William Peters



No Picture Available Born: 1788 South Carolina Married: Mar 1810 to Rachael Bamberg Died: 1860 Lowndes Co., GA Parents: John Christopher Peters & Mary Unknown

PETERS.	William	1788-1860
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LOWNDES

WILLIAM PETERS was born in South Carolina in 1788, a son of William Peters, R.S. The family moved from Barnwell County, S. C., to Lowndes County, Georgia, in 1828, and settled in the present Naylor district where they have since resided. The elder Peters was a Revolutionary War pensioner living in Lowndes County in 1846 (see p. 454, Knight's Roster of the Revolution).

William Peters, the subject, married in South Carolina. His wife was named Rachel, born 1790, but her maiden name cannot be learned. They had the following children:

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William Peters united with Union Church, Sept. 12, 1829, and was baptized on a profession of faith. He died a member about 1860. He and his wife were buried at Union Church; graves are unmarked.

CENSUS REFERENCES: 1830, 1840, 1850, Lowndes.

Article from pg 224 of "Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia" by Folks Huxton V. 1

*Correction: William Peters' father as mentioned in the article above is not William Peters RS. Further research shows his father to be John Christopher Peters. Also, graves have since been marked.

Much thanks and appreciation is given to LTC John W. Powell for his extensive efforts in researching this line.

In the document below, William Peters is shown purchasing a feather bed on 21 Feb 1812, from the estate of Joseph Jeter, deceased.

recorded the 3" February 1812. Inount of Sales of part of the personal Estate of Sore por I harse to Henry Hutto Sent. I feather bed to William Poters corded ind the 21 Tobruary 1812

Above record found in the South Carolina Probate Records, Bound Volumes, 1671-1977, Barnwell County, South Carolina at: <u>https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1-19432-69897-67?cc=1919417&wc=9385675</u>

In the document below, William Peters is shown purchasing a bell from the estate of Robert Howell.

Um of the Sails of the astate of Rot How De Hopkin Howell i lot of ord Hough to hoes --- A -6 2 Prob M Claney I Rifile Gun 3 Jos M Claney Send , Shot Gun 62% Jam Erwin 1 Pail & churn -----25 for MElaney Sent I look -----50 Jos Mo Claney Sur I lot Chocking war é Ann Howell I lot Glap ware -2 Jos MElaney 1 Pock ASichtonury 8 Redich Surgenour I table & Mondle 9 11 John Pendarvis 1 Pray Mare 10 WE Petins 1 Bill 50 11 Able Allowich I Vout & Poller ----9.5 12

Above record found in the South Carolina Probate Records, Files and Loose Papers, 1732-1964. Barnwell County, South Carolina at:

https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1-19361-48468-20?cc=1911928&wc=10593198

More information follows regarding William Peters service as a Sergeant in Captain Levi Knight's Company of Volunteers of the Georgia Militia. (article below states he was a Captain, this may be incorrect and also the location of the skirmish reported by Hamilton Sharpe may be incorrect, William Peters was most likely wounded the day after the skirmish at Brushy Creek in July of 1836, which matches the date given in his deposition for pension)

BIOGRAPHY: He was a Captain in the Indian War and was badly wounded in the skirmish on Cow Creek in what was then Ware County (now Clinch County). Two bullets struck Mr. Peters in the chest around the breast bone, he recovered but was left "badly debilitated the remainder of his life". His son Seaborn was near at the time and shot and killed the Indian that shot his father. (This was written by the Honorable Hamilton W. Sharpe in the Valdosta Times in 1884) - (Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, Volume V, page 533).

!RESIDENCE: From the "Southern Recorder" (a newspaper of Milledgeville Georgia) Lowndes County news: Grand Jurors serving May term 1843 Superior Court listed Levi Knight, foreman, Sion Hall, William Peters, and others.

!RESIDENCE-MILITARY: History of Berrien County, the Nashville Printing Office, Nashville Georgia, page 3. (Tifton Tifton, Tift Public Library). William Peters was listed as a member of Captain Knights Company that took part in the battle of Bushy Creek.



