



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Jefferson Phelps

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Jefferson Phelps was a Confederate veteran of a Tennessee infantry regiment who spent the last years of his life in Birdville. He lies buried at Birdville Cemetery.

Jefferson Phelps was born about 1829 in North Carolina, probably in Davidson County where his father appears in the 1830 census. Family sources at ancestry.com say he was a son of Avington Phelps (c1785-1861) and his wife, Mary Hage (1796-1861).

In 1850 Jefferson Phelps was listed with his parents and siblings in the census of Bedford County, Tennessee's Civil District number 20. The birthplaces of his siblings would suggest the Phelps family remained in North Carolina as late as 1835. Jefferson was working that year as a laborer.

He was married November 23, 1852 in Lincoln County, Tennessee to Sarah Ann Warren. She was born in Lincoln County, Tennessee about 1834, and was a daughter of Daniel Warren and Nancy Jackson Warren. She died in Moore County, Tennessee (created from Lincoln County) after 1885, and Jefferson moved to Tarrant County in or after 1886.

Mr. Phelps and his family appear in the 1860 census of District 5 of Lincoln County, Tennessee. His next-door neighbors were the family of Daniel Warren, Jr.

Phelps served the Confederacy as a soldier in Co. A, 41st Tennessee Infantry. His official records say he enlisted at Lincoln, Tennessee on December 1, 1862 for a term of three years. He appears present on a muster roll for the regiment dated November 1, 1862 through February 10, 1863. They also say he deserted at Port Hudson, Louisiana on March 14, 1863. This was the date on which Union General Farragut attempted to run past the Port Hudson batteries and get on the side of them nearer to Vicksburg, Mississippi. Phelps returned to the regiment, and was captured by the federals

on August 3, 1864 at Shelbyville, Tennessee. He was released after taking the oath of allegiance to the U. S. government. Nothing further is found in his official files in the National Archives.

Mr. Phelps and his family appear in the 1870 census of District 5, Lincoln County, Tennessee. Also appearing on the same page is a widow, Mary Phelps, born about 1796 in South Carolina, who was probably his mother. Many of the other persons who appear on that page and surrounding pages are members of the Warren family, Mrs. Jefferson Phelps' relatives.

Descendants say he was still in Tennessee in 1886, and was in Tarrant County, Texas by 1891 when one of his daughters was married here. Jefferson Phelps lies buried at Birdville in an unmarked grave.

Jefferson Phelps was the father of several children, including Nancy E. Phelps, Mary J and Sarah A. Phelps (twins); Thomas J. Phelps, Daniel A. Phelps, Arah E. Phelps, William David Phelps, Frances Saline Caroline Phelps, and Jesse James Phelps.

Nancy E. Phelps was born February 2, 1854. She married Julius B. Williams on December 1, 1874. She died November 3, 1935 in Moore County, Tennessee.

Mary J. Phelps was born January 22, 1855. She married Nicholas Warren. She died August 5, 1929 in Tennessee. She spent much of her life in Giles County, Tennessee.

Sarah Ann Phelps was born January 22, 1855. We have found no further information about her.

Thomas Phelps was born about 1859. In his later years he left Tennessee and moved to Oklahoma. In 1920, he was living at Dustin in Hughes County, Oklahoma.

Daniel A. Phelps was born in Tennessee about 1860. After living for a time in Giles County, Tennessee, he moved to Hood County, Texas, where he died on November 7, 1937.

Arah E. Phelps was born about 1863. We have found no further information about her. She was still alive in 1870.

William David Phelps was born June 20, 1865 in Lincoln County, Tennessee. He was married to Mary E. Bartlett in Moore County, Tennessee on September 18, 1884. He died at Khristenstad in Hood County, Texas on November 7, 1937 and was buried in Erath County, Texas in Pilot Knob Cemetery.

Frances Saline Caroline "Fannie" Phelps was born September 1, 1869 (or 1870) in Tennessee. She died June 6, 1958 one mile northwest of Colfax in Van Zandt County, and was buried in Salem Cemetery in Van Zandt County, Texas.

Jesse James Phelps was born about 1872. He married Tishie Hatfield, and died July 14, 1950.