

## JACKSON COUNTY — 1868

Florida Union (Jax), Sat., March 14, 1868.

### Mass Meeting at Marianna.

A large Ratification Mass Meeting of Republicans was held at Marianna on the 7th inst., at which the following resolutions were unanimously passed:

Whereas, The United States Congress, in the fullness and goodness of its power, made smooth for us the road to freedom, and bid us march under their triumphant banner into the golden fields of peace and equality; and

Whereas, Major W. J. Purman, Emanuel Fortune, L. C. Armistead and Homer Bryan, our fellow citizens and delegates to the late Constitutional Convention of the State, carried out with unflinching fidelity the Reconstruction Laws of Congress, and assisted in establishing forever our principles and rights on the immovable foundations of law and justice;

Therefore be it resolved by this meeting of the citizens of Jackson county, that the action of our above named delegates in the late Constitutional Convention, thereby making a safe and sure ground work for our rights, only fulfilled our request, and now receives our most cordial approbation, for without this action our Constitution would have been built on a foundation of sand.

Resolved, That we endorse and thank our delegates for the unimpassioned, fair and equal manner in which they legislated upon the rights

and privileges of all citizens, for the noblest principle in politics as well as in business, is "to live and let live."

Resolved, That all the people of the State, who love peace and justice, can now shake hands together as friends and brothers upon the equitable Constitution framed by the late Convention, and that we, who never asked for more than our Republican equal rights and chances, commend again our delegates for their wisdom and devotion, and declare to them, "Well done, good and faithful servants, our lasting confidence shall be your honor and reward."

Resolved, That in our candidates, Hon. Harrison Hood, for Governor, Hon. Wm. H. Gleason, for Lieut. Governor, and Colonel C. M. Hamilton, for Congressman, we have the unusual fortune of having the right men for the right places, and we pledge them our votes with as much pleasure as in the past we received the many pledges of their devotion and worthiness in the cause of freedom and patriotism, and in them the country has true and tried friends, who will never falter in their labors for the good and happiness of all the people of the State.

Resolved, That these resolutions be forwarded for publication to the Florida Union, at Jacksonville, the organ of the Republican party of the State of Florida.

CALVIN ROGERS, President.

Dr. Finlayson, Secretary.



Six of the cases mentioned under "Murdered or Assassinated" were committed by parties from Alabama—several are parties who fled from that State. The county adjoins Alabama—and is often attempted to be availed of by the fugitives from that State who thereby endeavor to escape arrest. Horse thieves and aggravated cases of this character are generally summarily dealt with.

The amount of crime which has been perpetrated in the county is very great, but when it is remembered that C. M. Hamilton and W. J. Purman arduously labored for two years to create dissatisfaction, cause disagreement and endanger and increase hostility and enmity between the two races, it is not to be wondered that their hellish teachings should have resulted as they have. When the seeds of enmity, hatred and malignity are sown, its offspring nurtured in iniquity and crime, it is natural and legitimate that it should blossom in bloodshed and lawlessness, and fruit in murder, arson and rape. But with all the lawlessness and criminal tendency which have existed in the county, there has never been a time when an officer could not rally the county to the enforcement of the law. There has never been a time when the supremacy of the law has been attempted to be subverted or failed to be recognized and regarded by the people of the county. Courts of justice could at all times have been held and their decrees and mandates obeyed and executed. If there has been dereliction or failure in this particular, it is due to the dastardly administration which has been foisted upon the State by the aid of bayonets and the double-back-action ballot-boxes, in its imbecile, corrupt and infamous reign, and not be imputed to the people.

McCLELLAN, J. C.

Florida Times-Union (jax), April 17, 1890.

### JUDGE McCLELLAN DEAD.

Sketch of the Life and Public Services of  
a Most Noble Man.

PENSACOLA, FLA., April 16.—Shortly after midnight last night Judge J. C. McClellan, of the First judicial circuit, passed peacefully away, after an illness of five weeks. Sunday morning, when he was taken with sinking spells, which to the hour of his death came periodically every six hours, it became apparent that the end was only a matter of a few hours.

Judge McClellan was born near Bristol, in Sullivan county, Tenn., in August, 1834, and came to Florida in 1846. Having been admitted to the bar at Marianna, in Jackson county, he at once began the practice of his profession. In 1848 he married Miss Adelle McKenzie Yonge, a sister of the late Col. Chandler Cox Yonge of this city, then a resident of Jackson county. To this union four children were born: of these—but one, a son, is living. The latter, Chandler Yonge McClellan, is now a prosperous merchant of Fort Worth, Tex. Less than a month since death deprived the subject of this sketch of a dearly beloved child in the person of Mrs. W. H. Milton of Marianna, and the thought of this was the source of much of the disquietude which characterized the last days on earth of the distinguished dead, for he

was fondly devoted to his last surviving daughter, having lost another under peculiarly sad and trying circumstances, as will be narrated further on.

When Florida seceded from the Union Judge McClellan organized at Marianna the Gulf State Guards, to the captaincy of which he was elected. He took his little command to the scene of war, and was attached to Mahone's division in the army of Northern Virginia, serving at different times under Brigadier-Commander Binnegan and Magruder. He served throughout the war and was seriously wounded in that sanguinary struggle known to history as the battle of the Wilderness. He was among the very last of his vanquished fellows to turn his face homeward; and it was not long after his return when the sorrow which had followed a defeat in arms was given added force in the death of his wife, which occurred in 1866. He was then bending every energy to retrieve the losses to himself and family occasioned by war, and he naturally became one of the most prominent figures of his section in the days when reconstruction spread its black pall over civil liberty, when Aryan supremacy was abolished in the heartless domination of the carpet-bagger, when the claim to justice and the assertion of respectability by the rebel were unparadonable crimes, but Judge McClellan's spirit remained undaunted, and by reason of his active participation as a democrat in the trials of those direful days, he was made to pay

a penalty that he would gladly have given life to evade. He had incurred the displeasure of the negroes and his life was threatened. One evening in the year 1868, as he sat at home in the bosom of his family, a load of buckshot, fired by the hand of a dastardly assassin, entered the room, and a lovely daughter fell, pierced to death, at his side. One of the shot took effect in one of his thighs, and he limped a cripple to the day of his death as a result.

He bore bravely up under his misfortune, and set to work with renewed zeal to deliver his state from the thralldom under which it languished. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1868. He was returned term after term to one house or the other of the legislature. He was regarded as a fit successor to the lamented Hawkins; was selected to compile a digest of Florida laws, and was the author of the work of that description which bears his name. He was sent to the convention which revised the constitution in 1865, and was shortly thereafter appointed by President Cleveland to the surveyor-generalship of the state. This office he relinquished to become judge of the First judicial circuit of Florida, tendered him by Governor Perry, a position which he held at the time of his death.

In 1878 Judge McClellan married the second time. The woman of his choice on this occasion was Mrs. De Roullac, a resident of Jackson county, by whom he is survived. There was no issue to this marriage.

Shortly after his appointment to the judgeship he, with his family, took up a residence in Pensacola, the most important city of his circuit, and the fact proved a pleasant and profitable acquisition to her local legal and social circles, which are now pervaded with gloom in consideration of his death.

The funeral, which was one of the most largely attended ever held in this city, took place this afternoon at 5:30 o'clock from the Episcopal church, of which he was a life-long member. The following were pall bearers: Hon. William A. Blount, John Egan, William Fisher, E. C. Maxwell, Hon. John U. Avery, members of the local bar; and Messrs. B. Jones, F. C. Brent, and Judge Walter Tate, who were close and intimate friends of the deceased.