



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Allen B. Coble

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Allen B. Coble was a Confederate veteran who lived the last years of his life in Grapevine. He and his wife lie buried in Grapevine Cemetery. His brother, Samuel D. Coble, was also a Southern veteran who lived the last part of his life in this community.

Allen B. Coble was born in Bedford County, Tennessee. He was a son of Jacob Coble (1791-1840) and his wife, Mary "Polly" Kimbrough (1805-1888).

A longtime Grapevine historian, Martha Wall Cluck, wrote an article on A. B. Coble which was printed in the Grapevine Area History in 1979. It says, in part: *"...Allen B. Coble, the ninth child [of Jacob and Mary], was born January 14, 1836 and died October 17, 1906.*



*"Martha Ann Matthews, daughter of Robert M. and Mary Ann (Blackwell) Matthews, was born June 9, 1843, the eldest of six children. She spent her early life in Shelbyville, Tennessee, graduating from the Shelbyville Female Academy on June 14, 1860. The school later became known as "Ward Belmont." Her father, Robert M. Matthews, was a merchant and plantation owner.*

*"Allen B. Coble and Martha Ann Matthews were married in the early 1860's in Shelbyville, Tennessee. To this union was born two children, Allen B. Coble, Jr., who died as an infant and is buried in Shelbyville, and Mary (Coble) Wall, born June 27, 1867, and died December 12, 1943. They lived in Shelbyville until 1870, leaving there in September of that year, in one of a train of fifteen wagons bound for Texas. Also with the wagon train were Jim Forbes, John Yancy, West Sutton, Allen Coble and their families, and many others, most of whom have died or moved to*

*other parts of the country. There were two former slaves who came with the Coble family, Antonie and his wife, Rachel.*

*“It is not known by whom or when the cabin was built, possibly in the early 1850’s, in which Allen Coble, his wife Martha and little daughter Mary came to establish their home on November 2, 1870. The old log cabin still stands, 100 yards northeast of Martha (Wall) Cluck’s home in the north edge of Grapevine.*

*“...Allen B. Coble, his wife Martha Ann, daughter Mary (Coble) Wall and granddaughter Ruth Wall Hagman are buried in the family lot in Grapevine, Texas, along with his mother, Mary (Kimbrough) Coble Williams, and brother, S. D. Coble.”*

Allen’s widowed mother, Mary Coble, and her children appear in the 1840 census of Bedford County, Tennessee. In that year, she owned one female slave aged ten to twenty-four.

Allen appears in the 1850 census of Bedford County, Tennessee’s District 25. He is in a blended family headed by his step-father, Richard J. Williams, his [Allen’s] mother, his Coble siblings, a Williams step-brother, and a Williams half-brother.

A. B. Coble was a soldier in Co. H, 30<sup>th</sup> Regiment Texas Cavalry, also known as Gurley’s Texas Cavalry and as the 1<sup>st</sup> Texas Partisan Rangers. He was 26 upon his enlistment at Camp McCulloch, Texas on July 28, 1862. He brought a \$150 horse and equipment worth \$20. No residence is shown. Apparently Allen came to Texas shortly before the War. His brother, Samuel D. Coble, and an old Bedford County neighbor, Wilson C. Shoffner, were also in the same Texas company. Perhaps Allen came to northeast Tarrant County temporarily because his brother was already here, because Shoffner was making the move, or both. Coble apparently went back to Tennessee at the end of the War.

Coble and his wife, Martha Ann Matthews, were married in Bedford County, Tennessee about 1866. She was born June 9, 1843 and died in Tarrant County, Texas on April 5, 1926. An obituary for her appeared in the Grapevine Sun on April 8, 1926. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Coble applied for a Confederate pension from the State of Texas.

An obituary appeared in the Grapevine Sun on October 20, 1906: ***"DIED. Mr. Allen B. Coble was born January 14, 1836 in Bedford county, Tennessee, and died at his home in Grapevine, October 11, at 9:30 p.m., 1906, age 70 years, 9 months, and 3 days. In the year of 18\_\_ he was married to Miss Martha Matthews. God blessed this union with one child, Mrs. Mary Wall, who at present resides in Grapevine. Mr. Coble moved to Texas in the year of 1870 and since that time has lived a quiet and straight-forward life trying to observe the "Golden Rule" as best he could. He professed the Christian religion in 1885, and soon afterwards became a member of the Baptist church, of which he was a member at death. He leaves a dear wife, a daughter and two grand-children to mourn his loss. May the God of all grace comfort their bereaved hearts, and may they be submissive to His will, knowing the He doeth all things well. Mr. Coble was laid to rest in the Grapevine cemetery, on the afternoon of the 18th,; his pastor, Rev. J. D. Harling conducting the funeral exercises."***

The following note appeared in the Grapevine Sun on November 3, 1906: *"We clip the following from the Shelbyville (Tenn.) Gazette of last week, as we feel that it will be a source of gratification to the family of our late townsman to know that he is so kindly remembered by his friends back at the old home. The Gazette says: Died in Texas. A dispatch received here one day last week announced the death at Grapevine, Texas, of Allen Coble who is well and most favorably remembered by many of our citizens both of town and county. He was born and grew to manhood on Thompson's Creek and was an older brother of Dr. N. Coble of this place, and consequently was uncle to our present popular townsmen Coble brothers. He was in business here some years and while here married Miss Martha, a daughter of our once distinguished citizen Robert Matthews. After his marriage he removed to Grapevine, Texas, where he continued to reside up to the day of his death. He was attended in his last illness by his nephew Dr. T. J. Coble of this place. In common with his many friends here and in this county we are sorry to hear of his death."*



**Coble House**

Allen Coble (seated in chair) and Mrs. Coble (in dark dress)



ALLEN B.  
COBLE  
JAN 14, 1836  
OCT 17, 1906

MARTHA ANN MATHEWS  
COBLE  
JUNE 9, 1843  
APR 5, 1925