Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

John Caswell McGinnis

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John Caswell McGinnis, the eldest child of William W. McGinnis, was born in Dallas County, Missouri on February 24, 1843. Growing up he traveled about in Missouri and Texas with his father’s family before coming to northeast Tarrant County in 1860 or 1861.

In 1861 John enlisted in Co. D, 9th Texas Cavalry, at Johnson’s Station [present-day south Arlington], Texas. He was wounded five times in battle, and one of the bullets remained in him the rest of his life. He was granted a furlough while the regiment was at Granada, Mississippi in 1865, and came home to Texas. The war ended while he was on furlough.

On May 14, 1865 he married Charlotte Keithley, who was born in Arkansas on December 14, 1849. On September 15, 1905 he was granted a Confederate pension by the State of Texas, at which time he was living at Telephone in Fannin County, Texas. His pension file also suggests that he lived for a time in Wise County, Texas. He was a member of the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth. In a written statement he made to the Camp, he said he took part in the Battles of Elkhorn Tavern, Arkansas; Iuka, Corinth, and Jackson, Mississippi; Atlanta, Georgia; Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee; “…and many other engagements.” The State of Oklahoma also pensioned him after he left Texas. He was for a time a member of the United Confederate Veterans Camp at Sulphur, Oklahoma.

John moved about a great deal later in life. In October, 1915 he was living at Bear, Oklahoma; in March, 1916 in Hughes Co., Oklahoma; in October 1916 at Holdenville, Oklahoma; in November, 1917 he was in Fort Worth, Texas. His address in 1919 was Lamar, Oklahoma. Some time before the Fall of 1919, he was admitted to the Confederate Home of Oklahoma in Ardmore. On October 6, 1919, he and his wife left the home and he asked to he placed on the pension rolls again. In January, 1923 he made application from Coleman, Oklahoma to re-enter the Oklahoma Confederate Veterans Home. Both he and his wife died at the Confederate Home in Ardmore, he on June 19, 1924, she on January 30, 1941, and both are buried there in Rose Hill Cemetery.