



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Presley Henderson Clark

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Presley Henderson Clark

Presley Henderson Clark was born March 21, 1816. He was a son of James C. Clark and Hannah (Henderson) Clark. Both Presley Clark and his wife, Jane Blakely (Johnson) Clark (1821-1901), were born near Hopkinsville in Christian County, Kentucky. They were married on December 22, 1840. Family sources say the family lived in Christian County, Illinois from as early as 1844, and they were still there when the 1850 census was taken.

Presley Clark brought his family to Texas in 1856 and settled first near Birdville. Later they moved to a site near Henrietta Creek about six miles northeast of Blue Mound. While living there, Clark's son and Dr. B. F. Barkley of Birdville were captured by the Indians and held for a time.

Presley Clark served for a short time in William McGinnis's Company of the 20th Brigade of Texas State Militia. He later served as a private in the 6th Texas Cavalry, in which he enlisted September 21, 1861 at McKinney, Texas. The regiment was also known as Stone's 2nd Texas Cavalry. He traveled sixty miles to the rendezvous, and presented himself for service with a double-barreled gun, a six-shooter, a \$100 horse, and a Bowie knife. He was discharged June 13, 1862 in Mississippi.



Mrs. Presley Clark

Clark was a member of the Masonic Lodge. He died August 14, 1893. Both Mr. and Mrs. Clark lie buried in Smithfield Cemetery. An excellent biography of Presley Clark's son, Sterling P. Clark, probably from material he (Sterling) supplied himself, appeared in B. B. Paddock, History and Biography of North and West Texas, 1906. Sterling P. Clark was a popular and influential Tarrant County sheriff and merchant. A part of the article dealt with Presley H. Clark: "...It was in 1856 that Presley H. Clark came with his family to the Lone Star State, and two years later his father joined

him here. The father, however, returned to Illinois, and there died. While in Illinois [Presley] was engaged in merchandising at Taylorsville, but after coming to Texas he located land and gave his attention to farming and stock-raising. When the war came on in 1861, he entered the army as a member of the Sixth Texas Cavalry. After some hard service in the Indian Territory and Arkansas, his company was dismounted and taken to Mississippi and he was in the battle of Corinth. He continued in the Army of Tennessee until near the close of the war, when, on account of sickness, he returned home. In all his service he was never wounded or captured. After his return home he resumed farming and stock raising, which he continued until a short time before his death, when he sold out and made his home with his son, Sterling P. He died August 14, 1893 at the age of seventy-seven years. His widow still survives, residing with the subject of our sketch."

Other children of Preston Clark included Sarah A. E. Clark, William O. B. Clark, Minerva L. Clark, John W. Clark, and Mattie P. Clark.

