



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### William Henry Harrison Meacham

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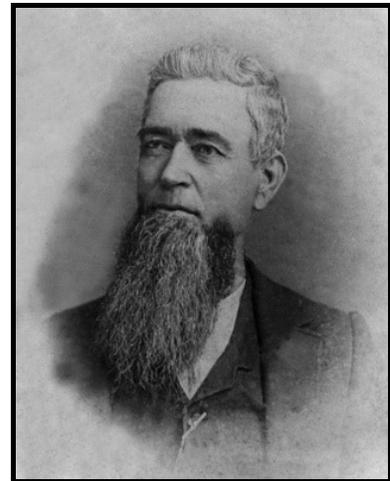
William Henry Harrison Meacham was one of the pioneers of the Keller-Smithfield area. He came to Texas more than a decade after Confederate service in a Tennessee heavy artillery battery and died here in 1894.

Family genealogists at ancestry.com say he was a son of John Pinckney Calvin Meacham and his wife, Nancy (Lindsey) Meacham. William H. Meacham was born near Ripley in Lauderdale County, Tennessee on January 7, 1839.

In the 1850 census the family is found in District 1 of Lauderdale County, Tennessee. John P. C. Meacham was a farmer who owned real estate valued at six hundred dollars. They were not slaveowners. This census suggests that the family moved from North Carolina to Tennessee between 1830 and 1836. William appears in the family as a boy eleven years old.

Family sources say Mr. Meacham and his wife, Martha Ann Brown, were married August 30, 1857. Her headstone at Smithfield says she was born October 15, 1839. There is posted online at the Lauderdale County, Tennessee GenWeb page a marriage record for one William H. Meacham on that date, but the bride's name is given as Jane Whitson.

However, Mr. Meacham appears in the 1860 census of Lauderdale County, Tennessee apparently as a single man. He was living with the family of William P. Lacy and his wife, Martha (who was born about 1828). Mr. Meacham's parents and their children appear on the same page of the census only three houses away.



Mr. Meacham enlisted in the Confederate service on March 9, 1862 at Fort Pillow, Tennessee. He became a private in (2<sup>nd</sup>) Co. B, 1<sup>st</sup> [Tennessee] Heavy Artillery. This unit was also known at some times as Jackson's Regiment, Tennessee Heavy Artillery. At some time in May or June, 1862 Mr. Meacham was at home sick. During July and August he was still at home on a sick furlough. No records of his service have survived after the furlough.

When the 1870 census was taken, William and his family lived in District 2 of Lauderdale County, Tennessee in the area served by the post office at Ripley, Tennessee. Four of their children...George, William, Nancy, and James... were with them. William was farming his own land, which was valued at one thousand dollars, and he owned three hundred dollars in personal property. The family's next-door neighbors were his parents, John and Nancy Meacham, and their younger children.

In the late 1870's the Meachams made the move to Tarrant County, Texas. When the 1880 census was taken they lived in Precinct 4. The children with them in that year included George A., William C., Nannie E., Oliver, Marion W., and Thomas O. Meacham. All the children were born in Tennessee. Also with the family was Martha's brother, Wesley Brown, who was twenty years old. The names of his nearby neighbors seem to suggest he lived in the Smithfield area at the time.

A glimpse of the family's lifestyle here may be had by looking at the information they furnished to the agricultural census in 1880. In that year, he was working forty acres of tilled land and had an additional sixty acres in woodland. His farm was worth seven hundred dollars, his farming implements were worth seventy-five, and his livestock was worth three hundred fifty. He estimated the value of all his farm productions in the last year at four hundred fifty dollars.

In 1880 he owned four horses, one mule, six milk cows and four cattle of other classes. Four calves had been dropped on his farm in the past year. He estimated his yearly butter production at two hundred pounds. He had five laying hens and ten other fowl. His ten acres of Indian corn had produced one hundred bushels. He had made eight bales of cotton on ten acres. He had cut several cords of wood on his place in the past year, but the exact number is not legible in the microfilm copy available.

Mr. Meacham died at his home in Precinct 4 of Tarrant County on February 2, 1894. He was buried in Smithfield Cemetery. Mrs. Meacham survived until July 2, 1914. She was buried beside her husband at Smithfield.

Mrs. Meacham's home appears on Sam Street's 1895 map of Tarrant County along the west edge of the town of Keller. In modern terms, it sat west of the railroad track and south of Golden Triangle Boulevard, somewhere in the approximate area between the west end of West Hill Street and the east end of Soccer Parkway. Mrs. Meacham lived with her son, Walter M. Meacham, at Keller in 1900. She told the census taker in that year she had given birth to six children, all of whom were still living.

George Allison Meacham was born in November 22, 1860. He married Roxanna Josephine Smith (1866-1927). In 1900 he lived with his wife and family at Smithfield. By 1910 the family moved

to Oklahoma, where he died July 2, 1926. He lies buried in Parkersburg Cemetery in Custer County, Oklahoma.

William Calvin Meacham was born November 4, 1864. He married Catherine Texana Hightower (1865-1948) at Smithfield, Texas on November 7, 1886. In 1900 he lived with his wife and family at Smithfield. At the time of his death he worked in the county clerk's office in Tarrant County. He died in the Riverside section of Fort Worth at noon on April 10, 1925, and was buried the next day in Smithfield Cemetery.

Nancy Emaline Meacham was born August 29, 1866.. She married C. T. Whitley (1859-1911). She died of a heart attack at her home at Keller at 3:45 p.m. on March 25, 1938, and was buried in Smithfield Cemetery.

James Oliver Meacham was born in September 1869. In 1900 he lived with his wife and children at Keller. He died in Oklahoma in 1937, and lies buried there in Grandfield Memorial Cemetery in Tillman County. His wife, Mary W. (1869-1958), lies buried beside him.

Marion Walter (or Walter Marion) Meacham was born July 28, 1875. He and his wife, Jannie Pearl (White) Meacham, were married about 1897. In 1900 he lived with his wife and family at Keller. In 1910 he and his family were living and farming in San Patricio County, Texas. When he registered for the draft in World War I, he lived with his wife and children at Ralls in Crosby County, Texas. When the 1920 census was taken they were farming outside Roscoe in Nolan County, Texas. His eldest son lies buried in Crosbyton Cemetery at Crosbyton, Texas.

Thomas Owen Meacham was born December 25, 1877. His wife's name was Stella. When he registered for the World War I draft in 1918, they lived in Fort Worth where he worked as an office manager for the Fort Worth Gas Company. In 1920 they lived at Desdamona in Eastland County, Texas. He died at the Knox Hotel in El Paso, Texas on January 12, 1941. His last permanent address was 315 West Missouri in El Paso. His wife survived him. He lies buried in Evergreen Cemetery in El Paso in an unmarked grave.

