



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

Barbara Knox and Rob Yoder, County Coordinators

Copyright © 2008. All rights reserved.

Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Rev. Enoch Clark Leake

Compiled by Michael Patterson
Copyright 2008. All rights reserved.

Rev. Enoch Clark Leake was a Confederate and pioneer in the Grapevine area. He enlisted in Grapevine, and later left the area to become a Baptist minister.

Enoch Clark Leake was born in Woodford County, Kentucky on December 21, 1841, according to a statement he gave the Robert E. Lee Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Fort Worth. His death certificate gives the date as February 22, 1841. Family sources at Ancestry.com say his father's name was Josiah Leake (1811-1883), who died at Waxahachie, Ellis County, Texas. If internet sources are reliable, Enoch was probably named for his maternal grandfather, Enoch Leake.

By the time the 1850 census was taken, and probably in either 1849 or 1850 if the birthplaces of Josiah Leake's children are correct as listed, Josiah left Kentucky and settled in District 46 of Lafayette County, Missouri. In that year, Josiah is shown to have been a Missionary Baptist clergyman.

Like many other northeast Tarrant County men, Enoch enlisted in Co. A, 34th Texas Cavalry. His official records in the National Archives in Washington say he enlisted at Grapevine on January 15, 1862 under Lt. Hiram Crowley for a term of twelve months. On a roll for February 28 through June 30, 1863 he is shown present, and due \$11 for the use of his own arms through December 17, 1862, and for traveling 110 miles to the regimental rendezvous when he entered the service. He appears on several records as a 5th Sergeant. On the roll for January and February, 1864, he is shown as the regimental color bearer.

Like so many other Grapevine area men, the Battle of Yellow Bayou, Louisiana on May 18, 1864 was a disaster for Enoch; he was captured during the fighting there that day. The regiment's beloved Captain Hiram Crowley, was killed there the same day. Leake was sent to New Orleans as a prisoner where he arrived on May 21. From there he was sent to Red River Landing, Louisiana, and

exchanged on July 22, 1864. There are also two medical records in his file which may in fact belong to someone else with a similar name, since they clearly say that the soldier to whom they refer was in a Texas artillery battery, even though the names are very similar.

Some internet family sources report that Enoch was first married on August 10, 1865 in Texas to Isabel Caroline "Twinette" Thomas. Those same sources report her birth date as October 10, 1852 and her death date as April 6, 1872. If these dates are correct, Isabel would not have reached her thirteenth birthday before the marriage.

For a time after the War, Leake lived in Ellis County, Texas, and may have also lived in Kaufman County for a time. There is an interesting note in the diary of a Navarro County settler, Jacob Eliot (1803-1870) on September 20, 1862, recounting a religious meeting in which one of the Baptist preachers was Rev. Leake of Ellis County. This may refer to Enoch's father, Josiah Leake, who was also a Baptist preacher during those years in Ellis and surrounding counties.

Enoch married Amanda Elizabeth Edmondson in Ellis County on October 13, 1875. She was born January 22, 1844 in Tennessee and died in Ellis County, Texas on March 3, 1885.

The 1880 census found Enoch and his family living in District 49 of Ellis County. With him were his wife, Elizabeth, and their daughter, Mary (born about 1879). Also with the family were Elizabeth's brother, Elmore Edmondson (a cattle driver) and her father, Obe Edmondson (a cattle dealer). By 1880, Enoch had become a minister.

Family internet sources at Ancestry.com report that Enoch next married Frances Emma Sewell in Franklin County, Georgia on September 22, 1886. She was born in Franklin County, Georgia on July 17, 1858, and was the daughter of Levi Sewell (1812-1897) and his wife, Nancy Elizabeth (Aderhold) Sewell (1818-1892). Frances died March 29 (state records say March 28), 1933 in Nueces County, Texas.

In 1900 Enoch and his family were living in Navarro County, Texas in District 106 of Precinct 5. With him were his wife, Frances E. Leake, and their four children: Jewell Leake (born in October 1887 in Texas); Grace T. Leake (born in August 1889 in Texas); Theodore L. Leake (born in April 1890 in Oklahoma); and Carroll H. Leake (born in June 1894 in Oklahoma). Mrs. Leake told the census taker she had given birth to four children, and all four of them were still living. Enoch was a member of the C. M. Winkler Camp of United Confederate Veterans in Navarro County, Texas.

When the 1910 census was taken, Enoch and his wife and children were living in District 152, Precinct 1, of Victoria County, Texas. All four children were still with them, and no more had been born, according to a statement Mrs. Leake made at the time. The family also included a ten-month-old adopted son, Edwin Deward (or Seward). This census reports that Enoch was in his second marriage, while Emma was in her first. This seems to discount the 1865 marriage which some internet sources have shown.

Family sources report that Enoch had children in each of his two (or possibly three) marriages.

Enoch Leake applied for a Confederate pension in 1912 while he was living at Yoakum in Dewitt County, Texas. He told pension officials he had enlisted on Grapevine Prairie on August 31, 1861, and had left the service at Hempstead, Texas on May 20, 1865. He said he had been in Texas fifty-one years, hence he must have arrived about 1861. He said he had lived at Yoakum since August 1, 1911. He was a Baptist Preacher. He said he first served as cavalry, but was dismounted after the first ten months. He said he was a first sergeant at the end of the War. His file contains a receipt for burial expenses from Buffington Undertaking Co. of Yoakum, Texas.

A mortuary warrant in his file says he died February 20, 1920 in his rented home. His death certificate reveals that he died at his home at 612 Simpson Street in Yoakum at 5 p.m. of heart failure, probably angina pectoris. The physician who signed his death certificate wrote that "I saw him after death." The informant for the death certificate was C. H. Leake of Yoakum, Texas. He was buried on Feb. 22, 1920. He was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Lavaca County, Texas.