BATTLE OF BRUSHY CREEK

Near here, in July, 1836, a battalion of Georgia militia under command of Major Michael Young, defeated a band of Indians in the Battle of Brushy Creek. In pursuit of the Indians, who had been raiding the frontier as they fled into Florida, the soldiers came upon them in the fork of Big Warrior Creek and Little River and drove them into the swamp. A general engagement followed, fought over a distance of 3 miles, through cypress ponds and dense canebreaks. The result was victory for the militia, with 2 men

killed, 9 wounded. Of the enemy, 23 were killed, many wounded and 18 prisoners taken.

Below is an article from pg 3 of the Southern Banner dated 27 August 1836, describing the battle William Peters was wounded in. (This article was written just a couple of weeks after the skirmish so is most likely the most accurate description of what took place, where it took place, and when it took place)

The	Southern Bann	fr.
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	The ferment of a free, is preferable to the toepor of a despotie, Government." ATHENS, GEO. SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1886.	NO: 23:
Bemerke of the second second	On the 10th ult., a party of Indians, fifteen in unifier, were discovered in Lowndes coun- ty, near Mr. A. Mattox's, travelling East They were on the succeeding day pursued by about forty citizens, under command of Levi J. Knight. Before overtaking them, they had robbed Mr. William Parker's house, took therefrom, among other things, 25 pounds powder, 36 bars lead, 140 lbs. shot and \$306 in money. On the 12th, the number of citi- zens having increased to about eighty, orders were issued to Jesse Carter, William Knight and William Peters, who, dividing their re- spective commands, so surrounded the Indi- ans, that upon falling in with, and charging upon them, the Indians were compelled to drop their plunder, throwing it and their guns in the river, then plunging in themselves,	
	the n to the bank of the river, and such as were not killed in the charge, were shot while attempting to swim across, with the exception of six. that were seen to reach the opposite bank, three of them supposed to be wounded. Mr. Peters was unfortunately badly wounded in the onset, but notwithstanding, urged his command on. The Indians, when found, were about 25 or 30 in number. Fifteen of their packs and ten guns were recovered from the river—Parker's money and nearly all his property being amongst it.—Sou. Recorder.	

http://athnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu/athnewspapers/view?docId=news/sbn1836/sbn1836-0135.xml This article, along with the following Pension Application submitted by William Peters and Maj Briggs who examined William Peters and also filed a report which follows, leads this researcher to conclude that some of the written statements, posted years after the event, are incorrect.

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Below is a copy of William Peters original Pension Application

The year Eighterse hundred and Thirty Dix in Two black in an engagement with the Indiane on the Rever or mean els Banks in the County of Hathaha minds while acting ag a dear just in the Company Tincupable of labour that the has a large en live family and no means to support the mt Swornto and subscribed this December 1845 liam Patten St. Peace and that his requested is quein to the hast of my Knowledge the

Georgia Lowndes County

Personally appeared William Peters before me William Patten a Justice of the Peace in area of said county and being duly sworn that (William Peters) was wounded in the year eighteen hundred and thirty six in two places in an engagement with the Indians on the Alappaha River or near its banks in the County of Lowndes while acting as a searjent in the Company Commanded by Captain Levi Knight by which he is entirely incapable of labour that he has a large and ? family and no means to support them but by his labour.

Sworn and subscribed this 27 day of December 1845.

Signed:

William Patten William Peters

I certify that William Patten is a Justice of the Peace and that his signature is genuine according to the best of my knowledge and belief.

J. Butler King

Pg 7/16

Below is the statement of the doctor who examined William Peters and submitted his findings as part of the pension application. Transcription of this report is on the following page.

1846 Troupview Lo condes County georged 80mment It is hereby cartifica that William Poters a Sugart in the Company of Foft Levi I knight in the Pist Regement 6. M. of . As . is rendered meapoble of performing the dirty of a Solaris mitt' by reason of Warnas inflished while he was actually in the Survice of oursaid and in the line of his auty , und By Satisfactory Evidence and accusate information it opprove that in bottle with success at on new the allepoke in The count of Loronaes and stote of Georgins he reserves Loo Woundes in This boay from gun shots. The first penetrated the right breast at the edge of the Sternen breaking reps a portion of that bond and injuring the Stimor Extremetics of Swo or there of the lias for the Spore of Lever on their inches This bare was Extracted from the bost a very little tothe right of the spine The That that inftitut this Wound must how Tirrent the courty of the chust and I becieve Warnest the right long. The other Shot Entered the right dive left side a little lower and farther from the Medione lim and more its Exit a little lower thou the point of Entrance about how on then inches from the Spine upon the Same side. If this ball Rept a Straight Course it must how Tranced the Court of The chest for the sport of Two or there inches whether it aid So on whitties it popet around without penetesting I are mode to Loy - The Coursequences of these nounds appear to be Fain in the back and breast injury of the musculor porom of the book and Should and and presser adhereous of the longs to the Please and ho is thereby not any incoperators for metition, duty but in the toineon of the undersigned is one hold ais oblast from obtaining his Subs-- istener from manual habour Houry Briggs & Sturgeon 3 St Hugh geh The above Certificate Was Swore to and Interited before me

