



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Simon Crockett Splawn

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Simon Crockett Splawn was a Louisiana native and Confederate veteran who lived for several years in the White's Chapel/Pleasant Run area of northeast Tarrant County. He later moved to the High Plains, and died there in Floyd County.

Family sources at Ancestry.com say he was born January 12, 1843 in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana, a son of Stephen C. Splawn and his wife, Amanda Jane Stone. In his Confederate pension application, Mr. Splawn said he was born twelve miles from Harrisonburg, the parish seat of Catahoula Parish.

Stephen C. Splawn and his family appear in the 1850 census of Smith County, Texas. Two of his children, born about 1833 and 1836, were born in Alabama. The four children born between about 1838 and 1846 were born in Louisiana. Their youngest child was born about 1849 in Texas.

The 1860 census taker found the Splawns living in Smith County in an area served by the post office at Flora, Texas. Simon was seventeen years old, still living with his parents and siblings, and working as a farm laborer.

Simon served the Confederacy as a private in Co. D, 28th Texas Cavalry. At the age of nineteen, he enlisted in Captain M. V. Smith's Company, Randal's Regiment of Texas Lancers. Official records say he enlisted in Wood County on May 3, 1862 for a period of three years. This company subsequently became Co. D of the 28th Regiment, after Simon's mustering-in at Marshall, Texas on May 16.

At some time in May or June, 1862, Simon was away from the regiment on detached service. His file contains an original paper describing pay received "...for commutation of rations while near Camp Nelson sick at a private home on Surgeon's Certificate from October 23rd to December 26th, 1862 at 75 cts per day 64 days \$48.00"

His file contains a signed receipt for pay, dated at Pine Bluff, Arkansas on February 3, 1863. Also present is an original paper, signed by officers and Mr. Splawn, when he was reimbursed for traveling from the camps at Pine Bluff, Arkansas to his home in Smith County, Texas...three hundred miles at the rate of ten cents per mile. On February 25, 1864 he was away from his regiment, detailed in Randal's Brigade to mend harness, by order of Col. Byrd. He was a leatherworker later in life as well.

A regimental return made in April, 1865 shows Mr. Splawn to have been discharged ten miles from Hempstead, Texas where he was working at a mill.

Not long after he returned home from the service, Simon married Delilah "Dilly" Elizabeth Dunn in Smith County, Texas on September 7, 1865. She was born September 25, 1845 in Mississippi. She was a daughter of Monroe and Caroline (Steen) Dunn, who are shown in the 1850 census of Kemper County, Mississippi. Dunn family tradition says while she was still a child, her father, also known as Jack Dunn, was killed by a falling tree and her mother was remarried to William Milton Dunn, with whom she eventually settled in northeast Tarrant County and had more children. William and Caroline Dunn lie buried in White's Chapel Cemetery in present-day Southlake, Tarrant County.



Mrs. Splawn

Simon C. Splawn and his family were in Tarrant County, Texas when the 1870 census was taken. They are shown living only two houses away from Mrs. Splawn's mother, Caroline Dunn, and her family. Mr. and Mrs. Splawn had two children with them: Emily E. Splawn (born about 1866) and J. W. A. Splawn (a son born in May, 1870). They also had one S. A. Lockard, a female born about 1814, with them.

On August 7, 1867, S. C. Splawn registered to vote as a resident of Precinct 2 of Tarrant County. He said he was a Louisiana native, and had been living in Texas for sixteen years. He had been living in Precinct 2 and Tarrant County for only one year, thus he must have settled here about 1866. Mr. Splawn appears in 1870 Tarrant County tax list as C. S. Splawn, with no real estate.

It seems logical, given the Splawns' location in the 1870 census, that they may have lived and worked on the Dunn farm in present-day Colleyville. In modern-day terms, the farm lay basically east and south of the intersection of John McCain Road and Pleasant Run-White's Chapel Road. The Dunns' double-room log barn stood until recently, when it was dismantled and rebuilt in McPherson Park in Colleyville.

