



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

George A. Pegram

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George A. Pegram was a native of Tennessee who served in two Texas cavalry regiments. He lived in northeast Tarrant County for a time during the 1860's, and perhaps again during the 1870's. His widow and some of his younger children lived here at the time the 1880 census was taken.

Mr. Pegram was born about 1832 in Tennessee. Family sources at ancestry.com say his parents were William Pegram (who died about 1840) and Martha C. "Patsy" Whitaker, both of whom died in Lincoln County, Tennessee.

The family lived in Lincoln County, Tennessee's subdivision 2 in 1850. Mrs. Martha Pegram (who was born about 1794 in Kentucky) headed the family. Three of her children were with her: George A., Columbus, and Martha C. Pegram.

Traditions in the family of George's brother, Christopher Columbus Pegram, say the two brothers came to Texas in 1852. When the 1860 census was taken, George A. Pegram lived with his first wife and children in Beat 9 of Rusk County, Texas. He and his wife, Sarah, had four children with them: William, L.C. (a girl), C. C. (a boy), and James M. Pegram. This census indicates he came to Texas between the births of William and L. C., thus the 1852 date seems to be approximately correct.. His next-door neighbors were his brother, Columbus Pegram, and his wife, Josephine.

Only two men named Pegram/Pegrum served in the Confederate Army from the State of Texas. They were George A. Pegram and his brother, Columbus.

George A. Pegram served in two Confederate cavalry regiments. He enlisted for a term of three years at the age of thirty-two on April 28, 1862 in Rusk County, Texas, and became a private in Captain M. V. Smith's Company, Randal's Regiment of Texas Lancers. This company subsequently became Co. D, 28th Texas Cavalry. He was mustered into the service at Marshall, Texas on the last day of June, 1862. At some point in May or June he received a furlough which was to extend until

July 5, 1862. He was again furloughed on July 9, 1862 and it extended into May or June of 1863. His file contains a notation that on August 16, 1863 he had returned to the regiment from service in Alexander's Regiment (the 34th Texas Cavalry) in Polignac's Brigade. Oddly, one record in his file shows him to have enlisted in the 28th Texas Cavalry in Smith County, Texas on April 28, 1863. His name appears as "present" on a muster roll for that regiment in January and February 1864.

Mr. Pegram's service in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry is found on a single muster roll of that regiment for the period February 28-June 30, 1863. He was present for duty at that time, and a notation was made: "Assigned to duty by order of Col. A. M. Alexander Com. Brig. April 19, 1863." George Pegram's brother, Christopher Columbus Pegram, also served in Co. A of the 34th Texas Cavalry for a time, having enlisted at Grapevine, Tarrant County, Texas. According to the death certificate of one of his daughters, C. C. Pegram was living in adjacent Denton County in 1861. It may be that George had somehow wrangled a temporary transfer so that he could serve with his brother in the 34th Texas Cavalry.

Some family sources say that George A. Pegram's second wife was Mrs. Sarah (Harris) Hall, a daughter of Hiram Marion Harris and his wife, Elizabeth (Walls) Harris, of Cass County, Missouri. They say she was married first in Cass County on July 3, 1845 to Thomas Prettyman. She was next married to William Wan Hall, who died in present-day Southlake, Tarrant County about 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Hall operated a steam-powered grist mill before his death. When the 1870 census was taken, two of Mr. Hall's children were living with George and Sarah Pegram in Lamar County, Texas.

It is to be noted that Mr. Pegram had a wife in 1860 named Sarah, who was born about 1830 in Tennessee. The Sarah Pegram who was listed in the 1880 census of Tarrant County was doubtless his last (and/or second) wife, and she too was born about the same time and place.

Mr. Pegram appears in the 1865 tax list of Tarrant County. He owned no real estate or livestock, and paid only his poll tax. By 1866 Mrs. Hall and Mr. Pegram were married. One of the few papers which survived the Tarrant County court house fire of 1876 is a paper from Mr. Hall's probate file. In it, G. A. and Sarah Pegram on March 6, 1866 nominated a new administrator of the estate of William W. Hall, saying that he was "...the most suitable person he being more deeply interested in the welfare of said Estate than any other person aside from the family of the deceased." Thus it is evident that Sarah Pegram had some connection to the estate of William Wan Hall.

