Campbell Poynor was born January 5, 1825 in Bledsoe Co., Tennessee, a son of William Poynor and Elizabeth (Campbell) Poynor. By 1830, Campbell moved with his father’s family to Franklin County, Illinois. In 1839 they moved south and settled near Carrollton in Carroll County, Arkansas. In 1840 they lived there in Osage Township and in 1850 in Carrollton Township.

Campbell made his way to Texas in the mid-1840’s and enlisted as a private in the Mexican War in San Antonio, Texas in 1847 in Captain Crump’s Company of Mounted Volunteers. He was discharged there in October, 1848.

He married his wife, Eliza R. Welch, in Texas on Christmas Day in 1849. Eliza was born in Tennessee on February 16, 1834. In 1850 the Poynors were living in present-day Maverick County, Texas, along the Rio Grande opposite the Escondido River. Probably in late 1852 or 1853 Campbell moved his family back to Carroll County, Arkansas, where they were living and farming in 1860.

While living in Arkansas, he served for a time as a conscript in the Confederate army. In 1865, the Poynors left Arkansas and moved to Texas. By 1867, they had settled in Bedford. Poynor was a member of the Grand Prairie Masonic Lodge #455, in the community which would later be known as Smithfield. Campbell’s wife, Eliza (her gravestone clearly says Elizer) died at Bedford on August 18, 1883 and lies buried in Smithfield Cemetery.

Campbell was a member of both the Sansom’s Chapel Methodist Church and the Oak Grove Methodist Church, both at Bedford. In 1895 Poynor was living in present-day Bedford near the southeast corner of the W. O. Yantis survey, west of Central Drive, north of Schumac Drive about where Central Park is located today. Poynor was pensioned for his Mexican War service.

In 1906, he sold his property at Bedford and moved to live with his son-in-law, Sam H. Eagleton, near Burleson in Johnson County. Poynor once told pension officials he had lived in Bosque, Tarrant, and Johnson Counties in Texas.
He died near Burleson on January 19 or 20, 1908, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in North Fort Worth. He had no death certificate filed.

Mr. and Mrs. Poynor were the parents of a number of children, including: Elizabeth (Mrs. Richard M.) Allen, John Lafayette Poynor, Mary Poynor, Susan A. Poynor, Queen Victoria (Mrs. H. L. W.) Collier, Arizona S. (Mrs. J. B.) Winkler, Mattie Jane (first the wife of D. S. Gray, then of Benjamin F. May), and Eliza C. “Cammie” (Mrs. Sam H.) Eagleton
