



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James Harris Mallette

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James Harris Mallette was a native of Mississippi who served in an infantry unit from his native state. Late in life he came to this community, and lies buried in Lonesome Dove Cemetery.

Mr. Mallette was born in Mississippi on May 9, 1824. We have not located him in the censuses of 1850 and 1860.

James was a member of the Stonewall Jackson Camp of United Confederate Veterans which was established at Grapevine in 1900. He told them he was a member of Co. K, 45th Mississippi Infantry. His official records in the National Archives show that he enlisted in Tupelo, Mississippi on June 16, 1862, and originally became a member of Co. K, 33rd Mississippi Infantry. He enlisted as a substitute for Sgt. John Evans, and agreed to an initial term of twelve months. This company subsequently became Co. K, 3rd Battalion Mississippi Infantry. In November 1862 its designation was changed again to be the 45th Mississippi Infantry. In 1864 its designation reverted to that of the 3rd Battalion Mississippi Infantry.

On August 16, 1862 James was promoted to the rank of 1st Corporal. He was captured in the Battle of Murfreesboro, Tennessee on January 1, 1863. He was paroled on March 30, 1863 at Camp Douglas, Illinois and was sent to City Point, Virginia for exchange on April 4. His parole record states he was captured on December 31, 1862. By the time the muster roll for his regiment was made for March and April 1863, he was back with the regiment but was still on parole. On November 1, 1863 he was promoted to the rank of 2nd sergeant.

On February 10, 1864 James was granted a furlough of twenty-five days. He was surrendered with the rest of his regiment on April 28, 1865 at High Point, North Carolina, and was paroled on May 1 at Greensboro, North Carolina. No further records specific to his service have survived. In one military record his name is recorded as "J. Harris Mallette."

James H. Mallette and his wife, Sarah Rosalee Hicks, were married about 1867. Her birthplace recorded on one of her son's death certificates looks as if it might be Sumter County, South Carolina. There was one Thomas Hicks listed in the 1840 census of Sumter County. Mrs. Mallette was born on January 13, 1843. Her son's death certificate says her name was Sarah Rosalee Hicks. Her headstone records her name as Rosa. When the 1850 census was taken she lived with her parents and siblings in Marion County, South Carolina. She was sixteen years old when she appeared as a daughter of Thomas and Mary Hicks, residents of Putnam County, Florida in the 1860 census. If the census data are correct, they must have made the move from South Carolina to Florida about 1859 or 1860. He father owned one slave in 1850 and four slaves in 1860. Her death certificate says she was the daughter of Thomas B. Hicks and his wife, Sarah Rosa Hicks, although the informant may have gotten the mother's and daughter's names confused.

The census taker in 1870 found the family in the Pearson's Mill Precinct of Putnam County, Florida, in the area served by the post office at Orange Springs, Florida. Mr. Mallette was farming on real estate worth one thousand five hundred dollars, and he had personal property worth two hundred dollars. The family had two children with them: Thomas M. and Reuben, who had been born earlier in 1870.

When the 1880 census was taken, the family was living in Precinct 12, 13, or 14 in Putnam County, Florida. All five of their children were living with them at that time: Thomas, Reuben, James, Mary, and Jefferson. They also appear in the 1885 Florida state census. Mary is shown with a middle initial E. in that document.

When the 1900 census was taken, Mr. Mallette and his family were living in Precinct 6 of Dallas County, Texas. With him were his wife, two of his sons, Reuben C. Mallette and Jefferson D. Mallette, and Jefferson's wife, Dollie. Mrs. Mallette said she had given birth to five children, four of whom were still living.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Mallette applied to the State of Texas for a Confederate pension. He died on June 25, 1908, and was buried in Lonesome Dove Cemetery in Southlake, Tarrant County, Texas. No obituary appeared for him in the Dallas, Fort Worth, or Grapevine newspapers.

When the 1910 census was taken, Mrs. Sarah R. Mallette was living in the Dove Community in Tarrant County with her son, Thomas M. Mallette (on April 30). She told the census taker she had given birth to five children, four of whom were still alive. She also appears on May 5, 1910 in the



census in the family of her son, Jefferson D. Mallette, in Big Springs, Howard County, Texas, where he was working for the railroad.

Mrs. Sarah Rosalee Mallette died of apoplexy at Grapevine, Texas on January 15, 1918. She was buried beside her husband in Lonesome Dove Cemetery. No obituary appeared for her in the Dallas, Fort Worth, or Grapevine newspapers.

Mrs. Mallette made two statements to census takers about the number of her children. In both 1900 and 1910, she said she had given birth to five, but that only four were still living. All five were with the family when the Florida state census was taken in 1885: Thomas M., Reuben C., James H., Mary E., and Jefferson D. Mallette. Each of the following short paragraphs is a brief account of one of the children's lives.

Thomas M. Mallette was born February 12, 1868. He married Nannie Carrie Wilson (1877-1946). He was a farmer for much of his life. He died at his home at 3521 Stewart Drive in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas at 10 a.m. on December 3, 1955. He was buried in Lonesome Dove Cemetery.

Reuben C. Mallette was born May 19, 1871, according to his headstone. About 1900 he married Dorothy "Dollie" O'Quinn (1884-1972). In 1900 they lived with his parents in Dallas County, Texas. In 1910, 1920, and 1930 he and his wife lived in Hazlehurst, Jeff Davis County, Georgia, where he worked as a telegraph operator. They lie buried in the Hazlehurst City Cemetery in Hazlehurst, Jeff Davis County, Georgia.

James H. Mallette was born September 22, 1872. When the 1910 census was taken he was working as a farmer in Precinct 1 of Red River County, Texas. He was apparently a lifelong bachelor. In 1920 he was farming in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County. His last permanent home was in Palestine, Texas. He died in Rusk, Cherokee County, Texas on March 5, 1942. His headstone says he died March 6. He lies buried in Lonesome Dove Cemetery in Southlake.

Mary E. Mallette was born about 1875. She was still alive when the Florida state census was taken in 1885. She was dead by 1900.

Jefferson Davis Mallette was born in Florida on September 18, 1878. In 1910 he and his family lived in Big Springs, Howard County, Texas. By 1920 he was living in Palestine, Rusk County, Texas. His wife's name was Fannie May; she was born in 1880 and died in 1961. The informant for her death certificate was her granddaughter, who did not know Fannie's maiden name. He worked for many years as a boiler maker for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad. His last permanent address was 919 South Magnolia Street in Palestine. He died in the Missouri-Pacific Hospital in Palestine, Anderson County, Texas at 6 p.m. on August 30, 1964. He was buried in East Hill Cemetery in Palestine.