



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

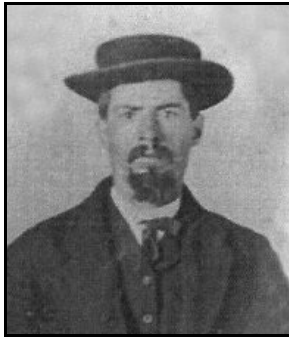
Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Andrew Jackson Looper

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Andrew J. Looper  
as a young man

Andrew Jackson Looper was a Confederate veteran who lived for many years in Grapevine after marrying the daughter of one of its pioneers, Daniel Starr. Andrew moved several times within his life, and finally died in Clovis, New Mexico.

One of Mr. Looper's great-granddaughters, Vonnie Looper Munnerlyn, now of Weatherford, Texas, submitted a long sketch of his family to the Grapevine Area History, published in 1979. Much of this biography is taken from it.

According to family researchers, Andrew Jackson Looper was born in Clarksville, Johnson County, Arkansas on May 6, 1846. He was a son of Joseph Looper (1818-1862) and his wife, Rebecca Ann (Allred) Looper (1824-1863), both of whom died in Johnson County, Arkansas. Census information suggests that Joseph Looper moved his family from Missouri to Arkansas about 1843.

In 1850, Andrew was living with his parents and siblings in Piney Township, Johnson County, Arkansas. When the 1860 census was taken, they were still in Johnson County, but were living in Pilot Rock Township; Andrew was fourteen years old and was attending school.

Andrew J. Looper served the Confederacy in Co. D, Shaler's Company of the 27<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Infantry. A short history of the regiment may be found on the internet at:

<http://www.couchgenweb.com/civilwar/27infhis.html>

According to Mrs. Munnerlyn, Looper came to Grapevine after service in the Confederate army and went to work for Daniel Starr. He and one of Starr's daughters, Margaret Catherine Starr, were

married at Grapevine on February 28, 1867. They soon moved back to Johnson County, Arkansas, where their first child was born on June 8, 1868. Not long after Daniel Starr became seriously ill in 1870, they returned to Grapevine in time for their second son to be born here in August, 1870.

Margaret Catherine Starr was born in Monroe County, Illinois on August 10, 1846. She came to Texas in an ox-drawn wagon about 1854 with her parents, Rev. Daniel Starr (1813-1870) and his wife, Angeline (Levisse) Starr (1812-1903). They had settled in Grapevine by October 27, 1855, when Margaret's last sibling was born here.

When the 1870 census was taken, A. J. Looper, his wife, and oldest son are shown in the Grapevine area next-door to Mrs. Looper's father, Daniel Starr. The 1880 census taker found them still living in the same place, with the Starrs as their neighbors.

In 1885 the Loopers left Tarrant County. Their next-to-last child was born in Henrietta, Clay County, Texas in 1886; their last child was born in 1889 at Baldwin in the Indian Territory.

On May 11, 1890, Looper was appointed first postmaster at Moneka, Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory. He served for five years. During this time he also owned a mill and gin at Hennepin in the Indian Territory, now in Garvin County, Oklahoma. Mrs. Munnerlyn has an undated newspaper article from the Ada, Oklahoma newspaper entitled: "Confederate Veterans Elect Their Officers," which says that A. J. Looper had recently been elected 2nd Lieutenant of the William L. Boyd Camp of Confederate Veterans.

In the early 1900's Jack and several other members of the family moved to Clovis in Curry County, New Mexico, because of his health. He died there on November 19, 1914. His wife died March 12, 1935.

The census taker in 1910 found Andrew J. Looper living in Blacktower Township, Precinct 3, of Curry County, New Mexico. In that year, Margaret Looper said she had given birth to twelve children, only eight of whom were still living. Their daughter, Birdie, was still living with them.

The children of Andrew J. and Margaret C. Looper included James Daniel Looper, George Sylvinis Looper, Prudence Rosetta Looper, B. Looper, Nora Ann Looper, Cora Lee Looper, Elias Looper, Barton Hampton Looper, Margaret Angeline Looper, Emma Bell Looper, and Birdie Mae Looper. If Mrs. Looper's 1910 statement to the census taker was correct, there was another child who probably died young.

James Daniel Looper was born June 8, 1868 in Johnson County, Arkansas, the only one of the Looper children to be born there. He married Lucy Owen in 1892, and died August 18, 1946 in Clovis, New Mexico.

George Sylvinis Looper was born August 24, 1870 at Grapevine in Tarrant County, Texas, the first of the Looper children to be born here. According to Mrs. Munnerlyn, "...George left home at seventeen, went to the California coast and became a performer in a Wild West Show. The "Show" made its way to Australia by boat. In Australia, George used his mother's maiden name and tagged

himself 'Bronco George Starr.' He made quite a name for himself around Queensland as a trick rider. It is said he was owner or part-owner of several different Wild West Shows, later Circuses, and made his home in Texas, Australia..." He died September 1, 1955 at Maryborough, Queensland, Australia. He had several children.



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Looper and their daughter, Birdie Choat.



Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Looper at a family gathering at Sugden, Indian Territory.

Prudence Rosetta Looper was born January 2, 1873 and died January 30, 1961 in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. She married Joseph B. Montgomery on December 17, 1892 in Peary, Indian Territory.

B. Looper was born May 11, 1875. He had no given name, only the single initial "B." He married Martha Elizabeth "Mattie" Owens. He worked as a blacksmith and deputy sheriff at Hastings, Indian Territory.

Nora Ann Looper was born January 11, 1877. She married John Henderson Thompson, a son of Robert Green Thompson and Nancy Elizabeth Lister, on November 28, 1894 in Peery, Noble County, Indian Territory. She died May 8, 1908 giving birth to her fourth child.

Cora Lee Looper was born October 20, 1879. She married Robert Lee Thompson, a son of Robert Green Thompson and Nancy Elizabeth Lister, on November 25, 1894 in Peery, Noble County, Indian Territory. She died May 19, 1961 in Hastings, Oklahoma.

Elias Looper was born September 18, 1880. He died April 28, 1882 in Grapevine, Texas. He has no readable gravestone in Tarrant County.

Barton Hampton Looper was born February 24, 1882. He died October 5, 1899 in Hennepin, Indian Territory, after being accidentally shot while hunting with a younger nephew. He lies buried in Hennepin Cemetery with a readable headstone.

Margaret Angeline Looper was born January 9, 1884, the last of the Looper children to be born in Tarrant County. Margaret married Gilbert Hampton Shankle on June 1, 1902 in Addington, Oklahoma. She died September 6, 1969 in Panhandle, Texas.

Emma Bell Looper was born February 25, 1886 at Henrietta in Clay County, Texas. Emma married Walter Erastus Bowles on August 5, 1902 in Hastings, Oklahoma, and died September 12, 1968 in Weslaco, Texas.

Birdie Mae Looper was born December 14, 1889 at Baldwin, Indian Territory. Birdie married Sammie Reynolds Choate on January 29, 1913 in Petersburg, Hale County, Texas. She died July 20, 1981 in Clovis, New Mexico, the last survivor of Andrew Jackson Looper's children.

Many descendants have placed material on Looper and his family at [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com).

Photos courtesy of Vonnie Munnerlyn of Weatherford, Texas.