



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

John P. S. Brown

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John P. S. Brown was a resident of Bransford when he applied for a Confederate pension in 1900. He was born June 24, 1826 in Alabama to two native Tennesseans, and he came to Tarrant County about 1873. Descendants report that he was the son of Thomas P. Brown and his wife, Martha Briscoe.

The 1850 census taker found John P. S. Brown with his wife, Betsy, and a son, William (born about 1849) in Winston County, Mississippi. Their next-door neighbors were John's brother, Major Brown, and John's parents, Thomas and Martha Brown.

By the time of the 1860 census, the Brown family had moved to Edom Beat in Van Zandt County, Texas. Thomas P. Brown had died, and his widow, Martha, was the head of a large family of children and grandchildren occupying several adjacent households there. Census data indicate they must have made the move about 1850 or 1851.

John P. S. Brown told Texas pension authorities he served in the Confederate Army from the spring of 1862 until the surrender in 1865 as a private in Co. E, 14th Texas Infantry. His official records show he enlisted on March 22, 1862 in Tyler, Smith County, Texas, for a term of twelve months. He had traveled eleven miles to the rendezvous for the mustering-in ceremony. On July 25, 1862 he was furloughed sick to his home in Smith County, where he remained until sometime near the first of May, 1863. He last appears in the company's records for July and August, 1863.

When the 1880 census was taken John P. S. Brown was living at Johnson Station (present-day Arlington) with his wife, Elizabeth (born about 1840 in Alabama to a South Carolinian father); a son, John D. Brown (born about 1862); a daughter, Mary E. Brown (born about 1866); and a daughter, Josie Brown (born about 1870). His next-door neighbor, Sam M. Brown (born about 1856) gave his birthplace as Texas and his parents' as Alabama, suggesting that he might also be one of their children.

There is a gravestone standing in Johnson's Station Cemetery which says, "Elizabeth, wife of J. P. S. Brown, April 6, 1824-April 6, 1905." While this would appear to be the wife of the John P. S. Brown of the 1880 census, there is an obvious discrepancy in the two birth dates given for Elizabeth Brown. This man and his wife are listed in the 1900 Tarrant County census living in the Arlington area; in this year he gave his birth date as January, 1830 and Elizabeth gave hers as October, 1830.

In 1910, John P. S. Brown was living with the family of his daughter, Mary, and son-in-law, William M. Yates, in Fort Worth at 915 Lahay Street. Family sources confirm this man to be the same man who was the Confederate pensioner and subject of this biography. Brown was still alive in Tarrant County as late as 1914. His death does not appear in the Texas vital statistics records.

Mr. Brown's daughter, Ellen Frazier, was born in Smith County, Texas on August 25, 1862. She died at Sweetwater Municipal Hospital in Nolan County, Texas on February 14, 1952, and was buried in Sweetwater Cemetery.

Mr. Brown's daughter, Mary Elizabeth Yates, was born March 16, 1865 in Van Zandt County, Texas. Her death certificate lists her parents as John Brown and Betty Malone. She died at her home in Fort Worth on May 27, 1953, and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Fort Worth.

Josephine Brown was born in Texas on July 10, 1871. She died at her home in Fort Worth on July 31, 1953. She was buried there in Greenwood Cemetery. Her death certificate says she was a widow, thus she may have married a man also named Brown or she may have resumed her maiden name before her death.