Gregg W. Pickett was born September 14, (he once said September 13), 1845 in Van Buren, Crawford County, Arkansas. Curiously, in his 1906 pension application he says he was born in San Antonio, Texas. He was a son of George Calhoun Pickett (1802-1855) and his wife, Catherine Barbara McClellan (1816-1854). One of Gregg’s great-grandfathers on his mother’s side was John Sevier, a Revolutionary War hero and the first governor of the State of Tennessee.

Not long after his father died, Gregg and three of his brothers probably came to Texas to live with John and Mary Gregg, where they were living on Beat 7 in Rusk County when the 1860 census was taken.

Gregg Pickett served as a private in Co. D, 7th Texas Infantry (also known as Gregg’s Regiment Texas Infantry). He enlisted on January 15, 1863 in Marshall, Texas, for the term of three years. The enlisting officer was Hiram B. Granbury. Other records have him enlisting January 13, 1863 under Lt. Lipscomb for the term of the war. At the time, Pickett was described as a farmer having gray eyes, light hair, a light complexion, and was 5 feet, two inches tall. He is shown present on the regimental muster rolls from February through June, 1863 and September 1863 through February 1864. At some time during the months of July through December, 1863 he was absent for a time sick in a hospital at Quitman, Mississippi. A record has survived of him receiving an issue of clothing on January 21, 1864. On a Company muster roll for March and April 1864, the notation is made “one bayonet scabbard 2.75” His name appears on a muster roll of officers and men paroled near Greensboro, NC on April 26, 1865, as a part of Joseph E. Johnston’s army which surrendered to General Wm. T. Sherman’s army. This roll shows him to have enlisted in October, 1863 at Marshall, Texas, with John Gregg as the commanding officer.

Gregg Pickett married Mary Etta “Mollie” Morris on February 7, 1882 in Marshall, Harrison County, Texas. They had at least five children: Percy Emmett Pickett, born about 1884; Veta Pickett; Harry Pickett, born about 1890; Benjamin Pickett, born about 1894, and Catherine B.
“Norine” Pickett. The mortuary warrant application made at the time of his death was signed by his wife, “Minnie Pickett,” and it contains several references to him as “George W. Pickett.”

On August 19, 1899, Dr. H. M. Beaty of Collin County certified that Gregg W. Pickett suffered from a wound of the left leg received in battle on July 22, 1864, also [_____] alveolar heart disease (organic) resulting from rheumatism contracted in service.”

He appears in the 1900 census of Collin County as “George W.” Pickett. His wife’s name is shown as Mattie E. Pickett, and she was born in October 1864 in Mississippi. With them were the following children: Emmett (born in September 1884); Ben C. (born in September 1886); Veta (born in January 1892); Harry C. (born in October 1893); and Norine (born in January 1897). Mrs. Pickett said she had given birth to six children, five of whom were still living.

Gregg W. Pickett indicated in his 1906 pension application that he moved to Smithfield, Tarrant County, about 1902, and that he had earlier applied for a pension while a resident of Collin County, but had been turned down because he was too young at the time.

He appears as Gregg Pickett in the 1910 census at Smithfield. By that time Emmett Pickett was no longer living with them, but the other four surviving children were.

At the time of his death, he lived at 1520 E. 20th Street in Fort Worth. Gregg W. Pickett died of Bright’s Disease in the City-County Hospital in Fort Worth at 11 a.m. on May 31, 1922. He was buried in East Oakwood Cemetery in the Confederate section. The mortuary warrant on file in his Confederate pension application says he died of chronic prostatitis complicated by uremia.

An obituary for Gregg Pickett appeared in the Fort Worth Record on June 1, 1922. The copy of the available microfilm is very poor, and the editor misspelled the “Pickett” name throughout it. It states that Mr. Pickett had died at a local infirmary and that he was a member of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans. He was survived by his wife, one daughter (Mrs. J. L. Armstrong) and three sons, Ben, Harry, and Emmett, all of Fort Worth. He was also survived by three brothers, Sevier and G. C. Pickett of Fort Worth, and Jim Pickett of Quanah, Texas. Funeral services were held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Armstrong, at 1520 Twentieth Street.