Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Thomas Jefferson Barton

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Thomas Jefferson Barton was a Confederate veteran who lived north of Big Bear Creek when the 1880 census was taken. He later moved to Denton County where he died in 1924.

Barton was born in Lafayette County, Missouri on November 3, 1840 (he once said 1839). Family sources at ancestry.com say he was a son of Bentley B. Barton (1806-1884) and his wife, Martha Elizabeth Patricia Pearson (1812-1893), who were married in Allen County, Kentucky in 1829. Census records suggest that they spent several years in Indiana or Illinois before settling in Missouri shortly before Thomas’s birth. They also suggest that Thomas may have had a twin brother named James. The family did not own slaves in 1850.

Thomas J. Barton was a 4th sergeant in Co. G, 31st (Hawpe’s) Texas Cavalry. He enlisted on May 14, 1862 at Dallas for the duration of the war. He brought with him a horse worth $75 (or $175…the microfilm is unclear) and equipment worth $25. He is present on a regimental roll for the period May 14-June 30, 1862. No further records of his time with the 31st Texas Cavalry have survived. He was later transferred into service with a group of Missouri troops, as he outlined in his Confederate pension application.

In 1880 Barton and his family were living in Precinct 3 north of Big Bear Creek, probably in the Grapevine Area. By 1900 they had moved to Denton County, where Mr. and Mrs. Barton remained for the rest of their lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Barton were the parents of seven children, all of whom survived early childhood. They included Annie L. Barton (born about 1872 in Missouri); James Andrew Barton (December 8, 1873 in Missouri-June 25, 1952 in Denton County); Maggie M. Barton (January 28, 1875 in Missouri-Sept. 29, 1963 in Norman, Oklahoma, married Joseph Sanford Smith); Ida P. Barton (April 21, 1878 in Texas-Jan. 20, 1951 in Dickens Co., Texas, married Ernest Durham); Henry Arthur Barton (July 7, 1880 in Texas-Nov. 4, 1953 in Denton County, married Victoria Hughes); Claud
Barton (born in May 1882); and Gillie Barton (December 8, 1884 in Texas-December, 1971 in Mansfield, Tarrant County, Texas, married John F. Lancaster). Nearly all the data on these children are from family records posted at Ancestry.com.

Barton applied for a Confederate pension in 1914 while he lived at Route 3, Denton, Texas. He told pension officials he left the service at Corsicana, Texas in April, 1865. He was seventy-four years old, and was a native of Lafayette County, Missouri. He had lived in Denton County about thirty years. He claimed to have served from April, 1862 until the end of the War. After being a member of Hawpe’s Texas Cavalry, he said he was transferred to Elliott’s Regiment of Missouri Cavalry, where he spent some time serving as an advance guard.

An affidavit in his pension file made by his brother says that T. J. Barton enlisted in Co. I of Elliott’s Battalion in Lafayette County, Missouri in 1861. Another affidavit, by R. P. Marshall of Odessa, Missouri, says he knew Barton had earlier been in a Texas regiment.

Mrs. Susan Barton died at her home four miles southeast of Denton on January 22, 1916. She was born August 4, (left blank) in Kentucky, and was a daughter of J. A. Olds, a native Kentuckian. She died at 830 p.m. of senility and Bright’s Disease. She was buried at Shiloh Cemetery at Bartonville.

Thomas J. Barton died November 7, 1924 at 11 a.m. at 310 Center Street in Denton. He died of general debility and old age, with another ailment (which is illegible on the death certificate) as a contributory cause. He was born November 3, 1840 in Lafayette County, Missouri to B. B. Barton (a native of Missouri) and a Miss Lankford (born in Kentucky). He was buried at Shiloh Cemetery in Bartonville in Denton County.