

was later changed to Columbia Rangers and he was discharged July 11, 1838. On his application for bounty land he claims to have served until 1842. Copies of military records so far received from the National Archives do not validate the date of 1842. On November 11, 1851, he received a bounty land warrant number 21204 for 80 acres for this service. When the Seminole disturbance of 1849 began, Silas enlisted as a corporal July 25, 1849 and served in Capt. S. L. Sparkman's Company of Florida Volunteers until discharged Oct. 23, 1849. He received a warrant number 113743 as a result of this service for 160 acres Dec. 12, 1874.

In the third Seminole Indian War, he enlisted as a private on December 29, 1855 in Capt. F. M. Durrance's Company of Mounted Volunteers at Fort Meade, Florida, and reenlisted two more times and served until December 1857. He was appointed First Corporal April 27, 1857. Four of his sons--Jesse, Maxfield, Moses A. and William, and a son-in-law, Berrien Platt, all served in this war. He was too old for service in the Civil War; however, three of his sons--William, Maxfield and Silas L. who died in service, all served. Also Berrien Platt, a son-in-law, and two grandsons, William and John L. McClelland were in the Civil War.

Silas was a skilled chair maker, using a lathe which he operated by treadles to shape the wooden parts out of seasoned hickory with cowhide seats. These chairs were suitable for pioneer living as his chairs were strong and durable, and age made them collector's items. He would take his lathe to the homes he served and stay with families while filling orders. This custom suited another of "Si Mack's" (as he was called) talents, that of entertaining the children with his repertory of tales for which he became well known. His impossible stories earned him the reputation which he was described as a Baron Munchausen story teller of his day. A collection of these stories was made by the late Judge Kelsey Blanton. Silas died August 1, 1875 and was buried in a cemetery near his home which was about one mile north of Medulla. After his death Penelope lived in the household of son-in-law and youngest daughter, Alfrew W. and Julia (McClelland) Lunn, south of Lakeland and she is listed in the 1880 census. She died about 1883 and is probably buried near Silas. After her death, Maxfield McClelland qualified as administrator of her estate and he sued Alfred W. Lunn in Polk County Circuit Court April 7, 1884 charging that Lunn "...unlawfully assumed to dispose of her property..." Lunn asked for an amount of \$898.00 to cover cost of boarding and nursing her for six years and eight months, and for looking after her herd of cattle. The court awarded Lunn \$284.31 for judgement and costs.

REFERENCES: PIONEERS OF WIREGRASS GEORGIA by Folks Huxford, Vol. IV, pg. 372, 1960; Application for Letters of Administration, Polk Co., Fl., pg. 108; Polk Co. Probate Court Records; Tattnall Co., Mixed Records of Inferior and Superior Courts, 1807-1845, Probate Judge's Office, Reidsville, Ga.; Tattnall County Land Grants 1802-1837, Reidsville, Ga.; HISTORY OF IRWIN COUNTY, J. B. Clements, 1932, pp 461 & 466; E. L. (Boe) and Carolyn Williams "Abstract of Records of Prospect Primitive Bapt. Church, Hamilton Co., Fla." HUXFORD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. MAGAZINE, Vol. V, No. 2, (June 1978) pp 906 & 909; Salem Baptist Church minutes at Polk Co. Hist. Library, Bartow, Fl.; The Florida Peninsular, Tampa, Fl., April 20, 1861; GEORGIA GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE; Bounty Land application, National Archives, Washington, D. C.; SOLDIERS OF FLORIDA, 1903, pp. 14, 15 & 313; other military records in National Archives & Archives of Florida; "Florida Pioneers" by D. B. McKay in Tampa Tribune, Aug. 28, 1955; Ledger A - Probate of Accounts, Polk Co., Fl., p. 363.