Transcription of document from previous page Troupville Lowndes County Georgia 30th March 1846

It is hereby certified that William Peters a Sergeant in the Company of Capt. Levi J Knight in the 81st Regiment G. M. (Georgia Militia) is rendered incapable of performing the duty of a soldier by reason of wounds inflicted while he was actually in the service aforesaid and in the line of his duty. By satisfactory evidence and accurate information it appears that on the thirteenth day of July in the year 1836 having engaged in battle with Indians at or near the Allapaha (river) in the county of Lowndes and State of Georgia he received two wounds in his body from gun shots. The first penetrated the right breast at the edge of the sternum breaking up a portion of that bone and injuring the ????? This bone was extracted from his back a very little to the right of the spine. The shot that inflicted this wound must have travelled the cavity of the chest and I believe wounded the right lung. The other shot entered the left side a little lower and farther from the median line and made its exit a little lower than the point of entrance about ? inches from the spine upon the same side. If this ball kept a straight course it must have traversed the cavity of the chest for the space of two or three inches. Whether it did so or ?? around without penetrating I am unable to say. The consequences of these wounds appear to be pain in the back and breast injury of muscular portion of the back and ??? and possible adhesions of the ??? and he is thereby not only incapacitated for military duty but in the opinion of the undersigned is ?? disabled from obtaining his subsistence from manual labor.

Henry Briggs Surgeon 81st Regt. G.M.

Researchers conclusion:

It is evident after reviewing all of the reports available about the skirmish that William Peters was a participant in reveals this:

William Peters was most likely a sergeant (not a Captain) under the leadership of Capt. Levi Knight. It is unclear if he participated in the Battle at Brushy Creek but it is evident that he was with a militia of men under Capt Knight a couple of days later near the Alapaha River where William Peters led a detachment of men against the Indians they had been tracking. These same Indians had earlier raided the home of William Parker, stealing supplies, weapons, and cash.

During this engagement, William Peters led a detachment of men against the Indians during which he was shot twice. Although wounded, William Peters continued to led his men on to victory. It is reported that Seaborn Peters, William's son, shot the Indian who had shot his father, killing him. Most of all that was taken from William Parker was recovered. William Peters eventually recovered from his wounds.

Below is information from the book, "The History of Old Union Primitive Baptist Church of Lanier County, Georgia" published by the Huxford Genealogy Society. Pg 73

VHAPTER VIII

Miscellaneous.

In common with other Primitive Baptist Churches, Union Church has always been strict and punctual in dealing with shortcomings and faults of its members or of sister churches. We take from the minutes some interesting side-lights into its timehonored discipline as applied to members and churches#. It may be said in passing, that the early minutes indicated a very deep piety that often showed itself in days of fasting and prayer in such matters as the call of a pastor, or electing deacon, etc.

Pg 75

March, 1839: Trouble reported in arm of church now known as Antioch in Achels county. Bros. Wm. Peters, Dennis Wetherington and John Roberts appointed to go help settle it. The trouble was between Bros. John McTerrell (or Terrell) and Prescott. In September, 1839, it was reported as settled.

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[VOL. 11.--- NO.

Article below describes a report from a Grand Jury that William Peters was on in 1843 and is from the Federal Union newspaper dated 23 July 1843.



Presentments Of the Grand Jury of Lowondes county, for May Term, 1843.

