



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Alvin Bates

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Alvin Bates, a native Tennessean, served the Confederacy in a Tennessee infantry unit. He brought his family to Texas in 1873 and settled near Keller, where he died in 1908 and lies buried.

Alvin Bates was born in Tennessee on December 14, 1828. He was a son of William Bates (born about 1802 in North Carolina) and his wife, Sarah, (born about 1804 in Tennessee). William Bates appears in Lincoln County, Tennessee in the census of 1840.

The Bates family appears in 1850 in Subdivision 1 of Lincoln County. Alvin Bates was a twenty-one-year-old single man living with his parents.

Family sources say Alvin Bates married Elizabeth Gayle in Lincoln County on September 23, 1854, but the marriage does not appear in published lists of marriages in that county. She was born December 2, 1833 in Tennessee.

Alvin, his wife and children appear in the census of 1860 of Lincoln County, Tennessee, in District 19, in the area served by the post office at Camargo, Tennessee. Alvin owned no real estate, but had personal property worth four hundred dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Bates had two children with them in that year, Lucinda (born about 1857), and James (born about 1859). The family's next-door neighbors were Alvin's parents, William and Sarah Bates, and their family.

Alvin Bates served the Confederacy as a private in Co. E, 8th Tennessee Infantry. He enlisted November 10, 1862 at Fayetteville, Lincoln County, Tennessee for a term of three years. He was thirty-three years old when he enlisted. He appears on a regimental roll for the period August 31 through December 31, 1863, with the notation that he was detailed as a hospital steward at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He was returned to regular duty at some time in January or February 1863. He was captured at Stone's River, Tennessee. Alvin's name appears on roll of prisoners at

Camp Morton, Indiana delivered to City Point, Virginia for exchange, where he arrived on April 12, 1863 as one man of a shipment of “Five Hundred and ten enlisted men, Confederate Prisoners of War—and one dead body---and three women.” No further records of his service have survived.

Mr. Bates appears in the 1870 census of Lincoln County, Tennessee in the 19th Civil District, in the area served by the post office at Camargo, Tennessee. By this time, he had real estate worth three hundred dollars and personal property worth three hundred dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Bates had five children at that time: Lucinda (born about 1857), Mary (born about 1862), Margaret (born about 1865), William A. (born about 1867), and an unnamed infant son (born in May 1870).

The newspaper obituary of one of the Bates’ daughters, Julia E. King, says they came to Texas in 1873. The obituary of their son, William A. Bates, said he had lived at Keller since about 1874. They must have settled in Tarrant County by 1881, when one of the Bates daughters married Thomas I. McCain here. The Bates family does not appear in the 1880 Tarrant County census of Precinct 4, but they were apparently simply missed.

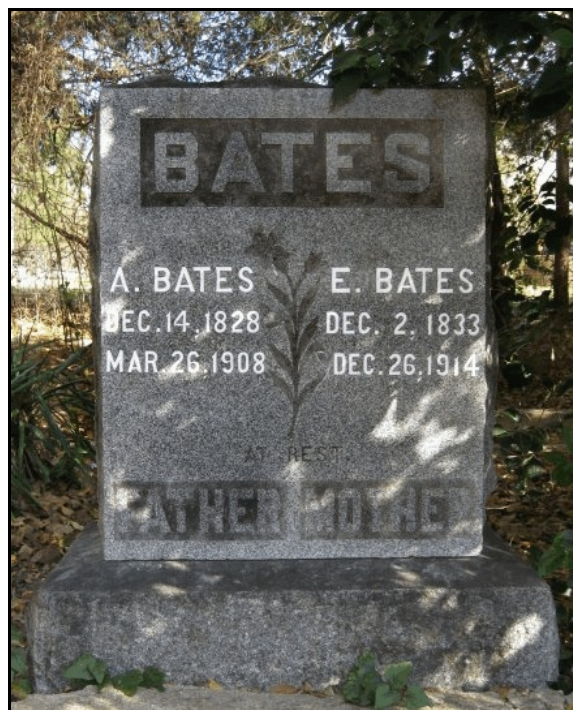
Mr. Bates’ home appears on the Sam Street Map of Tarrant County made in December, 1895. It sat along the center of the eastern boundary of the Iraneous Neace survey in present-day Keller. It probably lay somewhere along present-day Manor War, just east of Mount Gilead Baptist Church and Cemetery, where Mr. and Mrs. Bates lie buried.

The Alvin Bates family is found in the 1900 census at Keller, Tarrant County, Texas. Mr. and Mrs. Bates are shown as the heads of the household. Living with them were their son, William A. Bates, and his wife and son. Also in the family were the Bates’ widowed daughter, Julia King, and her four children. Mrs. Elizabeth Bates told the census taker she had given birth to eight children, only three of whom were still alive.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Bates applied for a Confederate pension in Texas. Alvin Bates died March 26, 1908 and was buried almost literally beside his home in the northeast corner of Keller’s Mount Gilead Cemetery.

When the 1910 census was taken, Elizabeth Bates lived with her daughter, Julia King, and Julia’s four children at Keller. Elizabeth died December 26, 1914, and was buried beside her husband at Mount Gilead.

The following short accounts of the lives of the Bates children were taken from census records, death records, and headstone inscriptions. There was an eighth child whose name we have not discovered. Perhaps the 1880 census would have supplied that name. According to Mrs. Bates’



statement in 1900, the only three of the children living at that time would have been Margaret McCain, William A. Bates, and Julia E. King. There are no readable headstones in northeast Tarrant County which might be marking the graves of any of Alvin Bates' other children who might unmarried have died after their arrival here.

Lucinda Armerda Bates was born December 1, 1856. She married Benjamin Edmond Warren (1856-1931) on November 10, 1875, in Lincoln Co., Tennessee according to family sources. The marriage does not appear in published Lincoln County marriage lists. She died in Tarrant County, Texas on November 15, 1899, and lies buried near her parents in Mount Gilead Cemetery.

James Bates was born about 1859. He was alive in 1860, but does not appear with the family in the 1870 census.

Mary Bates was born about 1862. She was dead by 1900. There is a grave at Mount Gilead Cemetery which may be their daughter; that grave is of Mary E. McCain (September 18, 1861-March 17, 1885), who married Robert C. McCain. It is with the other Bates and McCain graves which are known to be those of Alvin's family.

Margaret Bates was born October 26, 1865. She married Thomas I. McCain (1859-1899) in Tarrant County on February 3, 1881. She died July 8, 1913 and lies buried in Mount Gilead Cemetery beside her husband.

William Addison Bates was born in Tennessee on December 1, 1867. His first wife, Ida Kelly (1871-1902), lies buried with the family group in Mount Gilead Cemetery. They were married in Tarrant County on October 22, 1891. He and his second wife, Dora L. (1882-1979), were married about 1907. He worked for many years as a retail merchant, and was prominent in the work of the Masonic Lodge in northeast Tarrant County. He died January 29, 1945 at Keller, and was buried two days later in Bourland Cemetery in Keller.

A Bates son was born in May 1870, and was yet unnamed at the time the census taker arrived in that same year. He was dead by 1900.

Julia E. Bates was born October 22, 1871. She married J. Thomas King in Tarrant County on December 20, 1888. He was dead by 1900. Her last permanent address was 4822 Swiss Avenue in Dallas, Texas. She died at 1121 East Belknap in Fort Worth on October 24, 1943 and was buried in Fort Worth's Mt. Olivet Cemetery. An obituary with a photograph appeared in the Dallas Morning News on October 25, 1943.