Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Joseph W. Morrow

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Joseph W. Morrow was a Confederate veteran who lived south of Big Bear Creek in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County in 1880. He lies buried in Birdville Cemetery. He was born about 1835 in Missouri.

Joseph came to District 2 of Tarrant County about 1859, judging from statements he made in the late 1860’s when he registered to vote.

Like many other area men, Joseph Morrow was a soldier in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry. He enlisted at Grapevine, Texas under Hiram Crowley for an initial term of twelve months. He traveled one hundred ten miles from his home to the rendezvous of the regiment. He is shown absent on sick leave beginning February 6, 1863. He is shown present on muster rolls from February 29 through June 30, 1863. On a roll made December 17, 1863, he was still due from the Confederate government $9.50 for the use of his own arms and for mileage he traveled at the time of his enlistment.

Muster rolls for January and February, 1864 show him absent sick on furlough in Texas since September 1, 1863. He was captured in battle at Yellow Bayou, Louisiana on May 18, 1864. As a prisoner, he was received at New Orleans on May 21, 1864. His name appears on a roll of prisoners of war at New Orleans on July 7, 1864. He was later sent to Red River Landing in Louisiana as a part of a prisoner exchange which took place on July 22, 1864.

When Mr. Morrow registered to vote in 1867 in District 2, he said he had lived in that District of Tarrant County for eight years, and that he was a native of Missouri.

Joseph’s first wife, Mary Ann Morrow, was born February 4, 1842 and died November 12, 1869. She has a headstone in Birdville Cemetery.
Mr. Morrow and his family appear in the 1870 census of Tarrant County. It states he was born about 1835 in Missouri. His wife, Mary A. Morrow, was born about 1842 in Missouri. They had three children living with them in 1870: Mary Leonard (born about 1861 in Texas… was Leonard her surname?); John T. Morrow (born in November 1866); and James M. Emory Morrow (born in November 1869). Both these Morrow sons were living with their own wives and families in Precinct 3, of Tarrant County when the 1900 census was taken.

Joseph lived in Tarrant County in 1880 with a second wife, named Sarah J. Morrow. She was born about 1850 in Alabama to two Georgian parents. Mr. Morrow said his father and mother were born in South Carolina and Tennessee, respectively. Their two sons listed in the 1870 census were still with them. Also in their household was Joseph’s brother-in-law, William Hightower, born about 1848 in Alabama to two Georgian parents; thus it seems likely he was Sarah J. Morrow’s brother and her maiden name was Hightower. Their next-door neighbor was John Hightower, born in Alabama to two Georgian parents about 1845.

Joseph W. Morrow’s headstone in Birdville Cemetery contains no dates of birth or death. Two small stones identical to Joseph’s lie beside his there… one for his son, James M. Emory Morrow, and another for S. Jane R. Morrow, who is likely his second wife. Neither Joseph W. Morrow nor his surviving wife applied to the State of Texas for a Confederate pension.