Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Daniel Hughmac Hightower

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Daniel Hughmac Hightower, a son of Smithfield pioneers Alfred M. Hightower and Sarah (Grantham) Hightower, was born in Montgomery Co., Illinois on June 21, 1848. About 1854 the Hightowers left Illinois and moved to Laclede County, Missouri, where they remained until 1858 when they settled near the community which would later be known as Smithfield.

Daniel married Mary S. Brown (1843-1916) in Tarrant County on December 29, 1867. Census records suggest it may have been Mary’s second marriage (probably to a Mr. Tipton). Daniel’s family appears in the 1870 census of Tarrant County between his father’s and that of his brother, James H. Hightower.

Daniel joined the Masonic Lodge in 1877. Hightower was active in the Methodist Church, and was a member of the Smithfield Conference in 1886-1887. For many years he worked as a merchant in Keller and Fort Worth, before becoming a farmer.

He was a member of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth. When he joined the camp, he submitted a written statement detailing his service: “…I was first in A. M. Hightower’s company of State Militia, Darnell’s Regiment of Texas Cavalry. Served there two months…this was a short time before the close of the war. Being under age my father, A. M. Hightower, advised me to enlist in Capt. Joe Terrell’s Co. F, Waller’s Battalion. I went to this company then in Louisiana and served in that company there two months; was in the battle of Yellow Bayou with that co. helped to carry John B. Henderson, brother to Joe M. Henderson off the field, who died from his wounds. They would not receive me in that company because under age. I then returned to Tarrant County and joined Capt. William Quayle’s co. about the close of the war [was?] at San Antonio I came back home and he went into Mexico.”

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Hightower were living on First Street in Fort Worth, and Mrs. Hightower told the census taker she had given birth to seven children, six of whom were still alive. He died January
3, 1917, and lies buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Fort Worth, Texas. His obituary appeared in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram: “Hightower. The funeral of Dan H. Hightower, 68, was held Thursday afternoon from the residence in Riverside and interment was made in West Oakwood. Rev. J. H. Baldridge of the Riverside Methodist Church officiated. The Masons had charge of the services at the grave. He is survived by four sons, A. L., W. L., H. W., and D. J. of Fort Worth; one stepson, J. W. Tipton, Fort Worth; and one daughter, Mrs. L. P. Jones.” A memorial resolution in the archives of the Robert E. Lee Camp says he “…suffered for several years from a lingering illness that rendered him bedridden prior to his death...”