



TARRANT COUNTY

TXGENWEB

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Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

Jonathan Judson Rogers

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Jonathan Judson Rogers was a Confederate veteran who was a pioneer of both Grapevine and Fort Worth. He was born in Butler County, Kentucky on November 28, 1839. When the 1850 census was taken in Butler County, Kentucky, Jonathan was living with his parents and siblings there. Their next-door neighbors were Lee and Catherine Borah, pioneers of the Bear Creek neighborhood in Tarrant County.

One of his descendants has posted a biographical sketch of his life at this site which may be found at: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txtarran/citizens/jrogers.htm>: "*Jonothan Judson Rogers was born on November 28, 1839 in Butler County, Kentucky. He was the son of Seanna (Ceanna) Borah and James Madison Rogers. Jonothan, or J. J., grew to adulthood in Butler County and came to Texas with his family in 1858. He married Mary Ann Jemima Joyce of Hines County, Mississippi, on December 19, 1869.*

In November 1862 J. J. Rogers enlisted in the Confederate Army, Company A, Gano's squadron in Tarrant County, Texas. He went to Corinth, Mississippi, and from there joined Company 5, Third Kentucky, John A. Morgan's Cavalry.

J. J. Rogers was in a total of ninety-seven battles and skirmishes under Moran's command up to the time of Morgan's capture at Syracuse, Ohio, in July of 1863. In his own words, (from "Memoirs of Tarrant County Confederate Veterans of Others of Post War Period" by Joseph P. Bandor, T.C.U., Dec. 19, 1960) he "was in the Battles of Lebanon, Cynthiana, Tompkinsville, Green River Bridge, Maysville, Kentucky; Gallatin, Tennessee, Brandenburg, Coridon and Salem, Indiana. (He) was captured at Syracuse Ohio, in July 1863, then exchanged in March 1865 at Camp Douglas, Illinois". During his military career, he had his mustache shot off and his jacket was full of holes.

J. J. Rogers was farming in Tarrant County both prior to his entry into the Army and after his discharge from the service. He invested a lot of time and money trying to invent a perpetual motion

machine. During his life in Fort Worth, he operated a wagon yard and a grocery store. He and his wife also operated a boarding house. J. J. was a Sunday school teacher in the First Baptist Church.

At the time of his death on August 4, 1904, J.J. Rogers was a member of the R.E. Lee camp U.C.V., of Fort Worth, the members of which organization attended his funeral in a body. He is buried in Fort Worth, Texas."

The official records in the National Archives show that Rogers enlisted on March 6, 1862, and is present on a roll as late as February 27, 1863. Union prisoner or war records show him arrested at Syracuse, Ohio on July 20, 1863 and a prisoner until February 20, 1865, when he was sent to Point Lookout, Maryland for exchange.

When J. J. Rogers registered to vote in Tarrant County in 1867, he said he had been a resident of Tarrant County Precinct two since about 1859, and that he was a native of Missouri.

J. J. Rogers and his wife, Mary (Joyce); J. J. Rogers's brother, Joseph N. Rogers and his wife, Mattie; and J. J. Rogers's parents, William M. and Seanna Rogers, were among the charter members of the First Baptist Church of Grapevine, when it was established on Christmas Day, 1869. J. J. Rogers's wife, Mary J. Joyce, was the daughter of Tarrant County pioneer James Joyce, who lies buried at Mt. Gilead Cemetery near Keller.

When the 1880 census was taken, J. J. Rogers and his family were living in Jack County, Texas in Precinct 2, District 159. Listed on the same page of the census one finds his brother, George W. Rogers and family; and J. J. Rogers's parents, James and Seana Rogers. J. J. Rogers was farming.

J. J. and Mary Rogers' children with them in 1880 were Judson Rogers (born about 1863); William Rogers (born about 1866); Grace Rogers (born about 1868); Adrian Rogers (a female born about 1870); and Robert Rogers (about 1873).

When the 1900 census was taken, Mrs. Rogers said she had given birth to eight children, only five of whom were still living. They had only one of their children living with them at the time, their son, William J. Rogers, who was born in April 1866 and was a widower living in their household with his three children. In that year, they were living in Fort Worth Ward 1 in District 84 in Tarrant County. Mr. Rogers was a grocer.

An obituary for Mr. Rogers appeared in the Fort Worth Telegram on August 4, 1904: "*JUDSON ROGERS. Judson Rogers, father of County Clerk R. L. Rogers, died at the residence of his son, 300 Fifth avenue, at 3 o'clock this morning, after an illness lasting some time, of dropsy. The deceased was a pioneer of this county and was for a long while in the grocery business on East Belknap street. For some time, however, he has not been engaged in any kind of business. He leaves a wife and four children to mourn his loss. Up to noon no funeral arrangements had been announced. The deceased was a Confederate soldier and a member of Lee Camp, United Confederate Veterans. The deceased was born in Butler county, Ky. He enlisted in the Confederate army at Grapevine, this county, in November, 1861, in company 5, Third Kentucky, Morgan's Cavalry, and was in all important battles fought by Morgan's command up to the time of Morgan's capture at Syracuse, Ohio, July, 1863. Mr. Rogers remained in prison until the exchange at Camp Douglass, Ill., was*

made in March, 1865. The funeral will occur from the home of his son at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, Rev. Luther Little officiating. The deceased was a member of the First Baptist church. It is expected that the members of the Lee Camp, United Confederate Veterans, will attend the burial in a body. The pall bearers are W. D. Farris, M. T. Pankey, E. M. Daggett, W. M. McConnell, L. C. Vaughn, and A. E. Want. All Confederates are asked to assemble at the home of R. L. Rogers on Fifth avenue."

Mary J. Rogers, his widow, applied for a Confederate pension in 1907. She gave her age as 65? (illegible) as of September 1, 1907. She gave her birthdate to the 1900 census taker as September, 1842. In her pension application she said she had lived in Texas since 1852, and married J. J. Rogers in December 1869. In her application she said Mr. Rogers enlisted at Grapevine in early 1862 and served until the end of the war in Gano's Co. A, later attached to the 3rd Kentucky Cavalry. Her file contains affidavits by two of Rogers's comrades, A. M. Quayle and H. T. Musick. Quayle said he had known her since 1859, and Musick said he had known her since 1860. A letter in her file dated July 24, 1919 says her last warrant for a pension payment was sent to her at Route 2, Gordon, Texas; the letter was from her daughter, Adrienne Rogers Forman, requesting a form to gain the \$30.00 burial benefit for her mother. Mrs. Rogers had died July 15, 1919 in Fort Worth at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. A. L. Pendery.



J. Judson and Mary J. Rogers' headstone, Oakwood Cemetery, Fort Worth, Texas