



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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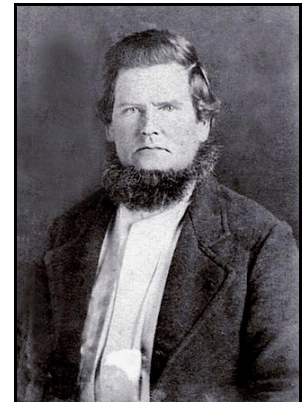
## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Elbert Augustus Hall

Compiled by Michael Patterson  
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Elbert Augustus Hall, a native Tennessean, was a veteran of a Tennessee Confederate infantry battery. For many years he worked as a blacksmith in Grapevine. He died there, and lies buried in Grapevine Cemetery. He did not apply for Confederate pension benefits.

Elbert Augustus Hall was born in Cocke County, Tennessee on March 12, 1830. Family researchers say Mr. Hall was a son of Royal Columbus Hall, Sr. (1806-1872) and his wife, Ruth Winford (1807-1870). Royal Hall appears as the owner of a one hundred fifteen-acre farm in the 1839 tax list of Cocke County, Tennessee. When the 1850 census of District 11 of Cocke County, Tennessee was taken, Elbert A. Hall was shown as a twenty-one-year-old farmer living with his parents and siblings, one of whom was Royal C. Hall, Jr., who also later served in the Confederate Army and settled at Grapevine. The Halls were not slave owners.



An article on Mr. Hall's life and family, with photographs, was printed in the Grapevine Historical Society's Grapevine Area History in 1979. Written by a descendant, Ronald Wayne Bradford, it includes materials from Mr. Hall's business ledgers, records, and correspondence from the 1880's and 1890's. That collection now resides in the Jenkins Garrett Collection in the central library at the University of Texas at Arlington, where it is available for researchers.

Elbert A. Hall and Emaline Balch were married in 1852. She was born on February 20, 1830. Descendants say she was born in Lincoln County, North Carolina.

Elbert A. Hall served the Confederacy as a private in Captain Kain's Battery of Tennessee Light Artillery. His file contains several original signed pay voucher in which he received sixteen dollars, dated at Knoxville, Tennessee on June 12, 1863. This unit was also known as the Mabry Light

Artillery. He enlisted March 31, 1863 at Knoxville for a term of three years. “Detailed by order of Brig Gen Donelson in QM Dept March 31, 1863.” No other official records have survived of his service in captured or surrendered records in the National Archives.

On November 11, 1908, E. A. Hall made an affidavit to help his sister-in-law, Mrs. Royal C. Hall, get a Confederate widow’s pension. In it, he said, “...*my brother R. C. Hall went out into the Confederate army with Captain Rumber? From Cook County Tenn I was not with him. I was with Cains Battery—would meet him occasionally...*” Interestingly, he signed his pay vouchers in the 1860’s “E A Hall,” but he signed the 1908 affidavit with an “X.”



When the 1870 census was taken, Elbert Hall and his family lived in District 1 of Lincoln County, Tennessee, in the area served by the post office at Lynchburg, Tennessee. The children at home were Cornelia, Melvin, Nannie, Bergin, Robert, and Zora Hall. Elbert was a farmer with no real estate and five hundred dollars worth of personal property.

An interesting insight into the family’s activities in the 1870’s appears in the 1932 obituary of Nannie (Hall) Nash: “...*The family moved to Indiana, then to Missouri in 1876, where they lived a year; then coming to Texas by wagon train in 1877, settling near Grapevine...*”

Elbert A. Hall and his family appear in the 1880 Tarrant County census at Grapevine. Five children were with the family: Melvin P. (who was working as a freighter), Nannie, Burgin, Robert, and Addie Hall, all of whom were born in Tennessee before the family made the move to Texas. Mr. Hall was one of several blacksmiths working in Grapevine at that time. His shop was located in the northwest corner of the intersection of Main Street and Texas Street, in the spot occupied for many years in the mid-1900’s by another of Grapevine’s institutions, the famous snow cone stand, now also just a memory to those of us, including this compiler, who enjoyed it for decades.

Mr. Hall appears in the 1880 Tarrant County agricultural census. He was working forty acres of cultivated land, had farm buildings worth eight hundred dollars, farming implements worth seventy-five dollars, and livestock worth one hundred fifty dollars. He owned one mule, two milk cows, and six other cattle of various classes. His cows produced two calves in 1879, and he bought an additional three in that same year. In that year he had produced one hundred fifty pounds of butter. He had six hogs, and his fifty chickens produced about three hundred dozen eggs in 1879. He had twelve acres in Indian corn and had made one hundred fifty bushels. His seven acres of wheat had produced forty-eight bushels, and he had gotten eleven bales of cotton from his eighteen acre field. He had one acre in sorghum and had made thirty-one gallons of syrup. He made fifteen bushels of sweet potatoes, and had produced several cords of firewood, but the amount and its value are not readable in the microfilmed records.

The Tarrant County tax list in 1885 shows Mr. Hall owned eight hundred acres of the J. L. Whitman survey worth four hundred dollars; and twenty-five and three-quarters acres of the J. L. Hallum survey. In addition he owned two parcels in the town of Grapevine. He also owned nine hogs worth fifteen dollars.

