George Burgoon was a Confederate soldier who lived near Grapevine at the time the Civil War began. He was born December 27, 1832 in Ohio, according to family sources at Ancestry.com. George was the son of Charles Burgoon (1800-1879) and his wife Ann Marie Geiger (1809-1888), who settled in northeast Tarrant County in 1853. Both his parents lived out the rest of their lives here and are buried with headstones in Grapevine Cemetery.

In 1850, George was living with his mother and several of his siblings in District 4 of Scott County, Iowa. For some unexplained reason, his father was not with the family at that time. Judging from the data in the census, the Burgoons must have made the move to Iowa from Ohio about 1840.

In the 1860 tax list for Tarrant county, George Burgoon is shown as the owner of a total of four hundred eighty acres of land in three different northeast Tarrant County surveys… those of Mr. Haltiman, George Burgoon, and Isham Crowley. George also appears in the 1864 tax list of Tarrant county.

When the 1870 census was taken, George and his family were living in Marion Township, Jasper County, Missouri. With him were his wife, Lizzie J. Burgoon (born about 1838 in Arkansas); Alice A. Burgoon (born about 1857 in Texas); Bell Burgoon (born about 1861 in Texas); Mollie (born about 1868 in Texas); and Georgia Burgoon (born in March 1870). Sources at Ancestry.com say Mrs. Burgoon was Letta Jane Fortner, who was born in Arkansas on August 5, 1837.

When the 1880 census was taken, George and two of his daughters were living in District 23, Union Township, Jasper County, Missouri. George was divorced. The two children with him were Mollie Burgoon (born about 1868 in Texas) and Georgie Burgoon (born about 1870 in Missouri).
In 1900, George Burgoon was living alone in District 70, Union Township, Jasper County, Missouri. He said he was born in Ohio in December, 1832. He was working as a gardener.

In 1910, George was living with a wife in District 84, Union Township, Jasper County, Missouri. His wife, Nancy, was born about 1843 in Illinois to two Illinois natives. She said she had given birth to nine children, only three of whom were still living. George and Nancy were married about 1902. He told the census taker he was a Confederate veteran.

The microfilmed Confederate pension applications for the State of Missouri are in alphabetical order. Neither George Burgoon nor his widow is in the alphabetical files.

An obituary for George Burgoon appeared in the Grapevine Sun on January 22, 1915. It does not mention that he died in Carthage, Missouri, and not Carthage, Texas, as one here might suppose. It says: “CIVIL WAR VETERAN DIES. George Burgoon, a well-known farmer who resided about 3 miles southeast of Carthage, died at 5:40 o’clock p.m. Jan. 12th, after a brief illness. He was 82 years old. Old age and a complication of diseases caused his death. Mr. Burgoon was born and reared in Texas, where he resided at the opening of the civil war. He became a member of the Confederate army and fought for the south until peace was restored. He was married twice, his first wife having been dead a number of years. His second wife survives him. Also leaves three daughters. [illegible] Burgoon was a member of the Methodist church. Mr. Burgoon used to live in this community and has many friends here who will regret to hear of his death. Peace to his ashes.”

On the left is George Burgoon and his brother Henry on the right. It seems likely this photo may have been taken in 1910 when both men were in Iowa to attend the funeral of their brother, Francis Burgoon. George lived in Missouri at the time, and Henry lived here.