

holdings in Georgia before the Civil War and migrating to southwest Florida. In 1887, DeSoto County was created by the division of Manatee County. Pine Level which no longer exists was the county seat & later lost this distinction to Arcadia. JOSHUA MIZELL was the first elected Judge taking office Jan. 8, 1889. On Nov. 5, 1889 he resigned his commission which was signed by Gov. A. Perry. Erected in 1957 by WILLIAM M. MIZELL

FLOYD MIZELL, PVT, U.S.Army June 1, 1894 - June 26, 1975

DAVID WESLEY MIZELL July 14, 1849 - Dec. 23, 1924

Son of ENOCH EVERETT & MINERVA (PARRISH) MIZELL

ROWENA HAGAN MIZELL Aug. 3, 1854 - Oct. 16, 1938

Daughter of FRANCIS B. & ELIZABETH JANE (PLATT) HAGAN

Wife of DAVID WESLEY MIZELL

MARCELUS SON OF DAVID & ROWENA MIZELL Feb. 3, 1878 - Jan. 23, 1902

ELDRED SON OF DAVID & ROWENA MIZELL Oct. 8, 1882 - June 9, 1906

OLIVE MIZELL DAU OF DAVID & ROWENA MIZELL 1890 - 1973

NELLIE MIZELL MORGAN wife of C. C. MORGAN

Daughter of DAVID & ROWENA (HAGAN) MIZELL

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#### LEE COUNTY: EARLY DAYS IN FORT MYERS

A HISTORY OF THE EARLY DAYS IN FORT MYERS written by Capt. Francis A. Hendry is continued from Issue #10. It was contributed by Mrs. Frances Kay Hendry of North Fort Myers, Florida.

Three years afterwards actual settlers began to occupy, this time never again to be abandoned. In 1868 the International Ocean Telegraph Company obtained a twenty-year charter to operate a telegraph line through the State and to run a submarine cable to Key West and Cuba. This line was completed the following year and its line passed by Fort Myers en route to Punta Rassa, which point was the landing of the cable, which gave inspiration to those who desired to make Fort Myers their home.

About this time a cattle shipping point was established at Punta Rassa and Fort Myers became the headquarters for large cattle dealers from Cuba. The demand in Cuba for Florida cattle became very extensive, and Spanish ounces and doubloons almost became playthings. Cattle were driven from all over the State and even from Georgia, and shipped to those beef-eating people. Those conditions attracted many, who fell in love with Fort Myers and made it their home. Fort Myers has had its share of vicissitudes, of roughs and toughs common to all frontier countries, but its tendency has been, from its earliest civil existence, upward and onward. It is not the purpose of this article to tell much of Fort Myers of today. We promised not to do so; therefore we must draw the line and not enter upon grounds which will be covered by much abler pens, confining this writing to reminiscences of Fort Myers in the days of its youth, when it was clothed in its military garb, in full uniform and on dress parade.

I first saw Fort Myers in 1853, when its personnel was composed of such men as General Hancock, who afterwards ran on the Democratic ticket for President of the United States; Colonel Harvie Brown, the Commandant; Lieutenant Hartsuff, of Hartsuff fame; Lieutenant Benson; Captain Fowler, for whom Fowler Street is named. Lieutenant Benson afterward became a General in the army and was killed at Malvern Hill,