



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Benjamin Franklin Andrews

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Family sources at Ancestry.com say Andrews was born in Lincolnshire, England on March 21, 1826 and died in Birdville on July 2, 1894. These dates agree with those on his headstone. They also show that Benjamin was the son of John Andrews (1795-1856, who was born and died in Timberland, Lincolnshire) and his wife, Hannah A. Andrews (born in England in 1797, died in Birdville, Texas in 1860).

Census records suggest that John Andrews and his family were in England as late as 1828, but by 1833 were living in New York. By 1837 they were living in Macoupin County, Illinois, where the son Jabez Andrews (a Grapevine pioneer) was born.

Andrews married Mary Ray on August 7, 1845 in Macoupin County, Illinois. She was born in 1829 in Illinois and died in 1868 at Birdville. She has a headstone in Birdville Cemetery, as does her mother-in-law, Hannah Andrews.

The family appears in the 1850 census of Dallas County, where Benjamin is shown as a plasterer. His wife, Mary, and son William are shown as natives of Illinois, while his two younger children, Angeline and Benjamin, were born in Texas. Using this census as a source, it appears that the family probably came to Texas about 1847. Since Benjamin's mother was buried at Birdville in 1860, it seems reasonable to assume they had moved to Tarrant County by that time.

By 1862 Andrews owned two hundred acres of the A. Beard survey, forty acres of the W. T. Jones survey, and twenty acres of the S. Haworth survey.

Andrews served the Confederacy in Co. C., 2nd Texas Cavalry (2nd Mounted Rifles). He enlisted at Fort Clark, Texas on June 25, 1861, at the age of thirty-six. His horse and equipment were worth \$50. He was enrolled June 8, 1861 at Fort Inge, Texas. He was shown on detached service at

Stockton, Texas since Nov. 2, 1861. Ben Andrews was mentioned in the 1865 indigent lists for Tarrant County.

His name does not appear in the 1867 voter registration lists. There are no Confederate pension applications for Texas which appear to have been made by Andrews or his wife.

After his first wife's death in 1868, Benjamin married Caroline Burgoon, who was born in Morgan County, Ohio on March 12, 1836. She was a daughter of northeast Tarrant County pioneers Charles and Mary Burgoon.

His family appears in the 1880 census of Tarrant County, and it appears from the names of his neighbors that he was living in the Birdville community at that time. With him are his second wife, Caroline, a native of Ohio whose age appears to be either 33 or 44 (the age has been overwritten by one of the other), three children from his first marriage, and a son from his marriage with Caroline named Charlie, who was born about 1874 in Texas.

Caroline (Burgoon) Andrews lived for many years after Mr. Andrews's death in 1894. Family sources say she died January 18, 1929 in Fort Worth. She lies buried in Birdville Cemetery.

Family sources at Ancestry.com list the following children for Benjamin F. Andrews and his first wife, Mary Ray: Robert Andrews; William P. Andrews (1847-); Angeline Andrews (1848-); Benjamin A. Andrews (1850-); Mary E. Andrews (1854-); Thomas J. Andrews (June 15, 1858-); Lorenza J. Andrews (1860-); Martha J. Andrews (1863-); and Alford Andrews (1866).

Benjamin and Caroline (Burgoon) Andrews were the parents of a son, Charles Henley Andrews, who was born April 3, 1874 in Tarrant County and who died on October 3, 1911; he lies buried near his mother at Birdville. Caroline Andrews told the 1900 census taker in Tarrant County that she had given birth to four children, only one of whom was still living.

An excellent biographical sketch and photograph for this veteran appeared in B. B. Paddock's History and Biographical Record of North and West Texas (Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1906), Vol. I, pp. 401-402: ***“BENJAMIN F. ANDREWS, deceased, at one time a well known and representative citizen of Tarrant county, having resided near Birdville, died on the 2nd of July, 1894. He was born in Lincolnshire, England, on the 21st of March, 1826, and was a son of John and Hannah Andrews, who were also natives of England. When their son was three years of age they crossed the briny deep to the new world, landing at New York City, where they resided for a short time. They afterward went to Illinois, in which state Benjamin F. Andrews spent the greater part of his childhood and youth, acquiring his education in the public schools there. He was first married in Illinois to Miss Mary Ray, a native of that state, and of the children born of their union six are yet living: William P., who makes his home in Georgia; Benjamin A., living in southern Texas; Robert whose home is in Parker county, this state; Thomas J., who makes his home at Grapevine, Texas; Lorenzo J., who is living in southern Texas; Mary E., the wife of James M. Shults of southern Texas. On the 11th of July, 1869, Mr. Andrews was again married, his second wife being Miss Caroline Burgoon, who was born in Morgan county, Ohio, November 12, 1836, and was a daughter of Charles and Mary (Giger) Burgoon, both of whom were natives***

