

## Information on Culpepper family of Coryell County

from book Coryell County Texas Families

In the early part of 1846 Evan Alexander Culpepper Sr. and wife Tabitha traveled from Virginia to Alabama staying several weeks or perhaps months. Sometimes traveling with very small children and bad weather became a very rough problem. It was here in Mobile, Alabama that they had made good long friendships with the McClain family, also Davenports and Collards. The happy but rather sad day came when Evan Alexander Culpepper made plans to move to the state of Texas. The Jim Collards had gone with their family to the new state more than a year before. Letters of encouragement with good reports on farming and raising cattle hastened their move.

In September of 1850, the Culpeppers pulled their tired team to a halt in front of the Jim Collards' home. This was indeed a happy reunion on all members of the family. Food was prepared and beds made and long talks began among the adult members. There were told the McClains had already arrived and Bro. John McClain, a Baptist preacher, had settled close to Old Perry, which is about three miles north of Moody, Texas. He had been converted in 1852 and licensed to preach in 1854.

The Senior Culpeppers were very anxious to be on land which they could call their own. As recorded in records in Gatesville, Texas it shows that land was purchased from Joseph Giles, survey 18 1/2 miles north of Belton, Texas, north of the Leon River near Onion Creek. We do not know just how many years the Culpeppers lived here before buying the land.

Culpepper is a very old name. Three brothers came from England and settled in Virginia, making a very good name for themselves. The name Culpepper is an honorable one all through the state. Nobody ever heard of a Culpepper doing a dishonorable act, or not paying debts. It is a name to be proud of.

The Evan Alexander Culpeppers Sr. were glad to go to a place of worship. They were teaching their children right from wrong and felt like church was the best place they could go. The church at Onion Creek was destroyed by fire as the men were trying to find a place to build. Rev. John McClain came to their rescue. It was on November 6, 1858 that a group of faithful people met with the following as charter members: John H. Estep, Nancy Estep, Serpna Hal, Wyatt Hall, F.M. Grimes, Elmire Grimes, Mary A. Grimes, Daniel Jones, C.S. Strickland, Zura Strickland, with pastor Rev. John McClain the church was underway.

Evan Alexander Culpepper Sr. was born March 8, 1808 and Tabitha Culpepper was born November 15, 1815. They were married in 1840. To this couple the following children were born: Minnie, 7-12-1842; Sarah 8-20-1844; Zura 11-29-1852; Julia 4-18-1854; Evan Alexander Jr. born 5-6-1856; Joe 9-18-1860; John 6-23-1864; Francis 9-11-1868.

Evan Alexander and wife Tabitha are both buried at Eagle Springs cemetery.

*E.A. Culpepper*