



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Andrew Jackson Hallford

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Andrew Jackson Hallford was born in Missouri on July 18, 1835, a son of James P. Hallford. He came to the Grapevine area in the mid-1840's with a large group of settlers loosely called "the Missouri Colonists." Andrew and many of his family members were charter members of Lonesome Dove Baptist Church. He was baptized in November, 1849 by Rev. John Allen Freeman, and was licensed to preach on January 15, 1856. The Lonesome Dove Church helped Andrew with his education at Baylor University.

Hallford enlisted in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry, on January 15, 1862 at Grapevine. The enlisting officer was Hiram Crowley, and the initial enlistment period was one year. A notation in his records shows that he was due \$9.50 for the use of his own weapons. He is shown present on the company rolls for January and February, 1864.

Andrew was ordained to the Baptist ministry by order of the Lonesome Dove church on the battlefield in Louisiana in September, 1864. Soon afterwards, he baptized forty soldiers in the bayous near their encampment. On April 7, 1877, he became one of the founders of Pleasant Run Baptist Church in present-day Colleyville.

Hallford was married three times. His first wife, Dizanna Foster, was his first cousin. She was the son of Grapevine pioneers Ambrose and Susan Foster. Andrew and Dizanna were married on June 3, 1858. They had four children: James Newton Hallford, Andrew L. "Lit" Hallford, John Elihu "Eli" Hallford, and Willie Hallford. Dizanna died March 17, 1875. Andrew was married second to Louisa Pegram on July 19, 1876; they had two children: Lewis L. Hallford and Mary C. "Mollie" (Mrs. W. M.) Carroll. Louisa died on October 8, 1885. Andrew was married a third time, to Narcissa Throop, the widow of Civil War veteran Hardy O. Throop, on April 1, 1886.

Andrew J. Hallford died on April 15, 1890, and lies buried in Lonesome Dove Cemetery in present-day Southlake. An interesting and informative biographical sketch on A. J. Hallford in the

Texas Biographical and Historical Magazine, Vol. 1 (1891), pp. 310-312: "REV. A. J. HALLFORD was born in the State of Missouri, July 18, 1835. His father, James P. Hallford, and family moved to Denton county, Texas, in July, 1844. They were among the first immigrants west of the Trinity river, and consequently suffered much from the depredations of the Indians, being deprived, for years, of the use of horses to ride or work, and often having to fort up and bring their entire forces together to defend themselves and families from the murderous attacks of the savages. They suffered untold privations and anxieties known only to those who have experienced a frontier life. Brother Hallford, though brought up in the midst of frontier life, in Denton county, Texas, without educational facilities and with limited means and opportunities, acquired a good practical education. He was a man of firm decision, and moral worth. He professed faith in Christ at the age of 14, and joined the Lonesome Dove Baptist church, the first church organized in Denton or Tarrant counties, and was baptized by Rev. John A. Freeman, in 1849. He was deeply moved to preach the gospel. The church, recognizing his convictions of duty, his zeal and determination to devote his life to the cause of the Master, licensed him to exercise his gift in 1859. He was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry in September, 1864, in the Confederate army, in Louisiana, by order of Lonesome Dove church. Elders M. V. Smith and Joseph Bird acted as the presbytery. He baptized forty soldiers in the bayous of Louisiana, very soon after and served as chaplain in the Confederate army till the close of the war. After the surrender, he returned home, and served faithfully as pastor for twenty-three years, and preached two years as missionary. Her served, first and last, thirty-four churches in his section of the country, and his last request was that these churches be seen and told that he had sacrificed his life, his home, and all to the cause of Christ, and now that he had been called home, they must not let his wife and children suffer for the necessities of life. According to his own statement, 3,100 were converted under his personal ministry. He baptized 1,020, ten of whom were engaged in the Baptist ministry. Several of those converted are in the Methodist and Presbyterian ministry. He traveled 23, 900 miles, received \$2,150 for twenty-five years faithful service, preached 4,475 sermons, and organized many churches and Sunday-schools. The last sermon he preached was at his home church, at Roanoke, Denton county, from Proverbs, 14:34—'Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.' This sermon was a master effort, and proved to be the crowning effort of his life. During the latter part of his illness, his theme was home and heaven, and he preached Jesus and the resurrection. He had been Moderator of West Fork Association several times in life, and was Moderator of Denton County Association at the time of his death. He was the first pastor of Grape Vine church, and for years after its organization. At the time of his death, he was serving the churches at Roanoke, Cottonwood, Enon, and Elizabeth. On his dying bed, he committed his family to God, and requested that they be placed under the care of the Ministers' Relief Board. During the thirty years of faithful work in the gospel ministry, he sold 1,040 acres of land on Denton creek to pay expenses and support his family. He was a man of great power among men, a model in domestic life, and a faithful minister of Jesus Christ. His great desire to the last was the salvation of souls. His last prayer was for the young people of Roanoke. Bro. Hallford was married to Dizana Foster, June 3, 1858, who died March 17, 1875. He again married Louisa Pegram, July 18, 1875. She died October 8, 1885, and on April 1, 1886, he was married to Narcissa Throup, who survives him. Of his twelve children, five are still living, and also an adopted daughter. April 15, 1890, his sainted spirit took its leave of earth in the triumphs of a living faith, and he passed to his reward, with the promise that he would meet his family and friends at the beautiful gate. Thirty-three days before his death he requested Rev. L. H. Foster to preach his funeral, from the text, I shall be satisfied when

I awake in thy likeness.” The memorial service was held at Lonesome Dove church, the fourth Sunday in May, 1890. Prayer was offered by Rev. John A. Freeman, who had baptized him, and the sermon was preached as he had requested. About three thousand persons were present. Bro. Freeman followed in a discourse upon the resurrection. At the close, a collection was taken to erect a monument at his grave, with his own words engraved thereon: ‘A SINNER SAVED BY GRACE.’ L. H. F.”



Mrs. Narcissa Throop later married A. J. Hallford