Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William P. Nash

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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William P. Nash and his brother, Thomas Jefferson Nash, were among the earliest settlers at the town of Grapevine. With the recent renovation of the Nash farmstead, he is now one of the best known pioneers as well. Reference is made to the biography of Thomas J. Nash for details of William’s arrival here in Texas.

Family sources at ancestry.com say William was the son of Joseph B. Nash (1796 in Virginia-1866 in Denton County, Texas) and his wife, Frances Skinner (born about 1797 in Virginia). They were married in Washington County, Kentucky on October 26, 1815.

Family sources also record that William served in the Confederate Army with General Richard M. Gano’s Grapevine Mounted Riflemen, and later with Gano in the 7th Kentucky Cavalry. William P. Nash did not apply for a Confederate pension from the State of Texas.

Descendants of his brother, Thomas, say no photographs of William have survived in the family’s possession. An obituary for William P. Nash appeared in the Grapevine Sun on February 9, 1907: "DIED. Once more death has visited our community and claimed one of our old time citizens, Uncle William P. Nash for its own. Uncle William was born in Lebanon, Ky., July 2, 1828, and died at his home near Grapevine, Texas Feb. 1, 1907. The Lord permitted him to remain here to a ripe old age. He had already lived out his three score and ten years and the calender would soon have registered his four score years. Uncle Billie lived a quite [sic] and as we understand, an upright life. He professed faith in Christ and joined the M. E. Church South in the year of 1862. He had no family of his own, yet not without loved ones to mourn his loss. He made the home of Mr. T. J. and Mrs. Elizabeth Nash his home. To their children and grand-children he was a father and we are not surprised at their grief from the loss of such a friend. Not often such affection ever exists between brothers as did exist between he and his brother T. J. Nash, they were ever together. They grew up together and remained together until Feb. 1848, when his brother was married and then they
separated for 18 months at the end of which time he came to his brother's home and made it his home until death. Six months before his death, the death angel called his brother, T. J. Nash, home. No doubt, none sustained a greater loss than he, since then if we could have known his mind, no doubt his thoughts were upon things above, with an anxious desire for the day to come when he could enjoy the delightful association of his brother in the better land."

William’s death certificate says he died at his residence in Grapevine of old age. He lies buried beside his brother in Grapevine Cemetery.