Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James M. Millard

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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James M. Millard was a Tennessean who was a veteran of a local Texas cavalry regiment. When the War began, he and his family lived northeast of Grapevine, where he owned the northeast corner of Tarrant County. He died only six years after the War, and lies buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

James M. Millard was born in Tennessee on August 26, 1831. Census information suggests he may have been a son of Samuel Millard (born c1805) and his wife, Martha (born about 1800), of Sullivan County, Tennessee.

Mr. Millard was married in 1851 to Sarah Catherine Bushong, a sister of another of our veterans, Grapevine pioneer George Emanuel Bushong. She was born July 15, 1834 in Sullivan County, Tennessee. They were children of David Bushong and his wife, Dorcas Stophel. Sarah did not grow up in a slave owning family. Her parents lie buried in Beeler Cemetery in Sullivan County, Tennessee.

James and Sarah left Tennessee and settled at Grapevine in 1856. James M. Millard is shown in the 1860 Tarrant County tax list as the owner of the three hundred twenty-acre J. M. Baker survey. It was worth three dollars per acre. He was not a slaveowner in that year. In modern-day terms, this survey sits in the northeast corner Tarrant County. It is a rectangle, one mile east-west by one-half mile north-south. The north line of the survey is the Denton County line, and the eastern boundary of the survey is the Dallas County line. This survey was originally patented by Grapevine pioneer Daniel Starr in 1858.

J. M. Millard was mustered into the Confederate service at Camp McCulloch on July 28, 1862. He was thirty years old. He became a private in Captain Jackson Puckett’s Company of 1st Texas Partisan Rangers. This company subsequently became Co. H, 30th Texas Cavalry. He enlisted for a term of three years. He presented himself for service riding a horse worth one hundred seventy-five dollars and bringing equipment worth twenty-five dollars. He was present on a muster
roll of the regiment for the months of July and August 1863. No further records of his service have survived.

Mr. and Mrs. Millard appear in the 1870 census of Precinct 2 of Tarrant County, Texas. They had six children with them in that year: M.M. (a daughter born about 1853 in East Tennessee), G. F. (a son born about 1855 in East Tennessee), D. B. (a son born about 1857 in Texas), S. M. (a son born about 1859), H.M. (a daughter born about 1864), and S.C. Millard (a daughter born about 1869).

James M. Millard died at Grapevine on March 24, 1871. He was buried near his young daughter in Grapevine Cemetery.

Mrs. Millard appears in the 1880 census of Tarrant County’s Precinct 3, north of Big Bear Creek. Three of her children were still living with her: George F. (born about 1855), Hattie M. (born about 1864), and Sarah C. Millard (born about 1869).

Mrs. Millard and her children were still working their farm near Grapevine in 1880. They had thirty acres under cultivation and two hundred forty-five acres in woodland. Her farm buildings and fences were worth a total of one thousand six hundred dollars. Her farm implements were worth one hundred dollars, and her livestock was worth seven hundred fifty dollars. She estimated that all their farm production in 1879 was worth one thousand dollars. The family owned eleven horses. They had twenty milk cows and sixty cows of other classes. Eighteen calves had been born on their farm in the past year. They produced three hundred pounds of butter in 1879. They owned twenty-five chickens, and estimated they had produced two hundred fifty dozen eggs in the past year. They had twenty-five acres devoted to Indian corn, and had produced six hundred bushels of oats on the eight acres devoted to it. They made eleven bales of cotton on twenty acres.

On January 8, 1898, Mrs. Millard patented a small survey of 20.5 acres in Tarrant County. When the 1900 census was taken, she was living with her widowed son-in-law, William Starling, and her grandson, Frank Starling. Mrs. Millard said she had given birth to seven children, only one of whom was still living. She did not apply for a Confederate widow’s pension, probably because she did not meet the indigency requirements.

An obituary for Mrs. Millard appeared in the Grapevine Sun on July 15, 1911: “FALLEN ASLEEP IN JESUS. Sister Sarah Catherine Millard (nee Bushong) was born July 15, 1834, in Sullivan county, Tennessee. In 1851 she was married to Mr. J. M. Millard to which union there were born seven children; all of whom have gone on before, except Mrs. N. B. Yates. In 1856 she came to Texas and in 1873 joined the Missionary Baptist Church and lived a devout faithful member until God called her home. On the 17th of last April she fell and broke her hip, from which injury she never recovered—being confined to her bed all the time until death released her from her great pain, July 6, 1911. Sister Millard was a devout Christian, faithful and true to her church and to God; ever read to cheer and [one line missing on paper’s crease] of her life she was in feeble health so she did not attend the public services of the church, but she kept up with the work and always supported it with her means. The pastor feels that he and the church have lost one of the best members. Rev. R. B. Morgan, a former member, preached the funeral, Revs. A. S. Pinson and W. H. Harris assisting
in the services. There was a large congregation at the funeral at the church, bespeaking their great love for the beloved sister. To Bro. and Sister Yeates and all the relatives, we extend our condolences. God bless you all. Very sympathetically yours, GEO. B. AIRHART.”

If Mrs. Millard’s statements were correct, the following list of her children is complete.

Martha Madora Millard was born October 4, 1852. She married Jesse Edward Lindsay (1847-1900) in Tarrant County on September 8, 1870. She died December 8, 1887 and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

George F. Millard was born August 25, 1854. He died February 28, 1895 and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

David B. Millard was born about 1857 in Texas. He was alive in 1870, but was not with the family in the 1880 census, and was dead by 1900.

Samuel M. Millard was born March 30, 1860. He died April 10, 1891 and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

Hattie M. Millard was born March 6, 1864. She died on May 27, 1942. She lies buried beside her husband N. B. “Boney” Yeates (1858-1927) in Grapevine Cemetery.

Sarah Catherine “Katie” Millard was born January 10, 1869. She died November 16, 1898 and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery. She married William A. Starling (1860-1939).

Dorcas Eliza Millard was born December 6, 1866 and died September 30, 1867. She lies buried beside her parents in Grapevine Cemetery.