuff (in present day Hardee County) that he met and married on February 17, 1859, Miss Keziah Whidden, daughter of Willoughby & Eliza (Pennington) Whidden. She was born February 14, 1841 in Ware County, Georgia. Their children:

1. Lucius L. M. Thompson, born December 21, 1859; died March 20, 1883.
2. Willoughby Ephraim Thompson, born January 10, 1861; married Estelle Barton on January 17, 1886.
3. Naomi "Omie" Eliza Thompson, born January 3, 1862; married Frederic Hansen on June 28, 1882.
4. Gilbert H. "Sam" Thompson, born August 17, 1866.
5. Mary Jane Thompson, born June 21, 1869; died Feb. 23, 1876.
6. Arabella A. "Belle" Thompson, born January 19, 1871; married Mike Coward in 1894 in DeSoto County.
7. Eugenia B. Thompson, born November 16, 1873; married 1st, J. E. Cooper on June 15, 1890; married 2nd, Mr. Strong.
8. Willie Agnes Thompson, born March 27, 1875; married Freedman Morqus on February 12, 1893.