



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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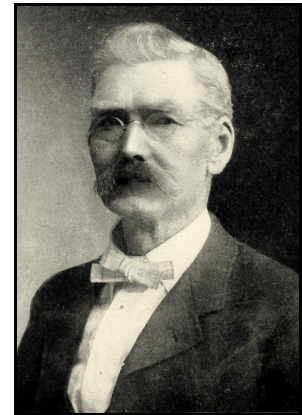
Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb

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Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb was a member of a prominent Grapevine family. He served the Confederacy in a Texas infantry regiment, and practiced medicine in northeast Tarrant County before moving to Denton County in his later years. Two of his brothers, Edward Jenner Lipscomb and Joseph Priestly Lipscomb, were also Confederate soldiers and are named on this memorial.

Cuvier's paternal grandmother, Ann Day (Cook) Lipscomb (1779-1870) was as ardent a Confederate as were several of her grandchildren; Goodspeed's History of Bedford County, Tennessee said of her, "...*The [grand]mother attained the ripe age of ninety years, and her old age was marked with great vitality. With her own hands she knit over 100 pairs of socks for the Confederate soldiers after she had passed eighty years of age. She lived nearly forty years a widow.*"



An excellent biographical sketch of Dr. Lipscomb's life, almost certainly written from material he supplied himself, appeared in Buckley B. Paddock's History and Biographical Record of North and West Texas (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1906): "*Cuvier Lipscomb, M.D. The world instinctively pays deference to a man whose success has been worthily achieved and accords its measure of praise to the representatives of professional life wherein advancement comes in recognition of individual merit. In a all calling where success results entirely from personal capability and personal training, Dr. Lipscomb has won an honored name and a gratifying measure of prosperity, being today one of the most prominent physicians of Denton county, maintaining his residence in the county seat of Denton.*"

Born March 17, 1840, Dr. Lipscomb is a native of Mississippi, his parents being Dr. Dabney and Millicent (Scrivner) Lipscomb. The Lipscombs are a prominent and well known southern family

and Dr. Dabney M. Lipscomb was a cousin of Judge Lipscomb, who with Judges Wheeler and Hemphill constituted the first supreme court of the state and in whose honor Lipscomb county was named. A sister of Dr. Dabney M. Lipscomb became the wife of Isaac Van Zandt who was a prominent and honored citizen of the republic of Texas and was equally influential in molding the policy of the new state of Texas after its admission to the Union. His son, Major K. M. Van Zandt, is president of the Fort Worth National Bank and is represented on another page in this volume.

Dr. Dabney M. Lipscomb was born in Louisa county, Virginia, but in his boyhood days accompanied his parents on their removal to Tennessee, from which to Mississippi. In the spring of 1861, the day after Fort Sumter was fired upon, he started to Texas with the intention of establishing his home in this state. After spending a year in Ellis county he located permanently at Grapevine, Tarrant county, which remained his place of residence until his death in 1886, when he had reached the venerable age of eighty years. He continued in the active practice of medicine almost until the time of his demise. During the war between the states he administered medical aid gratuitously to the families of the Confederate soldiers who were at the front and he was ever a man of benevolent and kindly spirit, quick to respond to the call of the suffering even when he knew that no financial remuneration would be forthcoming. His wife, who was born in Tennessee, died in Grapevine in her eighty-seventh year. They were a worthy and valued pioneer couple of that locality and their worth gained for them warm and enduring friendships.

Dr. Lipscomb, whose name introduces this record, acquired his early education at Middleton, Mississippi, and at Locust Hill Academy in Franklin county, Tennessee. In early youth he decided upon the medical profession as a lifework. Whether natural predilection or environment had most to do with this decision it is impossible to determine. Perhaps both had a share in shaping his life history. It is a well known fact, however, that the choice was wisely made, for in the profession he has gained prominence and prosperity. He pursued his first course of lectures in the medical department of the University of Louisiana at New Orleans. He assisted his father and the family in removing to Texas in April, 1861, and immediately afterward started back to his old home in Mississippi with the intention of enlisting there in the service of the Confederacy; but upon reaching Marshall, Texas, he decided to join the troops from this state together with his cousin, Major Van Zandt, and from the first almost until the close of the war he was in Major Van Zandt's command, being a member of Company D of the Seventh Texas Infantry. For the first two years he was in the regular service as a private soldier, and for the remainder of the time he acted in the capacity of hospital steward for his regiment. This service, however, was in the field and consisted of giving surgical aid to wounded soldiers. Even while acting as a regular soldier he would always after a battle assist the surgeons and hospital corps in their work and thus he gained a good appreciation for the medical profession, having the practical experience without which all the theoretical knowledge in the world is of little avail. Subsequent to his enlistment he went with his command to join Johnston's army in Mississippi and took part in the battle of Fort Donelson, where his regiment escaped capture, although other commands were made prisoners of war. Later Dr. Lipscomb served for six months temporarily in the Fifteenth Mississippi Regiment and then returned to his own command, taking part in the battle of Shiloh and the second battle of Corinth. He was also an eye witness of the first gun boat siege of Vicksburg and he was at Port Hudson, Louisiana, when that place was captured by General Banks. Following those events Dr. Lipscomb was in the very hotbed of the war, taking part in the battles of Chickamauga and other strenuously contested

