#### BIOGRAPHIES

## HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

1850 he was Chief Justice of Houston County. In an early day he was the owner and proprietor of a hotel in Crockett, situated on the Southeast corner of the public square, which was known as the "Long Hotel," and which was destroyed by fire in the early sixties. He was associated with L. E. Downes in the mercantile business as early as 1851, on the lot now owned and occupied by Frank Chamberlain as a drug store.

He was married twice. Some of the children by his first marriage were S. J. W. Long, known as Sam Long; and W. E. Long, known as Bill Long. S. J. W. Long established his home on Hurricane Bayou, on the Hall's Bluff road, about seven miles west of Crockett, where he raised a large family of children, including Joseph Long and Charley Long, Jonie Long, who married F. H. Bayne, Mollie, who married A. A. DeBerry, Emma, who married John Taylor, Sallie, who married Tom Bayne.

W. E. Long, mentioned above, was the father of two daughters, Lou and Jennie. Lou, the elder of the two, married John M. Dunwoody and Jennie, first married Taylor J. Hail and after his death married his brother, Edley E. Hail.

Col. John Long was married a second time, his last wife, Miss Emily Cash, survived him, and later married Major James C. Wootters.

Col. Long, by his last marriage was the father of Miss Bettie Long, who married Dr. John B. Smith, and a son John Long who died without having married.

Hugh Long, a brother of Col. John Long, came with him to Texas, but settled in Harrison County. His descendents later came to Houston County and settled near Augusta, where some of them still reside.

## GEORGE BRINSON LUNDY

This influential citizen of Houston County was born in Randolph County, Georgia, August 3rd, 1840, and after living a short time in the States of Florida and Mississippi, he moved with his father's family to Texas, in 1857 and settled near Moscow, in Polk County. On May 5th, 1862, he enlisted in the Confederate Army and became a member of Hood's famous brigade and served during the entire period of the war, except when being treated for a bad wound in the leg that came near proving fatal.

He was with General Lee at Appomatox and witnessed the surrender of his gallant leader. He had followed General Hood in many of the most celebrated battles of the war, including Chicuamauga, where he was wounded, he was a member of Company M (Captain Howard Ballinger), First Texas Infantry, having enlisted at Old Sumpter, in Trinity County, and the record shows that he was paroled at Appomattox on April 9th, 1865.

In 1867 he married Miss Mary Worthington, and to this union there were born three children, Ralph G. Lundy, Mrs. Ione Legory, and W. Q. Lundy, all of whom are still living.

After the death of his first wife he married Mrs. Sallie M. Daniel, a daughter of Judge Samuel M. Thompson, who survived him but has since died.

In 1872, he moved to Nevil's Prairie in Houston County where he met and married his last wife. He was a charter member of the Lovelady Masonic Lodge. After moving to Crockett in 1893 he affiliated with Lothrop Lodge.

He was an honored elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Crockett, (Also known as the Tenney Memorial Church), which he served until his death on December 27th, 1915. He is buried in Glenwood Cemetery in Crockett.

### JAMES WILLIAM MADDEN

"Born in the Town of Augusta in Houston County, Texas, June 16, 1856; received his education in the common schools of his county, and at the Academy of Prof. Logan at Tyler, Texas, attending the latter Institution during the session of 1875-\*; reared on the farm and followed farming until he was 26 years old; never attended a college or university; read law "at home" and without any instructor, except in the summer of 1877, when he taught school near Waco and read under Col. Tom Harrison while he was teaching; spent three years teaching through the summers and two years regularly; moved to Crockett, the county seat, in 1882; served three years as deputy Tax Collector under his father; was for six years deputy county and district clerk, serving in both capacities concurrently, keeping the minutes of all the courts in the county except the Justice Courts, and regarded this as his "law school," and was admitted to the Bar in April, 1891; edited the "Crockett Economist," a weekly newspaper, for three years after his admission to the Bar; practiced his profession until his appointment as Private Secretary to Governor Culberson in February, 1896, and promoted to the office of Secretary of State in December, 1896; served there until the

168

close of the Culberson Administration in January, 1899, when he returned to his home in Crockett where he has been in the active practice of his profession ever since; served as Supervisor of the Census in his congressional district in 1910, under appointment of President Taft, and as a member of the Local Exemption Board during the War with Germany and Austria under appointment by President Wilson; and served in three cases as Special Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas under appointment of Governor Neff."

