



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Benjamin N. Browning

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Benjamin N. Browning was born in Calhoun County, Alabama, on April 1, 1837. He was a son of James S. Browning and his wife, Drady Parks. Benjamin's grandfather, Robert L. Browning, was a soldier in the American Revolution. In 1850, Benjamin lived in Benton County, Alabama with his parents and siblings. Census records suggest that the family had come to Alabama from North Carolina only a year or two before Benjamin's birth; this information conflicts with the statement Benjamin made about his birthplace when he was applying for a pension in 1910.

In 1860, Browning and his seventeen-year-old wife, Permelia, were living without any children in Ranges 5-6-7, Calhoun County, Alabama. His father and sister were living nearby; the elder Browning owned three slaves in that year.

Benjamin served in the Confederate army in Co. A, 2nd Alabama Cavalry. He enlisted March 8, 1862 at Jacksonville, Alabama for a term of three years. He was mustered into the Confederate service at Montgomery, Alabama on April 27, 1862. He was present in the regiment June 30, 1862-October 31, 1862, as shown by a surviving muster roll. He appears on a regimental report for December, 1862; on it he is shown having been in the Greenville Hospital since November 5, 1862. On a report for the period beginning December 31, 1862, he is shown on courier duty. He was on courier duty in July and August, 1863. The last surviving muster roll for the company, for August 31 through October 30, 1863, shows him absent on the courier line at that time.

Browning and his family came to Texas about 1868. They were living in Precinct 4 of Fannin County in 1870, in the area served by the Honey Grove post office. With him were his wife Purnela, (born about 1841 in Georgia); and their children: James W. Browning (born about 1860); Alfred Y. Browning (born about 1864); Lafayette W. Browning (born about 1866); and Walter R. Browning (born about 1868). Also with the family were his father James S. Browning (born about 1804 in North Carolina), and his sister, Sarah M. Browning (born about 1840).

They were still in Precinct 4 of Fannin County in 1880. The children in the family in that year were J. M. Browning (a son born about 1860); A. Y. Browning (a son born about 1864); W. N. Browning (a son born about 1866); E. W. Browning (a son born about 1868); M. D. Browning (a daughter born about 1871); H. H. Browning (a son born about 1873); S. E. Browning (a daughter born about 1874); L. P. Browning (a daughter born about 1876); and D. C. Browning (a daughter born about 1878).

Soon after the 1880 census they moved to northeast Tarrant County.

A few family researchers have posted information about Benjamin and his family at Ancestry.com. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Browning has a death certificate in Tarrant County.

Browning applied for a Confederate pension in 1910 while he was a resident of Keller. He said he was seventy-three years old on April 1, 1910, and a native of Calhoun County, Alabama. He had been in Texas forty-two years, and in Keller since about 1878.

Benjamin N. Browning died January 25, 1917, and was buried in Bourland Cemetery in Keller. His wife, P. A. Browning lies beside him. The dates shown on her headstone are July 2, 1842 and March 1, 1916. Their son, A. Y. Browning (1868-1943) lies buried beside them. Their son, J. M. Browning (July 8, 1860-March 10, 1917) is buried nearby with several members of his family.

