



WILLIAM B. HOOKER 1800-1871

for assumpsit and won a judgement which was again appealed to the Supreme Court. This time the court affirmed the judgement.

It appears then, that in 1853, Captain Hooker owned land on Manatee River and was in the process of having a house constructed there. He owned over a thousand acres near Fort Hamer, including the site of the fort. His land was located near the present site of Parrish, in Manatee County. It is recorded that Captain Hooker cut the first straight road from Simmons Hammock to Manatee County and lived there for several years, from 1853 to about 1857. On Dec. 25, 1857, he sold 1,070 and 72/100 acres of land in Manatee County to his son, William J. Hooker and his son-in-law, Benjamin J. Hagler, for the sum of \$5,000. In Hillsborough County Deed Book B, pages 781-83, is found the text of an agreement between Captain Hooker and Hagler and William J. Hooker. By this contract, Captain Hooker sold all of his stock of cattle, with the exception of twelve choice

cows and their calves, the entire stock consisting of some 6,000 head, branded Heart H; also a gray mule, saddle and blanket; a mare and two horse mules; all the seed cotton owned by Hooker in Manatee County consisting of from twelve to twenty thousand pounds; also a mare called Fanny. Captain Hooker was to receive \$35,095 for the above, which sum includes the amount which they were to pay him for the land recently purchased from him. Captain Hooker also loaned ten Negroes to the grantees for the term of six years. The agreement is dated Jan. 1, 1858 and was recorded Jan. 6, 1858.

During the Third Seminole War, 1855-58, Captain Hooker commanded a company of volunteer militia known as Company M, Florida Mounted Volunteers. The company was mustered into state service Jan. 3, 1856, then mustered into the service of the Federal government at Fort Meade on Feb. 2, 1856. William's pay claim for his service was \$241. Many of the supplies for his company he provided himself, the money coming