Mr. Madden continued in the active practice of his profession, with his partner, Judge Sam A. Denny, until his health so completely failed that he was forced to spend the latter portion of his life in the retirement of his home. Until the last he manifested a deep interest in public affairs, and died on the first day of June, 1936, and will always be remembered as one of the most outstanding citizens of Houston County. His funeral was conducted in the First Methodist Church of which he had been a member and a steward for many years and rarely has so many lofty tributes been paid to any citizen of Houston County, as was paid to him on this occasion. He left surviving him: one son, Wilson Erls Madden, Lieutenant Commander in the Navy of the United States, and one daughter, Addie, who is the wife of Mr. S. M. Boone. A number of grandchildren survive him as well as numerous relatives.

#### N. J. MAINER

Some of the outstanding business men of Houston County conducted their business in Lovelady and exercised a wide influence in their communities as well as in the entire county. Prominent among them was N. J. Mainer, who was born in Polk County, Texas, on the 28th day of July, 1848. He received his early education in the common schools of Polk County. Later he had a year at Baylor University.

He clerked for Thos. H. Nelms, Sr. of Pennington from about 1870 to 1872. He married Ella Nelms, daughter of Thos. H. Nelms in 1872.

When the railroad came through Lovelady about 1873 he moved to Lovelady and with L. P. Nelms went into general merchandise business under the firm name of Nelms and Mainer. This business continued until L. P. Nelms' death, when the firm was dissolved and a new partnership formed with J. O. Monday, the firm named Mainer & Monday. This business continued until his death on May 31st, 1897 at Lovelady. The business was continued under the name of E. Mainer & Sons until Ella Mainer's death in 1912.

Besides the store, he accumulated a large estate in land and cattle. He was active in political life of this section, and in public affairs. He was a deacon of the Baptist Church and one of the pillars of the church as long as he lived.

Names of children: Myrtie Mainer Neff; Clyde Mainer (deceased) T. Nelms Mainer; J. R. Mainer; Hayne Mainer (deceased) Ella Mainer Young; Lucille Mainer McMurry; and Roy Mainer.

## THE MASTERS FAMILY

The Patriarch of this family, Jacob Masters, Senior, and his wife, Elizabeth Shaw Masters, started on a trek from North Carolina, some time as early as 1828, with their two sons, Jacob, Jr. and Henry, and their daughters, Mary, who married Lemuel Rice, and who was known as "Polly"; Fannie, who married Solomon Allbright; Sallie, who married John D. V. Gossett; Eliza, who first married Alex Shaver, and after his death married\_\_\_\_\_ Cawthon; Elizabeth, who married Sanford Shaver; Willie, who married Joseph Rice.

Jacob Masters, Senior, located his league of land, on the King's Highway, known also as the Old San Antonio Road, about ten miles northeast of Crockett, and there established his home, which was a landmark for years thereafter, and where he entertained the traveling public. An old pecan tree, standing on the highway, more than a hundred years old, now marks the site of this pioneer home.

The exact date when Masters arrived in Houston County is not known, but that he was here as early as 1828, is borne out by an entry in the Diary of Adolphus Sterne, published in the Southwestern Historical Quarterly, which is as follows:

"Wednesday June 2nd (1841) fine weather-left Col. Bean's early in the morning traveled slow to Jacob Masters another old friend of 13 years standing, this day is the 13th anniversary of my marriage with my dear wife."

Previously Sterne had written in his Diary under date of Tuesday, April 23rd, 1839, as follows: "reached Masters at 7— -having some 42 miles this day. Masters is a timid old Dutchman, has built a Block House and makes all the members of the establishment sleep there at night."

# HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

Jacob Masters, Senior was married to Elizabeth Shaw on February 28th, 1800. His sons Jacob and Henry evidently had families in Texas before the days of the Republic, for both received grants of leagues and labors of land from the Mexican Government as early as 1835.

## JOHN McCONNELL

Old Ireland furnished Houston County some valuable citizens, who contributed largely to the development of the county, but none more outstanding than the subject of this sketch. John McConnell was born in Ireland on January 28th, 1818, the son of Patrick and Bridget McConnell. He landed in New York on January 1st, 1839 and went from there to New Orleans and, after a short time, he moved to a place near Nacogdoches. From there he came to Crockett on his way to Galveston, September 27th, 1847, but found the place so inviting that he decided to locate, and immediately opened a blacksmith shop, being a blacksmith by trade. Soon afterwards he married Mary Jane Dickerson, daughter of a pioneer, William Dickerson, who lived near Crockett. After her death, he married Martha Lovelady, the daughter of Cyrus Lovelady, also a pioneer of Houston County.

He was successful in his business career and having accummulated a competency in his blacksmith business, he opened a hardware store and built up a large and successful business in that line. Although not a politician, he held the office of County Treasurer of Houston County for twelve years and later the office of city alderman for four years.

