



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Francis Marion Dwight

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Francis Marion Dwight, one of the few among our veterans who was a native of the Republic of Texas, served in two different Texas regiments during the Civil War. He lived for several years in the Lonesome Dove area before moving to Wise County before his death.

Francis Marion Dwight was born March 14, 1844 in Houston County, Republic of Texas. He was a son of a miller, George E. Dwight and his wife, Malinda Frost Dwight. When the census was taken in 1850, the family was living in Houston County. In an unusual act of forethought, the census taker in that year recorded the county and state in which many of the citizens he contacted were born. Thus we know that George Dwight was in Texas by about 1835, and in Houston County by about 1837. One of his children was born in Anderson County, Texas about 1849.

Family history relates that George and Malinda (Frost) Dwight were at Parker's Fort in present-day Limestone County, Texas when it was attacked by Indians on May 19, 1836. This was the famous attack in which Cynthia Ann Parker was abducted. Malinda's father, Samuel Frost, and her brother, Robert Frost, were among those killed that day.

When the 1860 census was taken, Mr. Dwight was living in Limestone County, Texas with his siblings, mother, stepfather...Allen Hill...and various other family members. They were living in an area served by the Springfield, Texas post office.

Mr. Dwight's records in the National Archives reveal that he enlisted in the Confederate service at Centerville, Texas on March 13, 1862 for a term of twelve months. He became a private in Co. D of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion (also known as the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion of Texas Cavalry and as Gould's Battalion). He was eighteen years old when he enlisted for a term of twelve months.

He was formally mustered into the Confederate service at Camp Burnett, Houston County, Texas, on the same day. His unit was attached to the 13th Texas Cavalry. He presented himself for service

riding a horse worth \$112.50 and with equipment worth twenty dollars. On another roll the valuations were set at one hundred twenty-five and fifteen dollars, respectively. He last appears in the records of this organization on the muster rolls for May and June, 1863.

Mr. Dwight next appears in the records of Co. G, 34<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry. He received a sixty-day furlough from that regiment on February 14, 1864. In April of 1865 when a regimental return was made of the men available for duty, Mr. Dwight was away from the regiment sick in Leon County, Texas. No further records of his Confederate service have been found in the National Archives.

Mr. Dwight and his new wife appear in the census in Precinct 2 of Tarrant County, apparently living in the present-day Southlake area. With them were Francis's younger brother, J. J. Dwight, five Hill children who were probably his half-siblings, and one G. A. Richardson, a three-year-old girl. In 1870 he owned no real estate, but was next-door to J. J. Youngblood (his father in law) who did. In that year J. J. Youngblood owned eighty acres of the M. M. Freeman survey worth two hundred dollars. 200. This survey is in Southlake, is crossed by Big Bear Creek, and is east of Davis Boulevard (FM 1938).

In 1880 the Dwight family is found in Precinct 8 of Wise County, Texas. Oddly, Mr. Dwight's father's and mother's birthplaces are shown as Massachusetts and Illinois, respectively. The family's next-door neighbors were Mrs. Dwight's parents, J. J. and Lear Youngblood.

In 1896 at Willow Point, Texas, Mr. Dwight wrote an account of his life entitled "Fifty-two Years in Texas." This compiler has seen it cited in several places, and it will be added to this account as soon as he can locate a copy.

In the 1900 census at Willow Point, Wise County, Texas, Mrs. Dwight said she was 8 for 11.

On July 27, 1909 F. M. Dwight of Gertrude, Jack County, Texas applied for a pension. He said he was at home on a sick furlough when the war ended. He said he turned sixty-five on the last day Of March 1899. He said he was born in Texas, and had been living at Gertrude for four years. He said he served three years from March 1862 until 1865. He served in Co. E, Gould's Battalion. and enlisted at Centerville, Texas. He was transferred August 21, 1863 to Alexander's Regiment, Polignac's Brigade on Cavalry, and was later dismounted.

A mortuary warrant in his pension file says he died August 21, 1920 at Willow Point, Wise County, Texas at the home of his daughter, Mrs. James L. Chivers. Mrs. Dwight applied for the warrant, and her address at the time was Jermyn in Jack County, Texas. He died of .....algia of heart. He "died suddenly, did not have time to get doctor."

His file also contains affidavits by S. H. Fox (age 73) and W. T. Coffey (age 67), both of McKinney, Texas.

Mr. Dwight's headstone in Willow Point Cemetery in Wise County gives his dates as 1844 and 1920. Mrs. Dwight's are shown as 1853 and 1931.

Leah Jane Dwight's death certificate discloses that she was born July 13, 1853 in Missouri. She died at 305 Burnett Street in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas on December 31, 1931. The cause of death was organic heart disease. She was buried the next day in Willow Springs Cemetery in Wise County, Texas.

Mrs. Dwight applied in for a Confederate widow's pension in 1920 while living at Jermyn in Jack County. She said they were married December 15, 1870 in Tarrant County. She said she was sixty-seven years old, and had been in Texas sixty-four years.

The following list of Francis M. Dwight's children, compiled from family records placed on the internet by descendants, Texas death records, and federal census records, accounts for all eleven of the children Mrs. Dwight mentioned at the time she talked to the census taker in 1900. It is also in agreement with her statement that only eight of them remained alive at that time.

Family sources records that the Dwight's first child was born and died in 1871. As late as 1979 there was a readable headstone for one of Francis M. Dwight's children in Lonesome Dove Cemetery. It seems likely it was for this child.

John Fernando Dwight was born August 23, 1872. He died in Amarillo, Potter County, Texas in St. Anthony's Hospital on April 18, 1938. His last residence was in Amarillo at 110 East 36th Street. He was a nurseryman. He was buried in Llano Cemetery in southern Amarillo.

Jonathan W. Dwight was born in 1874. He died in 1948.

Leah Josephine Dwight was born 1876 and died in 1877. She has no readable headstone in Tarrant or Wise County.

Nora Dwight was born April 7, 1878. She married James L. Chivers. She died in Bridgeport Hospital in Bridgeport, Wise County, Texas on March 12, 1971. She lies buried in Willow Point Cemetery in Wise County, Texas.

Francis Marion Dwight was born February 16, 1881. He died in St. Anthony's Hospital in Amarillo on June 3, 1966. He was a truck Driver. His last residence was 3800 Hayden in Amarillo in Randall County, Texas. He was buried in Linn Creek Cemetery in Jack County, Texas.

Melvin Ephram Dwight was born July 22, 1884. He was a police officer. He died at his home at 2410 West Fifth Street in Amarillo, Texas on August 17, 1958. He was buried in Memorial Park Cemetery in Amarillo.

Joel Columbus Dwight was born in 1886. He died June 11, 1969 in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas.

Rose May Dwight Coleman was born August 8, 1888. She married a Mr. Coleman. She died February 12, 1930 in Breckenridge, Stephens County, Texas. She lies buried in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas.

James Arthur Dwight was born and died in 1890. He has no readable headstone in Wise County.

Amy Bethany Dwight was born July 17, 1892. She married Gibson P. Calhoun. She died in St. Joseph's Infirmary in Fort Worth on August 25, 1927. Her last address was 704 South Jennings in Fort Worth. She was buried in Mount Olivet Cemetery in Fort Worth.



Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Dwight on the porch of their home in Wise County



Mrs. Leah (Youngblood) Dwight as a young lady