



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Louis Corder Gregory

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Louis Corder Gregory came to northeast Tarrant County in 1859 and settled near Keller. He served in the Confederate Army, and died about thirty years after the War ended. He was originally buried on his farm, and in 1982 his and his wife's bodies were moved to Bourland Cemetery.

Family sources at Ancestry.com report that Louis Corder Gregory was born November 14, 1820 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia to John Keatts Gregory (1782-1843) and his wife, Elizabeth Holland Corder (1800-1886).

The Gregory family was a large and comfortable one. In 1830 in Pittsylvania County, the family contained eleven members. They owned four slaves...two males and two females.

In 1840 in Pittsylvania County, the family consisted of fourteen members and they owned six slaves...two males and four females.

Louis Gregory is shown in the 1850 census of the Western District of Tazewell County, Virginia as one of many siblings in the household headed by his mother. At the time the census was taken, Louis was a carpenter. His mother, shown as "Betsy" Gregory in the census, owned five slaves. Louis Gregory married Mary Elizabeth Cook in November, 1850.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory came to northeast Tarrant County as a part of a larger extended family group. An account of the trip has been written by Cora Whitley Bertram, a descendant of Mr. Gregory's sister, Elizabeth (Gregory) Whitley. In "Trek to Texas: Gregorys and Whitleys by Wagon," she wrote in 1988: *"At Tazewell County, Virginia, in the summer of 1859, my grandparents, Rufus C. and Elizabeth Holland Whitley, along with Lewis Corder and "Aunt Bett" Gregory, Dr. Clayton Gregory (single, age 17) and James Madison and Barbara Jane Whitley packed their wagons with provisions and small children and headed for Texas... Uncle Lewis C. Gregory's land*

was nearer what was later to become Keller, five to eight miles northwest of the Whitley place. Gran always called Uncle Lewis' wife "Aunt Bett." Her name was Mary B. Gran loved her very much and said that she was one of the sweetest women she ever knew. She died in the late 1880's and was buried on their property..."

Mr. Gregory appears in the 1860 tax lists of Tarrant County as the owner of six slaves. Louis was one of the appraisers of the estate of his brother, James M. Gregory, who died in service in the Confederate Army in July, 1862.

Only a few traces of Louis Gregory's Confederate service have survived. He enlisted in Tarrant County on August 11, 1863 under Captain Nathaniel Terry, and became a 2nd Sergeant in Co. H, 2nd Regiment Cavalry, Texas State Troops. He enlisted for a term of six months, and was allowed \$57.25 for the use of his own horse. He re-enlisted in the same organization on January 27, 1864 at Camp Wharton. He said he was a resident of Tarrant County, and claimed exemption from service because he was then serving as a postmaster. The enlisting officer was Col. N. W. Townes. He said he was forty-three years old. Just before the end of the War, he was for a short time a member of Co. E., McCord's Frontier Regiment of Texas Cavalry, as had been his brother, James M. Gregory. He apparently enlisted in that organization on March 12, 1865 in Tarrant County.

One record shows that L. C. Gregory was serving as postmaster of Norton's Grove in Tarrant County on May 23, 1862. The post office there was discontinued on November 5, 1866.

Mr. Gregory appears in the 1865 Tarrant County tax list as the owner of one hundred eleven acres of the P. Green survey, worth \$302. He also owned seven horses worth \$210, and twenty-two cows worth \$152.

On November 23, 1869, L. C. Gregory registered to vote as a resident of Precinct 4 of Tarrant County, where he said he had been living for the past ten years. He said he was born in Virginia. L. C. Gregory and his wife, Mary E. Gregory, are found in the 1870 Tarrant County census in Precinct 3. He is shown as forty-nine years old, while she was thirty-four. They had no children with them.

They also appear in the 1880 census of Precinct 4 of Tarrant County, again without children but with two orphans and one laborer living with them. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gregory told the census taker that they and all four of their parents were native Virginians. Both of them are absent from the 1900 Tarrant County census.

L. C. Gregory's home south of Keller appears on Sam Street's December 1895 map of Tarrant County. His home was east of the railroad and west of the north-south public road which is today Highway 377. In modern-day terms, it sat on the west side of Highway 377, between the highway and the railroad tracks, and about halfway between Wall-Price Road on the north and Kroger Drive on the south. This record seems to suggest that Mr. Gregory was still alive as late as December, 1895.

Louis Gregory died at his home near Keller on March 3, 1906. The primary cause of death was listed on his death certificate as “Erycephalous,” with exhaustion as a contributory cause. He was eighty-six years old and a native of Virginia. He died at nine o’clock, but the certificate does not say a.m. or p.m. The name of the physician who signed the certificate is obscured by another certificate laid on top of it when they were microfilmed.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory were buried in a small family cemetery on their property one-tenth of a mile south of Wall-Price Road, three hundred feet west of Highway 377. Over a period of time the gravesites were being encroached upon by development and truck traffic, and they were finally moved and the original stones discarded. A small modern-day granite stone placed in Bourland Cemetery says: “GREGORY, Louis C. and Mary E., and two children, buried near Keller between 1890 and 1900. Reburied here June 1, 1982.”



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