The 1880 census taker found the family living in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County, south of Big Bear Creek. In the tax list for that year, S. C. Splawn appears as the owner of thirty-seven acres of the A. J. Lott survey (worth \$111) and four acres of the W. Dunn survey, worth twelve dollars. He also had one wagon or carriage worth fifteen dollars, two horses or mules worth thirty dollars, three cows worth eighteen dollars, five hogs worth five dollars, and two dollars worth of personal property.

In modern-day terms, these two surveys, the Lott and Dunn, are both located in Colleyville. The Dunn survey was a square, one-quarter mile on each side, and containing sixty acres. Its northwest corner sat at today's intersection of Pleasant Run Road and John McCain Road. William Dunn also patented the quarter-section immediately to the east of his headright, known as the Harrell Hughes survey, in 1875.

The northwest corner of the Hughes survey is along John McCain Road one-quarter mile east of Pleasant Run Road. The A. J. Lott survey sits adjacent to and east of the Harrell Hughes survey.

The Lott survey is an L-shaped tract, with the foot of the "L" on the west instead of the east. The northeast corner of this tract is located where John McCain Road crosses the railroad tracks, just west of Highway 26.

By 1900, they had moved a short distance north and were living in Precinct 1 of Denton County, Texas. Mrs. Splawn said she had given birth to five children, all of whom were still alive. Only one of them, William P. Splawn, was still living with them.

S. C. Splawn of Floydada, Floyd Co., Texas, applied for and received a Confederate pension from the State of Texas. Splawn said he left the service at Hempstead, Texas in May 1865. He said he was seventy-one years old, and was born twelve miles from Harrisonburg, Louisiana. He said he had been in Texas sixty-seven years, and in Floyd County six years. He served in Co. D, 22nd Texas Cavalry, was later dismounted and placed in the infantry. He owned one cow and calf worth \$25. He was apparently mistaken about the number of the regiment in which he served.

One man who made an affidavit in support of Splawn's application said he (Splawn) enlisted in Smith County, Texas in Randall's 28th Texas Cavalry.

The family is found in the 1910 census at Floydada, Floyd County, Texas. Simon's wife and son, John W. Splawn, were living with him. Mrs. Splawn said all five of her children were still living.

The three of them are also found living together in the 1920 census there. Even though he was past seventy years old, Mr. Splawn was still working...as a dishwasher in a restaurant. His son, William P. Splawn, was working in a cook. Splawn family descendants believe the younger man may have owned the restaurant where they were working.

Mrs. D. E. Splawn died at 6:30 p.m. on October 18, 1922 at Floydada. Her death certificate says she died of dengue, an infectious fever endemic to East Africa. Old age was shown as a contributing factor. Her husband survived her, and was the informant for the death certificate. She was buried in Floydada Cemetery.

Family genealogists say Simon C. Splawn died January 3, 1927 in Wise County, Texas while visiting relatives. His body was returned to Floydada, where he was buried beside his wife on January 7, 1927.

The Splawns' children included Emma E. Splawn, John W. A. Splawn, Charles W. Splawn, Henry Monroe Splawn, and William Presley Splawn.