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We recommend to our members in the next Legisla-ture, from this county, to use their influence to procure the passage of a bill, appropriating a sum of money to William Jones—compensating him for money expended and services voluntarily rendered, in following into the State of Alabama, Jacob Timberlin, and bringing him back to this place, and who is now convicted of the of-fence of murder. We as Grand Jurors, would scorn to implicate or im-peach, the character of any good chizen, of whatever pro-fession, but we cannot without regret, view the course pursued by several members of the Bar of our commu-tiv in using in our opinion, unwarrantable measures in

hits in using in our opinion, unwarrantable measures in keeping from the Courts of Justice, two individuals charged with the offence of breaking the Jait of this county, and letting the prisoners go; we would at all times shield from censure, any member of the Bar, for using his influence and abilility, to screen his client from any

his influence and ability, to screen his client from any punishment, the law might inflict through a Cont of Justice; yet we cannot pass unnoticed, the unprecedent-ed, and we think their unjustifiable course, in trying to shield them from a hearing in the Court. In the course of our labors, we have been unable to ascertain beyond doubt, that a daring and outrageous conspiracy is formed by a number of outhws, to carry on an extensive robbery or theft, that a society or banditif has been formed of that character, and that Tarlton Swain and John Strickland, late of this county. Jackson Jewell, two men of the name of Fletcher and John Pop-well of Florida, are the teaders of this metarions clan. Jewell, two men of the name of Fletcher and John Pop-well of Florida, are the leaders of this netarious clan. And although no overt act is proved before us that could lead to a successful prosecution of any of the clan, yet we believe it our duy to put the public upon their guard, and make known their daring and uphawnit course.

and make known their daring and unlawful course. We cannot consent to close our labors, without special-ly tendering to his honor Judge Cole, our acknowledg-ments, for the very able manner he has aided this body, and co-operated with us, in ferreting out and bringing to public gaze, the vicious and marinoling onlawry that we are pained to find in our county. In taking leave of his Honor, we tender him our sincere thanks, for his able Honor, we tender him our sincere thanks, for his able and efficient aid in ail matters' before us, touching the present service, and tender him an assurance of our abi-ding confidence in bis ability and patriotism. We tender to Sanuel Spencer, Solfcitor General, proten, our thanks for his urbanity and attention during the session of Court. We recommend that our presentments he published in the Southern Recorder and Federal Union. LEVIJL KNICHTF, Foreman.

Francis Jones, John H. Wisenbaker, James Wisenbaker,
James Wisenbaker,
William Folson,
Henderson Graham,
William Tomlinson,
Ezekiel W. Parrish,
Nathan Smart,
Richard B. Cole,
Thos. Denmark,
John R. Harris.
regoing is a true extract of the
Court, this 14th day of July,
Court, this 14th day of July, M. T. JOHNSTON, c. s. c.
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25, 1860 (Continued)

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June	25, 1860 (Continued)		Occupa-	Vel. of	Val. of	Rissin
	Name	Age	tion	Real Est.	Personal Est.	Born
311	Abbott, William S. Rachel	27	Merchant		300	GA
	John H.	2 6/12				
	William M.	22	Laborer			
	Thomas, John	22	racorer			
312	Peters, John D.	39	Farmer	1,225	1,924	SC
	Sarah A.	38				14
	William L.	17	Ploughman			GA
	Isabel E.	15				
	Joel R.	10				
	Irvin	9	·			
	Jonathan	7				
	Lewis (H?)	5				
	Joseph E.	3				
	Oren W.	11/12				
313	Peters, James S.	40	Farmer	1,000	751	SC
315	Martha	35			111	*1
	Harriet M.	15				GA
	Margaret	13			87 ⁻¹¹	
	Saviler E.	6				
	Solomon J.	16	Ploughman		· ·	
	0010101 01		,			
314	Herring, Charles	34	Farmer	1,000	511	GA
	Levinia	26				SC
	James L.	9				GA
	Henrietta	8				
	Sarah L.	6				
	Charles R.	21				
	Willis A.	2/12				
315	Peters, Isem H.	31	Farmer	1,000	670	GA
-	Sidney	30				
	Alonzo W.	9				
	Rachel J.	7				
	Milledge D.	5				
	Mahalda G.	3				
	William R.	1				
	Tyler, John	18	Laborer			SC
216	the share and the second	50	Famman	2 450	655	GA
310	Wetherington, Susan	50 26	Farmer Beamstress	2,450	000	011
	Mary	24	n			
	Sarah	24		5		
	Elisa Ellen	18				
		16	Ploughman			
	Mathew Enoch	12	r roogningu			
	Enoch					
317	Peters, William	75	Farmer	2,450	(11,900)	SC
	Rachel	70				
	Wells, Edmond	16	Ploughman			GA
	Alfood, Stafford	18				SC
		5	55			
1960 I	aundos County Conque					

