



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

Copyright © 2008. All rights reserved.

Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Jesse A. Brown

Compiled by Michael Patterson
Copyright 2008. All rights reserved.

Jesse A. Brown was a Confederate veteran who lived at Grapevine when he applied for a Confederate pension on Sept. 21, 1909. He served during the Civil War as a Tennessee infantryman. Mr. Brown was born in June 1838 in Carroll County, Tennessee. On more than one occasion, he told census officials he was born in Illinois.

Jesse A. Brown served the Confederacy as both a private and a sergeant in Co. C, 15th Tennessee Infantry. His files in the National Archives say he enlisted July 22, 1861 at Camp Brown for twelve months. He was mustered into the service in camp near New Madrid, Missouri on August 15, 1861. Another record says he enlisted June 8, 1861 at Jackson, Tennessee for a term of twelve months. He is shown present on all the surviving rolls of the regiment through November 25, 1863 when he was captured at the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tennessee on that date.

Union authorities forwarded him to Louisville, Kentucky on December 5, 1863 “for exchange.” From Louisville, he was sent to the Rock Island prison in Illinois on December 6, where he arrived and entered the prison on December 9, 1863. One record of his capture contains the notation, “Dyers Co., Ala.” He apparently stayed in Union hands until he was paroled on May 18, 1865. An original signed Oath of Allegiance remains in his file, signed at Rock Island on that date. It says he had a light complexion, brown hair, blue eyes, and was 5” 9-1/2” tall. He was twenty six years old, and was at that time Sergeant of the 15th and 37th [combined] Tennessee Infantry regiment.

According to family sources at Ancestry.com, Mr. Brown and his wife, Elizabeth J. Essary, were in Dyer County, Tennessee on September 23, 1868. She was born in December 1838. She told the 1900 census taker in Collin County, Texas she had given birth to seven children, five of whom were still living.

When the 1880 census was taken, he and his family were living in District 22, Precinct 3, Collin County, Texas. He said he was born about 1839 in Illinois to two natives of Illinois. His wife, E. Brown, was born about 1840 in Tennessee to a Mississippian father and a mother whose birthplace was unknown. They had six children with them at the time, all born in Tennessee: S. F. (a female born about 1870), W. J., (a male born about 1871), Mary (born about 1872), M. A. (a female born about 1874), N. or M. L. (a female born about 1876), and E. M. (a female born about March of 1880).

The 1900 census taker found the Brown family in District 14, Precinct 4, Collin County, Texas. With Mr. and Mrs. Brown in that year were two children: Lucy Brown (born in September 1875) and Ella M. Brown (born in January 1880).

In his Confederate pension application file, Mr. Brown indicated that he moved to Texas about 1879, and to Grapevine about 1908. His pension file contains a handwritten letter from him at Grapevine, dated October 30, 1909.

Mr. Brown told the 1910 census taker in Grapevine he was born in Illinois. In that year, he and his wife, Elizabeth J. Brown, were living in Grapevine with their daughter, Martha, her husband, George B. Airhart, and their children. In that year, Mrs. Brown said she had given birth to seven children, five of whom were still living. The 1910 census says Mrs. Brown was born in South Carolina. Their daughter, Martha, was born in Tennessee about 1876.

Neither Mr. Brown nor Mrs. Brown has a readable headstone now standing in northeast Tarrant County. He has no obituary in any surviving issue of the Grapevine Sun. He has no Texas death certificate on file. The Mrs. J. A. Brown who died in Tarrant County on December 16, 1916, and who has death certificate 28927, ***was not*** the wife of this Confederate veteran.