engagements in the vicinity of Chattanooga. Later he went to Georgia and took part in the fighting at Jonesboro, that state, and the siege and battle of Atlanta. After Johnston was succeeded by Hood he then started back with the army under the latter commander to Franklin and Nashville.

Dr. Lipscomb left the army at Decatur, Alabama, and reported for duty to surgeon general Sam P. Moore at Richmond in the hospital service, and while there was placed in charge of a ward in Howard Grove Hospital. He also finished his medical course at Richmond as a student in the Virginia Medical College, from which he was graduated with the class of 1865.

In that year Dr. Lipscomb returned to Texas and located at Birdville, Tarrant county, where he remained for a brief period. He then located at the edge of Grand Prairie, near Double Springs, in Tarrant county, where he enjoyed a good practice. In 1870 he came to Denton, which has since been his home and where he has been constantly engaged in practice as a physician in service with a large patronage. His name is a household word throughout Denton county. He possessed rare qualities as a member of the profession and is continually striving to promote his efficiency through further reading, investigation and experiment. His work has been of marked benefit to his fellow men, and his skill and ability place him in the front rank of the medical fraternity in Denton county. Dr. Lipscomb has made much money in his practice, but has also spent generously in the education of a large family and in support of public enterprises and of church and school interests. He is thoroughly in sympathy with all that tends to promote general progress and improvement and his labors have been of marked benefit to his community. Fraternally, he is connected with the Masonic lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while in the line of his profession he has membership relations with the Denton County Medical Society. Both he and his wife belong to the Christian church.

Dr. Lipscomb was first married to Miss Mary A. Walden of Grapevine, Texas, who died in 1888, leaving six children: Priestly, Clough, Cuvier, Legrand, Emmett and Garland. The eldest son, Dr. Priestly Lipscomb, is a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of Louisville at Louisville, Kentucky, and for some time he was a general practitioner of medicine but in recent years has become a specialist on the treatment of diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat after taking three post-graduate courses as preparation for this line of professional service. He has become quite proficient in his specialty and is meeting with very gratifying success. In 1890 Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb was again married, Mrs. Emma Belle Gregg becoming his wife at Denton. She was the widow of W. B. Gregg and a daughter of W. H. and Mattie (Haynes) Mounts. She was born in Denton, while her parents were Kentucky people, her mother being a daughter of Catharine Bell of a prominent Kentucky family. Mrs. Lipscomb was educated at Maple Hill College in Lebanon, Tennessee, and by her first marriage there were three children: Mrs. Susie Simmons and Mary and William B. Gregg. Unto Dr. and Mrs. Lipscomb have been born two children: Emma Belle and Dabney Lipscomb.”

Cuvier Lipscomb's Confederate service records in the National Archives are fairly extensive. They reflect that he enlisted at Marshall, Texas on May 1, 1861 for the duration of the War. The enlisting officer was his first cousin, K. M. Van Zandt. Cuvier Lipscomb furnished "one rifle gun." Van Zandt's Company subsequently became Co. D, 7th Texas Infantry.

The record reflects that he was also paid for two months and ten days of service in the 15th Mississippi Infantry. He entered that regiment on February 20, 1862 at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and appears "sick at home" on a regimental muster roll for the period April 30 to August 31, 1862. No other records of his service with that regiment have survived.

His name appears on a list of officers captured at the Fall of Fort Donelson on February 16, 1862 with the notation, "Prisoner on Furlough." He was placed on special duty in the Infirmary Corps on December 26, 1862. He was captured at Raymond, Mississippi on May 12, 1863. One original signed receipt for pay for a portion of 1863 has survived in the file.