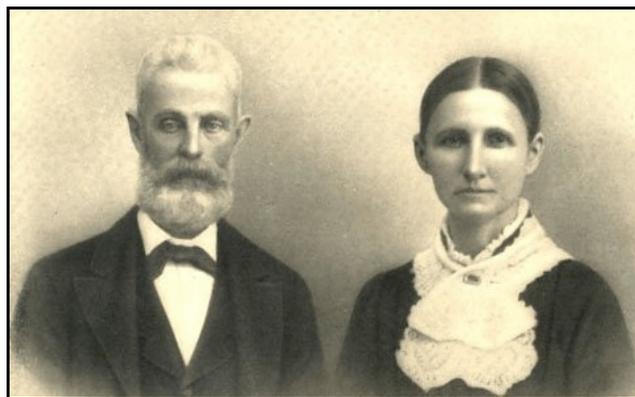
of Baltimore, Maryland. Of the children of this marriage only one is living, Charles H., who is residing upon the old home farm near Birdville.

“Mr. Andrews of this review came to Tarrant county, Texas, in 1847 and located first near the site of Fort Worth, where he lived for a short time. He afterward settled on a farm near Birdville, where his remaining days were passed, his attention being given to general agricultural pursuits, his well directed labors bringing him a fair measure of prosperity. In his death Tarrant county lost one of its best known and most highly esteemed pioneer citizens. He did much to lay broad and strong the foundation upon which the present prosperity and progress of the county has been built. In his political views he was an earnest Democrat and for a time served as justice of the peace, discharging his duties with fairness and impartiality. His many excellent traits of character gained for him the esteem of all who knew him and his life was in harmony with the precepts of Masonry, his connection with the fraternity being as a member of the lodge at Smithfield. His widow, still surviving him, now resides near Birdville. She came to Tarrant county early in the '50s and is among the honored pioneer women of this section of the state. She belongs to the Baptist church at Birdville and her kindly spirit, genial disposition and ready sympathy have gained her many friends.

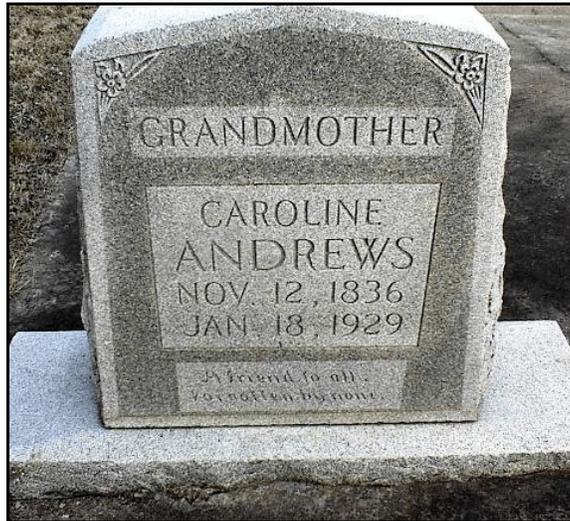
“Charles H. Andrews, the only son of this worthy couple, now resides upon the old family homestead near Birdville and is one of Tarrant county's native citizens, his birth having here occurred on the 3rd of April, 1874. He was reared in this county and from his youth to the present time has been engaged in general agricultural pursuits. Whatever he undertakes he carries forward to successful completion and the well improved appearance of his farm indicates his general supervision, his practical methods and his unfaltering enterprise.

“On the 1st of May, 1895, Mr. Andrews was married to Miss Lucy E. Merrell, who was born in Dallas county, Texas, and is a daughter of Eli Merrell, now of southern Texas. They have become the parents of four children: Charles F., Eli Merrell, Earl J. and Harry Carl.

“In his political affiliation Charles H. Andrews is a Democrat, while fraternally he is connected with the Masonic lodge at Smithfield, also with the Woodmen of the World at Fort Worth. He has a wide and favorable acquaintance in the community where he has always made his home, and while carefully conducting his private business interests he at the same time co-operates in many measures for the general good.”



Mr and Mrs. Benjamin Franklin Andrews



Headstone photos courtesy of Allen Wheatley at www.tea4two.com