



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### John Bryant Armstrong

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John Bryant Armstrong

John Bryant Armstrong was a native of Alabama who served the Confederacy as a Mississippi cavalryman. He came to Texas after 1900 and was living at Smithfield when he died in 1906. He and his wife lie buried at Smithfield.

Mr. Armstrong was born April 25, 1831 in Wilcox County, Alabama. He was a son of John Armstrong (1795-1859), a well-known and prosperous planter who died in Itawamba County, Mississippi. John B. Armstrong's mother was Sarah (Hawthorne) Armstrong (1800-1860). Both parents are buried beneath their original headstones in Verona Cemetery in Lee County, Mississippi.

Mr. Armstrong married Sarah Jane Porter in Pontotoc County, Mississippi on February 25, 1857. She was born May 1, 1837 at Winchester, Franklin County, Tennessee. She was a daughter of Algernon S. Porter, who died in Lamar County, Texas, and his wife, Mary W. Vining of Alabama, who died in Lee County, Mississippi.

In his father's will written on January 5, 1859, John B. Armstrong was named as one of the three executors. Ten of the elder Armstrong's slaves were named and directions given that they be assigned values and apportioned to his children, including John B. Armstrong.



Sarah Armstrong

In 1860 John B. Armstrong and his family lived in Itawamba County, Mississippi in the area served by the post office at Plantersville. They had two children with them, Lelia F. and Charles Armstrong. Mr. Armstrong's real estate was valued at \$1340 and his personal estate at \$3180, which included two female slaves.

Mr. Armstrong enlisted in the Confederate service at Verona, Mississippi on November 14, 1861. His regiment was reorganized on December 15, 1861 at Columbus, Mississippi. He became a private in Captain Charles G. Field's Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battn. (Pope Walker Troopers) Mississippi Cavalry. This organization subsequently became the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Mississippi Cavalry.

According to his wife's pension application file, he also served in Co. G, 12<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Cavalry. His records in this organization show that he enlisted November 14, 1861 at Columbus, Mississippi for a term of three years. This organization was originally composed of nine companies first designated as the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion Mississippi Cavalry. About May, 1863, it was increased to a regiment and known as the 12<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Cavalry. On January 17, 1865 this designation was officially changed to the 10<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Cavalry. Mr. Andrews was a resident of Verona, Mississippi when he was surrendered at Meridian, Mississippi on May 4, 1865. He was paroled at Mobile, Alabama on May 22, 1865.

When the 1870 census was taken John's family lived in District 3 of Lee County, Mississippi. The children with them in that year included Lillian, Charles, Frank, "Olie," Mary, and "Frankie" Armstrong, a girl.

At some time after 1870 and before about 1876, the family moved to Arkansas and settled in White County. By 1880 they were in Union Township, White County, Arkansas. With them were Charlie, Frank C., Allie J., Mary C., Fannie E., and Evvie L. Armstrong. Only Evvie was born in Arkansas.

When the 1900 census was taken, Mr. Armstrong and his family lived at Garner, White County, Arkansas. Mrs. Armstrong said she had given birth to eight children, six of whom were still living. Only one of their children, Eva Lou, was still with them. She was born in May 1878 in Arkansas.

Mr. Armstrong died November 11, 1906 in Tarrant County, Texas and was buried in Smithfield Cemetery.



Mrs. John B. Armstrong

Mrs. Armstrong applied for a Confederate widow's pension in 1922 while she lived at Graham in Young County. In her declaration she said the family had come to Texas in 1871, but census records prove it was much later. She had been living in Young County about two years. Her recollection of places and dates agreed exactly with the report received by the pension board from the War Department in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Armstrong died at Graham in Young County, Texas on October 27, 1924. Her death certificate lists the cause of death as senile debility. She was buried beside her husband in Smithfield Cemetery on October 29.

Mrs. Armstrong made a statement to the census taker in 1900 in which she said she had given birth to eight children, six of whom were still alive. Some family genealogists who have posted material at ancestry.com include three children who were born and died between the census years. One of them, Harry Armstrong, has a headstone. Taking these three children into account, the total number would actually be ten. Given the material we have been able to find, there were indeed six children living at the time of the 1900 census.

Lelia Frances Armstrong was born January 4, 1858. She married John L. Harper (1856-1937).. She died at her home at 223 South Brighton Street in Dallas, Texas at 1 a.m. on February 7, 1938. She was buried in Smithfield Cemetery beside her husband.

Charles P. Armstrong was eight months old on August 24, 1860 when the 1860 census was taken. His headstone gives his birth date as 1858. He married Mary A. Sandeford (1854-1916). She was a sister to Martha, Frank Armstrong's wife. He died November 29, 1904, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Ft. Worth.

Jessie L. Armstrong was born March 16, 1862. He died July 16, 1863.

Frank C. Armstrong was born October 10, 1863. He married Martha Virginia Sandeford (1873-1927). She was a sister to Mary, Charles Armstrong's wife. He died at his home at 3543 Avenue M in Fort Worth at 8:25 a.m on November 15, 1940, and was buried in Forest Hill Cemetery in Ft. Worth the next day.

Allie J. Armstrong was born about 1866. Her name appears as "Olie" in the 1870 census. She was still alive with the family in 1880. Family sources say she died November 25, 1899, and was buried in Antioch Cemetery in Beebe, White County, Arkansas. The Allie J. Armstrong buried in this cemetery shares a double stone with one Opha Armstrong (1874-1964). We have not been able to discover any more facts to help identify Opha Armstrong.

Mary Catherine Samford was born October 18, 1867. She was married twice. She married her first husband, Sam H. Burrows, in White County, Illinois on March 2, 1884. He died in 1886. She was next married in Dallas County, Texas on November 25, 1888 to Matthew Eldridge Washington Samford (1859-1909). She had children in both marriages. She died at her home at 3115 Culver Street in Dallas at 1:40 p.m. April 2, 1947 and was buried at Grove Hill Cemetery in Dallas. She was survived by four daughters and eight sons.

Fannie E. Armstrong was born about 1870. Her name appears in the 1870 census as "Frankie." Family sources say she married Walter J. Armstrong and died at England, Lonoke County, Arkansas on February 7, 1951.

Harry Armstrong was born February 6, 1873. He died July 19, 1874, and was buried in Antioch Cemetery, at Beebe, White County, Arkansas.

An infant Armstrong was born and died May 6, 1876. If this record is correct, it might mean Eva Lou was actually a twin. Or it may be that Eva's birth actually took place in May, 1878, as the 1900 census said.

Eva Lou Armstrong was born May 7, 1876 according to her death certificate. At the taking of the 1880 census she was shown as four years old. Her birth took place in May 1878 according to the 1900 census. She married Leroy V. (his headstone says Levoy V.) Himes (1884-1952). She died at her home at 908 Texas Street in Graham, Young County, Texas at 8:20 a.m. on July 27, 1944. She was buried the next day in Smithfield Cemetery in Tarrant County.

