

SAMUEL MILLETT (1801 – 1863)
Bowdoin College, Class of 1823

Most of the sources agree that Samuel Millett came to Texas in 1829. He is said to have taught school until the War between Texas and Mexico broke out in 1836. While teaching in 1832-33 one of his pupils was Clementine Bartlett, the seventeen-year-old daughter of Jesse Bartlett... The Bartlett family lived in Knoxville, Tennessee, then moved to Illinois and in 1832 made an overland trip to Texas. On arriving at the place which is now Hempstead, the father left the family there on account of the outlawry then existing in Austin's colony.

It evidently was at Hempstead that she went to school to Samuel Millett. They fell in love and were married in 1833. Hempstead is in Waller County south of Grimes County and on the railroad between Houston and Austin. One source states that Samuel and Mrs. Millett moved to Grimes County, where they lived until after the war for Texan independence. During the War for Texan independence Samuel Millett was a private in Captain Baker's company, Company D, First Regiment, and took part in the battle known as Grass Fight and at San Jacinto. After the war, the above source states, Samuel and Mrs. Millett moved to Austin and lived there during the early years of the Texas Republic and later moved to Houston. From Houston they went to Seguin, where Samuel Millett died in 1863.

However, the records show that Eugene B. Millett [their son] was born in Washington County in 1838 and twin sons, Alonzo and Leonidas were born in Bastrop County in 1845. The apparent discrepancy may not be due in every instance to a removal of the family from one place to another, but may be due, in part, to the organization of a new county out of an old county, since some of these counties are side by side. The boys were educated in the schools of Seguin.

In 1849 Samuel Millett got the gold fever and put up the major part of the funds for equipping an overland expedition that went from his part of Texas to the California gold fields. A stay of two years satisfied him and he then returned to Texas.

After Samuel Millett's death the record is not clear as to how long his wife lived at Seguin. In the late 70's she had a home in Austin, but in 1905 a newspaper clipping shows her residence as being Ft. Worth She died in 1912 at the age of 97 and was buried in San Antonio...

The sources state that Samuel Millett engaged in stock raising and farming, evidently after he discontinued the teaching profession, or he may have lived on a farm while he was teaching.

F. B. Streeter, Librarian
Fort Hays, Kansas State College
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