

ROBERT ROBERTS 1842-1912

Researched, compiled and contributed by Spessard Stone, Route 1, Box 255A, Wauchula, Florida 33873.

Robert Roberts was born June 19, 1842 in Irwin County, Georgia. He was a son of Joel and Sarah (Youngblood) Roberts and a grandson of Grey Stock and Sarah (Lott) Roberts. In 1860 he moved with his parents to Marion County, Florida and settled near Ocala where they farmed.

In June of 1861, Robert Roberts enlisted as a private at Fernandina in Company G, 4th Florida Infantry, C. S. A. The 4th remained in Florida until the spring of 1862 when they were sent to join the Army of Tennessee. Although they arrived after the Battle of Shiloh (April 6-7), the 4th, attached to Bates Division, Hardee Corps, participated in the battles of Murfreesboro (December 31, 1862-January 2, 1863), Jackson (July 5, 1863, after Gen. Pemberton's surrender of Vicksburg to Gen. Grant on July 4), Chickamauga (September 19-20, 1863), Chattanooga (November 23-25, 1863), Resaca (May 13-15, 1864), Jonesboro (August 31-September 1, 1864), Nashville (December 15-16, 1864). After the crushing defeat at Nashville, an army review was held at Tupelo, Mississippi. A sixty days' furlough was awarded Private Roberts (who after Jonesboro for an unspecified time had been an acting sergeant) for being only one of six men in the army who had been in every battle across the Tennessee River. Home again in Ocala, he was attached to Capt. Dickinson's company of irregular cavalry, in which in the spring of 1865 he took part in a raid across the St. Johns River. During the war he was twice sick with the fever and twice slightly wounded, being hospitalized at Dalton, Georgia on November 21, 1862 from which he was transferred November 27 to Cleveland, Tennessee Hospital, and at French's Division Hospital of Lauderdale, Mississippi which listed him present as a patient on July 10, 1863. National Archives muster rolls of Private Roberts ended Jan./Feb. 1864 (probably lost), but Soldiers of Florida listed him until April 26, 1865.

Robert Roberts married on September 3, 1865 in Marion County, Mary Elizabeth (Carlton) Grantham. Born June 17, 1845, she was the widow of Daniel Grantham who was killed in the war, and a daughter of William and Harriet (Hendry) Carlton. She was the granddaughter of John and Nancy Ann (Alderman) Carlton and William & Nancy (McFail) Hendry. Robert and Elizabeth had nine children:

1. Florence Fay Roberts, born May 18, 1866; died September 10, 1959; married July 9, 1885 Delaney Jackson Farabee (born December 1, 1859; died May 5, 1941).
2. Charles Henry Roberts, born September 20, 1867; died May 27, 1955; married Mary Ada Gillis (born January 8, 1875; died November 3, 1944).
3. William Albert Roberts, born March 19, 1870; died May 14, 1962; married Florrie Revell (born May 30, 1873; died October 24, 1922); married 2nd, Nannie Harrison.
4. Dorena Roberts, born February 20, 1872; married on July 26, 1887 Joseph Brown Simmons.
5. Alderman Roberts, born May 10, 1876; died October 14, 1918; married Mattie Durrance (born July 3, 1878, Ft. Meade; died June 9, 1981).