

Daniel Melton 1830 - ?

Daniel Melton was born in Appling County, Georgia, the son of Solomon Melton and Jane Hardin. The birthdates vary; the 1850 census for Camden County, GA indicates 1832, the 1870 Columbia County Census states 1835, and the 1880 Census for Columbia indicates 1830. He was married first to Sarah A. Cason, daughter of Willoughby Cason and Mary Conner. Daniel and Sarah had 2 children:

- 1 Hillary b. Nov. 1856 in Florida, m. Sarah A. Mathis, dau. of Joshua and Rachel Hazel Touchton, 20 Dec 1875.
- 2 Martha Ann b. 1859 in Florida, m. Daniel Sumner, 2/2/1878.

The census record for 1850 in Camden County, GA that shows Daniel Melton is living with the Marr family. Daniel must have secured work in that county during that period of time.

Daniel was living in Ware County, Georgia about 1862 when he sold land to his brother-in-law, Isaac Conner Cason. It was about the time of his wife's death. After the death of his wife Sarah, Daniel sent his daughter to live with the same brother-in-law and his family. Daniel married Mary Ann Elizabeth Pierce, the second wife of Lawrence Smith about 1863. Daniel and Mary Ann had two children in Columbia County, Florida.

1. Rasty Surrence b. 1864 in Florida
2. James Irvin b. 9/15/1865 in Florida and d. 12/11/1940 m. Martha E. (Mattie) Mathis in 1/14/1885, she was b. 1/27/1865 d. 3/26/1946.

The 1860 Census for Columbia County, FL indicates Daniel is 27 years of age, wife Sarah A. is 29, Hillery age 3 and Martha age 1. Neither Daniel nor Sarah could read or write. Both children were born in Florida.

The 1870 Census for Columbia County, FL shows Daniel, age 35, as farm labor. Also enumerated in the household is wife Mary, age 41, Susan age 17, Laura age 12, Franklin age 10, Hillery age 13, Surance age 7, and Irvin age 5. Susan, Laura, and Franklin are the children from Mary's previous marriage.

The 1880 Census shows Daniel age 50, living in Columbia County with wife Mary E. age 45, daughter Rasty 16, and son Erving 14. Their homestead is close to son Hillary's (about four farms over in Benton).

As of this writing, the date of Daniel's death is unknown.

References:

Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, Volume VI
Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, Volume II, pgs 256-257
1850 Federal Census for Camden County, GA

1870 Federal Census for Columbia County, FL
1880 Federal Census for Columbia County, FL
1900 Federal Census for Columbia County, FL
1910 Federal Census for Columbia County, FL
1920 Federal Census for Columbia County, FL