



U. R. DURRANCE

In September 1902 Uriah R. Durrance once again applied for an Indian War pension. The act of June 27, 1902 made him eligible and in his application he gave his address as Bassenger, Osceola County, Florida. It is interesting to note that Mr. Durrance signed his name as "Durrence" on all of the pension forms and his pension, which is numbered 5071, gives his name as Uriah R. Durrence. When applying for the pension he gave his height as five feet, ten inches; weight as 155 pounds; with blue eyes, light hair and fair complexion. He originally received \$8 per month but this had been increased to \$20 monthly at the time of his death.

On Sept. 10, 1907, Mr. Durrance applied for a Confederate veteran's pension from the State of Florida. The pension was approved and he was authorized to receive \$120 per year.

Not long before his death, Mr. & Mrs. Durrance moved to Sebring, where he died Dec. 1, 1917. The obituary reads as follows: "After only a few days illness U. R. Durrance passed away at his home near Sebring, Sat., December 1st, and was buried in the Sebring Cemetery Sunday afternoon, the funeral services being conducted by Rev. M. Walker, pastor of the Primitive Baptist Church of Fort Meade, of which Church Mr. Durrance had been a consistent member for many years. Rev.

Walker was assisted in the services by Elder J. H. Moore, pastor of the Church of the Brethren of Sebring. The death of Mr. Durrance removes one more of the very few early Florida pioneers, who lived to see south Florida develop, from a vast cattle range, to beautiful orange groves and progressive little cities."

Mr. Durrance's son, James, served as administrator of the estate. It included 1500 head of cattle valued at \$20,000, 375 acres in Okechobee County and 10 acres in DeSoto County at a total value of \$10,000. James Durrance was finally discharged as administrator, Sept. 7, 1940.

Lucy (DeVane) Durrance applied for a Federal Indian War widow's pension in 1918. On Apr. 26, 1924, she applied for a Confederate widow's pension from the State of Florida. At that time she was living at Bowling Green, in Hardee County. The Confederate pension was approved and she was authorized to receive \$300 per year.

Lucy (DeVane) Durrance died Sept. 22, 1934 and was buried in the cemetery at Basinger, Florida.

REFERENCES: Census - 1850 St. Johns, Fl., 1880 Polk Co., Fl., 1885 Manatee Co., Fl.; marriage records of Hills., Manatee & DeSoto Co., Fl.; U. R. Durrance probate file; pension application of U. R. Durrance for Indian War service; pension applic. of U. R. Durrance for Confed. serv.; pension files of Lucy (DeVane) Durrance for Indian War & Confed. widow's pensions; 1861 Polk Co. tax list; Basinger & Crewsville cemeteries; Hancock & Durrance family files of Lillian Carpenter, Polk Co. Hist. Lib.