



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Samuel W. Proctor

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Samuel W. Proctor was a native of Alabama who served in an East Texas Confederate infantry regiment. He settled in northeast Tarrant County in the late 1860's with his widowed mother and siblings. He died in the Grapevine area in 1893 and lies buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

Mr. Proctor was born in 1836 in Alabama, and was a son of Hiram Proctor (who died in Texas in the 1850's) and his wife, Rebecca W. (Davidson) Proctor (1817-1900), who died and lies buried at Grapevine. Hiram and his family lived in Alabama until about 1845. They stopped for a time in Louisiana, where one of their children was born in 1846. By 1850 they settled in Cass County, Texas where they lived in Precinct 1 when the census was taken. Hiram was a farmer but did not own any real estate in that year.

When the 1860 census was taken, Samuel lived with his widowed mother and siblings in Beat 3 in Marion County, Texas, in the area served by the post office at Jefferson. Samuel's mother owned a farm worth seven hundred dollars, and owned personal property worth the same amount.

Rebecca Proctor and her family appear in the 1860 agricultural census in Marion County. Since Samuel was probably leading the effort, it would be interesting to look at their status in that year. They worked a farm consisting of thirty-five acres of improved land and eighty-five acres of unimproved land. The farm was worth three hundred sixty dollars. Their farming equipment was worth twenty dollars. They owned five horses. They had seven milk cows and nine cattle of other classes, and ten hogs. They estimated the value of all their livestock at five hundred dollars. They had two hundred bushels of Indian corn on hand, and nine bushels of oats. They also had six bales of ginned cotton on hand.

Samuel W. Proctor joined the Confederate service in Jefferson, Marion County, Texas, on May 10, 1862. He was mustered into the army the same day at Jefferson. He had ridden nine miles to the rendezvous. He enlisted for a term of three years, and became a private in Captain T. D. Sedberry's

Company, Waterhouse's Regiment of Texas Volunteers. This company subsequently became Co. F, 19th Texas Infantry.

At some point during the month of June, 1863 Samuel was sick in a hospital at Monroe, state not designated. By the time the roll was prepared for July and August he was back with the regiment but was still sick. He received a sixty-day furlough on January 17, 1864. No later records of his service appear in his file in the National Archives.

About 1868 Samuel and his wife, Harriet E., were married. Her headstone says she was born in 1848. The death certificate of one of their children gives her maiden name as Cox, while another shows it to have been Hudgins. When the 1870 census was taken in northeast Tarrant County, their next-door neighbors were a Hudgins family.

By 1870 the Proctors had settled in northeast Tarrant County in the Grapevine area. Samuel and Harriett appear in the census in Precinct 2, along with their one-year-old son, Thomas. Samuel was a farm laborer who owned no real estate nor personal property. Harriett told the census taker she was born in Texas.

Samuel W. Proctor appears in the 1875 tax list in Precinct 3 as the owner of thirty-seven acres of the A. Thompson survey, worth four hundred dollars. He also owned three horses worth forty dollars each, six cattle, and other personal property.

The A. Thompson survey lies in present-day Grapevine, southwest of the downtown district. No modern-day streets lie along its boundaries. It is a near-square, about one-quarter mile on each side. Its northwest corner is approximately at the intersection of Highway 26 (Ira E. Woods Avenue) and Ponderosa Street.

When the 1880 census was taken Mr. Proctor and his family were recorded in Precinct 3 north of Big Bear Creek. Mrs. Proctor's birthplace is given in this census as Mississippi. They had three children with them: Hiram T., Robert D., and Rosa Lee Proctor. They also had a seventeen-year-old niece named Alice Cox living with them.

Samuel was included in the 1880 agricultural census of Tarrant County. He owned a farm consisting of thirty-two acres of cultivated land and ten acres of woodland; the farm was worth four hundred dollars. His farm implements were worth forty dollars and his livestock was worth two hundred fifty. He estimated that all his farm production in the year 1879 was valued at four hundred dollars. He owned two horses, nine milk cows, and sixteen cattle of other classes. Eight calves had been dropped on his land in the past year, and he had sold five living animals. He had churned one hundred fifty pounds of butter. He had five hogs and twenty-five chickens. He estimated he had gathered one hundred dozen eggs in the past year. His ten acres of corn had produced two hundred fifty bushels. His four acres of oats had made one hundred bushels. He had an eleven-acre cotton field which had produced six bales. He had cut seven cords of wood off his place, worth one dollar per cord.

Mrs. Harriett E. Proctor died in 1886. Samuel W. Ragsdale died in 1893. They share an upright headstone in Grapevine Cemetery which shows only the years of their births and deaths. Buried beside them are their son, Robert D. Proctor; Samuel's brother, McCager Proctor; and Samuel's mother, Rebecca W. Proctor.

We have discovered the names of only three children of Samuel and Harriett Proctor. Only the one who died young is buried in the cemetery with Mr. and Mrs. Proctor at Grapevine.

Hiram Thomas Proctor was born March 28, 1869. He married Nellie Laughlin (1878-1952) about 1896. He died at 2:30 a.m. on October 19, 1937 at his home at 1512 Grand Avenue in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Fort Worth.

Robert D. Proctor was born April 21, 1873. He died March 5, 1884 and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery. He has a readable headstone.

Rosa Lee Proctor was born August 6, 1875. She married Samuel Rodes (1875-1905) about 1898 and by 1900 they were living in Rains County, Texas. Mr. Rodes was buried in the city cemetery at Emory. Mrs. Rodes lived in Emory, Texas for many more years. She died at 10 a.m. on November 14, 1966 at her home at 3215 Camp Bowie Street in Fort Worth. Her death certificate says she was buried in "Memory Land Cemetery" in Grapevine, Texas, but the cemetery is actually in Greenville, Hunt County, Texas.

