

raising cattle in his home county and providing them for the Union garrison at Fort Myers. In order to protect his life and property from neighboring Confederate sympathizers, it was necessary for William to appear at least nominally sympathetic to the Southern cause. At a meeting of the Manatee County Commission on Feb. 9, 1863, William Alderman was appointed agent to purchase supplies for the aid of Confederate families whose husbands were away at war.

After the war, William continued and expanded his cattle operations. The old deed books of Manatee County contain numerous documents conveying land to William Alderman and of him selling land to others. He purchased land from the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida, a state-operated organization. Three deeds dated Sept. 9, 1880, Oct. 8, 1880 and July 18, 1882 show that William purchased from the fund, lands lying in present day DeSoto and Okeechobee Counties. William was active in the Primitive Baptist Church. In 1874, he attended a Mount Enon Church meeting as a delegate.

William and his family resided for a number of years at Fort Ogden and prior to 1877 they moved to Pine Level, the county seat of Manatee County. The following children were born to William and Martha Jane (Hollingsworth) Alderman:

1. David Lee Alderman, born June 18, 1864; married 1st, Lula Effie Morgan on Oct. 1, 1884; married 2nd, Lila Harrison on Jan. 20, 1919. David Lee died Nov. 26, 1932.
2. Robert Henry Alderman, born Nov. 1, 1866; married 1st, Laura Pearce on Aug. 19, 1888; married 2nd, Bessie Walker on Nov. 16, 1911. Robert Henry died in 1932.
3. Thomas Francis Alderman, born Nov. 10, 1868; married Frances Louise Seward on Nov. 1, 1888. Thomas died on April 4, 1946.
4. William Michael Alderman, born April 22, 1871; married Lena Walker on Feb. 20, 1893. William died Nov. 30, 1956.
5. John Edward Alderman, born July 2, 1875; married Mary E. Walker on Jan. 12, 1898. John Edward died July 19, 1964.
6. Burgess Elliott Alderman, born Aug. 6, 1877; married Dollie Lee Parker on March 24, 1901. Burgess E. died on March 15, 1967.
7. Joseph Theodore Alderman, born Feb. 20, 1882; married Martha Walker on March 30, 1913. Joseph died Dec. 26, 1964.
8. Christine Alderman, born April 22, 1885; married James Durrance on Feb. 20, 1903.

In the mid-1880's, William and Martha Jane divorced and he married Mary Thomas, a daughter of James Thomas. She was born March 15, 1852 and died Sept. 10, 1902. Three children were born to this marriage: Elin Bruce Alderman, Beulah Virginia Alderman and James Finis Alderman.