



TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Benjamin Franklin White

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Benjamin Franklin White served the Confederacy as a soldier in Capt. William W. McGinnis's Company, which was raised in Tarrant County. After the War he moved to Robertson County, Texas, where he died.

Benjamin was a brother of Tarrant County pioneer Joseph White (1812-1887), and was the uncle of two of our northeast Tarrant County veterans, William Henry White and Alexander F. White. Benjamin Franklin White was born in Kentucky on July 17, 1817. White family genealogists say he was born in Garrard County, Kentucky.

By the time of the 1850 census, Benjamin F. White was living in District 35 of Grundy County, Missouri, and was working as a carpenter. With him were an older White female, possibly his mother, and two younger White men, one of whom, Merideth White, also later came to Tarrant County. It seems likely they were his brothers. Mary White was born about 1798 in Maryland, William White was born about 1823 and was working as a carpenter; and Merideth White was born about 1829 and was a farmer. Both the younger White men were born in Kentucky. In view of the fact that their older brother, Joseph, was born in 1812, it may be that Mary White may have been a second wife. Joseph and his family were also living in District 35 in 1850.

Joseph White and his family moved to Tarrant County, Texas in 1858, and it seems possible that Benjamin and Merideth, and perhaps others in the family, made the trip at the same time. One B. White appears in the 1860 tax lists for Tarrant County, as do Joseph White and M. White.

Benjamin White served in Captain William W. McGinnis's Company. In a pension application made by the widow of one of White's comrades, B. R. Wall of Grapevine stated: "...Col. McGinnis lived between here and Roanoke, Texas and died when I was a small boy. I have often heard the people speak of this organization as a cavalry troop which chased bushwhackers and deserters.;" this was in a letter written in 1931.

Benjamin F. White does not appear in the 1865 tax lists for Tarrant County. He appears in the censuses for 1870 and 1880 in Robertson County, Texas. In 1870, Benjamin appears as the head of a household in Precinct 2 (Hearne). His wife had apparently died and his immediate family consisted on only two sons: John White (born in Missouri about 1856) and William White (born about 1858 in Texas). Benjamin was still working as a carpenter.

In 1880, White was still living in the same place and was working as a tie contractor [making railroad ties?]. He was still a widower. The occupations of those around him in the census would suggest he may have been living in the town of Hearne, rather than on a farm. He had three children living with him: Ortha Jane White (born about 1853 in Missouri); William B. White (born about 1857 in Texas); and Alice White (born about 1860 in Texas). Alice was working as an apartment house keeper.

Benjamin F. White died in Robertson County, Texas on June 10, 1893 and was buried in Norwood Cemetery in Hearne, Texas. His son, William B. White (September 27, 1857 - June 9, 1895) is also buried there.

