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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William Manderville Howell

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William Manderville Howell was a Kentuckian who came to Tarrant County by way of Missouri. He served in a local Confederate cavalry unit. He lived for several years in present-day Southlake before moving to Wise County, and spent the last years of his life in Johnson County, Texas.

Mr. Howell was born July 26, 1837. Family sources say he was born at Blue Springs, Barren County, Kentucky, and was a son of James P. Howell and his wife, Malinda Pemberton (1818-1871), who were married in Barren County, Kentucky on September 27, 1836.

By the time the 1850 census was taken, James P. Howell had moved the family west to Jackson Township in Johnson County, Missouri. William M. Howell was twelve years old. The census suggests they made the move to Missouri in or after 1845.

Mr. Howell enlisted in the Confederate service on March 1, 1862 at Trinity Mills in Dallas County for a term of three years. His surviving records are very scant. His name appears on a muster roll of Co. B, Scanlan's Squadron of Texas Cavalry, for the period June 30, 1862 through June 30, 1863. This company subsequently became Co. B of Wells Battalion of Texas Cavalry. At the time the roll was made Mr. Howell owed the Confederate government five dollars. He served with his brother, B. B. Howell, of Dallas County.

Mr. Howell married Sarah Ann Knight. She was born in Missouri on September 22, 1842. The ages of their children in the 1870 census suggest they may have been married about 1865.

Mr. Howell and his family appear in Precinct 2 of the 1870 Tarrant County census. He and Mrs. Howell had three children with them, all born in Texas and all girls: L. E. (born about 1866), M. E. (born about 1868), and M. (born in May of 1870).

W. M. Howell appears in the 1871 Tarrant County tax list. He owned seventy acres of the John A. Freeman survey, worth two hundred thirty-five dollars. He also owned five horses worth two hundred dollars, sixteen cows worth eighty dollars, and sixty-five dollars worth of miscellaneous property. This would place his property in present-day Southlake in the square roughly formed

north of Continental Avenue, west of Carroll Road, south of Southlake Boulevard, and east of Kimball Road.

By 1880, Mr. Howell and his family had moved to Precinct 1 of Wise County, Texas. There were four children with them: Laura (born about 1862), Martha (born about 1871), Florence (born about 1874), and Aurora (born about 1878).

The Howells appear in the 1900 census in Precinct 1, Johnson County, Texas, Mrs. Howell said they had been married thirty-four years. She had given birth to eleven children, only five of whom were still living. Only two children were with them: Vella and Hattie D. Howell.

Mrs. Sarah A. Howell died at Cleburne, Texas on February 16, 1908. She was buried in Cleburne Memorial Cemetery in Cleburne.

Mr. Howell died of pneumonia at his home 1102 North Robinson in Cleburne at 3:15 p.m. on February 18, 1918. B. Howell of Coppell, Texas was the informant for the death certificate. He was buried beside his first wife in Cleburne Memorial Cemetery.

Mrs. W. M. Howell of 1102 North Robinson Street in Cleburne applied for a Confederate widow's pension in 1919. She said she was 68, was born in Upson County, Georgia, and had been in Texas 45 years. Her husband had served in Co. B, Wells Texas Battalion. They were married in Johnson County, Texas on July 19, 1907. [She may have been mistaken since Mr. Howell's first wife died on February 16, 1908]. She told pension authorities she was outside Texas visiting one of her daughters from September 1, 1923 until August 7, 1923. A notation on the outside of her folder says "Dead. 4-13-33."

There are no readable headstones in northeast Tarrant County or in Wise County which appear to be children of William M. Howell. The following list identifies six of the Howells' eleven children.

Laura E. Howell was born about 1866. She was still living with the family when the 1880 census was taken.

M. E. Howell, a girl, was born about 1868 and was with the family in Tarrant County when the 1870 census was taken. Since she was no longer with them in 1880, it seems likely she died young.

Martha Howell was born in May, 1870. She was still with the family in 1880 in Wise County.

Florence L. Howell was born February 26, 1874. She was never married. She worked as a commercial artist and stenographer, and was a member of Dallas art circles for more than thirty years. She died in St. Paul Hospital in Dallas on January 18, 1963, and was buried in Restland Cemetery in Dallas. Her last permanent address was 3301 Rosedale in Highland Park, Dallas County.

Hattie Blanch Howell was born in Wise County on October 22, 1884. She married Horace Badgett Parker (1884-1963). Her last permanent address was 3509 Fontana in Dallas. She died November 2, 1963 at the Oak Lawn Nursing Home in Dallas, Texas. She was buried in Cleburne Memorial Cemetery.

Vella Bee Howell was born in February 1878. Judging from her date of birth, she may be the daughter named Aurora, or Ora, in the 1880 census. She married Clarence Burnham (1872-1917)

and in 1920 lived in Dallas at 3801 Colonial Avenue with two of her daughters. She died November 28, 1966, and was buried in Restland Cemetery in Dallas.

