

When the Civil War broke out, Daniel became a member of the Confederate States Army. He served as a First Lieutenant in Company "B", First Battalion, Florida Special Cavalry commanded by Major Charles J. Munnerlyn (known as Munnerlyn's Battalion). This outfit consisted of men exempted from regular service, details for the cattle drives, employees of the Commissary Department and other loyal settlers, who could be persuaded to be drawn into the Confederate service but were allowed to remain in their communities where they could keep a careful and watchful eye on their families and property, according to "Lake Okeechobee" written by Kathryn Hanna. Two of Daniel's sons, Elbert and Orvil Sloan served in Company B, ("South Florida Infantry") 7th Florida Infantry of the Confederate States Army.

Mrs. Nancy Sloan was baptized by Rev. James M. Hayman, Baptist minister at Bethel (Socrum Settlement) in Polk County on September 7, 1864 along with her daughters, Catherine and Wealthy Ann Sloan.

Daniel Sloan and several of his married sons later moved to Sumter County, Florida. The 1880 Sumter County Census shows Gibson Sloan & his family living with Daniel & Nancy Sloan and two of the unmarried sons, John and William Sloan. Living nearby are the families of Alfred Sloan, Elbert Sloan and Owen Sloan.

Daniel also served his community as a Baptist minister. According to the records of Stetson University Library at Deland, Florida, his last pastorate was at Webster, Florida.

An article about early Sumter County pioneers says, "Old man Daniel Sloan lived near the spot where the widow Sallie Brown lives. He was a hardshell (Primitive Baptist) preacher here before the Civil War, and one of the most noted men that ever lived. He was one of the best farmers in the county. He raised such good corn that it would shell out a bushel and a quarter to the barrel. It was known far and wide as the Sloan corn."

Daniel died in 1888 and his wife died there in 1895. Both are buried in Dukes Cemetery at Groveland, Florida.

On July 31, 1965, a ceremony organized by Daniel's great-granddaughter, Miss Varnie Sloan of Tampa, Florida, was held at Dukes Cemetery to dedicate a military headstone to this Confederate Veteran.

REFERENCES:

Marriage records of Thomas County, Ga., Hillsborough & Polk Counties, Florida; "John Sloan" in Vol. 4, Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, by Judge Folks Huxford; 1840 & 1850 Census of Thomas County, Georgia; 1860 Census, Hillsborough County; 1880 Sumter County Census; Military Service Papers of Daniel Sloan; Bounty Land Warrent Application of Daniel Sloan; Lake Okeechobee by Kathryn Hanna; Soldiers of Florida;