By the taking of the census in 1870, Mr. and Mrs. Pegram and their family had moved to Lamar County and settled in Beat 5 in an area served by the post office at Paris, Texas. He owned no real estate but had personal property valued at eight hundred dollars. With him and Sarah were two of William Wan Hall's children, William F. Hall and Ella Hall, and four Pegram children: S. F. (a girl), Coryell (a girl), Edward B. S., and Walter Pegram. L. Pegram, age fifteen, was living in Tarrant County with another of our veterans, Dr. Garlington C. Dial. Dr. Dial was also boarding some of the orphaned children of yet another of our veterans, John W. Stateham. George Pegram, age eleven, was living in Denton County with the family of Ann T. Lusk. Columbus "Pecrum," age thirteen, was in Denton County with the family of still another of our men, Lewis M. White. L. Pegram and Columbus Pegram were with George A. Pegram in Rusk County when the 1860 census was taken and it seems likely they were his children.

It seems probable that George, who was born about 1859 or 1860, was also one of his children. Some event must have taken place in the early 1860's which split the family. Perhaps his first wife died while he was away in the Confederate Army and his friends and neighbors took the children in at that time.

It may be that George was indeed married twice, that both wives were named Sarah, and both were born about 1830 in Tennessee. That seems to be the explanation which best fits the facts available. The man in Rusk County in 1860 with a wife and children was obviously the same man as the one in Lamar County in 1870. In 1870 he had a child named Pegram with him who was born before William Wan Hall died, and he had two of William Wan Hall's children living with him. Descendants are asked to contact this compiler if they have more information.

George Pegram appears in the 1870 agricultural census of Lamar County in Beat 5. He was farming on twenty-five acres of improved land. His farm was valued at two hundred fifty dollars and his equipment was worth seventy-five dollars. He owned eight horses and five milk cows and two hogs. He estimated the value of all his livestock at eight hundred dollars. He had two hundred fifty bushels of Indian corn on hand.

George A. Pegram died at some time during the 1870's. He had a daughter born in the fall of 1874. His name does not appear in the 1880 Texas mortality schedules, thus he must have died before June of 1879. When the 1880 census was taken his widow and children were living in the area of present-day Southlake, north of Big Bear Creek. Mrs. Pegram had six children with her in that year: William F. [Hall], Walter F., Cora L., Edward B., Elva? L., and Rosa Pegram. Mr. Pegram has no readable headstone standing in Lamar County or in northeast Tarrant County.

By 1900 Sarah Pegram had moved to California and was living with the family of her married daughter, Mrs. Joel Cross. Mrs. Pegram said she was born in December 1825 in Tennessee and had given birth to sixteen children, eight of whom were still living. Family records supply the names of one in her marriage with Mr. Prettyman, two with Mr. Hall, and five with Mr. Pegram, for a total of eight, thus there must have been eight more whose names we have not discovered. In 1900 her son-in-law was farming on rented land in San Jose Township, Los Angeles County, California. Mrs. Pegram was not with them in the 1910 census listing.

The following short accounts of the lives of some of Mr. Pegram's children were taken from family sources, census records, and Texas vital statistics records. It seems probable that Walter F. Pegram was the first child in his second marriage.

William Pegram was born about 1852. He was with the family in 1860.

L. C. Pegram was born about 1854. At the time of the 1870 census she was living in Tarrant County, Texas with the family of Dr. Garlington C. Dial.

Christopher C. Pegram was born about 1856. Columbus "Pecrum," age thirteen, was living in Denton County in 1870 with the family of Lewis M. White.

James M. Pegram was born about 1859. He was with the family in 1860.

One S. F.. Pegram, a girl who was born about 1860, was with the family in 1870 in Lamar County, Texas.

Walter F. Pegram was born in November 1865. He seems to have been the first child of Mr. Pegram's second marriage. He married Lula P. Railey about 1894, and by 1900 had settled in San Jose Township in Los Angeles County, California. He was still living in Los Angeles County as late as 1930.

Cora L. Pegram was born January 29, 1867. Her name appears as "Coryell" in the 1870 census. She married Joel Cicero Cross (1863-1934) on June 26, 1887 in Delta County, Texas. By 1900 she and her husband and children had settled in San Jose Township in Los Angeles County, California. She died in Los Angeles County on September 25, 1951.

Edward B. S. Pegram was born about 1870. He was alive with his mother and siblings in Tarrant County in 1880.

Etha L. "Dee" Pegram was born about 1872. She was alive with her mother and siblings in Tarrant County in 1880.

Rosa Pegram was born about 1873. She was alive with her mother and siblings in Tarrant County in 1880. When the 1900 census was taken in San Jose Township in Los Angeles County, California, there was listed on the same page of the census as George A. Pegram's widow, Sarah Pegram, one lady named Rosa who **may have been** her daughter. That lady was Rosa L. Griggs, who was born in Texas in September 1874 to a Tennessean father and a Missourian mother. She had married Clarence P. Griggs about 1896 and gave birth to a daughter in June, 1899 in California. *This theory is based solely on circumstantial evidence.*