

Elias E. Johnson was born in Georgia on February 15, 1818 son of James Madison Johnson. Nothing is known about his earlier years. He married Elizabeth Keen in Columbia County, Fla. on November 3, 1846. She was born on January 13, 1832 in Appling County, Georgia oldest daughter of James M. and Assilla Keen. She moved to Columbia County along with her parents and her relatives in 1836. Children of Elias and Elizabeth Johnson were:

1. Georgianna A. Johnson, born Oct. 29, 1847; married Alonzo Johnson, 1st; married Stephen McClenithan, 2nd.
2. Susan "Sara" Jane Johnson, born Feb. 6, 1850; married George Washington Tippins on Aug. 22, 1867.
3. James Mitchell "Acrefoot" Johnson, born Feb. 28, 1851; married Margaret Isabelle Chester on Jan. 22, 1877.
4. Florida A. Johnson, born Nov. 1, 1853; married J. B. Thomas on Sept. 14, 1884.
5. Moses A. Johnson, born May 23, 1854; married Louisiana Renfroe on March 27, 1875.
6. Alice Johnson, born Aug. 13, 1855; died June 16, 1858.
7. William J. Johnson, born May 16, 1857; married Mary Ann Douglas on Jan. 4, 1877.
8. Marrietta Caroline Johnson, born Feb. 9, 1859; married Atha Talton Douglas on Jan. 29, 1880.

Elias Johnson and his family were living in Columbia County during the 1850 and 1860 census. Elias enlisted on August 12, 1863 at Lake City, Florida as a Private in Company G, 5th Battalion of the Florida Cavalry of the Confederate States Army. On Sept. 24, 1863 he was discharged because he was over 45 years of age. He enlisted on May 20, 1864 at Lake City as a 2nd Sgt. in Capt. Hawkin's Company of Reserves of the State of Florida. This company later became Company G, 1st Regiment Florida Reserves. Elias was listed as one of the prisoners of war who surrendered to Brig. General E. M. McCook by Maj. General Sam Jones, CSA at Tallahassee, on May 10, 1865. He was paroled at Madison, Fla. on May 16, 1865. He was then described as being 5'11" tall, with yellow hair, blue eyes and light complexion.

Sometime after the war, probably about 1866, Elias and his family moved to Manatee (now DeSoto) County, where his daughter, Susan Jane, married George W. Tippins on Aug. 22, 1867. They were in that county in 1870 but by 1880 they had moved into Polk County in the vicinity of Bereah, Florida. Elias died on Aug. 24, 1884 and was buried in the Corinth Cemetery at Bereah. He was one of the first people buried there. He had visited that particular area and considered it such a lovely spot that he requested when he died, he was to be buried there. His wife, Elizabeth, sick with rheumatism in her later years, lived with various of her children at Fort Ogden and other areas on the prairie. She received a pension from the State of Florida for her husband's military service for the Confederacy during the Civil War. It began on Sept. 4, 1907 at the rate of \$120 per year. Elizabeth died on Mar. 31, 1912 & was buried at the Fort Ogden Cemetery next to