1860 Lowndes County Census

U. S. CENSUS-1850

Evans Weatherington, 6, M-Ga. Rebecca Weatherington, 4, F-Ga. Matilda M. Weatherington, 2, F—Ga. Henry David, 37, M—S. C. Harriet David, 37, F—S. C. John J. David, 2, M—Ga. William Maine, 54, M—S. C. William Maine, 54, M—S. C. Mary A. M. Maine, 1, F—Ga. James Carter Jr., 20, M—Ga. Elizabeth Ann Carter, 21, F— John Thomas Carter, 6-12, F—Ga. William Peters, 62, M—S. C. Mary Ann Maine, 54, F-S. C. Susan Weatherington, 60, F-Ga. Polly Weatherington, 19, F-Ga. Sallie Weatherington, 18, F-Ga. Eliza Weatherington, 12, F-Ga. Eleanor Weatherington, 12, 1-Ga. Matthew Weatherington, 10, F-Ga. Enoch Weatherington, 7, M-Ga. Perry Weatherington, 21, M-Ga. Christian Weatherington, 21, F-S. C. William Allen, 29, M-S. C. Mary Ann Allen, 22, F-S. C. James Allen, 40, M-S. C. James Walker, 49, M-S. C. Rebecca Walker, 44, F-S. C. John R. Walker, 24, M-S. C. Elizabeth Walker, 20, F-Ga. Esther Jane Walker, 18, F-Ga. Rebecca Walker, 14, F-Ga. Mahalia Walker, 12, F-Ga. Martha Walker, 10, F-Ga. James M. Walker, 6, M—Ga. William Walker, 4, M—Ga. Caroline M. Walker, 2, F—Ga. Allen Moore, 38, M—Ga. Margaret Moore, 40, F-S. C. John Moore, 13, M-Ga. Benjamin Moore, 13, M-Ga. William Carter, 49, M-S. C. Nancy C. Carter, 49, F-Ga. William A. Carter, 22, M-Ga. Sarah Carter, 14, F-Ga. George Carter, 9, M-Ga. Nancy Robertson Carter, 7, F-Ga. James Carter, 4, M-Ga. James Carter, 4, M—Ga. William Carter, 2, M—Ga. George Carter, 44, M—S. C. Mary Carter, 36, F—Ga. Elijah Carter, 16, M—Ga. Eliza Carter, 14, F—Ga. Irwin Carter, 12, M—Ga. Elizabeth Carter, 10, F-Ga. Minerva Carter, 8, F-Ga. Jasper Carter, 7, M-Ga. Newton Carter, 5, M-Ga. Henry Carter, 3, M-Ga. Rufus Carter, 1, M-Ga. Elmore C. Maine, 30, M-S. C.

Molsey A. Maine, 17,F-Ga. Mary A. M. Maine, 1, F-Ga. -Ga. John Thomas Carter, 2, M-Ga. Minerva Carter, 6-12, F-Ga. Minerva Carter, 0-12, F-Ga. William Peters, 62, M-S. C. Rachel Peters, 23, M-S. C. Joseph Peters, 23, M-S. C. Sidney Peters, 21, F-Ga. Isabelle Peters, 18, F-Ga. Rachel Peters, 15, F-Ga. Isham Peters, 21, M-Ga. -James Touchstone, 19, M-S. C. Wm. S. Peters, 36, M—S. C. Celia Peters, 38, F—Ga. Martha Peters, 14, F—Ga. William Peters, 11, M-Ga. John Peters, 9, M-Ga. Stephen Peters, 8, M-Ga Solomon Peters, 7, M-Ga. George Peters, 3, M-Ga. Isham Peters, 3, M-Ga. Joseph Peters, 9, 12, M—Ga. James S. Peters, 30, M—S. C. Martha Peters, 23, F—S. C. Matilda Peters, 6, F—Ga. Margaret Peters, 4, F-Ga. John Peters, 2, M-Ga. John D. Peters, 25, M-S. C. Adeline Peters, 23, F-S. C. William Peters, 7, M-Ga. Isabella Peters, 5, F-Ga. Joel Peters, 1, M-Ga. Wm. P. Roberts, 45, M-Ga. Sarah Roberts, 42, F-Ga. George W. Roberts, 17, M-Ga. Martha Roberts, 12, F-Ga. Sarah M. Roberts, 9, F-Ga. Marion J. Roberts, 6, M-Ga. William Roberts, 22, M-Ga. Margaret Roberts, 24, F-Ga. Priscilla Ann Roberts, 3, F-Ga. John Taylor Roberts, 3-12, M-Ga. Jonn Taylor Roberts, 5-12, M-David Lancaster, 42, M-Ga. Frances Lancaster, 40, F-Ga. Joseph Lancaster, 20, M-Ga. Oliver Lancaster, 18, M-Ga. Ann Lancaster, 14, F-Ga. Asa Lancaster, 12, M-Ga. Asa Lancaster, 12, M-Ga. Caroline Lancaster, 10. F-Ga. David Lancaster, 8, M-Ga. Ellen Lancaster, 6, F-Ga. Jesse Lancaster, 4, M-Ga. Catharine Mullis, 38, F-S. C.

