



# TARRANT COUNTY TXGENWEB

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## Civil War Veterans of Northeast Tarrant County

### Joseph William Dunn

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Joseph William Dunn was a Confederate veteran who lived at Grapevine at the time he enlisted. He was a son of Grapevine pioneer John Cartwright Dunn. When the Grapevine Area History was published in 1979, it contained several articles about Joseph, his parents, and his siblings. It also contains an excellent photograph of Joseph, and one of his father.

Irene Dunn Howell wrote the Grapevine book article about John Cartwright Dunn. Some excerpts from it dealing with Joseph's moves are as follows: *"John C. Dunn, Jr. and Nancy Mozelle Stanley [Joseph's parents] were married in Lawrence County, Alabama on June 8, 1825...prior to October of 1839 when they came to Harrison County, Texas, John and Nancy Dunn had eight children. They moved on west to Grapevine, Texas in December of 1856...."*

Muzelle Stanley Smith wrote the Grapevine book article concerning Joseph William Dunn. Some excerpts from it follow: *"Joseph William Dunn was born November 5, 1826, and was the son of Grapevine pioneers John Cartwright Dunn and Nancy Muzelle (Stanley) Dunn. He was married to Jane Tabor in Shreveport, Louisiana on October 29, 1850. She was born July 31, 1832 in Hinds County, Mississippi, and was the daughter of George F. and Susan (Nichols Tabor)....She moved to*



*Texas with her parents in 1837. They later settled in Shreveport where she was married. Later they moved to Harrison County, Texas, still later to Tarrant County...*

*“According to the Dunn family Bible, they were the parents of twelve children: Susan Oreander Muzell Dunn, born November 10, 1851, and died October 1, 1897; George Cartwright Dunn, born January 18, 1854, and died July 29, 1900; Joseph Lafayett Dunn, born February 4, 1856; Arramenter Charlott Dunn, born October 2, 1857, twins William and Worren Dunn, born May 14, 1859, and died May 15, 1859 and May 20, 1859, respectively; twins Edway Dunn (son) and Elgava dunn (daughter), born June 12, 1862, and died August 30, 1862 and October 8, 1862, respectively; Ed Stanley Dunn, born March 29, 1872 and died November 16, 1872; Julia Allison Dunn, born May 30, 1869 and died August 1, 1888; Enoch March Dunn, born March 1, 1871 ; and Mack Henry Dunn, born November 26, 1873 and died February 3, 1892...*

*“While the family lived in Grapevine the Masonic Lodge was established there on June 16, 1866. Joseph W. Dunn was the first Worshipful Master. Joseph was an expert workman and made, with his own hands, the original lodge furniture, jewels, and other equipment, including the lodge seal which was carved out of bois d’arc wood and made an impression when struck with a weight. The original altar of the ledge, made by Joseph, was still in use when the lodge celebrated its seventy-first anniversary in 1937....*

*“In January, 1869, Joseph took his family to Corpus Christi, Texas. He was said to be the first person to successfully grow vegetables in marketable quantities in that area. Throughout the Corpus Christi area he was known as “Vegetable Dunn....”*

*“Joseph W. Dunn died December 27, 1915 at the age of eighty nine. His wife, Oreander Jane, had died earlier in Aransas Pass, Texas on October 1, 1897...”*

Joseph’s original service records in the National Archives are fairly scant. He appears on a regimental return for August 1864, and is shown as a private in Co. G, James Bourland’s Border Regiment of Texas Cavalry. On a return for November, 1864, it was noted that he had been detailed from the regiment to make saddles. Another return for the month of August 1864 says he was absent “scouting in Denton County.”

Joseph applied for a Confederate pension in 1902 while he was a resident of Nueces County, Texas. He said he was seventy-five years old, hence born about 1827. He said he was suffering from weakness on account of old age and from heart trouble. He stated he had served in Co. G of James Bourland's Border Regiment for eighteen months, under the command of Gen. Henry McCulloch, whose headquarters was at Bonham in Fannin County, Texas. Dunn said he had come to Texas in 1839. His file contains an affidavit by eighty-three-year-old James Cate of Grapevine, and one by Andrew Cruse?, age 78, of Lewisville, who said he knew Dunn at Grapevine and served in the same company with him during the war.