

# Captain Buckley (B. B.) Paddock Exhibit

Paddock is a key figure in Tarrant County history who used his time and talent to elevate Fort Worth and Tarrant County to regional and national prominence.

## Pre-Fort Worth Years:

- Born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1844 and travelled the West in his youth;
- Civil War Confederate youngest to reach rank of Captain (*see 1<sup>st</sup> case*);
- Studied law in Mississippi, where he married Emmie Harper in 1867;
- Moved to Fort Worth in 1872 to practice law but did much more...

## Fort Worth Years:

- Editor of *Democrat* (1873-81) later merged with *Gazette* (*see 2<sup>nd</sup> case*);
- Published visionary Tarantula railroad map graphically depicting Fort Worth's potential role as a railroad and distribution center in 1873;
- Tarrant County Representative in the Texas Legislature (1881-3; 1913-15) (*see 3<sup>rd</sup> case covering political offices*);
- Master of Fort Worth Masonic Lodge (1875) (*see 4<sup>th</sup> case*);
- President of Fort Worth & Rio Grande Railway (1885-9) (*see 5<sup>th</sup> case*);
- Founder and executive secretary of the Board of Trade (1901-9);
- President of the Texas Spring Palace (1890) (*see 6<sup>th</sup> case*);
- City mayor (1892-1900);
- Spearheaded the creation of Fort Worth's first fire department, water works, and public school system.
- Paddock Viaduct, the 1914 bridge spanning the Trinity River north of the courthouse was named in his honor (*see 7<sup>th</sup> case*);
- Edited several books covering Northwest Texas history (*see 8<sup>th</sup> case*);

Paddock died in 1922 leaving Emmie, two sons, William and Wirt, and a daughter. His daughter, Virgile (Mrs. Chalmers) Hutchison, was the mother of Wallace Hutchison, who has long served on the Tarrant County Historical Commission and is a major supporter of the Tarrant County Archives to this day.

*This exhibit is presented by the Tarrant County Archives, Dr. Dawn Youngblood, Archivist. Contributors to the exhibit include: Mr. Dalton Hoffman; Mr. Wallace Hutchison; Mr. Doug Harman; Mr. Joe Strain, and Mr. Dominick Cirincione. Display cases are privately funded. Donations to support future exhibits and collection development welcome.*