

NOEL RABUN RAULERSON 1820-1910

In 1844 a small caravan of pioneers made their way through the wilderness of the Florida territory, leaving Alligator (Lake City) in Columbia County and finally settling in eastern Hillsborough County, about 25 miles east of Fort Brooke. This group consisted of Noel Rabun Raulerson, his brother John Baggs Raulerson, William Wiggins (who had married Emarentha Raulerson) and John Thomas (who had married a half-sister of the Raulersons).



N. R. RAULERSON \*

Noel Rabun Raulerson was born in Wayne County, Georgia on July 9, 1820. His mother was Mrs. Ellen (Baggs) Brannan Raulerson, born May 6, 1785 in Georgia. It is said that his father was Nichabod (Nicebod) Raulerson (1799-1875) of Wayne & Lowndes Counties, Georgia & later Columbia County, Fla., but loss of records in Lowndes and Columbia Counties have prevented this from being proved. George G. Keen in an affidavit dated July 6, 1897 in Columbia County in support of the claim of Nichabod's widow for a pension states that Nichabod was married three times (Lucretia, Margaret Sloan & Mrs. Matilda Brill) but does not mention Ellen (Baggs) Brannan as being a wife. Nichabod mentions children from all three of his marriages in his will, dated Jan. 9, 1875 but does not mention Noel R., John B. or Emarentha Raulerson. A legal ad dated 27 Nov. 1875 found among the Nichabod Raulerson probate papers states: "To the children of Nickabod Raulerson, deceased, viz: Hardy Raulerson, Jacob Raulerson, William Raulerson, Sarah Raulerson, Caroline

Raulerson, Harris Raulerson, America Raulerson, Pellina Raulerson, Amanda L. Raulerson, Nickabod J. Raulerson, Candace Turner, Acada Barker, Pollie Raulerson, & Rebecca Waldron, Greeting." No mention of the children of Ellen (Baggs) Brannan Raulerson.

Noel moved to north Florida with his family about 1829. In the 1830 census of Alachua County (later Columbia), Eleanor Raulerson is listed as living "on the Suwannee River and little St. Mary's River" along with William Raulerson, John Becks, Fanny Raulerson, William Moore and William Hair.

Noel Rabun Raulerson served as a Private in the company commanded by Capt. Robert Brown in the Regiment commanded by Col. William J. Mills of the 2nd Regt. of East Florida Mounted Volunteers. He enrolled on June 16, 1837 and was mustered in Sept. 25, 1837 at Fort White. He was mustered out on Dec. 18, 1837 at Fort Gilliland. His written discharge was later burned. At the time of entering service his description was

\*Photograph courtesy of Charles Rushing, Rt. 1, Box 752, Webster, Fl.