Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Thomas A. Cannon

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Thomas A. Cannon lived in the Hood Cemetery area of Southlake when the 1910 census was taken, and he told the census official that he was a veteran of the Confederate army. He is listed in the census next door to one of our Union veterans, Josiah Hardin Jimeson, so it seems apparent that he lived in present-day Southlake north of FM 1709 (Southlake Boulevard).

Cannon’s death certificate says he was born in Mississippi on January 17, 1842, a son of E. D. Cannon, also a Mississippi native. The informant did not know the name of Thomas’s mother, but Thomas himself told the 1910 census taker that his mother was also a native Mississippian.

Thomas Cannon was married first to a lady whose identity we have not discovered. His second wife was Martha M. Roden, and she was born in January 1854 in Alabama to two South Carolinian parents. They were married in Hill County, Texas on November 19, 1891.

The “T. Cannon” whose home appears on the 1895 Sam Street Map of Tarrant County in the Bedford area does not refer to this veteran; it refers to Thomas Riley Cannon (1869-1948), one of the sons of another of our veterans, Wiley Green Cannon.

When the 1900 census was taken, they were living in Hill County, Texas. Martha M. Cannon died on Tuesday, January 2, 1912 at her home in the White’s Chapel Community. An obituary for her appeared in the Grapevine Sun on Saturday, January 6: “Mrs. M. M. Cannon, living at White’s Chapel, died last Tuesday. She was 58 years old and a member of the Baptist church. She leaves a husband and three children.” Mrs. Cannon’s death certificate says she died on January 1, and was buried on January 2. It says she died at 3:20 p.m. at her home five miles northwest of Grapevine. She had lived there for two years, and in Texas for twenty-five years. She was born January 27, 1854 in Bullock County, Alabama, a daughter of John C. Rotan and his wife, Elisabeth May, both of whom were natives of Edgefield District, South Carolina. Mrs. Cannon died of inflammation of the bowels and lagrippe.
According to a statement she made to the 1910 census taker, Martha Cannon had only three children: Birdie M. Cannon (born in August 1892), Aubrey F. Cannon (born in March 1894), and Bessie V. Cannon, (born in January 1896). Birdie M. Cannon was no longer living with them when they are in the 1910 Tarrant County census. All three of the children were born in Texas.

Thomas A. Cannon died January 8, 1926 at Route 3, Box 175 in Niles City (North Fort Worth). The informant was T. A. Cannon of Niles City. Thomas died of “natural causes, probably paralysis and senility”. He was buried at White’s Chapel on January 9. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Cannon has a readable headstone there. No obituary for Mr. Cannon appeared in the Fort Worth newspaper or in the Grapevine Sun.