

CHARLES HENDRY 1846-1886

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Charles Hendry, son of Robert and Zilla Ann (Moody) Hendry, was born January 12, 1846, Lowndes County, Georgia. With his parents in 1848 or 1849, he moved to Hamilton County, Florida where they settled within a few miles of Jasper. The 1860 Hamilton County census, dated June 18, Jasper, enumerated Charles with his parents and sister, Ellen C. Hendry (who married Capt. John W. Whidden on September 7, 1865), and brother Robert C. Hendry (who married Nancy Virginia McEwen on January 19, 1868).

Circa 1861, Charles moved with his parents to south Florida where they homesteaded in Fort Green, near where Charles' older brothers, John W. Hendry and James M. Hendry, had earlier settled. The death of their parents in a smallpox epidemic in 1863 left the management of the family farm, consisting of about 300 head of cattle, to Charles, Ellen and "Cab", as fourteen year old Robert Calvin Hendry was nicknamed.

On June 15, 1864 at Fort Myers, Florida, Charles Hendry enlisted as a private in Company B, Second Florida Cavalry, United States Army. Joining on the same day were his brother, James M. Hendry, cousin, Archibald Hendry, and neighbor, Albert Carlton. Later on January 14, 1865, Robert C. Hendry enlisted in Company B. Private Charles Hendry was honorably discharged on November 29, 1865, Tallahassee.

He married on January 9, 1868, Sophia M. Whidden. Born October 15, 1843, she was a daughter of Willoughby and Eliza (Pennington) Whidden and a sister of Capt. John W. Whidden. Rev. William P. McEwen officiated at present day Wauchula, Florida. They had the following children:

1. Robert Hendry, born December 15, 1868; died November 4, 1869.
2. Charles Mallory Hendry, born December 28, 1869; died March 7, 1958; lived in Moore Haven, Florida; married 1st, on February 14, 1889, Donnie McEwen; 2nd, Belle Waldron.
3. Willoughby Eugene "William" Hendry, born 1871; died 1931; married on January 12, 1891, Ara Belle Altman.
4. John Wright "Tobe" Hendry, born 1873; married on April 7, 1895, Cora Howard.
5. James Jackson "Jack" Hendry, born October 15, 1879; died September 16, 1959, Lake Placid, Fla.; married on December 24, 1896, Carolyn Amelia "Kate" Williams.

In the early 1870's, Charles moved from Fort Green to Joshua Creek where John and Ellen Whidden had previously settled and where many of the Hendry and Whidden families eventually made their home. There Charles raised cattle, farmed and planted an orange grove.