Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Lovel Garrison

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Lovel Garrison was a Union veteran from Missouri who lived for a few years around 1880 in the extreme northeast corner of the county, northeast of Grapevine. He later left Texas and died in Oklahoma.

Several family genealogists have placed information about Mr. Garrison and his family at Ancestry.com. They say he was born in Washington County, Missouri on January 19, 1828. His parents, John L. Garrison (1800-1883) and Elizabeth Thompson (1811-1868), both are buried with readable headstones in what is now known as the Dobkins Cemetery in Courtois Township at Berryman, Crawford County, Missouri. The cemetery lies on land patented in 1824 to Lovel Garrison’s maternal grandfather, Lovil Thompson.

John Garrison and his young wife and two children appear in the 1830 census of Washington County, Missouri in Harmony Township. By 1850, the family had moved to the 24th District of Crawford County, Missouri, where Lovel Garrison appears in the census as a twenty-one-year-old laborer in his father’s family. In that same year, Lovel’s future wife, Jane Shumate, appears on the same page of the census living as a single lady in the family of Ira Pidcock.

Mr. Garrison married Sarah Jane Shumate on October 16, 1851 in Crawford County, Missouri. The census taker in 1860 found Mr. and Mrs. Garrison living with their children in the town of Courtois in Crawford County. The children with them in that year included William J. (who was born about 1853), John L. (who was born about 1854), A. E. (a female born about 1856), M. T. (a female born about 1858), and M. E. Garrison (a girl three months old, born in the spring of 1860).

Lovel Garrison obtained two land grants in Missouri from the federal government, one dated September 1, 1856 and one dated January 15, 1858, each containing eighty acres.
Lovel Garrison’s Union compiled service records show that he began his service as a private in Co. H, 8th Missouri Cavalry. His file in Washington contains an original signed enlistment certificate, which says Mr. Garrison was born in 1829 in Missouri. He enlisted on February 24, 1864 for a period of three years, and was mustered in two days later. He was detailed on scout duty on October 30, 1864.

On one descriptive roll, he appears as a thirty-five-year-old native of Missouri. He was a farmer who had enlisted at Steelville, Missouri. He had hazel eyes, light hair, and a fair complexion. He was five feet six inches tall. His enlistment was credited to Crawford County, Missouri’s quota.

He was transferred to Co. H, 11th Missouri Cavalry on July 22, 1865, and was mustered out at Benton Barracks, Missouri on August 12, 1865. At the time, he was still owed one hundred twenty dollars in bounty money and eighteen dollars and ten cents in clothing allowance.

By 1870, Mr. Garrison and his family had moved to White River Township in Barry County, Missouri, and were living in an area served by the post office at Cassville, Missouri. With him were his wife and children: William (born about 1852), John L. (born about 1854), Elizabeth (born about 1856), Mary E. (born about 1858), George T. (born about 1862), James (born about 1864), Margaline (born about 1867), and Samuel Garrison (five months old, born in January 1870). Family sources say Mrs. Garrison died July 20, 1878. Samuel Garrison’s death certificate contains a note that his mother died when he was eight years old.

Lovel Garrison moved to Tarrant County, Texas by 1880, and settled in Precinct 3 north of Big Bear Creek, probably northeast of the center of the town of Grapevine. He lived there with his son, John L. Garrison and John’s wife, Mary E. Garrison. At the time of the taking of the census, Lovel Garrison was still a widower.

Lovel Garrison was married a second time in 1880 in Texas to Elizabeth Dallas Durham. She was born December 10, 1844 in Mississippi and died October 28, 1916 in Thackerville, Oklahoma.

Lovel Garrison purchased a tract of forty acres in northeast Tarrant County on December 30, 1879 from J. T. Kirkpatrick. He sold the parcel on May 5, 1880 to J. N. Light. One L. Garrison is shown in the 1880 tax lists as the owner of forty acres of the John Roberts survey, worth one hundred twenty-five dollars. He also had one wagon or carriage worth seventy dollars, two cows worth twelve dollars, and five dollars worth of personal property. John L. Garrison appears in the tax list with no real estate. The J. Roberts survey lies in the extreme northeast corner of Tarrant County, and Denton Creek touches the survey’s southeast corner.

Lovel Garrison applied for Union veteran’s pension benefits on August 8, 1890 while a resident of the Indian Territory. Mr. Garrison’s pension file doubtless
contains much interesting information, but the cost of obtaining copies is prohibitive within the scope of this project.

The census taker in 1900 found Mr. Garrison and his family living at Thackerville in the Chickasaw Nation of the Indian Territory. With him were his wife, Elizabeth, who was born in December, 1846 in Mississippi; his son Charles L., who was born in Texas in April 1881; his daughter Pearl B. Hudson, who was born in Texas in August 1884; his daughter Hattie G. Garrison, who was born in the Indian Territory in February 1889; and Pearl’s husband, Elijah G. Hudson, who was born in Missouri in July 1876. Elizabeth Garrison said she had given birth to six children, three of whom were still alive. Mr. and Mrs. Garrison had been married twenty years. Mr. and Mrs. Garrison owned their farm.

Mr. Garrison died on December 30, 1901 at Thackerville, Love County, Oklahoma. He lies buried under a readable headstone there in the Mount Zion Cemetery. His wife, Elizabeth D. Garrison, applied for a Union veteran’s widow’s pension on January 22, 1902.

Descendants of Mr. Garrison have an original tintype of him. This compiler has a copy of it made on an office copier. That photo is reproduced with this bio to help later researchers identify the photo when the original is encountered later.

We have discovered only a few details about the lives of Lovel Garrison’s children. Family sources say William James Garrison was born about 1853 in Crawford County, Missouri.

John Louis Garrison married Mary Elizabeth Kelly (1863-1934) in Denton County, Texas on October 26, 1879. He died at Snyder, Kiowa County, Oklahoma on July 19, 1920.

Samuel Robert Garrison was born in January 1870 and died in Lubbock, Lubbock County, Texas on February 26, 1937. He married Sara Francis Martin in Loco, in the Chickasaw Nation, Oklahoma on September 26, 1897. He had been earlier married briefly to Rebecca Kelly. His last permanent address was Springlake, Lamb County, Texas. His death certificate gives his birth date as December 13, 1869. His body was taken to Elton, Texas for burial.

Charles L. Garrison was born about 1881 in Texas. His wife’s name was Viola K., and they had a son named Mark Garrison who died in 1992.

Pearl Beatrice Garrison was born August 6, 1884. She died at Ardmore, Carter County, Oklahoma on October 20, 1959. She was first married to Elijah G. Hudson, then to William Harvey Young (1875-1924).
Hattie G. Garrison was born February 11, 1889. She was married to a Mr. Cobb, then to a Mr. Crelia. She died December 31, 1979 in Thackerville, Oklahoma.

This is Lovel Garrison’s home near Thackerville, Oklahoma

Left to right: Charley Garrison, unknown, unknown, unknown, Mrs. Lovel Garrison, Hattie Gertrude Cobb, Pearl Garrison, unknown, Charley Taylor

both photos courtesy of Ken Delashaw