

"We got to Peace Creek one night and had to camp there as we all had to cross Peace Creek on a large barge. This was all new to me as we had never seen such before. Next morning we got ready as early as possible and we crossed the river and got into Ft. Ogden late in the afternoon all tired out and worried. This was the 15th of Dec. 1872."

Mr. Barnwell did very well with his business selling whiskey, tobacco, candy, snuff and other supplies. He later gave up the store and bought a homestead between Deep Creek and Peace River where he farmed. The 1885 Manatee County census shows him living near his married daughter, Sallie Whidden & her husband, L. Larrison & family and D. J. Addison & family, in the Fort Winder area.

William Henry Barnwell died on April 5, 1902 and was buried at Mount Ephraim Baptist Church Cemetery in Owens, DeSoto County, Fla. His will recorded in DeSoto County reads as follows:

"I, William H. Barnwell, of the County of DeSoto and State of Florida, being of sound mind, do make, publish and declare this to be my last will and testament.

1st. I give and bequeath to my daughter, Sarah E. Martin, the following described land: The North East quarter of the South West quarter of the North East quarter of Section 28, Township 39 S. of Range 23 East, containing ten acres.

2nd. I give and bequeath to my daughter, Mary C. Williams, the following described land: The North West quarter of the South West quarter of the North East quarter of Section 28, Township 39 S. of Range 23 East containing ten acres.

3rd. I give to my son, Shubal A. Barnwell, the sum of one dollar and to my daughter, Hollie N. Giles, the sum of one dollar.

4th. I desire that all personal property of which I may die possessed shall be divided equally among all of my children, share and share alike.

5th. I hereby appoint my daughter, Sarah E. Martin, as executrix to this my last will and desire that the courts shall require no bond or surity of her for the performance of the duties as such.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal this 19th day of December A.D. 1900.

W. H. Barnwell (Seal)

Signed and sealed in our presence as the last will and testament of William H. Barnwell, who at his request and in his presence and in the presence of each other signed the same as subscribing witnesses thereto.

A. E. Pooser

E. W. Pooser

J. S. Martin

Mrs. Mary F. Barnwell lived with various of her children until her death in 1923. This article was printed in "The Plant City Courier":

"On Friday, Jan. 5, 1923, Mrs. Mary Frances Massey Barnwell was stricken with paralysis at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Hollie N. Morgan, on East Baker St, and died Tuesday morning, Jan. 9, 1923 at 11 o'clock.