Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Franklin L. Hudgins

Compiled by Michael Patterson
Copyright 2008-2014. All rights reserved.

Franklin L. Hudgins, son of El Nathan Hudgins, was born in about 1844 in Alabama. The Hudgins family were among the earliest pioneers in the Grapevine and Minter’s Chapel area. The Grapevine Area History, published in 1979, contains several articles about W. D. Hudgins and his family. The article on El Nathan Hudgins, authored by Mamie Thomas Spinks, contains the following information about the family in its earliest days here: “Rev. E. Nathan Hudgins came to Texas from Belfant, Alabama in 1854. He was born May 10, 1814. His first wife was Sarah Proctor. To this union nine children were born. They first stopped in the area that is now known as Birdville, then later moved to Dunnville, which became Grapevine. The town, Grapevine, got its name from the famous Grapevine Spring.

“Sarah Hudgins passed away leaving a small baby girl, Laura, who was taken by a Mrs. Nash to be nursed, as Mrs. Nash had a baby about the same age. A few years later Rev. Hudgins married Susan Baker. They had ten children, making a total of nineteen children…” [Sarah Hudgins’s headstone is a masterpiece of pioneer gravestone art. It is massive, and is made of native red sandstone.]

Franklin Hudgins served the Confederacy in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry, Alexander's 2nd Texas Partisan Rangers, as did many other northeast Tarrant County men. Franklin enlisted at Grapevine on March 4, 1862 under Matthew W. Deavenport for a term of twelve months. He was due $9.50 for the use of his own arms, and traveled 110 miles to the rendezvous for mustering into the Confederate service. He is shown present on a muster roll for the months of January and February, 1864, and appears on a list of dead soldiers for the quarter ending June 30, 1864. Family sources recall that Franklin was wounded at the Battle of Sabine Crossroads (Mansfield), Louisiana, on April 8, 1864, and that he died of his wounds on April 17. He was buried in the Confederate Cemetery at Mansfield, Louisiana.
El Nathan Hudgins (1814-1901) was the father of four Confederate soldiers, two of whom did not return from the War. They were John P. Hudgins, Franklin L. Hudgins, James C. Hudgins, and William D. Hudgins. E. N. Hudgins lies buried at Grapevine.

Cenotaph made and installed by E. W. Taylor Camp 1777, Sons of Confederate Veterans, in Minter's Chapel Cemetery on January 25, 2014. Placed beside his mother's headstone there.