Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Daniel C. Trigg

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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Daniel C. Trigg was a native of Tennessee who served in a local Confederate unit. He lived the rest of his life in northeast Tarrant County, died in 1902, and is buried in Bear Creek Cemetery in Euless.

In 1892 an excellent sketch of Mr. Trigg's life, probably from material he supplied himself, was published in Lewis Publishing Co., History of Texas, Together with a Biographical History of Tarrant and Parker Counties, (Chicago, 1895). The portion of it pertinent to Daniel's life before he came to Texas is as follows: "He was born in middle Tennessee, June 5, 1819, and was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools, remaining with his father until he attained his majority. After his marriage, which event took place in 1852, he bought a farm and settled down in his native State, and was there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1858, when he came to Texas, bringing with him his family and slaves, and settling on the farm he has since owned and occupied." His headstone says he was born June 14, 1818. Family members who have posted information at ancestry.com say he was born in Franklin County, Tennessee, and that his middle name was Curd.

"Mr. Trigg's parents were Hayden and Juda (Worder) Trigg. Grandfather Trigg, also named Hayden, was a native of the Old Dominion, a veteran of the Revolutionary war, and an early settler of Kentucky. He was a member of the Kentucky Legislature for several terms. The father of our subject was born in Virginia, went from there to Kentucky, and thence to Tennessee, where he died in 1856. He was a farmer and slave-owner and a prominent man in his community...The mother [of Daniel C. Trigg] passed away in 1841. She was a devoted member of the Baptist Church, and was a true Christian in every sense of the word...."

"The maternal grandfather, Joseph Worder, was also a native of Virginia, an early settler of Kentucky, and a prominent farmer and slave-owner. His sons grew up to occupy honorable and useful positions in life, three of them, William, Walter, and John, being prominent Baptist ministers, William especially being noted."

The 1895 account also gives a brief account of Daniel C. Trigg's siblings. Several members of his extended family settled in eastern Tarrant County and western Dallas County.
When the 1820 federal census of Franklin County, Tennessee was taken, both Daniel's father, Hayden Trigg, Jr. and his grandfather, Hayden Trigg, Sr., were enumerated. Both men were slaveowners. Ten years later, in 1830, both men were still alive there, and Daniel's father owned fourteen slaves. In 1840, Hayden Trigg Jr. headed a family which included eleven whites and ten slaves. Daniel C. Trigg appears as an adult son in the family of his father in the 1850 census of District 2 of Bedford County, Tennessee. Daniel was working as a laborer on his father's farm. Hayden Trigg owned real estate worth either two or three thousand dollars in that year (the manuscript is not clear). Daniel's father owned ten slaves in 1850. Continuing from the Lewis account: "Daniel C. Trigg, as above stated, was married in 1852. Mrs. Trigg's maiden name was Martha A. Hall, she being a daughter of Thomas and Celia A. (Whitson) Hall. Her parents were natives of North Carolina, and moved from there to Tennessee, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm, the father dying in early life and the mother surviving until 1860." [After coming to Texas in 1858] "Here [Daniel] bought a section of land. Some few improvements have been made upon it, and he has since developed it into one of the finest farms in the vicinity. In all these years he has never failed to make a crop of some kind. In 1889 a hail storm destroyed a greater portion of his crops, but he had sufficient to last him through the year. He has for years given considerable attention to the raising of hogs, always finding it a profitable business, and he has also been engaged in raising mules, at one time being the owner of a fine jack. From time to time he has purchased other tracts of land and has given farms to his children. In the home place he now has 160 acres under cultivation, one of his sons having charge of the farm." We have been unable to locate Daniel Trigg in the 1860 tax list of Tarrant County. Thus we have no idea of his real estate holdings or slave holdings in that year. D. C. Trigg joined a local Confederate company in the vicinity of Bear Creek and Leonard's mill which was raised by Capt. J. R. Cummins. Mr. Trigg's name appears on the roll dated June 23, 1861, the original of which is in the Texas State Library and Archives in Austin, Texas. The company became known as the West Fork Guards. They held their election of officers at Estill's Station on June 29. This was in the area of the later community named Estelle, in far western Dallas County, Texas. Daniel appears in the 1865 tax lists of Tarrant County. He owned six hundred forty acres of the V. J. Hutton survey, worth $1707. He also owned eleven horses worth $374, thirty-five cattle worth $186, forty-four sheep worth eight-eight dollars, and personal property worth fifty dollars. On November 25, 1869 Daniel C. Trigg registered to vote in Precinct 2 of Tarrant County. He said he had been living in his present precinct, in Tarrant County, and in Texas for eleven years. He said he was a native of Tennessee. Trigg and his family appear here in the 1870 census in Precinct 2. The precinct lines were redrawn during the 1870's, but we have been unable to find any maps or descriptions of exactly where those older lines lay. It is clear that Trigg's home was later included in the newer Precinct 3. In 1870, Daniel Trigg owned real estate worth six thousand dollars and personal property worth fifteen hundred dollars. Mr. and Mrs. Trigg had five children with them in that year: Thomas E. Trigg who
was seventeen, Mary E. Trigg who was thirteen, Sue Trigg who was seven, Juda Trigg who was four, and Elizabeth Trigg, who was born in January 1870.

