



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Marcus DeLafayette Arthur

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Marcus DeLafayette Arthur, probably born Marquis de Lafayette Arthur, was born in Mason County, Kentucky on March 10, 1834. He was the son of James Arthur and Mary (Beall) Arthur. Marcus Arthur grew up comfortably in a slave-owning family.

Arthur married Fannie Jane Arnold on September 6, 1858. She was the daughter of Levi Arnold, a Methodist minister. She was born October 30, 1843 in Mississippi, and died in Bedford, Texas on February 9, 1893.

By 1860, M. D. Arthur was working as a farm hand on a ranch belonging to his father-in-law in South Texas. Arthur served as a private in Frederick J. Malone's Company of State Volunteers, and later in Company E, 21st Texas Cavalry. Official records show he enlisted March 5, 1862 at Oakland, Texas for three years or the war's duration. He is also shown enlisting March 20, 1862 in Lavaca County, Texas. He had a 60-day furlough beginning September 25, 1863 for sickness.

By 1870 the Arthurs and their five children were living at Penninsula (sic) in Matagorda Co., Texas. They first appear in the Tarrant County tax rolls in 1876, when they took up residence in Precinct 3. Family sources recall that the Arthurs had earlier lived in Bedford before moving to Matagorda County, and that they came back to Bedford after living through the disastrous hurricane which devastated the Texas coast at Indianola on September 15-17, 1876.

Mr. Arthur's sister was married to Edward Hovenkamp, one of the pioneers of Birdville, and it seems possible he and Hovenkamp may have originally come to Tarrant County together in the 1850's. In 1883 Arthur bought a tract of land from Margaret Moody, the widow of Confederate veteran Levin Moody, and in 1884 enlarged it by purchasing a forty-acre tract from one of our Union veterans, Malcolm S. Corse.

In Bedford in the 1890's the Arthurs lived along the south side of present-day Cheek-Sparger Road, a few yards southeast of its intersection with Jackson Drive/Central Drive. M. D. Arthur died on February 1, 1893, only eight days before his wife. Both are buried in Bedford Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur were the parents of a number of children, including: James Woodberry Arthur; Marcus Jefferson Arthur; William Allen Arthur; Teter Hardyman Arthur; Prince Edward Arthur; Francis Levi Arthur; Steven Thomas Arthur; Benjamin Lafayette Arthur; Annie Bell (Mrs. Arthur) Cobb; and Fannie Mary (Mrs. John) Schiemann.

William Allen Arthur was born July 10, 1866. He died April 23, 1935 at his home at 727 Perez Street in San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. He was buried in San Antonio in the San Jose Cemetery.

One of the children was Francis Levi Arthur, who was born July 28, 1872. He died Sept. 29, 1956 at his residence at Coppell in Dallas County, Texas. He was buried in the Haley Cemetery in Grand Prairie, Dallas County.

Benjamin Lafayette Arthur was born July 12, 1877. He died October 12, 1945 in St. Joseph's hospital in Fort Worth from injuries received that day in an automobile accident. His last address was Route 3, Arlington, Texas, at his home. He lies buried in Arwine Cemetery in Hurst, Texas.

Anna Bell Arthur was born December 18, 1882. She died April 23, 1968 in Lubbock, Texas, where she had been living for about twenty-six years. She was buried in Resthaven Cemetery in Lubbock.

Fannie Mary Arthur was born June 11, 1884. She died December 31, 1928 in St. Joseph's Hospital in Fort Worth. She lies buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Forth Worth.