He was a prominent and influential member of the Baptist Church and a suit that he brought against a Baptist minister for a debt resulted in a division of the church. He was also prominent in Masonic circles, both in his local lodge and in the Grand Lodge of Texas. He was a member of Palestine Commandery, Knights Templar. He died in Crockett.

He died September 7th, 1898 and so highly was he esteemed by the people of Crockett that a public meeting was held at the courthouse at which Col. W. W. Davis was chosen Chairman and Geo. W. Crook, Secretary, and J. E. Downes, W. D. Pritchard, A. LeGory and A. A. Aldrich a Committee on Resolutions. In these resolutions he was commended as "having exemplified in his life all the best qualities of a citizen, and was by his

#### BIOGRAPHIES

sterling worth and eminent usefulness, endeared himself to our people."

By his first marriage Mr. McConnell was the father of three children: Elizabeth, generally called Lizzie, who married Joe Rice, and whose children are with us today; second, William V., generally called Bill who built up a large mercantile business which continues as the McConnell Dry Goods Company, and third John A. McConnell, who was also a successful merchant and whose widow and children are well known citizens of Crockett, one being our sheriff. By his last marriage, Mr. Mc-Connell was the father of four children: Henry Grady, Esther, who married Arch Burton, Robert Emmett, whose family still live in Crockett and Dan McConnell, whose widow and daughter also live in Crockett.

#### THE McLEAN FAMILY

A pioneer of pioneers was Daniel McLean, who was a native of North Carolina and first came to Texas as a member of the Magee Expedition in 1814, which was one of the most important of the early incursions of Americans in Texas. He was one of the ninety-three survivors of the famous battle of the Medina River. He escaped the Massacre and traveled to Natchitoches, Louisiana, going by night and stopping by day with friendly Indians, who at that time were almost the only people living between the San Antonio River and the Sabine. Not many years later he came into Texas again as a regular member of Austin's colony and finally located his home about twenty miles northeast of the present site of Crockett on the Old San Antonio Road. Here he settled in 1821 and was granted a league and labor of land on which his home was located, the old home site has ever since been in the McLean family. In 1837, some Indians stole his horses and he and his brother-inlaw, John Sheridan, in company with others pursued them to a point near the present town of Elkhart where both McLean and Sheridan were killed by the Indians. The Centennial Commission of Control erected an imposing monument at the site of this massacre. His body was brought back to the old home and buried there and a suitable marker stands at his grave, erected by the family. He was survived by two sons, James McLean and William McLean and daughters.

His son, William McLean, became one of the leading citizens of Houston County. He inherited the old Daniel McLean homestead from his father and later moved his family to Augusta and engaged in the mercantile business with Col. W. W. Davis, the firm being McLean & Davis, and was known far and wide, and continued for many years. He raised a large and influential family. His oldest daughter, Mary, married Judge W. A. Davis, for several terms, County Judge of Houston County. Jennie and Daisy married William V. Connell, a most singular coincidence is that Mary and Jennie died on the same day, February 3rd, 1888, and were buried the same day in the same cemetery. A funeral card issued by the family reads: "In loving Remembrance of Two Sisters, Jennie and Mary McLean, consorts of W. V. McConnell and W. A. Davis. Died in Crockett, Texas, Feb. 3rd, 1888, age drespectively 20 and 27 years." Another daughter of William McLean, Eulah, married Rev. Riall, and died recently at her home in Grapeland. She was the mother of our well known citizen, William Alfred Riall.

## WILLIAM McLEAN

The name of this pioneer, native son of Houston County, has been mentioned in connection with the history of the Mc-Lean family, elsewhere in this history. His picture also appears in its proper place.

He was the youngest of the three children of Daniel and Hannah McLean. He was born on the Old Daniel McLean home place, on the Old San Antonio Road, about twenty-two miles northeast of Crockett, in 1829, and his father was killed by the Indians when he was only eight years old. His father and mother came from Moore County, North Carolina, before his birth.

After his father's tragic death, his Uncle Archibald McLean, came to Texas, thinking that the family would need his assistance, but his older brother, James McLean, who was then only sixteen years of age told him that he was man enough to take care of the family, and his uncle returned to his home in New Orleans, and the family knew nothing more of him.

The family continued to occupy the old home place, on his fathers headright league, and in the division of the estate the old house was awarded to him. After the death of William McLean, this place fell to his son, Jim McLean, whose family still own it.

After reaching manhood, William McLean moved to the town of Augusta and engaged in the mercantile business with Col. W. W. Davis, the firm known as McLean & Davis.