Mr. Hall's business records show that much of his work, especially in the 1880's, was done using the barter system. He accepted a wide variety of things, including lard, ham, flour, firewood, mutton, hay, oats, molasses, corn, wheat, and even a reaper. Once he accepted a horse. He worked out deals to trade work for freight expenses. He did work for Dr. Lipscomb to settle his medical bills. As the years passed his business was done more and more on a cash basis. He worked for more than two hundred clients in 1886 alone. He was active and working at least as late as 1897.

Mrs. Hall died at her home at Grapevine on August 22, 1890. She was buried in Grapevine Cemetery. She has a readable marble headstone, although it was broken years ago.

Mr. Hall died at his home at Grapevine on December 5, 1909. An obituary for him appeared in the Grapevine Sun on December 11: *"DIED. It is our sad duty to chronicle another visit of the death angel in our midst. This time Mr. E. A. Hall was called to cross the river from whence no traveler ever returns last Saturday morning at about 10:40 o'clock. Mr. Hall was born in Knox County, Tenn., on March 12, 1830, and was nearing his four score years. He was married to Miss Emmaline Balch in 1852 and moved to Grapevine in 1877, where he has since lived. Nine children were born to them—four boys and five girls; five of those children survive him—three boys and two girls, all of whom were present when their father passed away. Mr. Hall was a Confederate soldier; having served throughout the Civil War. He had been in bad health for the past five years, and for the last two years had been helpless. The funeral services were held at the Methodist church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, conducted by the pastor, Bro. Hightower, who spoke of the many good traits of character of deceased, and very touchingly dwelt upon his love of little children, saying that Mr. Hall always had a hearty welcome for them and never seemed happier than when trying to please them. In doing this he was carrying out the will of the Master, who said 'Suffer little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not, for such is the kingdom of Heaven.' The pastor also said that deceased gave evidence before dying that he was ready to go, which is consolation to the living. Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather which prevailed, a large crowd attended the funeral services...."*

We are not sure we have a complete list of all Mr. Hall's children. His 1909 newspaper obituary says he and his wife had four boys and five girls, with three boys and two girls surviving him. The five who were with their father must have been Robert, Melvin, Nannie, Burgin, and Addie. Census records supply the names of two more, Cornelia and Zora.

The obituary of Mr. Hall's daughter, Nannie Nash, in 1932 says she was one of eight children...three boys and five girls. Mrs. Nash's obituary said three brothers and two sisters died before her. That would mean two siblings survived her...Burgin and Addie.

Cornelia Hall was born about 1854. She was still with the family in 1870, but not in 1880. A statement made in E. A.. Hall's 1909 obituary suggests that Cornelia was dead by that year.

Melvin Patton Hall was born November 1, 1857. He worked for many years for the railroad, and was never married. He died August 19, 1918 in the Polytechnic Section of Fort Worth, at 3500 Avenue J., and was buried the next day in Grapevine Cemetery.

Charlotte Nannie Hall was born October 9, 1860. She married John William Nash at Grapevine on September 14, 1881. She died at her home in Grapevine, Texas on December 2, 1932 and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery two days later.

Burgin Royal Hall was born March 6, 1863. Descendants say his name was Burgin Henry Royal Hall. He married Lorah Leonah Vincent (1877-1949). In 1910 he lived in Rains County, Texas. He died in Robstown Hospital in Nueces County, Texas on September 8, 1947. His last permanent residence was at Banquete in Nueces County, where he had lived about two years. He was buried at Emory in Rains County.

Robert Hall was born in November 1866. In 1900, he was still a single man living with his widowed father and sister in Grapevine, Texas. He was working as a fruit tree agent at that time. His sister's obituary suggests he died in or before 1932.

Zora Hall was born about 1868. She was with the family in 1870, but not in 1880.

Addie L. Hall was born March 9, 1874. The 1900 census gives her birth date as October 1878, and she was still with her parents in 1900. She married a Mr. Bradley and died September 12, 1959 in Los Angeles, California.

2 515--AFFIDAVIT TO ANY FACT--Class 1. TEXAS STATUTES FORM.

THE STATE OF TEXAS; }  
County of Tarrant } BEFORE ME, W. K. Cook a  
Notary Public }

in and for said County, State of Texas, this day personally came and appeared E. A. Hall  
Respondent to me well known, and who after being by me duly sworn, did depose and say  
my brother R. C. Hall went out into the Confederate army with Captain Rumber from Cook County, Tenn. I was not with him. I was with Captain Botley - would meet him occasionally.

Sworn to and subscribed before me. Witness my hand and seal of office, in  
this the 11 day of Nov A. D. 1905  
E. A. Hall  
W. K. Cook Notary Public  
Tarrant County, Texas.  
By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.



E. A. HALL  
MAR. 12, 1830  
DEC. 5, 1909



SEMALINE E. HALL  
WIFE OF  
E. A. HALL.  
BORN  
Feb. 20, 1830  
DIED  
Aug. 22, 1890.

*For my the spirit of the dead  
While mortal is as thine,  
The earth and death is yet mine  
And thou's forever mine*