D. C. Trigg also appears in the agricultural census of Tarrant County for the year 1870. As of June 1, 1870 he had one hundred fifty acres under cultivation, three hundred forty acres in deciduous woodlands, and one hundred other unimproved acres. He estimated the value of his farm at six thousand dollars and the value of his farming implements and machinery at five hundred. He owned fifteen horses, seven mules, twenty-one "milch" cows, three working oxen, fourteen other cattle, thirty sheep, and sixty hogs. He estimated the value of all his livestock at $900. During the year ended June 1, 1870, he estimated he had produced three hundred fifty bushels of winter wheat, two hundred bushels of Indian corn, and thirty bushels of oats.

On April 6, 1872 an estate paper was filed in the court house in Fort Worth; it mentions Daniel Trigg, S. C. H. Witten and W. I. Jones as commissioners to finish dividing the estate of a man in their community, James Lacy, who had died about the beginning of the year 1855.

Mr. Trigg appears in the 1875 tax list here. He still owned the six-hundred-forty-acre Hutton survey, worth $4400; ninety-six acres of the A. Barnard survey, worth eight hundred fifty dollars; one hundred sixty acres of the G. Mathews survey; and one hundred acres of the Elijah Rogers survey, worth eight hundred dollars. He also owned a considerable amount of personal property, including nineteen horses worth four hundred sixty dollars, and forty cattle.

For some reason, Daniel Trigg and his family were apparently missed when the 1880 census was taken.

D. C. Trigg's home appears on the 1895 Sam Street Map of Tarrant County. It was in his V. J. Hutton acreage. The Hutton survey was a square, one mile on each side. This land is within the area made part of Fort Worth years ago in connection with the formation of Amon Carter Field. The tract's south line lies along today's Trinity Boulevard, and much of its eastern boundary is now marked by Amon Carter Boulevard. Its northern boundary lies within the right-of-way of present-day Highway 183, and the south part of the 183-360 interchange lies within it. No modern-day street lies along the Hutton survey's west line. Trigg's home sat in the southwest corner of this modern-day interchange. The C. R. Smith Museum on the American Airlines property is about where Daniel C. Trigg's last home sat.

The Lewis biography continues: "Mr. Trigg and his wife and three of their children are members of the Missionary Baptist Church. His political affiliations are with the Democratic party, and while he has always taken a commendable interest in public affairs, he has never aspired to official position."

When the census taker in 1900 visited Daniel's home, he found Daniel and his wife, Martha, living in Precinct 3. They had one son with them, Hayden Trigg, and one other young man living with them, George Downy, who was born in 1878 in Alabama. Downy was not related to them. Martha Trigg said she had given birth to ten children, seven of whom were still living. She said she and Mr. Trigg had been married forty-eight years. This information agrees exactly with the account of their family which appeared in print in 1895.

Mr. Trigg's headstone in Bear Creek Cemetery in Euless records his death on January 17, 1902. No obituary for Mr. Trigg appeared in the Dallas Morning News, the Fort Worth papers, the Grapevine Sun, or the Arlington Journal. Martha (Hall) Trigg survived her husband nineteen years.
Daniel C. Trigg’s widow, Martha Ann (Hall) Trigg, died at 6 o’clock on October 14, 1921 in San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas. Her death certificate does not say whether it was in the morning or evening. She died of senility. The informant for the death certificate was her daughter, Mrs. W. J. Harter. Her body was brought back to Bear Creek Cemetery for burial. Her death date has never been inscribed on her headstone, which she shares with her husband.

