Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Jerome Napoleon Martin

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Jerome Napoleon Martin was born in Washington Co., Tennessee on November 23, 1837, a son of Alfred Martin, a physician. His death certificate names his parents as J. A. Martin and Sallie Hunt. Jerome grew up comfortably in a well-respected, slave-owning family.

He was still a resident of Washington County when he joined the Confederate Army. He served the Confederacy as a soldier ranking from 1st Lieutenant to Captain, in Company G, 29th Tennessee Infantry. Martin enlisted August 21, 1861 at Camp Powell. He was on detached service on December 1, 1861 at Mill Springs, Tennessee to help bring up the “stray sick.” He became a First Lieutenant, was discharged, then reenlisted November 8, 1862 at Knoxville, Tennessee. He was made quartermaster sergeant on January 1, 1863. Records show he was again a First Lieutenant on August 10, 1863, having been promoted from the quartermaster department on that day. Martin received a furlough on March 7, 1864 for thirty days. His name appears on a roll of wounded at Jonesboro, Georgia on September 17, 1864.

He was captured December 17, 1864 at Franklin, Tennessee, and was admitted to the U. S. General Hospital at Nashville, Tennessee on December 26, 1864, having been wounded in the foot and right thigh. The federals sent him to Louisville, Kentucky where he was received on January 8, 1865. He was sent to Fort Delaware, Delaware on January 9, 1865. At the time he was described as having a fair complexion, dark hair, gray eyes, and was 5’9” tall. He was released at Fort Delaware on June 17, 1865 after signing an oath of allegiance to the United States. He was a captain at the time of his release. Martin’s files in the National Archives in Washington contain a large number of original reports, requisitions, etc. in his own handwriting. Martin also served a time in Co. K, 29th Tennessee Infantry.

In 1870, Jerome and his wife, Emma, were living in Monroe County, Tennessee, where he was teaching school. By 1880, Martin had moved to Dallas County, Texas, where he was working as a school teacher. A notation in the census looks as if he might have been divorced at the time. Martin
was married in Tarrant Co., Texas to Leona H. Rogers on April 6, 1883. She was born in Marion (now Sequatchie) Co., Tennessee on January 24, 1850, and was a sister of Bedford pioneers Layton Thurman Rogers and Martha (Mrs. William M.) Sitton.

At some time after their marriage, the Martins moved to Henderson County, Texas, where they were living in 1900. At that time, Mrs. Martin said she had given birth to eight children, five of whom were living. When Martin applied for a Confederate pension, he said he had been in the Bedford area since about 1899, and had been at his present address near Bedford since about August of 1912.

In 1910 Martin owned parts of the G. Beeler and M. W. Wilmuth surveys near Bedford, in the general vicinity of where today’s Bedford Road crosses under State Highway 121/183. He was a member of the R. E. Lee Camp of United Confederate veterans in Fort Worth. Also in that year, Mrs. Martin told the census taker she had given birth to eight children, four of whom were still living.

Mr. Martin died near Bedford on his birthday, November 23, 1914. Mrs. Martin applied for a pension in 1921, at which time she was living at 1009 E. Hattie St. in Fort Worth. She said she had lived in Texas since about 1880. Martin lies buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery in north Fort Worth. Three of their children were William Oscar Martin, John Alford Martin, and Robert R. Martin.