

The 1870 Manatee County census shows the Hugh Bethea family residing in Township 34 which includes the Fort Hartsuff, Zolfo and Popash areas. Neighboring families included Barzella Douglas, William Wingate, William Crews, Dempsey & Molcy Crews, Thomas Sellers, Alex Rymer and John Sellers. Hugh was listed in the 1871 tax payers of Manatee County.

William T. Jackson of Gainesville stated that Celiann was a tall lady who always wore black. Hugh was heavy set and jovial but also had a touchy temperment. Hugh was a Methodist minister in his earlier years but later became a Baptist preacher. The minutes of the Tenth Annual Session of the Manatee Baptist Association at Mt. Moriah Church at Davidson, Manatee County in October of 1885 show that Elder Hugh Bethea preached two nights and that he was paid \$139.32 by the association for services as a missionary. He is also shown as contributing \$50.00 for the Cuban Mission. In the 1886 minutes of the Association's annual meeting Hugh Bethea was listed as the pastor at two churches: Cross Prairie and Rock Hill (both had post offices listed as Pop Ash).

Hugh Bethea died May 28, 1887 and was buried in New Hope Cemetery in Hardee County. Celiann (Still) Bethea lived with her different children after Hugh died. She died at her home on December 10, 1913 and was buried in New Hope Cemetery.

REFERENCES: Census: 1840, 1850, 1860 Conecuh Co., Alabama; 1870, 1880 Manatee County, Florida; Cemeteries: New Hope, Crewsville, Sweetwater; Record Book kept by W. T. Bethea-copy owned by William T. Jackson; Kinfolks, William Harllee, p. 2191; marriage records of Manatee and DeSoto counties; William T. Jackson, Gainesville, Fl.; 1871 tax list of Manatee Co, Fl.; Manatee Baptist Association annual session minutes, 1885, 1886.

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POLK COUNTY: MARRIAGE RECORD #1

Continued from Issue #33/34:

GROOM	BRIDE	DATE	BY
I. J. JENNINGS	Miss Lizzie FLANIGAN	16 Sep. 1888	A.E.HOUSEHOLDER, MG
F. C. JONES	Miss Nancy E. WALKER	18 Nov. 1888	P.S.CROSIER, MG
W. JACKSON (G. S. FITZHUGH was	Miss Mary E. WEBSTER priest in the Episcopal Church)	1 Nov. 1888	G.S.FITZHUGH
W. F. KAMPSHALL	Marion FIDLER	7 Feb. 1888	S.G.HAIR, MG
J. E. KINARD	Miss M. J. JOHNSON	8 Apr. 1888	Elias TURNER, MG
W. H. LEWIS	Miss Berta HARMON	9 Feb. 1888	Elias TURNER, MG
Robt. C. LANGFORD	Hattie E. WHIDDEN	12 Feb. 1888	W.C.JORDAN, MG