One document in the file, dated in camp near Enterprise, Mississippi on August 15, 1863, was written by J. R. Crain, Acting Surgeon of the 7th Texas Infantry. It says, "*This Regiment (7th Texas Infantry) has no regularly appointed Hospital Steward, which officer I think the good of the service requires. Therefore I respectfully recommend that Private Cuvier Lipscomb, Company (D) of the above named Regiment, be promoted to the position. Said soldier has been acting in this capacity since the 1st of April last. He has attended one course of "Medical Lectures" and I deem him in every way worthy & well qualified to discharge the duties of the position.*"

One of the original papers which remain in his file was written by Col. C.E. Tally, commanding officer of Company D. It says, in part: "*...Private Cuvier Lipscomb has been a member of my company since his entry into the service and has made one of the most efficient soldiers in the company. He is, in my opinion, in every respect well qualified to fill the position of Hospital Steward and I take great pleasure in approving the application.*" The promotion was made on August 31, 1863.

One record shows he began duty at the Howard's Grove Hospital as a lecturer on July 19, 1864, which position entitled him to pay at the rate of twenty-eight dollars per month. On November 19, 1864 he reported for duty at the General Hospital at Howard's Grove in Richmond, Virginia. On March 13, 1865 he was relieved from his duties in the medical service in Richmond was ordered to report immediately to the 7th Texas Infantry. He was paroled at Greensboro, North Carolina on April 26, 1865.

Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb's first wife, Mary A. Walden, was born July 26, 1845 and died December 2, 1888. She lies buried beside her husband in Denton's IOOF Cemetery.. Family sources at rootsweb.com give their marriage date as April 18, 1866.

C. Lipscomb registered to vote as a resident of Precinct 3 of Tarrant County on August 23, 1867. He said he had been a resident of Texas for seven years, a resident of Tarrant County for five years, and a resident of Precinct 3 for one year.

On February 3, 1957, an article appeared in the Denton Record-Chronicle which dealt with several members of the Lipscomb family and their place in helping to build modern Denton.. One paragraph dealt with Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb: "*The first Cuvier Lipscomb in Denton, whose hair was sandy-red, was one of the city's early physicians. Dr. Lipscomb had his office in the back of his son Legrand's drug store on the west side of the square.*"

Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb died in Denton on February 18, 1915, and was buried in Denton's IOOF Cemetery. His grave is marked with a gray granite flat marker furnished by the Veterans Administration. A short notice of his death appeared in the Dallas Morning News on February 20, 1915: *"DR. LIPSCOMB DIES AT DENTON. Well-Known Physician and Confederate Veteran Buried Friday. Special to the News. Denton, Texas. Feb.19. The burial of Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb, Confederate veteran and one of the oldest physicians in North Texas, who died at midnight last night, was held here this afternoon. Dr. Lipscomb was 74 years old."*

Dr. Lipscomb's second wife, Emma Belle Mounts Gregg, was born July 1, 1865. Mrs. Lipscomb applied for a Confederate widow's pension in 1930. In her application she confirmed that she was a native Texan and had lived every day of her life in the state. She said her husband's address was Grapevine, Texas at the time he enlisted. She apparently still had his original parole, since her file in Austin contains a negative photocopy of it. She said they were married in Denton County on March 26, 1890.

Mrs. Emma Lipscomb died March 6, 1957 in a rest home in Dallas at 2519 Oak Lawn Avenue. Her last permanent address had been 5001 Drexel Drive in Highland Park. In October of 1956 she had fallen from her bed and broken her right hip. She died of heart failure and complications brought about by the hip fracture. She and Dr. Lipscomb had been married on March 26, 1890. She lies buried in Denton's IOOF Cemetery. An obituary and photograph appeared in the Dallas Morning News on March 7, 1957: *"Mrs. Emma Belle Lipscomb, 92, a Dallas resident for 30 years, died Wednesday morning in a Dallas hospital after a long illness. Mrs. Lipscomb was a native of Denton, where she was a former president of the Ariel Club and a former president of the Federated Woman's Club. She was a member of the Christian Church. Before the establishment of public schools in Denton, Mrs. Lipscomb attended the Maple Hill School for Young Women in Nashville, Tenn. In Dallas, she lived at 5001 Drexel Drive. Survivors include three children, Mrs. William G. Langley of Dallas, Mrs. James Simmons of Corpus Christi, and Mrs. Owen C. Johnston of Fontana, California. Private funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at the Jack Schmitz Funeral Chapel in Denton. Burial will be in Odd Fellows Cemetery in Denton."*

Cemetery records and family sources at ancestry.com reveal that Dr. Cuvier Lipscomb was in fact the father of fourteen children. Paddock's biographical sketch does not mention the six who died in childhood.

