

Descendants of Daniel James Gray

Generation No. 1

1. DANIEL JAMES² GRAY (*JOSEPH*¹) was born May 1836 in North Carolina¹, and died Abt. Sep 1905 in St. Joseph's Bay, Calhoun County, Florida². He married HELON KNIGHT 07 Dec 1859 in Worth County, Georgia. She was born 25 Jun 1840 in Georgia^{3,4}, and died Aft. 1910.

Notes for DANIEL JAMES GRAY:

LDS IGI entry: James Gray born 5 Jul 1863 to Daniel Gray and Helen Knight, Geneva, Ala.

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Baptised 22 Sept 1901 Filmed from early LDS church ward or branch records.

Daniel and Helon may have been in Walton County, Florida after the Civil War. The 1870 and 1900 censuses report that Daniel, Jr was born in Florida (although 1880 census reports Georgia). Tonia Porter's "Grandpa's Silver Trunk" website at <http://www.knology.net/~toniab/votr671.txt> has Walton County voter registration list from 1867-1868:

Precinct 7: Gray, Daniel J, white, co/st resident 1 year

So Daniel may have gone to Florida right after the war, then back to Geneva County by 1870, to Mitchell County, Ga by 1880, and then to Calhoun County by 1900.

1860 US census Worth County, Ga., Isabella P.O., pg 1023, #125:

Gray, Daniel J	24	NC
Helon	18	Ga

1870 US census Geneva County, Ala., 29 July, TWP 1, #265:

Gray, Daniel	34	born NC	(note: 4s look very much like 2s for this cens. taker)
Helen	28	born Ga	
Daniel, Jr	4	born Fla	

At #263:

Knight, John W 24, millwright, & Queen AF 21 both b. Ga

(These people were still in Geneva Co. in 1880 (pg 661A, LDS online), when Daniel & Helen had gone back to Georgia.)

At #266: Mills, William J 30?

At #267: Cumbaa, Mary J 35 (Wm J Mills' sister) and dau Sarah J 9

1880 US census Mitchell Co., Ga., (as of June 1) pg 571, #389:

Gray, Daniel J	44	NC
Helon	38	Ga
Daniel J Jr	14	
John C	5	
Mary J	6/12	all children born Ga

Two entries away is Jane Knight (79), from NC

1885: not found on index to Florida State Census.

1900 US Census, Florida, Calhoun County, Pippins Mill, Pct. 3, Vol 2 ED 2 Sht 371 line 15, pg 262:

Gray, Daniel	64 (May 1836)	NC NC NC	can R/W	farmer owns farm, no mtg
Helone	57 (Nov 1842)	Fl NC NC	cannot R/W	m. 42 yrs, 4 ch. born/3 living
James (son)	33 (June 1866)	Fl NC NC	can read but not write	
John C (son)	24 (Feb 1876)	Ga NC NC	cannot R/W	
Mary Ann (dau)	19 (Jan 1881)	Ga NC NC	can read but not write	

(birthplaces of children's parents both listed as NC, even though Helon's bp listed as Fl!)

1910 US Census, Florida, Calhoun County, 27 May 1910, Pct 8, Pippin's Mill: SD 3 ED2, pg 109:

Gray, John	28	Fl Fl Fl	1st mar.,	mar. 4 yrs, laborer at odd jobs, owns farm, no mtg, can R/W
Adda	21	Fl Fl Fl	1 child b./1 living,	can read, not write
Babe (son)	1	Fl		
Helen (mother)	60	Ga Ga Ga	widow, 2 chld b./1 living,	cannot R/W, under "Trade" says "own income"

Note: I don't know exactly where Pippin's Mill was, but according to an online cemetery description by Wayne Capenter at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flcalhou/Cemeteries/pippen2wnc.htm>, Pippin Cemetery #2 is located between Marianna and Clarksville. (From Shelton crossroads located on Hwy 73 between Marianna, FL and Clarksville, FL go Hwy C-274 west for 6.6 miles. On your right will be a dirt road (no name). A small sign that reads Pippin cemetery is beside the road. Turn right and go .3 miles. Cemetery is on the right side of the road on a curve. Cemetery is right beside the road.) Daniel's son John C is buried at a cemetery 9 miles north of Clarksville on Hwy 73. Directions to Pippin Cemetery #1: Go west on Hwy 20 from Clarksville for 1.2 miles. Turn right on dirt road and go .5 mile. Road dead ends at cemetery.

Compiled Service Records, Confederate:

Gray, Daniel J, private, Co I, 17 Reg't Alabama Infantry

Present on Company Muster Roll for Sept & Oct, 1862:

Enlisted Sept 14, 1861 at Montgomery, by Maj Calhoun for period of 1 year. Last paid by Capt. McVoy to May 1, 1862.

