

ENOCH E. COLLINS, JR. 1836-1907

Enoch E. Collins, Jr. was born in Lowndes County, Georgia on July 31, 1836, son of Enoch E. Collins, Sr. and Fatima Knight. He was a grandson of Samuel and Mary (Roberts) Knight.

About 1845 the Collins family moved to north Florida settling in the Alachua County area. Fatima (Knight) Collins died there about 1846.

Enoch E. Collins, Jr. moved to south Florida prior to 1855, settling near his grandfather Knight in the Hichipucksassa area near present day Plant City. It was here that Enoch married on Jan. 18, 1855, Elizabeth L. Blocker, daughter of Stephen Blocker. Their children:

1. Francis Isabelle Collins, born December 14, 1855; died August 12, 1890, buried in Crewsville Cemetery; married on August 6, 1869, Dempsey Dubois Crews, Jr., son of Dempsey Dubois and Piety (Collier) Crews.
2. Charles Berry Collins, born 1858; married in Manatee County on January 9, 1879, Sarah Penelope "Nellie" Dees.
3. Samuel E. Collins, born 1860; died 1946, buried in Crewsville Cemetery; married 1st, Lucy Crews on March 1, 1881; married 2nd, Texas Ann Daughtrey, daughter of Arthur and Maheny (Jernigan) Daughtrey.
4. Susan F. Collins, born December 16, 1862; died March 26, 1934, buried in Crewsville Cemetery; married 1st on September 8, 1881, John E. North; married 2nd, on November 22, 1883 George M. Collier, son of John Collier, Sr.

During the Third Seminole Indian War, Enoch Jr. was a private in Capt. Simeon L. Sparkman's Company of Mounted Volunteers. He enlisted August 18, 1856 and was described as being 20 years old, 5'6" tall, light complexion, blue eyes and light hair. He was discharged Feb. 17, 1857 at Fort Brook. James N. Collins and David Crum were also members of this organization and later made statements to support Enoch's widow's pension application.

Enoch was living in the same household as William H. and Celestia Handcock in the 1860 Hillsborough County census. Some of their neighbors were Joel and Virginia Knight, Samuel and Mary Knight, Enoch Collins, Sr. and John Lanier.

Enoch was a member of the Confederate Army during the Civil War. He was in Company B, 1st Battalion Florida Special Cavalry which was part of Col. Munnerlyn's "Cow Cavalry". D. J. Collins, William Collins, John Collins and Hardy Collins were also members of this unit.

Prior to 1870, the Collins family settled in the Crewsville area in Manatee County. He was listed in Township 35 in the 1870 census. His occupation was a farmer and the value of his personal estate was \$400. He was listed as a taxpayer in the 1870 Manatee County tax records. At the time he owned 52 cattle and 15 hogs.

Enoch divorced Elizabeth L. (Blocker) Collins in Hillsborough County on April 2, 1872. On April 3, 1872 he married Mrs. Victoria A. Wilder widow of Hopkins M. Wilder. Victoria was born May 30, 1844 in Mississippi. Her husband had died on Nov. 5, 1870.

On October 27, 1902, Enoch applied for a pension based on his Indian War service. He was a resident of Altman, DeSoto County, Fl.