Ancestry.com. History of Lowndes County, Georgia, 1825-1941 [database on-line]. Provo, UT: The Generations Netw 2005.Original data: History of Lowndes County, Georgia, 1825-1941. Valdosta, Ga.: General James Jackson Chapter 1942?.Page 385

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SCHEDULE I .- Free Inhabitants in in the County of Loundes State of vergia enumerated by me, on the 16th day of Oct 1850. Adam Irakam Ass't Marshal. d School a flor year. within the Whether deal and dumb, blind, lumne, idintic, pauper, or The Name of every Person Profession, Occupation, or Trade PLACE OF BRITA With. Value of Real of each Male Person over 15 of abode on the first day of Jane, 1850, was Naming the State, Terr Variation of the second in the in this family 77878 of 1.0%. or Country. 11 essie Apr. Sea. 4 3 6 10 11 14 i. 3 7 8 9 13 In Caster. Pentinue § .. 119 1 Nancy lo. Les. Milliam 22 .4 Farmer 2 з 11,7 Lee Dara Lu 4 General 9.4 1 17 5 Nancy deberlos Les 1 Ser 6 4 de Fam 7 7 Ju William 2 1 16 586 586 Leorge Cartes 44.1 Se. 9 36 7 9 linu Ju. 10 10 Salen 10 Elical 16.4 11 Elis 11 14 7 Je. 11 12 19 Ju. true 12.4 13 13 h. 13 10 4 15 6 legabich 11 14 87 Se. 1.1 luna Sec 19 15 7.4 15 Jasper 16 16 5.4 S. 16 few len 17 17 Heary 3.4 Su 17 15 18 Rufus" G. 1 .10 15 19 19 Elmore to Maine 16 30 10 Tas 587 587 20 20 See 7 20 17 Unlary of 21 91 Se. 21 1 Mary Aul 44 22 4. 20 .4 1 am 22 588 588 James Marter 200 23 Je. 1 23 21 7 to les a beech A 23 21 21 Suc John Homas 2 Ac 24 25 9.3 12 7 2a . Unerva." 95 26 26 Tarmer William Peters 62.10 16 589 589 4000 97 97 Hacher -16 60 9 27 2. 25 16 Jaseph !! 2.9 . 11 Farm 28 29 29 217 didney 4 25 30 30 J. 18 1 20 Salale ai 31 Rachel E. 31 13 7 82 32 g. 21 1 Siham Labore 33 33 1.6 James Touchster 19.4 35 al \$1 34 1.6 Ulm d. Pelo 36.6 Farmer 50 590 25 35 de. 18% Octin. 36 E. 24 Martha 14 7 37 Lu 37 11 A Willia 33 31 9 1 35 du Tolu. 39 29 8.4 5 lep her # 10 10 Lu 7.4 elamin' 41 Sugar Lip 41 Sile 19 42 3 gle Vikam " V 25m

1850 Census William Peters, wife Rachael, son Isham

http://content.ancestry.com/Browse/view.aspx?dbid=8054&path=Georgia.Lowndes.Not+... 09/24/2008

