Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Samuel D. Pritchard

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Samuel D. Pritchard was a Tennessee native who served the Confederacy in an Alabama infantry regiment. He had settled at Smithfield by 1895, and was still living there in 1900.

Family sources at Ancestry.com say Samuel was born in Tennessee on May 10, 1825. He was a son of Henry and Frances Pritchard. Henry Pritchard died in Marion County, Alabama in or before 1866.

About 1842 Samuel was married to Harriett Ann Logan. She was born about 1823 in Alabama. She was alive with the family in Mississippi in 1880. We have found no later traces of her.

In 1850 Samuel Pritchett and his family lived in Beat 5 of the 16th Division of Fayette County, Alabama. They had three children with them: William H., Rebekah F., and Jesse A. J. Pritchett.

In 1850 their next-door neighbors were his parents, Henry Pritchett, born about 1794 and his wife, Fannie, born about 1796, both in South Carolina.

In 1860 the Samuel Prichard family lived in the Western District of Marion County, Alabama, in the area served by the post office at Pikeville, Alabama. He was farming on land he owned worth six hundred dollars. He had two hundred forty-seven dollars in personal property. He and Harriett had eight children with them, all born in Alabama: William, Rebecca, Jessie, Nancy, Sarah, James, John, and Littleton Prichard.

Samuel enlisted in the Confederate service on May 10, 1862 in Fayette County, Alabama for a term of three years. Another record says he enlisted in Marion County, Alabama. He became a private in Co. K, 41st Alabama Infantry. By December 1862 he was a first corporal. By February of 1865 he was a sergeant. He was captured at Petersburg, Virginia on February 11, 1865. Two days later he was sent to the Provost Marshall at City Point, Virginia. On February 15 he was forwarded to
Washington, D. C. On February 17 he took the oath of allegiance to the federal government and was furnished transportation to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Samuel Pritchard appears in the 1866 state census of Marion County, Alabama. His family included three males under ten years old, two males between ten and twenty, and two males over twenty. There were also one female under ten, three females between ten and twenty, and one female over twenty years old. This agrees perfectly with the listing and ages of the Pritchard children at the end of this biography.

In 1870 they lived in the town of Wesson, in Copiah County, Mississippi, where Samuel worked as a watchman. He owned no real estate nor personal property. He and Harriett had seven children with them, all born in Alabama: Rebecca F., Nancy J., Sarah E., James H., John, Posey P., and Martha J. Pritchard. Samuel’s mother, Frances Pritchard, was also with them. Rebecca, Nancy, Sarah, and John were all working in a factory, as were many of their closest neighbors. This was almost certainly the Mississippi Manufacturing Company, owned and operated by Col. James Madison Wesson, whose cotton cloth was so fine it was dubbed “Mississippi silk” at the centennial celebration in 1876.

The 1880 census taker found Samuel D. Prichard and his wife, Harriett A. Prichard, living in Carrollton Precinct of Carroll County, Mississippi. They had only two children with them: James H. and Osa Preston Pritchard. Next-door to them was the Pritchards’ daughter, Mrs. Frances Fryer. She had two of her children with her, both born in Mississippi.

The home of S. D. Prichard appears on the 1895 Sam Street Map of Tarrant County, Texas. In modern-day terms, it sat in the north part of present-day Hurst along the western side of Precinct Line Road, a few yards north of its intersection with Grapevine Highway (26).

When the 1900 census was taken, Samuel was a widower and lived in the Smithfield voting precinct of northeast Tarrant County. He said he was born in May 1825 in Tennessee to two South Carolinians. He owned his own farm. His daughter, Frances Friar, was living with him. She was born in Alabama, as was her mother, Samuel’s wife. Frances’ daughter, Lizzie, was also with them. Lizzie was born in August 1876 in Mississippi. Lizzie’s father was a native of Tennessee. We have discovered no records relating to Samuel D. Pritchard after 1900. Until recently, there was no readable headstone for him in any northeast Tarrant County cemetery.

The following obituary for Mr. Pritchard appeared in the Fort Worth Morning Register on Friday, March 28, 1902: “S. D. Pritchard. S. D. Pritchard, aged 70 years, father of L. G. Pritchard, died at his home in North Fort Worth yesterday afternoon at 3 o’clock. The body will be taken to near Grapevine, the former home of the deceased, where the interment takes place this afternoon. Mr. Pritchard was a pioneer citizen of this county and came here twenty years ago from Mississippi. He leaves four
sons, two of whom live in Fort Worth. The other two live in the country. The deceased was a Mason.”

We have discovered the names of ten children born to Samuel and Harriett Pritchard. The following accounts of their lives were taken from family records placed at ancestry.com, Texas vital statistics records, census records, and cemetery records.

William H. Pritchard was born September 28, 1843. Family sources at Ancestry.com say he was born in Itawamba County, Mississippi and this is borne out by the 1850 census record. He married Elvina Weathers (1842-1899) on February 17, 1867. They lived for a time around 1868 in Mississippi, then in Alabama for a few years after about 1870. They came to Wise County, Texas in the 1870’s, and had a child born in Wise County about 1879; the census taker found them living in that county at Aurora in 1880. After the death of his first wife William married a lady named Lucy B. (1884-1921). By 1900 they had moved east to Lamar County. He died of influenza at Direct, Lamar County, Texas on November 7, 1918. He was buried in Pyles Cemetery.

Rebekah Frances Pritchard was born in 1847. She was married to a Mr. Fryar (spelling?) and was either divorced or widowed by 1880. She was living at Smithfield with her father and daughter when the 1900 census was taken.

Jesse A. J. Pritchard was born about 1848. He died in October 1870 in Wesson, Copiah County, Mississippi from erysipelas. Like several other members of his family, he was a factory worker.

Nancy J. Pritchard was born September 4, 1853, but this year date given on her death certificate is probably incorrect. About 1878, probably in Carroll County, Mississippi, she married James M. Tate. In 1880 they lived with her brother, Littleton Greenberry Pritchard, and his wife in Carroll County. By 1900, they had settled in the Bedford area of northeast Tarrant County where they farmed on rented land. By 1910 they had moved into Fort Worth and lived in the home of their son, Charles Tate. She died in Fort Worth at 1514 Ellis Street on June 3, 1913. She was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Her father’s name is shown of her death certificate as Pritchard and her mother’s as Logan.

Sarah E. Pritchard was born December 25, 1853. She married William M. Smith while the family still lived in Mississippi. She died of lobar pneumonia on January 27, 1939 at her home at 1117 Tenth Street in Corpus Christi, Texas, where she had lived about two years. She was buried at Kingsville, Texas.

James H. Pritchard was born about 1855. He had become crippled by 1870, and was still living with his parents as a single man in 1880.

John Pritchard was born about 1858. He was still with the family in 1870, but was not with them in 1880.

Littleton Greenberry Pritchard was born February 12, 1860. He married Ellen “Ella” Buckland about 1877, probably in Caroll County, Mississippi, where they lived in 1880. In 1900 he was
working as a blacksmith in Fort Worth. He died at 5 a.m. on May 24, 1919 at his home at 1208 Clinton Street in Fort Worth. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Posey Preston Pritchard was born in 1862, according to his death certificate. His wife’s name was Viola and they were married about 1902. In 1910 he was working as a janitor at a school building in Fort Worth. He died at 1212 Clinton Street in Fort Worth on April 18, 1916 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. He died of Bright’s Disease.

Martha J. Pritchard was born about 1865. She was with the family when the 1870 census was taken, but was not with the family in 1880.