Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James Washington Vines

Compiled by Michael Patterson
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James Washington Vines was a Confederate veteran from a Georgia infantry regiment. He spent the last years of his life in the Minter’s Chapel-Euless area, and lies buried in Minter’s Chapel Cemetery.

Family records posted at ancestry.com show that Mr. Vines was born in Carroll County, Georgia on July 1, 1837. He died in the Minter’s Chapel community between Grapevine and Euless, Texas on April 3, 1905. His wife, Martha Francis Henry, was born on January 1, 1840. She died in Tarrant County on September 5, 1928. They were married March 2, 1865 in Carroll County, Georgia. He was a son of Isaiah Bradford Vines (1812-1874) and his wife, Elizabeth Smith (c1814-1897), both of whom died in Carroll County, Georgia.

The 1860 census of Carroll County, Georgia shows James W. Vines to have been born in Alabama, and it appears from the birthplaces of his siblings that his father moved back and forth between Alabama and Georgia more than once.

James W. Vines served the Confederacy in Co. I, 19th Georgia Infantry. He enlisted June 22, 1861 at Camp McDonald in Georgia for three years. He was wounded at Fredericksburg, Virginia on December 13, 1862 and was admitted on December 16, 1862 to Chimborazo Hospital No. 2 in Richmond, Virginia, with a gunshot wound to the shoulder and with pneumonia. He was released later in December, 1862 from Winder Division No. 3 of the Medical Director’s Office in Richmond. He apparently never fully recovered from his wound, and was detailed on September 13, 1863 to work as a hospital nurse at General Hospital No. 2 at Summerville, South Carolina, where he was still serving in October.

He left the service on August 19, 1864, after having served as a member of the Invalid Corps. His file in the National Archives contains two original signed payroll vouchers, and two signed surgeons’ certificates which recommended his transfer to non-combat duty. In them, he is described as a native
of Carroll County, Georgia; twenty-five years old, 5”- 11” tall, with a fair complexion, hazel eyes, dark hair, and by occupation a farmer. They mention a wound through the right shoulder which makes it impossible for him to use a musket. Several other documents in his file are routine receipts for clothing.

By the time the 1870 census was taken, James and Martha Vines and their two sons, John and Charles, were living in Militia District 813 of Haralson County, Georgia. Haralson County lies adjacent to Carroll County on Carroll’s north side. Their next-door neighbors were the family of Charles Vines, a blacksmith two years younger than James W. Vines.

In 1880, the family is found in the census of Carroll County, Georgia’s District 67 of the 649th State Militia District. With Mr. and Mrs. Vines are seven of their children: John W., Charles L., Thecia, Oliver Z., James, Robert F., and Mary D. Vines.

According to census records, the family was still in Georgia as late as September, 1889 at the birth of their son, Benjamin. One of Charles L. Vines’s sons, Chester, was born in Texas in September, 1891. Perhaps James and his family had come to Texas at the same time as Charles, thus about 1890.

The 1900 census taker found Mr. Vines and several members of his family living in Tarrant County’s Precinct 3. Mrs. Vines said she had given birth to nine children, eight of whom were still alive. Only three were still living with the couple: Robert F. Vines, Magdaline Vines, and Benjamin W. Vines. Their son, Charles L. Vines, was living next-door with his family.

Mr. Vines died at his home in the Minter’s Chapel community on April 2, 1905. A short notice of Mr. Vines’ death appeared in the Grapevine Sun on April 8, 1905: “Mr. J. W. Vines, [an] old and respected citizen of Minter’s Chapel neighborhood, was buried at the cemetery, at that place, Tuesday the 4th. He had been a lifelong member of the Methodist Church and was followed to his last resting place by a host of friends. The bereaved have the sympathy of all.” Decades after his death his descendants marked his grave in Minter’s Chapel Cemetery with a marble stone from the Veterans Administration.

In 1914, Mrs. Martha Vines applied for a Confederate widow’s pension based upon her husband’s service. She gave her husband’s death date as April 3, 1905, and said they were married in Carroll County, Georgia on March 2, 1865. She said she was seventy-three years old, and had been born in Henry County, Georgia. She said they arrived in Texas on April 2, 1883; census records show one of their children to have been born in Georgia in 1889. Two of Vines’ comrades-in-arms, H. H. Dobbs and W. H. Boswell, both of Georgia, made affidavits in support of her claim. Both say Mr. Vines enlisted at Villa Rica, Georgia. Villa Rica is a town in Carroll County named after a group of its earliest settlers found gold there.

Mr. and Mrs. Vines had nine children: John W. Vines, Charles Lonzo Vines, Luella Theau Vines, Thecie Vines, Oliver Zachary Vines, James M. Vines, Robert F. Vines, Magdaline Mae Vines, and Benjamin W. Vines. The following data was compiled mostly from internet sources supplied by family members, with some supplementary material from public sources. It disagrees in some instances with data from census records.
John W. Vines was born August 22, 1867. He and his wife, Mary C. Vines, lived part of their lives in Texas. When the 1910 census was taken, they lived with three of their children in Plainview, Hale County, Texas.

Charles Lonzo Vines was born August 28, 1869. In 1930 he and his wife, Ida, were living in Pilot Point, Denton County, Texas, where he was working as a minister. He died March 13, 1954 in Dallas and was buried at Pilot Point.

Luella Theau Vines was born August 23, 1871. She married Logan Henderson Prater in 1890 in Tarrant County, Texas. She died February 15, 1938 in Bowie, Montague County, Texas.

Thecie Vines was born August 23, 1871. Oliver Zachary Vines was born April 20, 1873. James M. Vines was born July 14, 1875. James married Sarah Vida Culbertson, and died April 30, 1930. Robert F. Vines was born in April 1877.

Magdaline Mae Vines was born January 31, 1880; she married Rufus Alexander Corbin of Grapevine, who died at Grapevine on December 23, 1962. He was buried in Hill Top Memorial Gardens in Carrollton, Dallas County. Maggie Corbin died in Lewisville, Denton County, on February 19, 1968 and was buried in Carrollton beside her husband. Her name on her death certificate is shown as Mary Magdeline, and her birth date is shown as January 29, 1880. She was a resident of Farmers Branch, Dallas County, at the time of her death.

Benjamin W. Vines was born in September 1889; his wife’s name was Birdie.