Undated item entry: serving in Co E. 17. Ala, Claimed as member of the 54. Ala Infnt. See Personal Papers of Alpheus Baker, Col. 54. Ala Infnt

Jan 21 1863 Detailed from 50 & 54 Ala

Sept 25, 1863 Subject: Deserter now attached to Co I, 17 Ala
Title of record L.R. -A.M.& E La. #1569

Paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina, May 1, 1865:

Enlisted Sept 1, 1861 at Newton, Ala by Capt Baker

LETTER (left half of first of three columns is darkened and barely legible): Camp Canty, Oct 12/63

<...illegible..> first - Daniel J Gray <...illegible...> 17 Ala Regt formerly a member of the 1st Ala Missi & Tenn <?legion?...> S. Bones
(then a horizontal line dividing first column)

<- - ->fully ask particular attention to the <several words illegible> justice may be done <..1 word?> good and worthy soldier. He selected <this?> regiment by order of Gnl. Bragg, and since then his act has been <ratified?> by one of his officers, and strengthened by an enlistment. If the Maj. Genl <Comdy? Corndy?> <can?> <..1 word..> under that order <..4 or 5 words...>, please forward <..1 word..> communication to Dept Hdqrs to <relieve?> him from the crime of desertion. Respectfully forwarded, V S Murphey Col?

<Cassidy?Connoly?>
(then a horizontal line dividing second column)

HdQrs Dept of the Gulf, Mobile, Ala Oct 12/63

At the time referred to in the written communication, I was Genl Bragg's Adjut General and I know the privilege was granted the escaped prisoners from Island No. 10 & also from Fts Donelson Henry & Pillow to attach themselves to any company they saw fit. Resp'y Geo. G. <G- - der?don?> Chief of Staff (Signature and several words underneath made illegible by stamp: Records Division, War Department, Rebel Archives)

Third column:

HdQrs Canty's Brigade, Mobile, Oct 12th, 1863 Presuming that the foregoing facts were unknown upon the publication of the order, requiring the return of these men, this document is respectfully forwarded for the consideration of the general Comdg Dept. J Cantey Brgr? Genl?
(then a horizontal line dividing third column)

HdQrs Dept of the Gulf, Mobile, Ala, Oct 12/60 Resp'y forw'd that in view of the statements contained in this paper, it appears this man is a lawful member of the 17th Ala Regt. I will therefore withhold any action of Genl Johnston's order in the case until his views can be ascertained after knowing the additional facts. Maj. Gen. <Com?Corn- - -> (corner of paper is folded inward over last part of name.

LETTER (Periods and capitalization added for readability; he used all commas and no capitals.):

HdQrs 17th Ala Regiment
"Camp Canty"
Oct 12th, 1863

Major

I have the honor to submit to you the following in behalf of private Daniel J Gray of my company, in as much as there is an order for his arrest and return to the company to which he formerly belonged. When the "1st Ala Missi & Tennessee" Regiment was captured at Island #10 in March last private Gray was sick in hospital at Memphis. About the 1st of May he was taken out by his captain (Capt Henry Laird) and carried to Corinth Missi, and there, with 9 others of the same regt. he was furnished with a "<deso??pt - -?> Roll" and told by his captain to select his regiment. He, with the others selected the 17th Ala Regiment, and have been doing duty in the same ever since. On the 14th September 1862 his term of service expired. Being privileged to select his regt. he reenlisted in the 17 Ala, drew his bounty & has continued to draw his monthly wage on the "pay rolls" of the company ever since. In September 1862 Lieut. Keith of the "1st Ala Missi & Tenn Regt" came to Mobile for the purpose of collecting <..?..> members of his company. He has <...3 or 4 words illegible...> 17th Ala but finding that private Gray had reenlisted in the Regt, he made no attempt to get him back but expressed willingness for him to remain.

Private Gray has always conducted himself in a most soldierlike manner since his connection with my company and has been the means of inducing several good men to volunteer in the company. Having a brother and other relatives in the Regt he is very anxious to remain and considering all the circumstances I think he would receive unjust treatment should he be forced away.

Hoping that this statement will be satisfactory & that the soldier be allowed to remain in the company of his choice. I am your obt svt, John S Bones Capt Co I, 17 Ala <Regt?>
(written across bottom left corner of page): To Major <D - -? Fl - - ?>

<http://www.trackingyourroots.com/gulfrangers.htm> (copied 22 January 2003):

Company D, 4th Confederate Infantry, - 1st Regiment Alabama, Tennessee & Mississippi Infantry (Became Co. E. 54th Ala. Inf. Regt.). Served at Island #10 in Tennessee and surrendered there in April, 1862. Men taken prisoners, but exchanged In Sept. 1862.... Muster roll includes:

Gray, Andrew J. - age 23.