Thomas Dabney Lipscomb was born January 11, 1868 and died July 27, 1870. His grave in Keller's Mount Gilead Cemetery is marked with an unusual cast-iron grave cover and plate, as are the graves of his twin brothers, Charles and Eddie.

Dr. Priestly Lipscomb was born July 8, 1869 and died February 15, 1949. He lies buried in Denton's IOOF Cemetery. He married Mollie Binyon (1871-1942). His obituary in the Dallas Morning News on February 16, 1949 says he was born in Tarrant County.

Charles Lipscomb and his twin brother, Eddie Lipscomb, were born and died November 12, 1870. Their cast-iron grave marker in Mount Gilead Cemetery says they lived three hours.

Clough Lipscomb was born February 5, 1872. He lived for many years in Oklahoma, working as a druggist. He died in San Bernadino County, California on December 25, 1947. He lies buried in Denton's IOOF Cemetery beside his wife, Georgia Carruth Lipscomb (1872-1945).

Cuvier M. Lipscomb, Jr. was born April 13, 1874. He was a farmer and real estate dealer. His last home was ten miles east of Denton. He died in a Denton hospital on March 27, 1940. He lies buried in Denton's IOOF Cemetery. He married Sarah B. "Birdie" Paschall (1875-1963) in Denton County on January 4, 1899.

Legrand Lipscomb was born April 8, 1876. He died at his home in Garland, Dallas County, Texas at 2:20 p.m. on December 13, 1961. His last address was 2726 Fifth Street Circle in Garland. He was a retired pharmacist. He was buried on December 15 in Restland Memorial Park in Dallas.

Emmett Lipscomb was born October 30, 1879. He married Iona Stinnett, and worked for many years as a druggist. His obituary in the Dallas Morning News indicates that he lived and worked at Van Alstyne in Cooke County, Texas. He died October 8, 1928 in the Timber Lawn Hospital in Mesquite, Dallas County, Texas. He lies buried in Denton's IOOF Cemetery.

Burton Lipscomb was born February 19, 1878. He died in 1880.

William Lipscomb was born October 3, 1881.

Garland Lipscomb was born November 13, 1883. When he registered for the draft in 1918 he was a salesman, living with his wife, Mattie C. Lipscomb, at Pittsburg in Camp County, Texas. When the 1920 census was taken, he and his wife, Mattie, and children were living at Electra in Wichita County, Texas; Mr. Lipscomb was working as a dry goods salesman. His World War I draft card and his social security death record show his birth date as April 2, 1883. He died at Ferris, Ellis County, Texas in October 1969. He lived in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for more than thirty years before returning to Texas.

L. B. Lipscomb was born November 13, 1887.

Emma Belle Lipscomb was born January 31, 1891. She married Owen C. Johnson, and is mentioned in her mother's 1957 obituary as living in Beaumont, California. She died in San Bernadino County, California on September 7, 1959.

Robert Dabney Lipscomb, Sr. was born January 18, 1902 in Denton. He married Viola Della King, and worked for many years as an architect. He died at the Roy H. Laird Memorial Hospital in Kilgore, Gregg County, Texas at 9:50 p.m. on November 9, 1954. He was buried on November 11 in Kilgore Cemetery.

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

May 2, 1865.

In accordance with the terms of the Military Convention, entered into on the twenty sixth day of April, 1865, between General Joseph E. Johnston, Commanding the Confederate Army, and Major General W. T. Sherman, Commanding the United States Army in North Carolina, *C. Lipscomb, Hosp. Stew. New Grant, 1st Div. Cavalry* has given his solemn obligation not to take up arms against the Government of the United States until properly released from this obligation; and is permitted to return to his home, not to be disturbed by the United States authorities so long as he observe this obligation and obey the laws in force where he may reside.

C. Lipscomb U. S. A.
Special Commissioner

W. T. Sherman C. S. A.
Commanding

Dr. Lipscomb's parole from the Confederate army

