



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Daniel Edward Lebow

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Daniel Edward Lebow was a Union veteran of a Tennessee regiment who lived at Smithfield for a few years around 1890. He later moved to Oklahoma, and finally to Dallas County, Texas where he died in 1908.

Family sources at Ancestry.com report he was born in Blount County, Tennessee on October 26, 1839, the son of Richard Lebow (born in 1815 in Claiborne County, Tennessee; died in 1880 in Blount County, Tennessee) and Amy Eliza George (born in 1814 in Blount County, Tennessee; died in 1880). “Edward” Lebow appears with this family in the 1850 census of Blount County, an eleven-year-old boy. Richard Lebow was not a slave owner.

There are two Daniel Lebows in the 1860 census of Blount County, Tennessee. One is a twenty-year-old in the family of Richard and Amy “Lebo.” Their next-door neighbors were the family of Samuel and Elizabeth Neely, including a daughter named Sarah who was born about 1849. The Daniel Lebo who came to Texas married a girl named Sarah Neely in Madison County, Alabama in 1865, and was apparently in partnership with a Mr. Neely while living in Smithfield, Texas in the 1890’s. However, it seems unlikely that this Sarah Neely was his wife, since his wife is shown in census records to have been born in Alabama.

The census taker in 1860 also found a Daniel Lebow living in the town of Louisville in Blount County, Tennessee. He was working as a common-school teacher, living in the household of a wagon-maker named James M. George. This Mr. Lebow said he was twenty-one years old and a native of Tennessee. The Daniel Lebow who came to Texas spent some time working as a school teacher.

The Daniel E. Lebow who later lived in Smithfield, Texas served in the Union army as a second lieutenant in Co. L, 3rd Tennessee Cavalry. He enlisted at Nashville, Tennessee on March 10, 1864,

for a term of three years. He said he was twenty-three years old. On November 20, 1864 he entered the hospital at Nashville for an unknown reason, but it may have been in connection with his imprisonment by the Southern Army, from which he had recently escaped.

Lebow's file in the National Archives contains an original handwritten letter from him, signed and dated at Nashville, Tennessee on January 28, 1865. In it, he says he had lately been a prisoner of the Confederates but escaped in September, 1864. Since the remainder of his command was still in Southern hands, he asked for a transfer to some other service. He requested duty on the military railroad because he had a ***“rupture that has rendered me unfit for cavalry duty again. Yet I do not wish to be discharged from the service.”***

He became a conductor on the military railroad on February 9, 1865, and served at that post until he was mustered out at Pulaski, Tennessee on August 3, 1865. His age was given as twenty-two at that time.

An original memorandum in his file, dated July 1, 1865, says “He was at Huntsville, Ala., the last heard from.” He was mustered out of the service on August 3, 1865. He gave his age as twenty-two at that time.

Daniel E. Lebow married Sarah Neeley in Madison County, Alabama on August 17, 1865. She was the daughter of James Neely (born about 1806 in Virginia) and his wife, Elizabeth (born about 1810 in Tennessee). Their daughter, Sarah, is shown in the 1860 Madison County census as a girl aged thirteen years. The Neelys were very comfortable; Mr. Neely was a pumpmaker who owned \$10,000 worth of real estate and \$6800 in personal property in 1860 (including seven slaves). Mr. Lebow registered to vote in Madison County two years later, in 1867.

By 1870, Lebow and his family lived in Huntsville, Alabama's Ward No. 2, in Madison County. He said he was thirty years old. He was working as a carpenter. His wife, Sarah, was a native of Alabama who was born about 1843. They had two children by that time: Blanche Lebow, who was born about 1867, and Edward Lebow, who was born about 1868. Both the children were born in Alabama. The Lebows were living in a household headed by Mrs. Lebow's mother, Sarah Neely, who the census says was born about 1811 in North Carolina. Mrs. Neely's son, John Neely, born about 1843 in Alabama, was also with them. Mrs. Neely may have been operating a boarding house, since there were several apparently-unrelated individuals also living with them, or perhaps they continued to operate the late Mr. Neely's pump-making business which he owned before the War.

Ten years later, in 1880, the Lebows had moved to Texas and were listed in the census of Precinct 8, Dallas County, Texas. Daniel was again working as a school teacher. His first wife, Sarah, had apparently died and he had remarried to Ora Belle Conner, who the census says was born about 1855 in Kentucky to two Kentuckians. They had only one child with them, Edward Lebow, who was born about 1868 in Alabama. Ora's sister, Ola Conner, born about 1863 in Texas, was also living with them.

Lebow's name appears in the Dallas County Directory for the years 1881-1882. He was at that time the school teacher at the Sowers Store community, twelve miles northwest of Dallas, in Dallas's Precinct 8.

Daniel E. Lebow was listed in the 1890 census of Union Civil War veterans as a resident of Smithfield in Tarrant County. In the tax list for that year, he and a Mr. Neely are shown as the owners of two acres of the John McCommas survey in Smithfield.

When the 1891 tax list was compiled for Tarrant County, Lebow was shown as the owner of three-quarters of an acre of the John W. McCommas survey in Smithfield, worth two hundred dollars. He also owned two town lots in Smithfield, worth a total of one hundred seventy dollars. His personal property consisted of one carriage worth sixty-five dollars and one horse or mule worth sixty dollars.

On January 18, 1892, Daniel E. Lebow filed his application for a federal pension based upon his Union service. The death certificate of one of the Lebow children says the family was living at Smithfield in 1892.

