



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Edward Jenner Lipscomb

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Edward Jenner Lipscomb was born March 24, 1848 in Carroll County, Mississippi, a son of Dr. Dabney Minor Lipscomb (1806-1885) and his wife, Millicent Harris Scrivner (1817-1904). His granddaughter, Mary Jo Wieggers Stump, wrote a biographical sketch of him which appeared in the Grapevine Historical Society's Grapevine Area History in 1979.

Edward came to this area before the Civil War and settled in the Minter's Chapel area south of Grapevine. According to his own statement made when he applied for a Confederate pension in 1930, he enlisted at Grapevine and served for 6 months in the winter of 1864-1865 in Capt. McGinnis's guards, stationed at Dallas, served as cavalry. He left the army at the end of the War in May, 1865.

An affidavit in his pension file by J. S. Lipscomb said *"he rode a bright sorrel horse named Quantrell, was engaged in hunting deserters."* An affidavit by B. R. Wall said, *"...Col. McGinnis lived between here and Roanoke, Texas and died when I was a small boy. I have often heard the people speak of this organization as a cavalry troop which chased bushwhackers and deserters..."* this in a letter written in 1931. Mrs. Mollie Willis in an affidavit said: *"Mr. brother, W. D. Hudgins, now deceased, was a member of this organization...I have seen them both [Lipscomb and Hudgins] in Confederate uniform during the Civil War..."*

Edward's paternal grandmother, Ann Day (Cook) Lipscomb (1779-1870) was as ardent a Confederate as were several of her grandchildren. Goodspeed's history of Bedford County, Tennessee said of her, *"The [grand]mother attained the ripe age of ninety years, and her old age was marked with great vitality. With her own hands she knit over 100 pairs of socks for the Confederate soldiers after she had passed eighty years of age. She lived nearly forty years a widow."*

Edward Jenner Lipscomb married Lucinda Jo "Joey" Estill, a daughter of Tarrant County pioneer Jefferson Estill (1820-1885) and his wife, Fanny (Staples) Estill (1825-1908). She was born on

September 7, 1857 after they settled here and lived every day of her life in northeast Tarrant County. She and Mr. Lipscomb were married in Tarrant County on October 7, 1880.

Mrs. Stump's biography of Lipscomb in the Grapevine Area History adds many interesting details: *"...Jenner Lipscomb and his brother-in-law, Billy Weatherly, went into the dry goods business on the north end of Main Street in Grapevine. The store was called 'Lipscomb-Weatherly Dry Goods.' Soon Jenner bought Billy's interest in the store and moved it to the south end of town. In 1909, Huber joined his father in business. It was known as E. J. Lipscomb and Son. Priestly also helped in the store, but he was not strong. The doctor advised work out in the open air, so he went to work for the highway department."*

The Lipscomb's five children included: Fannie Lipscomb (1881-1971, the wife of Frank P. Weigers); Joseph Priestly Lipscomb (1883-1953, who married Edith Naylor); Mary Estill Lipscomb (1884-1967, who was never married); Willie Lipscomb (1886-1909); and Huber Lipscomb (1888-1969, who married Ruby Roberson). Unlike many mothers of her time, Mrs. Lipscomb did not lose any children in their early childhood.

Edward J. Lipscomb died January 30, 1936 in Grapevine. His death certificate says he was a retired retail merchant. He died at 10 a.m. of chronic myocarditis. Mrs. Lipscomb applied for a pension in 1936, soon after her husband's death.

An obituary for Mr. Lipscomb appeared in the Grapevine Sun on February 6, 1936: *"E. J. LIPSCOMB BURIED FRIDAY AFTERNOON. Funeral services for E. J. Lipscomb, age 88 years, pioneer citizen of this community, were held at the home, Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock with Rev. M. H. Moore officiating. Mr. Lipscomb died at his home Thursday morning. Burial was in the Grapevine Cemetery, under the direction of the local Masonic Lodge, of which he had been Worshipful Master several times. Mr. E. J. Lipscomb was born in Carol County, Mississippi, March 24, 1848. In 1861 his father, Dr. D. M. Lipscomb and his wife with their ten children and their negroes moved to this community. The trip was made overland with oxen pulling covered wagons. Mr. Lipscomb has lived here continuously since that time. At the age of 16 he was mustered into the Confederate Army, which services terminated with the close of the war. In early manhood, he made several trips overland with cattle to the Kansas markets. His first trip was then he was 19 years old and his principal purpose was to collect for his father for a herd sold to a cattle buyer. Later, he, with [] others of his cousins for partners, were owners of herds driven up the Chisolm Trail to be sold at Baxter Springs or Wichita or Coffeyville, Kansas as soon as the first freeze "cleaned" the Texas cattle and gave the Texans permission to move their herds to the Kansas markets. In about 1875, Mr. Lipscomb with a brother, the late J. P. Lipscomb, and their cousin, the late Major K. M. Van Zandt, organized the firm here of K. M. Van Zandt and Co. However, Mr. Van Zandt soon sold his interest and with a brother-in-law, W. I. Weatherly, the firm of Lipscomb-Weatherly was organized. This firm continued until 1913, when the present firm of E. J. Lipscomb & Son was started. Mr. Lipscomb was a strong believer in education, and was one of the staunch supporters of the Masonic Institute, Grapevine's first school. This was later known as Grapevine College. The though [sic] always conservative, was one of the first early ones to see the possibilities of our present highly efficient public schools and was anxious to abandon the Grapevine College in favor of the broader and more helpful school system which we have today. He, with many other pioneers, many of whom have passed on, spent their money and time freely for*

our first railroad. They were successful in this, though Mr. Lipscomb was one of the few left to see their second railroad effort--after 50 years--terminate into our magnificent "Dallas-Northwest Highway." It traverses right-of-way secured by these men 50 years ago. Mr. Lipscomb was married to Miss Joie Estill in 1881. To this union were born five children, Priest, Huber, Mrs. F. P. Wieggers[sp?], Miss Essie Lipscomb and Miss Willie Lipscomb. Besides his widow, he is survived by two daughters, Mr. F. P. Wieggers and Miss Essie Lipscomb, Grapevine; two sons, P. T. Lipscomb of Houston and Huber Lipscomb of Grapevine, and three grandchildren."

An obituary for Mrs. Lipscomb appeared in the Grapevine Sun on June 18, 1942: "MRS. JOIE LIPSCOMB DIES. Funeral services were held at 4:00 p.m. Saturday for Mrs. Joie Estell Lipscomb, 81, one of the oldest natives of Tarrant County, at her home here. Burial was in the Grapevine Cemetery. Mrs. Lipscomb died at the home of her son Friday, after an illness of several weeks. She was born a half mile north of Grapevine and had lived in this region all her life. Her Father, Jeff Estill, was one of the charter members of the Grapevine Masonic Lodge, organized in 1866, and her husband, the late E. J. Lipscomb, was a pioneer merchant. She was an active member of the Church of Christ up to her last illness. Survivors include two daughters, Mrs. F. P. Wieggers, Grapevine, and Miss Essie Lipscomb, Grapevine, teacher in Dallas Sunset High School; two sons, P. T. Lipscomb of Houston and Huber Lipscomb of Grapevine, and three children."

