



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

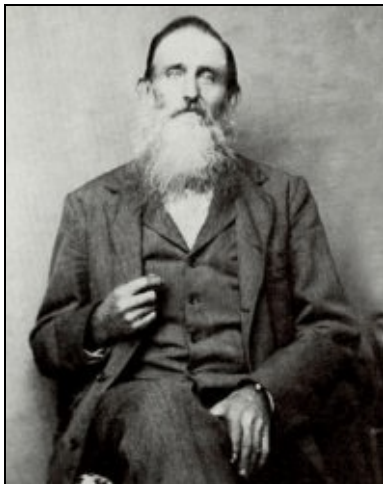
Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

William Franklin Wilkinson

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William Franklin Wilkinson was born at Sherwood, Franklin County, Tennessee about 1838. He was a son of Benjamin Monroe Wilkinson, Sr. and his wife, Elizabeth (Taylor) Wilkinson.

He enlisted May 20, 1861 in Co. B, 6th Georgia Infantry, also known as the "Lookout Dragoons," He was elected 2nd Lieutenant on May 20, 1861, and was elected 1st Lieutenant in October, 1862. He was wounded at the Battle of Sharpsburg (Antietam), Maryland, on September 17, 1862. He surrendered at Greensboro, North Carolina on April 26, 1865.

Wilkinson settled in Tarrant County, Texas by 1874. He was married three times: first to Judy Payne, second to a Miss Evans, and third to Nancy Starkey. In 1895 he lived along the south edge of the J. N. Gibson in present-day Colleyville, on the south side of

Big Bear Creek on a wooded hilltop (some of the old post oaks survive to this day) in the vicinity of Cole Court. Wilkinson died March 23, 1916 and was buried at White's Chapel. This writer erected a marble gravestone from the Veteran's Administration for him in the early 1980's.

Wilkinson was the father of at least three children: Martha Ida (Mrs. Anderson W.) Byas, Willie Wilkinson, and James F. Wilkinson. An obituary for him appeared in The Grapevine Sun on April 1, 1916: "*DIED. Mr. William F. Wilkerson died at his home four miles west of Grapevine Mar. 23, 1916, of pneumonia. Mr. Wilkerson was born in Tennessee seventy-seven years ago and saw service as a lieutenant in the Confederate Army. Interment was at White's Chapel Cemetery March 23rd at four p.m. Rev. W. H. Day officiating.*"

This compiler was a close friend of one of Wilkinson's great-great-grandsons, Dennis Esch, whom he met on the first day of the first grade and with whom he shared his entire public school career, graduating with him from Grapevine High School in 1970.

