



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

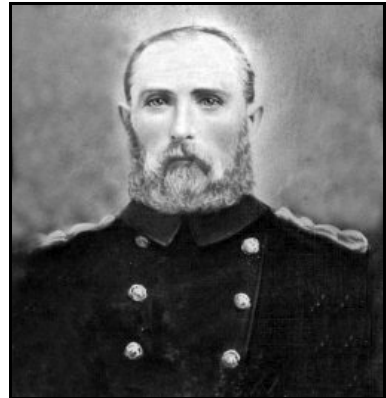
James W. Berry

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James W. Berry was a Union veteran of a Tennessee infantry regiment, who later moved to the Grapevine area and lies buried in Grapevine Cemetery.

He was born March 26, 1840 in Hawkins County, Tennessee. Family genealogists say he was the son of Jesse D. Berry (1819-1864) and his wife, Martha (Willis) Berry (1824-1875).

He married Elizabeth Jane Pearson in Hawkins County, Tennessee on November 5, 1858. She was the daughter of Grapevine pioneers John H. Pearson (1820-1895) and his wife, Minerva (Green) Pearson (1825-1909), who settled at Grapevine around Christmas in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. Berry did not follow them here for several years. Elizabeth Jane (Pearson) Berry and her family did not follow them here for several years. Elizabeth was born in Tennessee on September 29, 1842.



James W. Berry rose from the rank of private to Captain of Companies B and G of the 8th Tennessee Infantry (Union). He enlisted in Hawkins County, Tennessee on January 20, 1863, and said he was twenty five at the time. He was mustered in at Camp Dick Roberson, Kentucky on May 15, 1863 for a term of three years, and was sent to help with recruiting in Tennessee. He appears on a roll dated Camp Nelson, Kentucky on June 30, 1863, with a notation that he was promoted to First Lieutenant on May 1, 1863, and to Captain on June 25, 1863. He was Captain of Co. G by June 30, five days later.

He is present on all subsequent rolls of the regiment which have survived, with few exceptions. He was absent sick for a short time following October 25, 1863. He was granted a leave on October 24, 1863, from which he had not returned by the end of February, 1864.

He is shown in one descriptive list (undated) being 22 years old, 5' 9" tall with a fair complexion, blue eyes, light hair; and a farmer born in Hawkins County, Tennessee. His file contains a notation that he was "Commanding the 8th Regiment Tennessee Volunteer Infantry since July 10, 1864." On the rolls for March and April, 1865, he is shown detailed on special duty which is not specified. He was mustered out of the Federal service at Company Shops, North Carolina on June 30, 1865.

Family sources at ancestry.com say his first four children were born in Hawkins County, Tennessee, the last one of them being Laura, who was born about 1868. The Berrys were still in Hawkins County, Tennessee at the time the 1870 census was taken. The next eight (1871-1883) were born at Pierce Township, in Stone County, Missouri. The rest were born in Texas.

James W. Berry died at Grapevine on November 20, 1889, and was buried in Grapevine Cemetery. Mrs. Berry was pensioned by the federal government for her husband's service in the Union Army. She survived her husband for thirty-six years, and died May 5, 1926. She lies buried beside him at Grapevine.

When Mrs. Berry was interviewed at her home in Grapevine for the 1900 census, she said she had given birth to thirteen children, and that all of them were still alive. Several family genealogists have posted information about Mr. Berry at ancestry.com. The following list is a compilation made from those sources: Rufus Berry (1860-1941, married Mary Ann Chiles); Clarence Arthur Berry (born August 31, 1861-died in 1924, married Juliana Stevens Dennis); James Berry (born about 1868-died in 1954, whose wife's name was Laura); Laura A. Berry (born about 1868-died September 6, 1956, married Frank Boggerman); Martha Jane Berry (born February 13, 1871-died in 1963, married Thomas Lonzo Biggers); John A. Berry (born April 13, 1873-died in 1966, married Mary Jane Cribbs); William Eldridge Berry (April 9, 1875-August 8, 1956, married Eva Evie Berry); Charles Henry Berry (November 9, 1877-July 15, 1951, married Minnie B. Pearson); George Berry (1878-1880); Savilla Ann Berry (born December 7, 1879-died in 1967, married Samuel Powell); Mary Belle Berry (born November 15, 1881-November 11, 1932, married Milton Tucker); Louisa Lou Berry (born November 6, 1883-November 5, 1983, married John Miller); Elizabeth Ann Berry (born July 11, 1886-died in 1919, married James Ell Foster); Cornelia May Berry May 1, 1889-November 27, 1982, married Homer L. Richmond).

