



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Thomas B. Allen

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Thomas B. Allen, a son of Alexander Allen and brother of Rufus Perry Allen and William R. Allen, was born in Dekalb County, Tennessee in August, 1839. About 1844 Alexander Allen moved his family to Texas, and by 1850 they were living in Upshur County. They arrived in present-day Bedford, Texas in 1853, and built a large comfortable log home which sat in the grove of old post oaks now standing in the northwest corner of Harwood Road and Oak Grove Lane in Bedford. The home was later purchased by another of our veterans, Wiley Green Cannon. In 1860, Thomas Allen owned one hundred sixty acres of a survey recorded as the "J. Tilton" survey. He was a member of Co. F, Capt. W. G. Welsh's Co., 31st Texas Cavalry. His name appears on a regimental return for March 1865, at which time he had been detailed as a beef drover while stationed in Houston County, Texas. For this service he was sent to Paris, Texas. He worked for a time after the war driving cattle to the northern markets. For many years of his life he lived along the west side of Bedford's McLain Road, not far north of his father's homestead where the family had settled in 1853. This would have been about where Spargercrest and Cummings Road intersect McLain Road. Allen often told his grandchildren about his war experiences and about things which happened to him on his cattle drives. According to family sources, Thomas was married twice. His first wife died about 1879, and his second wife died in childbirth. In 1897, Allen owned thirty-eight acres of the L. L. McLane survey and seventy acres of the Alexander Allen survey, both in the immediate area of where he died. Thomas B. Allen died on June 5, 1915 and is buried in Smithfield Cemetery in an unmarked grave. A short obituary appeared in the Grapevine Sun on June 12, 1915: "Uncle Tom Allen died at J. B. Honeycutt's near Oak Grove last Saturday. He was buried at the Smithfield Cemetery Sunday, funeral services were conducted by Rev. Bailey. He leaves three sons." Thomas Allen's children by his first wife included William, Thomas, James, and Bessie. None of his children by his second marriage reached adulthood.

