

LEVI STARLING 1808-1856

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Levi Starling was born 1808 in North Carolina. He is believed to have been the son of William and Sarah Starling. William Starling, who was born in 1755, was a Revolutionary War soldier from Johnston County, North Carolina. The family moved to South Carolina and later to Tattnall County, Georgia where William Starling died in March 1830.

In the 1830's, Levi Starling moved to Alabama where he settled in Coosa County. He married about 1834, Jane _____ (maiden name unknown), born ca. 1809 in Alabama. They had six children:

1. Martha Jane Starling, born February 16, 1835; died March 13, 1917; married about 1850, Joseph Casey.
2. Temperance Starling, born ca. 1839; died ca. 1908; married 1st, John Haywood, November 2, 1856; 2nd, Enoch Collins, Sr. on April 25, 1858; 3rd, Thomas E. Boyett on October 31, 1889; 4th, _____ Townsend.
3. Mary Ann Starling, born October 24, 1843; died November 11, 1926; married 1st, Albert "Eddie" Hinson on January 1, 1857; 2nd, Solomon Godwin on April 26, 1866.
4. James Starling, born 1845; died May 17, 1856.
5. William Henry Starling, born 1848; married Josephine Adams on May 5, 1870.
6. John Starling, born May 10, 1850; died May 20, 1930; married on November 2, 1866, Mrs. Martha Ann (Keen) Miley, daughter of Elder James M. and Apsilla Keen and the widow of David M. Miley.

The 1850 Coosa County, Alabama census, dated October 29, 1850, enumerated in the Hatchet Creek District in household 85 the Levi Starling family. Levi, a farmer, had real estate valued at \$150. Neighbors included Joseph and Martha Casey, Christopher and Mahaley Butler, Joel and Catherine Butler, John A. and Mary Pylant. In the early 1850's, Levi and family moved to Ichepuckessa, Hillsborough County, Florida.

During the Third Seminole War, Levi enlisted as a private on December 29, 1855 in Capt. Francis M. Durrance's Company and served as a teamster. On the afternoon of May 16, 1856, three wagons with grain for Capt. Durrance at Fort Fraser left from Fort Brooke. The Florida Peninsular in its issue of Saturday, May 24, 1856 reported on this expedition, which became known as the Simmons Hammock Massacre, in which Levi and James Starling and a Mr. Roach were killed by Indians when they stopped for water at Pemberton Creek, near Simmons Hammock:

On Saturday, the 17th inst., while a train of three wagons in the service of the state, accompanied by two