

TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Benjamin Franklin Millican

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Benjamin Franklin Millican was a pioneer in the Grapevine Prairie area south of Grapevine. He was a Confederate veteran.

An excellent biographical sketch of Mr. Millican, almost surely written from material he supplied, is to be found in the <u>Memorial and Biographical History of Dallas County, Texas</u>, by the Lewis Publishing Company in 1892. "B. F. MILLICAN, a farmer fifteen miles northwest of the city of Dallas, was born in Jackson county, Alabama, May 9, 1840, the youngest child of Benjamin F. and Rebecca (Howell) Millican, and a brother of Francis Marion Millican, a sketch of whom appears in this work.

"Benjamin F., our subject, removed to Missouri in 1860, and in the summer of 1861 he entered the Confederate army, enlisting in Company H, Sixteenth Missouri Cavalry, in the six-months troops. He served out his term on enlistment, but being unsafe for himself and his family to remain in Missouri, he decided to come to Texas, locating his family on a farm ten miles west of Dallas. He returned as far east as Shreveport, Louisiana, where he entered the Sixteenth Missouri Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war, being mustered out in June, 1865. He served as a private, and also as Sergeant, and was in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, with Price on his raid into Missouri, and was in a number of small skirmishes.

"After the close of the war Mr. Millican returned to his family in Texas, settling on a farm which he and his brother, Francis Marion, had bought on Cedar mountain, west of the city of Dallas. He resided there until 1873, when he traded his interest in that farm for a tract of seventy-five acres lying on Grapevine prairie, in the northwest corner of the county. He had added to this place from time to time until he now owns 135 acres, and also twenty acres of timber land.

"Mr. Millican was married in Jackson county, Alabama, December 15, 1858, to Miss Sarah Eliza Ellen Russell, a daughter of Conn and Elizabeth Russell. Mrs. Millican was born and reared in Jackson county, and accompanied her husband to Missouri, sharing with him the hardships of life which that move brought him, not the least of which were the outrages which the families of the Confederate soldiers and sympathizers were subjected to just preceding and during the early years of the war. She also managed the home affairs and took care of the little ones while her husband was away in the army.

"Mr. and Mrs. Millican have had five children,--Nancy Davis, Mary Ellen, James Edward, Fannie Belle and Annie May. Mr. and Mrs. Millican and the two eldest daughters are members of the Missionary Baptist Church.

"Socially, the former is a zealous Mason, having been a member of that ancient and honorable fraternity for nineteen years, joining the Grapevine Lodge in 1871, and was an active member of that organization until his withdrawal to assist in organizing Estelle Lodge, No. 585. He was made Senior Warden of Estelle Lodge at the time of its organization, which position he held for two years, and since that time he has been Worshipful Master of the lodge, except two years, during one of which he was Treasurer."

Both Benjamin F. Millican and his brother, Francis M. Millican, attended the 1902 Confederate veterans' reunion held in Dallas. They signed the register as veterans of Co. H, 16th Missouri Infantry.

Mr. Millican died on April 30, 1921 and is buried beside his wife in Sowers Cemetery in Irving, Dallas County, Texas. No death certificate was filed for him. Mrs. Millican's headstone gives her birth and death dates as October 14, 1843 and March 18, 1909.

