

1930 Reunion, Bryan, TX

Bryan Daily Eagle, 27 June 1930, pg1

Reunion Visitor Is Former Slave; Made Canteens

Nelson Taylor Denson was born Dec. 22, 1847 in Ashley county, Arkansas, 12 miles north of Hamburg, and was the slave of Ike Denson. When 6 years old he was brought by his master to Texas with his mother and five other children in an ox wagon, and sold to Felix and Jim Grundy of Hogg Island, seven miles southeast of Marlin.

"When I was 11 years old, I was sent as an apprentice to John Gerber, a tinner, near the Guffy and Covington settlements, now known as Reagan. During the early part of the Civil war we made canteens, cups and tin plates by the hundreds for the Confederates. The women of the community covered them with woolen goods to keep the water cool."

Denson was brought to the reunion by W. B. Turner, 4th Louisiana, Company C, in Sibley's Brigade and Geol. H. Carter, both of Marlin. Geo. Carter's father was Capt. H. G. Carter in Hardeman's regiment, Green's Brigade.

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Veteran Passes While Attending Hood's Reunion

R. H. Kirk, aged 83, of Houston, one of the Confederate veterans attending the annual reunion of Hood's and Green's Brigades in Bryan, died this morning at 10 o'clock at the home of his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. LaHatte, 3010 south College avenue, Bryan.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirk had been in Waco for a visit to their son, Wicker Kirk, and stopped over in Bryan for the week-end with relatives here and enjoy the reunion. Mr. Kirk attended the street entertainment given last night for the veterans and visitors on west 26th street, took part in the dancing and festivities of the hour and enjoyed it hugely. After going to the home of his niece, Mrs. LaHatte, he complained of having "heart burn," and said it was painful. A doctor was called, and remained with him until he passed away at 10 a. m. this morning.

R. H. Kirk was a member of Dick Dowling Camp U. C. V. of Houston and his comrades here to attend the reunion, learned with sorrow of his sudden passing. The reunion session at the LaSalle Hotel, when the announcement was made of his death, paused in its deliberations, and all stood in tribute to his memory.

The deceased is survived by his (Continued on page 6) widow, Mrs. Texas Wicker Kirk, who was a sister of the late Mrs. T. P. Boyett, and George Wicker of this city. Four daughters and two sons also survive him, Mrs. George Redding of Richmond, Mrs. Joe Raney of Houston, Mrs. Colbert Caraway of Houston and Mrs. J. E. Woods of Houston; Frank Kirk of Kingsville and Wicker Kirk of Waco.

The sons and daughters have all been called to Bryan, and when they arrive, the body will be taken to Houston to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Kirk, 306 Sidney

street. Interment will be made in the family lot in Houston cemetery Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock. The remains will be taken to Houston by train early Sunday morning.

R. H. Kirk and family formerly resided in Bryan, and one of the great pleasures of his return visits here was greeting his many old time friends. This visit had been especially pleasant to him as on account of the Confederate reunion here he had opportunity to meet a large number of friends in attendance.

Compiled by Shirley Ferguson