Gray, Daniel J. - age 25; discharged- due to illness

The "Gulf Rangers" were formed on 14 September, 1861, in Geneva, Coffee County (later Geneva County), Alabama, by Captain Henry Wesley Laird. After mustering in Montgomery, Alabama, they became part of the First Alabama Regiment, and were sent to Island #10 in Tennessee....

Confederate Pension Application, Florida #A3504, by Helon Gray for veteran James Daniel Gray:

On Form A, Questions to be Answered by Applicant, signed 29 Dec 1907 (her x mark), she gave her birthdate as 25 June 1840, their marriage date as 25 Jan 1857 in Worth County, Ga and his death date as Sep 1905. Same death date was attested by J C Gray of Santa Rosa County, Fl (his brother John C) on 4 Jan 1908. Then on another claim form dated 9 Aug 1909, she gave his death date as Oct 1904 and their marriage date as "December about 1857". (Marriage license is definitely Dec 1859.)

He is referred to throughout claim papers as James Daniel Gray or Daniel Gray, except John C referred to him once as Daniel J Gray. Enlisted June 1861, 17th Ala Co I, Canty's Brigade, Walthal Division. He served until the end of the war, "mostly in the Western Army under Gen Bragg and Gen Jos Johnson". Both witnesses (John C Gray and H C Flowers) were members of the same company. (They both signed with x marks.)

Helon had continuously resided in Fla since 6 Dec 1892. Had lived in Ga until 1873 (but they were on Geneva County, Ala census in 1870), then Ala until 1892. On the 1909 claim form, she stated that she had continuously resided in Fla since 26 Dec 1894. (Bless her heart, her memory is about like mine.) She lived at Carr, Fl, which is in the north of Calhoun County, a little west of the Chipola River.

On 29 Aug 1901, Daniel Gray was granted land patent #15629 for 160 acres comprising the following: the NE/SW and the W/SW and the SW/NW on Sect 14 T1N R10W

On 8 Nov 1905, John C Gray was granted land patent #17729 for 160 acres comprising the following: the W/SE and the E/SW of Sect 10 T1N R10W.

The two sections touched at the corners, and the two parcels were separated by only one 40-acre plot.

Notes for HELON KNIGHT:

Worth County, Ga marriage license for Daniel J Gray and Miss Healon Knight, Worth Co., Marriage Book 1854-1883, pg 72 ([ftp://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/worth/vitals/marriages/bka.txt](http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/ga/worth/vitals/marriages/bka.txt)).

Name possibly Mahelan. Another spelling of her name (from Abner Preston Leddon in 1938) was Helion. Both these spellings indicate that the first syllable was a long 'e' sound, as in Hee-lon. Lavina Helms had her name as 'Mahlen'. Combining these possibilities leads to 'Mahelan', a once popular name.

1880 census Mitchell Co., Ga.: Helon and Daniel appear at #389. At #387 is Jane Knight, 79, widow from N.C., with daughters Mary Jane, 27, widow, Martha, 21, Caroline, 17, and Mary E Baker 3, all dau. born in Ga. More likely they were her granddaughters. She is too old to be their mother. Mary E Baker probably belongs to Mary Jane, the widow. They were the only Knights in Mitchell County 1880.

1870: these girls and a boy named Nathaniel (13) were in Appling Co, pg 4, in household of Isaac (68, Ga) and Minerva (34, Ga) Ogden.

1860: Liberty Co, pg 746: they were children of Ezekiel 30 and M Knight 24, both born in Ga. In 1880, the only Nathaniel Knight of right age in Ga was someone else's son in Washington Co. No matches in 1880 Alabama.

1850 via index - Only Ezekiel Knight in Ga was age 14 in Wilkinson Co., pg 380, son of Sarah Knight, 48, SC, (with other sons James 25, Simpson 13 and John T/L 10). Could she be the same as Jane Knight, 79, in 1880 Mitchell Co? In 1870 there was a Sarah Knight, 70, SC, midwife, in Wayne Co. (image 26 on

Ancestry.com) on same page with other Knights: Andrew J 52, Henry E 26, Abraham 24, all born in Ga, none that matched Ezekiel's family in 1850.

1860: no Sim(p)son, Sam(p)son Knight found in Ga

1860: Found them in Wilkinson Co. pg 860: (Sarah 53 SC and children: Simeon 24, Sarah 20 & S C (fem) 2. James Knight 36 family next entry. On pg 859: John Knight 21 and F J (fem) 25. On pg 862: Ezekiel Knight 25 and Rebecca 23 & dau Martha E 2.

This Wilkinson County group looks like a different Ezekiel Knight family. None of this family was in Wilkinson Co in 1870.

