



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Spencer Mitchell Parker

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Spencer Mitchell Parker was a Confederate soldier in a Tennessee cavalry regiment. He brought his family to northeast Tarrant County after 1880 and died here in 1893. He lies buried in Birdville Cemetery. His brother, Samuel Parker, was killed in action at the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky on October 8, 1862.

Spencer M. Parker was born in 1835 in Tennessee. Family genealogists at ancestry.com say he was born in Van Buren County, and was a son of Andrew Kincannon Parker (1809-1847) who died in White County, Tennessee. Stephen's mother was Stacy (Mitchell) Parker (1809-1884), who died at Abbott, Hill County, Texas. Spencer was named for his maternal grandfather, Spencer Mitchell (1775-1849), one of the pioneers of White County, Tennessee.

When the census was taken in 1850 Spencer Parker lived with his widowed mother and eight siblings in District 7 of Van Buren County, Tennessee. The Parkers were not slave owners.

By the time the 1860 census was taken the family had moved to District 2 of White County, Tennessee. Spencer was still living with his mother...who by then had been widowed a second time...and four of his brothers and sisters. Spencer was a farmer, but did not own any land.

Mr. Parker was married twice. His first marriage was to Sarah E. Brogdon, and it took place in White County, Tennessee on January 15, 1861. She was born about 1840 in Tennessee and lived until only about 1864, when she died in White County. They had three children, the first and last of whom died quite young. The middle child, Spencer Clinton Parker, died in Texas in 1915.

Mr. Parker's Confederate records which have survived in the National Archives are fairly sparse. He enlisted in the Southern service on September 15, 1862 at Sparta in White County, Tennessee. He became a private in Co. I, Dibrell's Regiment of Tennessee Cavalry. The regiment was originally organized as partisan rangers, but was remustered as cavalry in October and was

redesignated as the 13<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cavalry at that time. Mr. Parker enlisted for the period of the War, and presented himself for service riding a horse worth one hundred seventy-five dollars and with equipment worth twenty dollars. He last appears in the records of the regiment on a muster roll for the period of May and June 1863, at which time he was due \$24.40 for the risk and use of his own horse.



Sarah Gracey Parker

Mr. Parker's second wife was a Confederate widow, Sarah Amanda (Gracey) Warren. She was born in White County, Tennessee on July 16, 1831. They were married in White County on November 2, 1865 (she gave the date as November 25 in her pension application). Family sources say she was the daughter of James William Gracey and his wife, Martha Ann (Lewis) Gracey, both of whom died in White County. Mrs. Parker's first husband, Bluford Warren, died while in a Union prison at Elmira, New York on February 2, 1865. He lies buried there in Woodlawn National Cemetery.

When the 1870 census was taken, Spencer Parker and his family were living in District 2 of White County, Tennessee. Spencer headed a large mixed family which included his second wife, his children from both marriages, some of his wife's children from her first marriage, and his mother, Stacy Williams, by then widowed for a third time. In addition to the parents, those in the family were Martha A. [Warren], Mary [Warren], Sarah E[mma Warren] Mary V. Parker, Spencer C. Parker, Martha E. [Warren], Rachel J. Parker and William A. Parker.

The census taker found them in 1880 still in the same area. With Mr. and Mrs. Parker were S. Clinton Parker, William A. Parker, R. Josephine Parker, Flora A. Parker, and Mr. Parker's step-daughter, Emma B. Warren.

In Mrs. Parker's Confederate widow's pension application, she said the family came to Texas in 1881 and to Tarrant County in 1884. According to her statements, Spencer M. Parker died April 10, 1893. His headstone in Birdville Cemetery shows the date as 1897. He has an upright double headstone with his second wife.

By 1900 Mrs. Parker was living with her bachelor son, William A. Parker, in the Marine section of Fort Worth. The Parkers were dairymen working on their own land.

Ten years later, in 1910, Mrs. Parker was making her home with the family of her daughter and son-in-law, Flora and John Jameson, in Precinct 6 of Tarrant County. They lived somewhere along

the “Fort Worth and Weatherford Road.” In 1920 she was still with them in their home at 2221 Chestnut Avenue in Fort Worth.

Mrs. Parker was pensioned for her husband’s Confederate service. When she made her application in 1914, her address was Route 5, Box 36, Fort Worth. She said her husband’s service had been in Co. I, 8<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cavalry. This was supported by an affidavit by J. M. Stewart of Tarrant County, who said he served in Co. D of the same regiment. National Archives records shown that both men actually served in the 13<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Cavalry in the companies shown in the application. The pension file also contains an affidavit by J. L. Steakley of Johnson County, Texas, who was Mr. Parker’s step-brother.

Mrs. Parker died at the Chestnut Avenue address in Fort Worth in Tarrant County, Texas on July 23, 1924. Her death occurred at 8:50 p.m. and the cause of death was listed on the death certificate as “senility.” Her death certificate shows her mother’s maiden name as Sims. She was buried beside her husband in Birdville Cemetery, but her death date was never added to the stone.

Family internet genealogists have posted a total of six children for Mr. Parker...three in each of his two marriages. The children in his first marriage were Martha V. Parker, Spencer Clinton Parker, and Martha A. Parker.

Family sources say Martha V. Parker was born and died in 1862, and Martha A. Parker was born and died in 1864.

Spencer Clinton Parker was born March 27, 1863. He married Mary Idella Sparks, and in 1910 they lived at Indianahoma, Comanche County, Oklahoma. He died at Crowell in Foard County, Texas at 6 p.m. on February 16, 1915. His death was caused by pulmonary tuberculosis. He was buried in the Crowell Cemetery.

The children in his second marriage included William A. Parker, Rachel Josephine Parker, and Flora A. Parker.

William A. Parker was born about 1866, and was living as a bachelor in Tarrant County in 1900.

Rachel Josephine Parker was born April 4, 1869. She married John T. Morrow (1866-1962) about 1890 in Tarrant County. She died May 30, 1961 at her home at 1909 Casa Linda Drive in Waco, McLennan County, Texas. She lies buried beside her husband in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Fort Worth.

Flora A. Parker was born March 27, 1871. She married John R. Jameson (1869-1946) about 1891. She died in Harris Hospital in Fort Worth on May 2, 1958 and was buried beside her husband in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Fort Worth.

