

REV. WILLIAM PENN MCEWEN 1815-1883

Researched, compiled and contributed by Spessard Stone, Rt. 1, Box 255A, Wauchula, Fl. 33873.

The Rev. William Penn McEwen, a pioneer settler of Fort Hartsuff, was a circuit riding Methodist minister in old Manatee County, Florida.

William Penn McEwen was born September 20, 1815 in Washington County, Georgia. He enlisted as a young man as a private in the company commanded by Capt. Charles J. Malone in a Regiment of Georgia Militia. He volunteered at Sandersville, Georgia on February 8, 1836 and was honorably discharged at Sandersville on April 15, 1836.

About 1843, he married Ruth Shepherd, born January 31, 1819 in Georgia. She is believed to have been the daughter of Mrs. Elizabeth Sheppard who was residing with William and Ruth when the 1850 Washington County, Georgia census was taken (the spelling of names in censuses vary according to the diligence of the enumerator and the family itself.).

William and Ruth McEwen had the following children:

1. William Alexander McEwen, born February 14, 1844; died April 24, 1913; married in Columbia County, Florida on December 2, 1866, Louisa A. Warren.
2. Elizabeth F. McEwen, born August 1, 1846; died December 27, 1899; married in Manatee County, Florida on January 7, 1868, Simeon Enoch Whidden, son of Willoughby and Eliza (Pennington) Whidden.
3. Nancy Virginia McEwen, born December 1848; died March 10, 1914; married in Manatee County on January 19, 1868, Robert Calvin "Cab" Hendry, son of Robert and Zilla Ann (Moody) Hendry.
4. Martha Winfield McEwen, born February 10, 1851; died August 6, 1944; married in Manatee County on October 11, 1868, Albert Carlton, son of Daniel Wilson and Sallie Ann (Murphy) Carlton.
5. Milton C. McEwen, born 1853; died 1890; married in Manatee County on April 12, 1871, Lodusky Whidden, daughter of Willoughby and Eliza (Pennington) Whidden.
6. Zachariah Francis McEwen, born October 7, 1855; died October 7, 1892; married in Manatee County on April 16, 1874, Charity C. Miller.
7. Mary Ann McEwen, born September 3, 1857; died July 31, 1937; married in Manatee County on August 22, 1872, Lewis Carlton, son of Daniel Wilson and Sallie Ann (Murphy) Carlton.