Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Arthur Ireland Gilbert Smith

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Arthur Ireland Gilbert Smith was born in December, 1839 in Jackson County, Indiana. He was a son of Ephraim Henry Smith and Rebecca St. Clair. By the time the 1850 census was taken, he and his family were living in Monroe County, Missouri, and by 1860 they had settled in Jefferson Township in the same county.

Arthur served with the 9th Missouri Sharpshooter Battalion under Major Pendal, and saw action in Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana. By 1870 he had settled in Jasper County, Missouri, where he married his wife, Clarissa A. Trout, about 1872. She was born in Missouri in May, 1852.

He came to Texas in the 1870’s and settled first in Hill County. By the time the 1880 census was taken, he and his family had moved to Grayson County, Texas. Twenty years later, in 1900, they appear in the Wood County, Texas census. At that time, Mrs. Smith said she had given birth to five children, four of whom were still alive. Three of Smith’s children were Lewis Ireland Gilbert Smith, James H. Smith, and Marian E. Smith. Mr. Smith applied for a Confederate pension in 1899 while he was a resident of Armour, Limestone County, Texas. He said he was 61 years old, and had been at his present address for three years. He claimed to be suffering from heart trouble and ruptured veins. He said he served in Co. C, Pindall’s? Battalion of Sharp Shooters in the Trans Mississippi army for four years. At the time he applied, he owned two mules worth $35 each and some household and kitchen furniture. He said he came to Texas in 1874.

A doctor’s certificate in his file says he had organic heart disease and varicose veins of the right leg. His file also contains two bonds, one made in 1922 and one in 1923, both in Tarrant County.
Smith eventually settled near Grapevine. He died in northeast Tarrant County on April 6, 1927 and was buried in White’s Chapel Cemetery. An obituary for Arthur appeared in The Grapevine Sun: “DIED. Mr. Arthur I. G. Smith, age 87 years, 4 months, and 29 days, died Wednesday, April 6th. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. J. L. Dwight at 3:30 p.m. on April 7th. Burial was made at the White’s Chapel Cemetery. He is survived by two sons.”

No Texas death certificate for Mr. Smith has been found. Several researchers at Ancestry.com have expressed an interest in him.

New headstone (right) installed by E. W. Taylor Camp SCV on August 12, 2013.

Back row, l-r: Mrs. and Mr. E. W. Down, Edna R. Smith, J. R. Smith, Grandma Cumin (widow), Arthur I. G. Smith (widower);

Middle row, l-r: Bessie Smith Hammond, Ora Down, Emma Smith Steward, Leona Down, Alton Smith, Elbert Down

Front row, l-r: unknown, George Down, Katy Down, Garland Smith.

Photo circa 1921 – courtesy of Garland Smith