



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Archibald Earle

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Archibald Earle was a Confederate veteran who lies buried in Birdville Cemetery. He was born April 17, 1830 at Beverly in Randolph County, Virginia. He was a son of Archibald Earle and his wife, Mary (Buckey) Earle.

A very complete biographical sketch of Mr. Earle's life appeared in the Lewis Publishing Company's A History of Texas, Together With a Biographical History of Tarrant and Parker Counties..., published in 1895: "*Archibald Earl, Fort Worth, Texas, resides at "Fairview," a pretty country home. As one of the representative men of the county, he is entitled to some personal mention in this work, and we take pleasure in presenting the following sketch of his life in this volume. Archibald Earl was born in Virginia, April 17, 1830. His youthful days were spent on his father's plantation and his education was received in private schools. For some time he was engaged in teaching, and later was at Webster carrying on mercantile pursuits. In 1857 he received an appointment from President Buchanan, on the topographical corps, Pope's command, to go over the projected route of the Texas and Pacific railroad, and ascertain where water could be obtained. As a member of this corps he went through to New Mexico. At the mouth of Delaware Creek they sank a well to 1,140 feet deep, and, although they found plenty of water, it did not flow. While on this expedition they had several fights with Indians, killing some and capturing a large number, but the whole corps, numbering 204, returned in safety after having accomplished their mission. From 1859 until the outbreak of the war, Mr. Earl taught school in his native State. In 1849 and 1850 he was engaged in teaching in Iowa. In May, 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate army, in the Thirty-first Virginia Infantry and served for some time, after which he hired a substitute. Later, however, he himself entered the ranks again, and remained on duty until the close of the war, participating in many of the important battles in Virginia. Much of the time he was on scout duty, and in this way performed very efficient service. In all his army life he was never wounded, and, although he was thrice captured, he as many times made good his escape before being taken to prison. After the surrender, Mr. Earl returned home, and the following year, 1866, came to Texas, settling in this county and making Fort Worth his headquarters. Here for five years he was engaged in freighting, making trips between Houston, Jefferson, Austin, etc., and taking Government*

contracts. After this he turned his attention to the handling of stock, chiefly mules and horses, and found a market for them in Louisiana and Mississippi. In 1874 he married, having previously bought a tract of land and settled down to farming, in which occupation he has since been engaged. To his original purchase he has since added until now he has 225 acres of prairie land and a tract covered with timber, about 175 acres of his farm being under cultivation, it being operated by him and his sons, and with the aid of some hired help. He raises a diversity of crops, but his principal product is wheat. Mr. Earl is one of a family of twelve, all of whom reached maturity, his parents being Archibald and Mary (Buckey) Earl, natives of Virginia. The Earls originated in England, and some members of the family came to America and settled in the Old Dominion previous to the Revolution. The father of our subject was a prominent man in his day. He served as Clerk of both Courts for many years, at Beverly, Randolph county, Virginia (now West Virginia); was a wealthy planter and slaveholder. The Buckey family is descended from the French. Their first settlement in this country was in Pennsylvania, and later they removed to Virginia. Grandfather Peter Buckey was a hotel-keeper. Of the twelve children of Archibald and Mary Earl, we make record as follows: John B., deceased; Lucinda, who died in West Virginia in 1892, was twice married, first to A. Wilmuth and afterward to F. Leonard; Sally A., wife of D. Harper, died and left five children; Mariah, wife of George W. Ward, died and left six children; Christina M., wife of Charles W. Newton, State Senator two terms, once before the division of the State and once in West Virginia, died and left six children; Edith, deceased wife of John W. Adams, left two children; Elias B., of Virginia; Anzina, deceased wife of B. W. Crawford, left two children; Archibald, the subject of this article; Jefferson, a farmer of Tarrant county, Texas; Mary E., wife of T. C. Barlow of West Virginia, has three children, and Creed, a resident of Elkins, West Virginia. The father of this family died April 7, 1844, and the mother in March, 1863. He was a Mason of high degree, and she was a worthy member of the Methodist Protestant Church. In Rock Island county, Illinois, in 1874, Mr. Earl married Miss Addie F. Brown, who was born in Beverly, Virginia, January 14, 1844, daughter of Bernard L. and Mary E. (Dailey) Brown. Mr. Brown was a fine lawyer but, on account of his defective hearing, did not practice his profession. After the death of the senior Mr. Earl, as above stated, Mr. Brown was elected to succeed him as Clerk, which position he held until death. Besides this office, he filled that of Commissioner of Chancery, and was surveyor many years. In 1837, he moved from his native place, Albemarle, Virginia, where he remained until the war. During the war he took sides with the South, and made his home in Albemarle, and afterward returned to Beverly to find his dwelling demolished. He died in Beverly in 1868. Immediately after his death his widow removed with her family to Rock Island county, Illinois. Subsequently she returned to Virginia, where she still resides. Mr. and Mrs. Earl have had three children. — Archibald B., Charles J., and Clay C. Clay C. died August 27, 1883. Mr. Earl is Democratic in his political views, and has always taken an interest in public affairs. He has served as deputy Sheriff and Constable. Mrs. Earl is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.”

Mr. Earle's Confederate records in Washington show that he enlisted January 1, 1864 at Huntersville, Virginia in Co. I, 19th Virginia Cavalry. He is shown present on a roll for the period February 19 to August 31, 1864. On a roll for September and October, 1864, he is shown present with extra daily duty. His name appears on a receipt for clothing for the third quarter of 1864. He was paroled at Harrisonburg, Virginia on May 2, 1865. A signed copy of his parole and oath of allegiance remains in his file. At the time of his parole, he was thirty-two years old, 6 feet tall, and had a light complexion, dark hair, and hazel eyes.

Mr. Earle died October 13, 1903 in Tarrant County, and was buried in Birdville Cemetery. His wife, Addie F. Earle, died June 20, 1933 in Tarrant County and lies buried beside him. No obituary has been found for him in the Fort Worth newspapers.

