

TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Henry Clay King

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Henry Clay King served the Confederacy in a Missouri light artillery battery before he came to Texas. After living near Keller for many years, he moved to Archer County in the 1890's and died there in 1900.

This man is not to be confused with the Henry C. King who became a charter member of the R. E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth, was pensioned in Tarrant County, and died here in 1908.

Several of Mr. King's descendants have posted information at ancestry.com. They say he was born June 12, 1841 in Callaway County, Missouri to Stephen King and his wife, Cynthia (Chaney) King.

Henry King was listed as a nine-year-old boy in the family of his father, Stephen N. King, when the 1850 census of Callaway County was taken. The family lived in District 12. His father was a blacksmith and owned his own real estate.

Mr. King enlisted in the Confederate service on August 13, 1861 at Oak Hill, Missouri, for the duration of the War. He said he was a native of Callaway County and a resident Millersburg in that county when he enlisted. He was twenty years old and a mechanic. He became a private in the Clark Battery of Missouri Artillery. This group ultimately became Captain James Farris' Battery of Light Artillery. A later record shows him to be a member of the second company (designated 2 Co.), and a resident of Fulton, Missouri. On a muster roll for September and October of 1862 he appears as a member of Captain H. King's Battery, having joined that group on June 5, 1862 at Camp Ingram. His name appears on a receipt roll for pay dated November 10, 1862. At that time he was receiving forty cents per day for working as a blacksmith. He appears as a blacksmith on a muster roll of Captain Houston King's Battery of Light Artillery for the period July and August 1864. With his battery he was surrendered to the Union army at Citronelle, Alabama on May 4, 1865, and was paroled at Gainesville, Alabama on the following May 10.

The Clark Light Artillery was organized in January, 1862 as a company of the Missouri State Guard. It was transferred to Confederate service in February. Later it moved east of the Mississippi River and in September had seventy-one men present for duty. The unit fought at Iuka, Corinth, and Hatchie's Bridge, and then was attached to the Cavalry Division, Department of Mississippi and East Louisiana. Under this command it was involved in various conflicts in Mississippi until the spring of 1864. At that time it joined the Army of Tennessee. After fighting in the Atlanta Campaign, the battery served in the Department of Alabama, Mississippi, and East Louisiana. It was then dismounted and sent to Meridian, Mississippi, to be refitted, but it is not clear if this was accomplished. Captain Houston King was in command during most of its existence, and the records he kept, including some personal letters, are preserved in his extensive file in the National Archives.

Henry C. King married Eliza Jane Ficklin in Callaway County, Missouri on December 22, 1867. She was born December 23, 1847 in Callaway County and was a daughter of Benjamin and Amanda Ficklin. The 1870 census taker found the Kings living in Bourbon Township in Callaway County. Henry was working for a blacksmith, probably John B. Broughton, who lived only two houses away from them. The only child with them was their son, James King, who was one year old. The occupations of the Kings' neighbors suggest they may have been living in a town, probably Fulton. They received their mail through the Fulton post office.

In the late 1870's the Kings left Missouri and settled in Precinct 4 of Tarrant County, Texas. They were still in Missouri when Wilkes King was born in October of 1875. By 1880 they were here and the family included Jimmy, Evie, Annie, and Wilkes.

Eliza (Ficklin) King died in Tarrant County on June 10, 1893 and was buried in Smithfield Cemetery. Mr. King's home appears on the 1895 Sam Street Map of Tarrant County. In modern-day terms, it sat a short distance west of Keller along the west side of Beach Street, just northwest of the intersection of Beach Street and Heritage Trace Parkway, about where Forney Trail and Stripling Street intersect.

About 1896 Mr. King married as his second wife a widow, Mrs. Mary Derilla Mays. She was born about 1848 in Tennessee. When the family was listed in the 1900 census of Precinct 2 in Archer County the children with them included James, Annie, Maggie, Miller, and Mrs. Mays' two sons from her former marriage, Earl and Earnest Mays.

Henry Clay King died November 12, 1900 in Archer County, Texas and was buried there in Holliday Cemetery. Mr. King's widow, Mary Derilla King, lived in San Diego, California with her son, Ernest Livingston Mays, when the 1920 census was taken. By 1930 she had moved to Los Angeles and lived with both her bachelor sons, Earnest and Earl Mays.

Family sources name seven children for Henry C. King in his first marriage: James, Evie, Annie, Wilkes, Maggie, George, and Ona.

James King was born in December 1869. He also appears in some records as "J. J. Wesley" and "Jimmy" King. He was still with the family in Archer County in 1900.

Eva (Evie) King was born in December, 1870. She married Charles Paul Stone (1866-1925) and moved to Oklahoma about 1884. They lived in the Chickasaw Nation at the time of the 1900 census. She died in 1956 and was buried in Waurika Cemetery in Waurika, Jefferson County, Oklahoma.

Annie King was born in November 1873. She was still living at home with her father and step-mother in 1900.

Wilkes King was born in October 1875. In 1900 he lived with his married sister, Eva Stone, and her family in the Chickasaw Nation. In 1910 and 1920 he and his wife, Annie, and their children lived in Patterson Township in Jefferson County, Oklahoma. He died December 12, 1950 and was buried in Waurika Cemetery in Waurika, Jefferson County, Oklahoma.

Maggie Mae King was born June 28, 1881. She married George H. Allen Goins (1875-1949) on June 27, 1900 in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas. She died March 13, 1912 at Holliday in Archer County, Texas.

George Miller King was born October 3, 1884. He married Laura Braley (1891-1978) on December 20, 1911. He died July 23, 1967 at Duncan, Stephens County, Oklahoma.

Ona Price King was born April 26, 1890. She married Oscar Stovall (1885-1966) on December 29, 1907 in Jefferson County, Oklahoma. She died July 24, 1968 in Stephens County, Oklahoma.