The Lewis biography says this about their children: "Mr. and Mrs. Trigg have had ten children, one dying in infancy; the others being Thomas E., a farmer and trader of Tarrant County; Ella, wife of Ed Keith, of Young County, Texas; Susie, who married her cousin W. H. Trigg, resides in Hale County, this state; Juda is the wife of George P. Albright, a druggist and farmer of Childress, Texas; Lizzie, wife of William Pilant, Fargo, North Dakota; Hayden and Mattie at home; and Frankie and Blanchie, who died when about three years of age."

Thomas Edward "Ed" Trigg was born May 21, 1853, according to his headstone. He died May 8, 1926 and is buried in the old Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas. His wife, Emma Boals (1857-1915), lies buried in Arlington Cemetery as well. We have been unable to find a Texas death certificate for him.

Mary Ella Trigg was born, according to her headstone, on February 8, 1858. This maintains the birth order of the children shown in the 1895 Lewis account. She appears as Mary E. Trigg with her parents in the census of 1870. She married Edward C. Keith (1858-1933), and lived in Young County, Texas by 1895. She died June 4, 1933 and was buried beside her husband in True Cemetery at True, Young County, Texas. We have been unable to find a Texas death certificate for her.

Susie Trigg was born April 23, 1862, according to her death certificate. She married a cousin, William H. Trigg (1854-1930). The Lewis biography says they lived in Hale County, Texas in 1895. By 1900 they were farming back in Precinct 3 of Tarrant County, Texas. By 1910 they had moved to Lucerne Township in Kings County, California. We have not made an attempt to discover how they were related, given the large number of the family who settled here and their penchant for using the same given names over and over in succeeding generations. By 1920 they were farmers at Yucaipa, San Bernardino County, California. She was widowed by 1940, at which time she still lived in San Bernardino County. Mr. Trigg is buried in Hillside Memorial Park in Redlands, San Bernardino County, California. Susie (Trigg) Trigg died in San Diego, California on November 10, 1946. Her death certificate confirms that she was a daughter of a Mr. Trigg and a Miss Hall. If Mrs. Trigg is buried beside her husband she has no marker.

Frankie Trigg was born April 2, 1859 and died July 23, 1862. She lies buried beside her parents in Bear Creek Cemetery.

Judy Martha "Juda" Trigg, was born in February 1866, according to one census record. She married George Priestly Albright (1849-1926, headstone says 1857-1926). By 1900 they moved to Childress County, Texas, where they were farmers and remained for the rest of their lives. They both have headstones in Childress Cemetery. Her headstone says she died December 5, 1945. We have been unable to find Texas death certificates for either of them.

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Trigg Pilant was born, according to her death certificate, on December 8, 1867; information posted at ancestry.com says she was born December 8, 1869. When she applied for a passport at Childress, Texas in 1917, she said she was born December 8, 1870. Her headstone records her birth date as 1866. She married William Johnson Pilant (1866-1942) in Tarrant
County, Texas on December 24, 1889. By 1900 they had moved north and were living at Grand Island City in Hall County, Nebraska, where her husband worked as a traveling salesman. She and her husband traveled extensively outside the United States. In 1910 they lived in Council Bluffs, Iowa, where Mr. Pilant was the manager of an implement company. In 1914-1917 they lived in Buenos Aires. She died on April 13, 1957 at 2 a.m. at her home at 3937 Byers in Fort Worth; where she had lived for about ten years. She was buried in Parkdale Cemetery in Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas. Ancestry.com records do not show a place of death for Mr. Pilant; they suggest he may have died outside the country.

Hayden C. Trigg was born in April 1873 in Texas. He married Blanche O. Scripture (1883-1961) in Dallas County, Texas on July 31, 1901. In 1910 they lived in Reeves County, Texas, where he was working as a dairy farmer. In 1920 they were stock farming in DeBaca County, New Mexico where they remained in 1930; at that time he divided his time between ranching and selling real estate. By 1940 he and Blanche were divorced, and she was living in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He died in 1945 in Denver, Colorado. There was a Hayden Trigg who died in Dallas County, Texas on May 31, 1946, but it was not Daniel’s son Hayden. Blanche died in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Hayden’s body was brought back to Texas, and he has a headstone in Parkdale Cemetery in Arlington, Tarrant County, Texas.

Martha Ann Harter was born, according to her death certificate, on March 25, 1875. She married William Jacob Harter (1874-1955). She died January 25, 1950 in St. John’s Hospital in San Angelo, Texas. Her last permanent address was 103 North Monroe Street in San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas. She had been at San Angelo for forty-four years. She was buried in Fairmount Cemetery in San Angelo.

Blanche Trigg was born October 1, 1877 and died June 14, 1880. She lies buried near her parents in Bear Creek Cemetery.