Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William L. Yancey

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William L. Yancy was born in April 1847 in Tennessee. His wife, Sarah E., was born in February 1849 and died in 1920.

Yancey was a Union soldier in Co. C, 5th Regiment Tennessee Cavalry. His official records show him as a private, musician, and bugler. He enlisted on August 14, 1862, and was mustered in at Nashville on September 20, 1862. He signed an affirmation that he was at least eighteen years old, when in fact he was not. Another record made after his enlistment shows him to be fifteen years old, 5’7” tall, with blue eyes, and dark hair. He said he was born at Shelbyville, Tennessee. He was mustered out at Fayetteville, Tennessee on June 25, 1865.

He and his wife were married about 1867. They were living in Bedford County, Tennessee in 1870. By 1880 they had moved to Tarrant County, where they lived in the northeast part of the county north of Big Bear Creek.

By 1900 they had moved back to Tennessee. In that year, Sarah said she had given birth to eight children, six of whom were still living. Both Mr. and Mrs. Yancy were pensioned by the Federal government for his Union service.

Their children included Martha A. Yancy, born about 1871; Michael H. Yancy, born about 1874; and John L. Yancy, born about 1879. He was the brother of Grapevine pioneer John T. Yancy of Grapevine.

William L. Yancy died April 6, 1910 at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frazier Warner, in Muncie, Indiana. His body was brought back to Bedford County, Tennessee, and he was buried in Shelbyville in Willow Mount Cemetery on April 10. A short death notice in the Shelbyville Gazette noted that he was survived by his wife and six children.