

Confederate Veteran Personal File

Name: Merchant, Claiborne Walker

Cemetery	Cem. No	City	County	State
<u>Abilene</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>Abilene</u>	<u>Taylor</u>	<u>TX</u>

Born: 8/31/36

Died: 3/9/26

Age 1861: 25

Antebellum:

Service Record:

Capt. Co H. 14. TX Cav
17 TX Inf

Post-bellum:

Abilene UCV #72







CLAIBORNE WALKER MERCHANT

(AUGUST 31, 1836 - MARCH 9, 1920)

CLAIBORNE W. MERCHANT AND HIS TWIN, JOHN, WERE BORN IN NACOGDOCHES. "CLABE" MARRIED FRANCES BELL IN 1856. HE SERVED IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY AND LATER BECAME A CATTLE RANCHER. MERCHANT ESTABLISHED HIS FIRST RANCH IN 1874 IN CALLAHAN COUNTY AND BEGAN ACQUIRING LAND IN NEIGHBORING TAYLOR COUNTY PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE RAILROAD IN 1881. WHEN ABILENE WAS ESTABLISHED, MERCHANT, A CITY FOUNDER, NAMED THE NEW TOWN AFTER ABILENE, KANSAS. FOR MANY YEARS HE CONTRIBUTED HIS TIME AND MONEY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ABILENE. HE IS LAUDED AS A RESPECTED BENEFACTOR AND BELOVED CITIZEN.

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