"Up from Slavery" might well be called this short biographical sketch of Henry Maxwell, who first saw the light of day on October 17, 1859 in Lownes County, Georgia. His mother Ann, was born in Virginia, and his father, Robert, was born in South Carolina. <u>Captain Peters</u>, <u>Ann's</u> owner, bought Robert Maxwell from Charles Howell as a husband for Ann. To this union were born seven children, two girls—Elizabeth and Rosetta—and five boys–Richard, Henry, Simms, Solomon and Sonnie. After the death of Captain Peters in 1863, Elizabeth and Richard were sold to the Gaines family. Rosetta and Robert (the father) were purchased from the Peters' estate by Isham Peters, Captain Peters' son, and Henry and Simms were bought by James Bamburg, husband of Izzy Peters, daughter of Captain Peters. (Solomon and Sonnie were born after slavery.)

Just a tot when the Civil War gave him and his people freedom, Maxwell's memories of bondage-days are vivid through the experiences related by older Negroes. He relates the story of the plantation owner who trained his dogs to hunt escaped slaves. He had a Negro youth hide in a tree some distance away, and then he turned the pack loose to follow him. One day he released the bloodhounds too soon, and they soon overtook the boy and tore him to pieces. When the youth's mother heard of the atrocity, she burst into tears which were only silenced by the threats of her owner to set the dogs on her. Maxwell also relates tales of the terrible beatings that the slaves received for being caught with a book or for trying to run away.

After the Civil War the Maxwell family was united for a short while, and later they drifted apart to go their various ways. Henry and his parents resided for a while longer in Lownes County, and in 1880 they came to Titusville, with the two younger children, Solomon and Sonnie. Here Henry secured work with a farmer for whom he worked for \$12 a month. In 1894 he purchased a small orange grove and began to cultivate oranges. Today he owns over 30 acres of orange groves and controls nearly 200 more acres. He is said to be worth around \$250,000 and is Titusville's most influential and respected colored citizen. He is married but has no children.

Source:

Excerpt from "Henry Maxwell" The Federal Writers' Project. Titusville, Florida, 1936. Note: Although it is not stated if any of the Peters' families were involved in mistreating slaves, this story does show how terrible the lives of many slaves were during this time frame.

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Will Peters, was born 1788 in the Forks of the Edisto River area, about six miles north of the Peters Plantation, the first born son of John Christopher and Mary Peters. His father shows alternately as John Peters on some records and as Christopher Peters on others. This has led to some confusion since there were other men of that name who either owned land in the area or served there during the Revolution.

Will Peters is the male under age 16 in John C. Peters' household in the 1790 Orangeburg census. He shows with his brother, Joseph Peters, b. 1794, in the Christopher Peters (hence the name, John Christopher Peters) household in 1800, in the same location. A careful comparison of neighbors and land grants has shown this to be the same family.

William Peters and his burgeoning family settled, along with other emigrants from Barnwell, in the Naylor area of Lowndes Co., GA. The Peters family began attending Union Baptist Church and on 12 Sept 1829, Wm Peters joined by experience. The church clerk recorded the event: "and to add to our joy we received brother William Peaters (sic) by experience. We thank God for his goodness, our drooping spirits cleaned with that sweet source of peace." He was baptized the following meeting. Many of the Peters family followed elder Wm Peters convictions, including sons Wm Seaborn Peters and the subject of this biography, John Daniel Peters. There is no record of the Peters family belonging to a particular church in Barnwell, although many early members from that area transferred letters from Springtown Baptist and Bethsaida Baptist. Springtown Bapt was less than two miles from the Peters Plantation in Barnwell and would likely be where the Peters attended, if at all.

In the 1830-40s, the Peters family began to accumulate large land holdings in the 11th district surrounding Naylor, GA. Land values in 1845 in this district were \$75 per acre. By 1852, each acre was worth \$1500. Jeremiah Wilson's survey register shows that surveys for Wm Peters were conducted on Land Lots 326, 424, 280 and 318, totaling over 1900 acres. In the 1850 agricultural census, Wm Peters owned over 2100 acres of land

In 1860, Wm Peters, patriarch of the large Lowndes Co., GA family, died. He is buried at Union Bapt Church and rests alongside his wife, Rachel, who died a few years later.



William J Peters buried in Union (Burnt) Church Cemetery, Lowndes County, GA



