

TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

James Hensley

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James Hensley was born January 15, 1837 in Coles Co., Illinois, a son of Jacob G. and Nancy (Driskill) Hensley. James was their eldest child. When James was about eleven years old his father died in Pulaski County, Missouri. His mother then married a man named Joseph J. A. LaQuey. James left home about 1852 and never returned to his mother's family.

He went to Kansas, and there married Aggendeccah Kirksey, a daughter of John Kirksey. James, his wife, and their first child came to Texas from Kansas in 1858, and James worked raising mules.

He enlisted in the Confederate Army in Co. C, Griffin's 21st Texas Infantry on March 10, 1862 in Tarrant County, Texas under Capt. Evans, and traveled 230 miles to rendezvous in Houston. He was sick at home November 29, 1862, and was sick in General Hospital at Beaumont beginning on June 18, 1863. He was discharged September 1, 1863 by the Board of Surgeons.

His last homesite, pointed out to this writer many times by his grandmother who knew Mr. Hensley, is in present-day Grapevine a few feet east of the access road on the east side of present-day State Highway 121 about where Champagne Drive heads east from the access road. A number of the old post oaks which stood in his yard are still there.

A biography of the Hensley family and a photo of James and his first wife appear in Grapevine Historical Society, <u>Grapevine Area History</u>. After his first wife died, James was married on September 20, 1879 in Tarrant County to Virginia Jackson. After Virginia died, he married Rebecca Jane Lucas (March 28, 1849-December 1, 1914), who lies buried in Arwine Cemetery in Hurst.

James and his first two wives are buried at Parker Memorial Cemetery. James Hensley died July 9, 1914 at his home south of Grapevine. He has a brother buried beside him who was a Union soldier. A small note appeared in the <u>Grapevine Sun</u> under the column of "Glade News." It said: "Died last Thursday morning at 5 o'clock James Hensley, at his home and was buried the same day at five

o'clock in the afternoon at Glade Cemetery. Quite a crowd followed the remains to its last resting place. We extend our sympathy to the sorrowing relatives."

James Hensley was the father of at least nine children, including: John Henry Hensley, Nancy Priscilla Hensley, Julia Aggendeccar (Mrs. Milton Monroe) Deaigh, Mary Cassandra Hensley, Amelia Catherine (Mrs. Dan) Booth, Ida Susannah (Mrs. Orren Will) Millson, Ada Frances (Mrs. James T..) Sparger, Emma Goodman (Mrs. Edgar Guinn) McBride, and Ella Jane Hensley.

