



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

John C. Holman

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John C. Holman was born in Missouri about 1832. He was a son of Hardy and Sarah (Stewart) Holman, who were married in Overton County, Tennessee on September 27, 1818. The family lived in Missouri for a number of years after leaving Tennessee. By 1850 the Holmans had settled in Smith County, Texas. The elder Holman died in Austin, Travis County, Texas on April 5, 1856, and lies buried there in Oakwood Cemetery.

The Holman family moved from Missouri to Texas about 1849. When the 1850 census was taken, Hardy Holman Sr. and his family were living in Smith County, where he was working as a “tavern keeper” and hotel keeper. With him were his wife, Sarah (born in South Carolina about 1805 in South Carolina), and five of his children: Alexander S. Holman (born about 1825 in Tennessee); John C. Holman (born about 1832 in Missouri); Martha A. Holman (born about 1834 in Missouri); William A. Holman (born about 1836 in Missouri), and Hardy S. Holman (born about 1839 in Missouri). Eight men were living in their hotel in that year, including two lawyers, a land trader, a physician, a grocer, a laborer, a dry goods clerk, and a trader.

Holman was in Tarrant County by December 4, 1858, when he assisted in making an inventory of the estate of Joseph Lester, who died in Tarrant County on September 25, 1858.

J. C. Holman appears in the 1860 tax lists for Tarrant County as the owner of fourteen acres of the J. C. Holman survey, worth \$1400, and as the owner of three town lots in Birdville, worth \$30. He also appears as the agent for three other Holman men, H. S., W. R., and W. A. Holman, representing their interests in property in the C. Conrad survey.

Like many other northeast Tarrant County men, John C. Holman enlisted in the Confederate service in Co. E, 12th Texas Infantry (also known as the 8th Texas Infantry and as Young’s Texas Infantry). He was twenty-nine years old when he enlisted in Tarrant County on April 30, 1862. At some time

in July or August, 1862 he was “sick on detachment.” On a muster roll for January and February, 1864, he is shown as absent on furlough, at which time he was still a private. His name appears on a regimental return for April, 1865, at which time his rank was Sr. 2nd Lt., with a notation that he was absent on a 30-day leave in Parker County, Texas.

His file contains an extremely interesting original request for that thirty-day leave, dated at Pied Mont Springs, Texas April 10, 1865...[in Grimes County, Texas] incidentally the day after Lee had surrendered to Grant in Virginia, although the 12th Texas would not learn of it for some time. It is lengthy document in Mr. Holman’s own handwriting, and it says: *“Camp Pied Mont Springs Texas April 10th 1865 Lt. Col. _____ I the undersigned would most respectfully ask for (30) thirty days leave of absence to visit his home in Tarrant County, Texas, distance about two hundred miles, for the following reasons 1st He has a family consisting of a wife and three small children & if allowed to visit his home at this season of the year he could be of more benefit to them than in any other in gathering his scattered stock, and also in rendering some assistance in making a crop which his family will have to depend upon for bread for the next year. 2nd He has just learned that one of his brothers also returned home who has been in the Army East of the Mississippi River and he has not seen him for over three years, 3rd He has not been home on a leave of absence since January 1864 but went home last Sept on detail of 45 days to procure clothing for the company, but owing to the fact that the company was mostly raised in other counties than the one he lives in & the business requiring most of his time and attention he could be of but little benefit to his family. 4th Two commissioned officers of the company have been at home this year and returned, one other has not been home since myself but waives his preference which appears by his annexed statement. 5th There are three (3) commissioned officers present for duty in the company & one on duty as acting major. Very Respectfully Your Servt J. C. Holman 2nd Lieut Company “E” 8th Regt Tex Infty”*

Mr. Holman and his family remained in Tarrant County after the War. He is listed in Precinct 3 of the 1870 Tarrant County census with his wife, Bell (born about 1836 in Alabama) and their children L. S. Holman (a daughter born about 1856 in Texas), J. H. Holman (a son born about 1861 in Texas), and M. M. Holman (a daughter born about 1867 in Texas).

No one appearing to be this John C. Holman or his wife, Bell Holman, widow applied for a Confederate pension from the State of Texas. No one appearing to be either of them has a death certificate on file in the Texas death records.