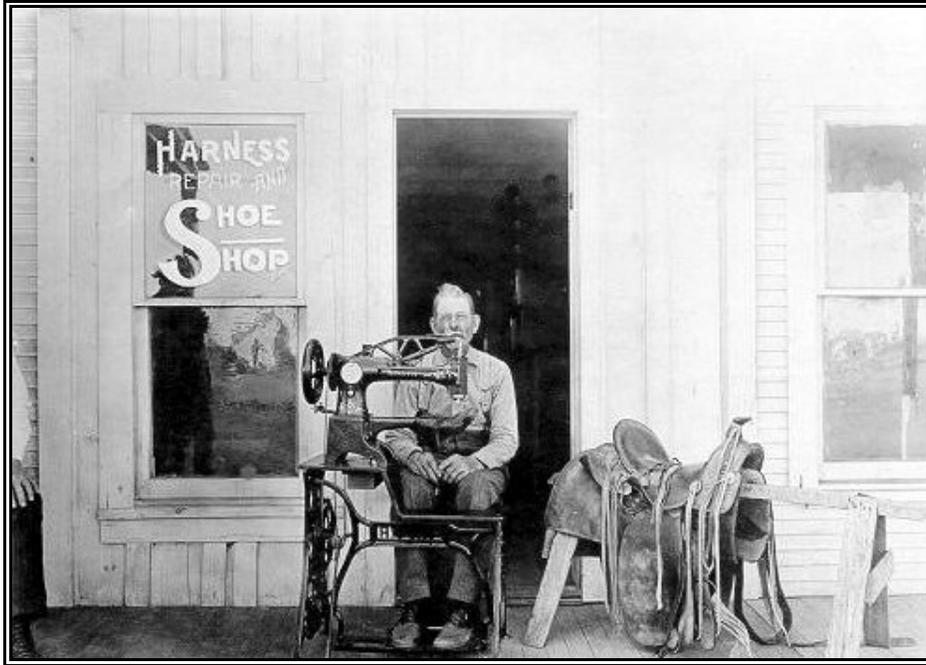
Emma E. Splawn Williams was born June 20, 1866 She died in Floydada on August 10, 1930 and was buried in Floydada Cemetery. She was a widow.

John W. A. Splawn was born May 5, 1870. He worked as a drayman, and a lifelong bachelor. He died December 30, 1933 at Floydada, Texas, and was buried at Floydada the next day.

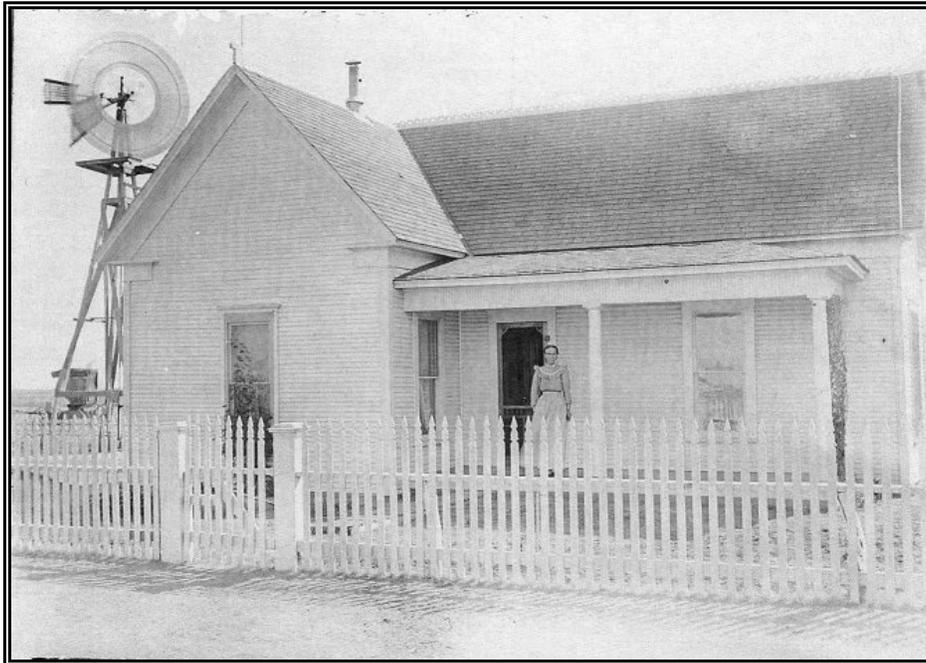
Charles W. Splawn was born about 1872.

Henry Monroe Splawn was born August 9, 1875. He and his wife and children were living in Floyd County, Texas in 1910. He died in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas on May 20, 1953. He was buried there in Crestview Memorial Cemetery.

William Presley Splawn was born March 21, 1881 (his death certificate says 1882). In 1910 William P. Splawn and his family were living next-door to his parents at Floydada, Texas. By 1930 he was living in Lubbock County, Texas. He died March 14, 1956 in Trinidad, Henderson County, Texas, and was buried there in the Trinidad City Cemetery.



Photos courtesy of Nicki Splawn Baca



Mrs. Splawn on the porch of their home in Floydada, Texas.