

Thomas Newton Sparks was born 18 Feb 1832. During the Civil War, he served with the 13th TX Infantry, Co. D, enlisting on 26 Dec 1861, as Sgt. He married L.J. Fancher on 22 Apr 1867 in Van Zandt County. She was born 27 Nov 1848 in Henderson Co., TX. He died 29 Jan 1895. She applied for **Widow's Pension #18501** around 1909 while living at Ben Wheeler. She was 61 years old at the time. She died 17 Jan 1928. They were both buried at Prairie Springs Cemetery.

L.M. Spears was born 19 Jun 1835. He served during the Civil War with the 28th TX Cavalry, Co. E for three years as a mechanic. He was married to Mary Jane, born 12 May 1841, died 05 Nov 1898. He applied for **Pension #04215** on 10 Jul 1899 while living at Canton. He was 65 years old at the time. He died 26 Jan 1912. They were both buried at Hillcrest Cemetery.

Joseph Staley was born 1824. He served with the 54th NC Infantry, Co. H, during the Civil War. He died 13 Feb 1912 and was buried at Starr Cemetery. **Biography:** "According to company muster roll records, Joseph Staley served in Co. A, 54th Regt. NC Inf., State Troops. One of the records show that he enlisted 4 Mar 1862 at Davidson Co., NC. Another shows the enlistment date as 20 Mar 1862, and a third 20 Apr 1862. He was attached to Capt. A. Ellis Co. and is shown on muster roll records as being on detached service in the lead mines in Davidson County as a miner from 25 Sep 1863. He is shown on a report of men of Hoke's Brigade absent from the army on detached service on 20 Feb 1863. On 12 Aug 1863, he is on a list of men of Early's division on detached service at the lead mines. The last muster roll issued for September and October 1864 again shows that he is on detached service in the lead mines in Davidson Co., NC, and had been since 25 Sep 1862. At that time he was in the same company under Capt. A. Ellis. The roll shows that Capt. Parks issued the last pay. The 1900 census of Van Zandt County indicates Joseph was born in 1830 in North Carolina. He and his wife Christina were living with his son John Franklin Staley and daughter-in-law, Florence Bailey Staley. Joseph married Christina Starr after the Civil War in North Carolina. She was b. 1835, d. 1916. A death certificate is not available but an article in the Will Point Chronicle stated that Joseph Staley was stricken with paralysis on Sunday, 11 Feb 1912, and died Tuesday, 13 Feb 1912, at the home of his son Jack Staley.

Many family members are buried at Starr Cemetery."*submitted by Shirley Fuller of Grand Saline*



Monroe Stanford

William Stamper served during the Civil War with the 20th TX Cavalry, Co. E. He was buried at Beard/Baird Cemetery with a CSA marker. No dates are on the marker.

Monroe Stanford was born 16 Aug 1829. During the Civil War, he served with the 35th AL Infantry, Co. G, and the 5th FL Cavalry. He served for three years. He lived in Alabama where he married Eleanor, born 26 Jan 1827, died 15 Mar 1898. He applied for **Pension #09572** on 09 Feb 1903 while living at Ben Wheeler. He was 73 years old at the time and had lived in the county 17 years. He died 14 Oct 1912. They were both buried at Prairie Springs Cemetery. **Biography:** "Monroe Stanford was born in Duplin Co., NC in 1834. He moved to Ben Wheeler, Van Zandt Co., TX after the Civil War where he became a farmer. He served from 15 May 1862 to November