At some time in the middle-or-late 1890's, Daniel Lebow moved his family to Sheridan, Garfield County, Oklahoma, where they appear in the 1900 census. Their next-door neighbors were James E. Neely and his family; the same Mr. Neely with whom Lebow was in partnership at Smithfield in the 1890's. One of the Neely grandchildren is shown as having been born in the Oklahoma Territory in July of 1893. It may be that the Neelys and the Lebows made the move from Texas at the same time, perhaps as a part of one of the land runs.

Shown as Daniel "Leboll," in the 1900 census, he had his wife, "Olpha?" with him, and two of their children: "Lulie" and "Blake J.," both of whom were born in Texas. Mrs. Lebow said she had given birth to three children, all of whom were still alive. They owned the farm on which they were living.

When the 1900 census was taken, Lula Lebow was also listed in the census living with her grandparents, the Connors, in Precinct 4 of Dallas County. She was attending school. Mrs. Lebow also received a Union veteran widow's pension, which she applied for on July 17, 1908.

Mr. Lebow died on July 8, 1908 at his home in Dallas at 180 Ewing Avenue. An excellent and informative obituary appeared for him the Dallas Morning News the next day: ***"DANIEL E. LEBOW DEAD. Old-Time Tennessean and Texas Pioneer Reaches End. Daniel E. LeBow, aged 69 years, died at noon yesterday at his home, 180 Ewing avenue, Oak Cliff. He had been in failing health for several months and while his death came as no surprise, it was an occasion for sincere grief among the large number of friends in this county. He was a native of Knox County, Tennessee. When a young man, he attended the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and was a classmate there of Hon. W. P. Brownlow, Congressman from the First District in Tennessee.***

"At the beginning of the Civil War, he enlisted in Company E, Third Tennessee Regiment, which was in the army of the United States. In 1863 he was made a Lieutenant in the company, and at

the close of the bitter contest he was a Captain. He was a member of the Richard J. Oglesby Post, Grand Army of the Republic.

“Accepting the result of the war as a settlement of the questions that distracted the Nation, Mr. Lebow devoted himself to restoring again the life and the prosperity of the South. In 1874 he came to Texas and for more than twenty years he was a teacher in Dallas and Tarrant Counties. Hundreds of men and women now in leading place in this and in other States were his pupils and he was loved by scores of them who wrote with frequency to him as their old teacher.

“He was a skilled mechanic and in the latter years of his life he devoted much time to cabinet making. He was one of the old-style Southern men, hospitable, forgiving and enterprising, buoyant in spirit and hopeful always. He was a man of refined, Christian character, never uttering an oath nor retelling a story he would not have ladies hear.

“Capt. LeBow is survived by his widow, who was Miss Ora Conner, to whom he was married in 1879; and by two daughters and a son, namely, Mrs. Lula Aynesworth, wife of Dr. Aynesworth of Galveston; Mrs. Birdie Houston of Oak Cliff and James Blaine LeBow, of this city.

“The funeral from the residence at 9 o’clock this morning will be conducted by Rev. Joe W. English of Convention Memorial Baptist Church. Interment will be in Pleasant Mound Cemetery.

“The following will be pallbearers: George W. Coley, W. H. Adamson, E. B. Duncan, Rev. Frank Park, Judge R. F. Marshall and R. S. Waldron.”

When the 1910 census was taken his widow, Ora Lebow, was living in Dallas County in the home of Jane F. Conner, who was born about 1827 in Kentucky. Both Mrs. Conner and Mrs. Lebow are shown as widows, and Ora is shown as Jane’s daughter. They were at the time living in the area of Scyene Road and Elam Road in District 91 of Justice Precinct 4.

Mrs. Ora Belle Lebow died at her home at 134 South Ewing Street in Dallas, Texas on July 1, 1941. Her death certificate shows her to have been born in Kentucky on December 20, 1852, a daughter of J. T. Conner and Lucinda Pemberton. She was buried at Pleasant Mound Cemetery in Dallas, as were her husband and parents before her. Both Mr. and Mrs. Lebow’s graves are apparently unmarked.

One of Daniel Lebow’s daughters was Lula Lebow Aynesworth, who was born June 18, 1880. She was divorced and living with her mother in 1930. Her death certificate says she died August 28, 1947 at her home in Waco, McLennan County, Texas at 808 North Fifteenth Street. She was buried in Rosemound Cemetery in Waco.

Another of his daughters was Birdie Lebow Clark, was born November 23, 1884 in Dallas County, Texas. In 1930, she too was divorced and was living with her mother and sister, Lula Aynesworth. Birdie’s death certificate says she died on October 4, 1962 in Houston, Harris County, Texas. Her usual place of residence was shown as 134 South Ewing Street in Dallas. She was buried in Pleasant Mound Cemetery in Dallas County, Texas.

One son was James Blaine Lebow, who was born at Smithfield, Tarrant County, Texas on April 25, 1892. By 1920 he was working in Dallas as a public accountant. In 1930 he and his wife were living in Shreveport, Louisiana, where he was the treasurer of a gas-producing company. When he registered at the time of World War II, he gave his birthdate as April 25, 1893. In 1942 he was living at 2601 Parkway in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he was working for the Securities and Exchange Commission. He died at his home at 2911 Lemmon Avenue in Dallas, Texas on May 30, 1948. He was buried at Restland Cemetery in Dallas. The informant for the death certificate was Mrs. Erel J. LeBow. Mr. Lebow was an investment advisor. He married Erel Jones, also a native of Smithfield.