Children of DANIEL GRAY and HELON KNIGHT are:

- i. DANIEL JAMES³ GRAY, JR⁵, b. Abt. Jun 1866, Florida⁵; d. Aft. 1900⁶.

Notes for DANIEL JAMES GRAY, JR:

See father's notes:

1870 census Geneva County, Ala, gives age as 4 and birthplace as Florida.

1880 census Mitchell Co., Ga, gives age as 14 and birthplace as Georgia.

1900 census Calhoun Co., Fl gives James' age as 33, b: June 1866, Fl NC NC can read but not write

1935 Florida state census: scanned all Calhoun County; not found; many pages too faded to read

Jackson County, Florida Genweb site:

Same person or related?

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~fljackso/mindexes/marriages/marr0211.htm> :

GRAY D J GAY Jennie 1913 Sep 01 Jackson Co., Florida

GRAY D J ANDERSON Susie 1924 Dec 01 Jackson Co., Florida

2. ii. JOHN C. GRAY, b. Feb 1876, Georgia; d. 06 Feb 1939.
- iii. MARY J. GRAY, b. Jan 1880, Georgia⁷.

Notes for MARY J. GRAY:

Age 6 months, born January, on 1880 census Mitchell Co., Ga, even though 1900 census gives 1881.

She was Mary J in 1880, Mary Ann in 1900.

Generation No. 2

2. JOHN C.³ GRAY (*DANIEL JAMES², JOSEPH¹*) was born Feb 1876 in Georgia⁸, and died 06 Feb 1939⁹. He married ADDIE UNKNOWN Abt. 1906¹⁰. She was born 11 Apr 1894 in Florida^{11,12}, and died 15 Aug 1970¹².

Notes for JOHN C. GRAY:

See cemetery listings below.

John C's birth year is uncertain. Tombstone listing gives only death date. He was already 5 on the 1880 census, giving a birth year of 1875, but 1900 census gives 1876. Age of 55 on 1930 census gives 1875. If this draft registration is for him, it may be 1873, or that year could be a typo for 75.

John C's middle name may have been Calvin. Is this the same person on this draft registration? Who is Walter Cleveland Gray, born in Geneva?

<http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/fl/calhoun/military/1917drf1.txt>

Calhoun County, Florida - 1917-18 Civilian Draft Registration, Surnames A-L

Children of JOHN GRAY and ADDIE UNKNOWN are:

- i. UNNAMED SON⁴ GRAY, b. Abt. 1909¹⁵.
- ii. MARVIN B GRAY, b. Abt. 1918¹⁶.
- iii. MADELE GRAY, b. Abt. 1921¹⁶.
- iv. ALMA GRAY, b. Abt. 1924¹⁶.
- v. MYRTICE GRAY¹⁷, b. 18 Apr 1926¹⁸; d. 06 Jan 1995.

More About MYRTICE GRAY:

Burial: Traveler's Rest Cemetery, Calhoun County, Florida¹⁹

- vi. MATTHEW GRAY, b. 1929²⁰.

Endnotes

1. US Census 1900 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct. 3, Pippins Mill, pg 262, line 15.
2. *Confederate Pension Application*, #A3504, Calhoun County, Florida.
3. *Confederate Pension Application*, Florida #A3504, dated 29 Dec 1907.
4. US Census 1900 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct. 3, Pippins Mill, pg 262, line 15, has Nov 1842 as birthdate.
5. US Census 1900 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct. 3, Pippins Mill, pg 262, line 15.
6. US Census 1900 Calhoun County, Florida.
7. US Census 1880 Mitchell County, Georgia.
8. US Census 1900 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct. 3, Pippins Mill, pg 262, line 15.
9. Tombstone, online cemetery listing, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flcalhou/Cemeteries/Traveler.htm> .
10. US Census 1910 Calhoun County, Florida.
11. US Census 1910 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct 8 (Pippin's Mill), SD 3 ED2, pg 109: she was only 21, giving a birth date about 1889.
12. Tombstone, online cemetery listing, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flcalhou/Cemeteries/Traveler.htm> .
13. Tombstone, Rootsweb online cemetery listing, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flcalhou/Cemeteries/Traveler.htm> .
14. Tombstone, Rootsweb online cemetery listing.
15. US Census 1910 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct 8, Pippin's Mill, pg 109.
16. US Census 1930 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct 7, Pippin's Mill, pg 53B, #31.
17. Tombstone, Rootsweb online listing, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flcalhou/Cemeteries/Traveler.htm> .
18. US Census 1930 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct 7, Pippin's Mill, pg 53B, #31.
19. Tombstone, Rootsweb online cemetery listing, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flcalhou/Cemeteries/Traveler.htm> .
20. US Census 1930 Calhoun County, Florida, Pct 7, Pippin's Mill, pg 53B, #31.

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