



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Powell Johnson Phillips

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Powell Johnson Phillips was a teenager when he enlisted in a Georgia infantry regiment. He lived at Smithfield for a few years around the turn of the century and finally died in Jones County, Texas.

At one time a researcher named Catherine Hawes advertised on the Genforum page that she had information on this Powell Phillips and his family of thirteen children. Her last posting was in 1999. Her email address suggested she may have lived in Elkmont, Tennessee.

Mr. Phillips was born April 3, 1846. When he applied for his Confederate pension he said he was born in Henry County, Georgia. His death certificate says he was a son of George Washington Powell and his wife, a Miss Daniel. Washington Powell was born in South Carolina about 1808. His wife, Nancy, was born in Georgia about one year later.

In 1850 Powell was a five year old boy in the family of his parents, Washington and Nancy Phillips, in District 3 of Butts County, Georgia. Ten years later George W. Phillips was working as an overseer on a plantation in Jackson District of Butts County. Powell was fourteen years old and was attending school.

Mr. Phillips served in Co. I, 30th Georgia Infantry from 1864 until the end of the War. The records of Mr. Phillips' service which had survived in the National Archives are very sparse. His name appears on a list of furloughs given or extended from the Medical Examining Board at Lauderdale, Mississippi for the week ended March 7, 1865. He had been granted a sixty-day furlough to his home in "Forsyth," Georgia because of debility from "Variola of one month." The record does not indicate if his home was in Forsythe, Monroe County or Forsyth County, Georgia. Monroe County and Butts County are adjacent.

In February 1907 Mr. Phillips applied for a Confederate pension while he was living at Smithfield. At that time he said he had been a farmer but was too feeble to work due to advanced age and

general debility. Dr B. F. Brittain of Arlington stated that Mr. Phillips suffered from chronic malaria and old age.

W. D. Curry and B. F. Deason, both of Butts County, Georgia, made an affidavit in which they stated they had known Mr. Phillips since childhood, and that the acquaintance had continued until he moved to Texas. They said they had personal knowledge of his service as he stated because they had served with him. Alex Jolly, at one time the first lieutenant of the company, also made an affidavit for him. The file also contains a multi-page handwritten letter from W. D. Curry, 1st Lieutenant of Co. I, 30th Georgia Infantry.

About 1867, Mr. Powell married Mary A. McMichael. She was born about 1853 in Jasper County, Georgia. Family genealogists at ancestry.com say her parents were John G. McMichael and his wife, Catherine McKissick, who were married in Jasper County on March 4, 1852.

By 1870 the Powells had moved to Jones County, Georgia and were living in the area served by the post office at Clinton, Georgia. By 1870 Powell and his wife had two children: William (born about 1868) and John A. Phillips (born about 1869). The family's next-door neighbors were Washington Phillips and his family.

Mr. Phillips said in 1907 when he applied for his pension that he had moved to Texas in 1878. However, the family appears in the 1880 census of the 262nd District of Jasper County, Georgia. The children with them in that year included John A., Addie J., William T., Charles, and John G. Powell.

In 1880 their next-door neighbors were a family headed by Isaac McKissak, who was born about 1827. His family included his sister, Catherine McMichael (Mary A. Phillips' mother) and her twenty-two-year-old daughter, Eliza McMichael.

An obituary of one of the Phillips children was printed in an Abilene newspaper in 1951. It says the family arrived in Texas about 1882 and settled first at Cleburne in Johnson County.

P. J. Phillips died of apoplexy at Hawley, Jones County, Texas at 3 p.m. on October 6, 1919. His death certificate says senility was a contributing cause of death. His wife, Mary A. Phillips, made application for a mortuary warrant from 942 North Eighth Street, Abilene, Texas. She selected a casket which cost more than the thirty dollars allowed her by the state. He was buried in Bethel Cemetery at Funston in Jones County. The mortuary warrant states that no funeral director was present at the burial. Dr. T. E. Hudson of Anson certified that Mr. Phillips died of apoplexy.

When the 1920 Jones County census was taken, Mary A. Phillips was living with the family of her son, J. Acy Phillips, in Justice Precinct 3. She was not with them when the 1930 census was taken.

The family genealogist who made a post many years ago on the Genforum page said she had information that Powell J. Phillips was the father of thirteen children. The following list accounts for six of them.

The Phillips' oldest child was probably William Phillips, who was born about 1868 and was with the family in 1870. He was probably dead by 1873 when they named a second son William.

John Asa Phillips was born in Georgia on June 5, 1870. He was married in Abilene in 1893 to Sarah Elizabeth Flippo (1874-1953). They farmed in the Central Community, ten miles northwest of Hawley, Texas, for the last forty-three years of his life. He died ten miles southeast of Anson, Jones County, Texas on January 24, 1951 and was buried in Bethel Cemetery at Funston, Texas. His death certificate says his mother's maiden name was McMickel.

Addie J. Phillips was born about 1872. She was still with the family in 1880.

William T. Phillips was born about 1873. He was with the family in 1880.

Charles Cuthbert Phillips was born in Georgia on December 9, 1878. He died February 1, 1958 in a Fort Worth hospital; his last home address was 2122 Norwood Lane in Arlington. He was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery in the Handley section of East Fort Worth.

John G. Phillips was born in April of 1880.

Edd Powell Phillips was born May 11, 1887 in Texas. When he registered for the draft in 1918, he said he was born in Corsicana, Navarro County, Texas. In 1918 he lived at Hawley, Texas. He worked for many years as a dealer in fruits and vegetables. His last permanent address was 1117 Mulberry Street in Abilene. He died January 2, 1968 in Hendrick Memorial Hospital at Abilene, Taylor County, Texas and was buried two days later in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Abilene. His wife, Jessie Young (1888-1970) lies buried beside him.