

LEWIS BLACKSHEAR PLATT 1829-1911

Researched & compiled by Richard M. Livingston, P. O. Box 3749,
North Fort Myers, Fl. 33918-3749

Lewis Blackshear Platt was born in Lowndes County, Georgia on October 6, 1829 son of John and Alice (Blackshear) Platt. His tombstone has his name as "Louis" but all of his pension applications were signed as "Lewis".

The Platt family settled in north Florida in the Columbia County area in the early 1840's and had moved to Putnam County, Florida by the time of the 1850 census. They later homesteaded in Hernando County near Fort Dade.

Lewis married Nancy A. Barber on October 22, 1852 at Fort Dade. She was born May 15, 1831 in Florida daughter of William Wright and Susan Barber. The 1900 Lee County census states that Nancy had thirteen children and six were living. The six known children were:

1. Susan A. Platt, born August 16, 1854; died January 5, 1923; married in Manatee County, September 20, 1874, John Daniel Robbins. Buried at Joshua Creek Cemetery.
2. Stephen B. Platt, born March 1857; married Mary Alice Langford in Lee County on August 1, 1890.
3. Laura I. Platt, born January 23, 1862; died October 22, 1947; married December 19, 1878 in Monroe County William F. Dyess, son of William Henry and Mary Eliza (Garner) Dyess; married 2nd, Lee H. Clark in 1896. Buried at Fort Denaud Cemetery.
4. Nathan Silas Platt, born 1866; died 1952; married 1st, in 1889, Lugenia Mobley; married 2nd, in 1894, Cinderella Prine, daughter of John B. and Frances (Keen) Prine.
5. William McEwen Platt, born 1869; married Martha J. Daniels in 1896 in DeSoto County.
6. Jane Platt, born 1874.

Lewis served as a private in Capt. William B. Hooker's Independent Company of Mounted Florida Volunteers along with his father and brother, William C. Platt, from February 18, 1856 until they were discharged at Fort Brook on August 21, 1856. He served in Capt. L. G. Lesley's Company from August 28, 1857 to Feb. 23, 1858 and also served in Capt. Parker's Company.

Lewis & Nancy Platt and family were living in the Lily area of Manatee County when the 1860 census was taken. Neighbors and relatives near by included John & Aliss Platt, Joshua A. & Martha Platt, John M. & Elizabeth Bates, Oliver & Ann Waldron and Thomas H. & Frances Albritton.

Louis Platt was listed as one of many cattle owners who were shipping cattle out of Sarasota during the 1860's. On Sept. 12, 1867 he registered his mark and brand with the Manatee County Clerk: crop and half crop in one ear, under square in the other,