He died in November, 1904 and was survived by the following children: Dan McLean, Jim McLean and Will McLean, the present County Judge; Mary McLean, who married Judge W. A. Davis, Jennie and Daisy, who, in succession, married W. V. McConnell, and Eula, who married Rev. Riall. William McLean is buried in the Cemetery at Crockett.

## DOCTOR FRANCIS LEWIS MERIWETHER

This distinguished pioneer and eminent physician was born in Abbeville District, South Carolina, July 29, 1804, and moved with his parents when quite young to Alabama, where he grew up and received his medical education. From there he moved to Harrison County, Texas, where some of his children were born. It is not known just when he came to Houston County, but it was some time prior to 1851, for his name appears on the old Thomas P. Collins day book on November 3, 1851, and he became a regular customer after that date. While living in Alahama he married Miss Ethelinda Dunlap, who was the mother of all his children. While living in Houston County he made his home on Elkhart Creek, about fifteen miles northwest of Crockett, where he did an extensive medical practice as long as he lived. His children were: a daughter, Huldah, who married Dr. Frank Rainey; another daughter, married Judge Anson Rainey; another daughter, Jessie, married Tom H. Dailey, and his youngest daughter, Willie, married Frank Edens. His oldest son was Dr. Lewis Meriwhether and his youngest son was Frank Meriwether. None of his children are now living. Dr. Meriwether died on February 9, 1881, and is buried in the old cemetery near Dailey, and his wife, Ethelinda, died on the 26 of December 1876, and they both sleep side by side in the same cemetery. A granddaughter, Mrs. Robert M. Hamby, now lives in Austin, and several other grandchildren live in and near Grapeland. The widow of Dr. Lewis Meriwether lives in Washington with her children.

#### COL. STEWARD ALEXANDER MILLER

The subject of this biography was a pioneer of Houston County, who had such a distinguished career, and left his impress on the life of his day, that he deserves to have his memory preserved for the benefit of posterity. He was born in Campbell County, Virginia, and was left an orphan at an early age. He learned the trade of a tanner and later taught school. He came to Texas in 1839 and settled in Crockett, where he resided, continuously, until his death on March 27th, 1893. He engaged in business in Crockett, and while pursuing his business, studied law under James Carr, who was probably the first lawyer to locate in Crockett. In 1843, he heard the call of his country, and enlisted in Col. Jacob Snively's Expedition. While on this expedition, through north and northwest Texas, and even farther, he kept a complete diary of the events that occurred, which is one of the most valuable diaries that the author has ever seen, and it is gratifying that the public will share the benefit of it, as his daughter ,Mrs. Amelia Comer, will soon have it published in The Southwestern Historical Quarterly.

It is a fact worthy of note, that Hon. Henderson Yoakum, drew on this diary for material in his well known *History* of *Texas*, and mentions the same in a note in his history. It was while on this expedition that Col. Miller gained the title of "Colonel."

He returned to his native Virginia in the fall of 1850, and on June 24th, 1851, was married to Miss Rebecca F. Whitten, of Bedford County (now Liberty County), Virginia. Ten children were born of this union, the only one surviving at this time is Mrs. Amelia Miller Comer (now Mrs. C. C. Comer) of Carthage, Texas, who is a worthy descendant of a noble father, and is a leading spirit in her community. Carthage can well be proud of its inheritance from Crockett.

Col. Miller had a distinguished career in both the fields of law and politics. He was one of the outstanding lawyers of his day and the author has heard it said that the eminent jurist, Judge Geo. F. Moore, in his early life, said that if he made as good a lawyer as Col. Miller, he would be satisfied.

Col. Miller was at one time associated with the eminent Judge Royall T .Wheeler, one of the distinguished Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of Texas, and Judge Wheeler in a document, still in existence pays him a high tribute as both lawyer and upright citizen. The earliest case found in the Texas Supreme Court Reports, in which the name of Col. Miller appears, is the case of Allbright vs. Aldrich, 2 Texas Reports, page 166, tried in the Supreme Court at the December Term, 1847. In this case the names of three of the most outstanding pioneers of Houston County appear; Jacob Allbright, first county clerk, Collin Aldrich, first chief justice, and Elisha Clapp, noted Indian fighter and hero of San Jacinto. All three had a prominent part in the organization of the county in 1837.

When Texas was admitted to the union Col. Miller was

#### BIOGRAPHIES

elected the first Representative from Houston County and served on the First and Second Legislatures in 1846 and 1847. Then he was a member of the State Senate in 1851, 1854 and 1861, when he had to make some of his trips on horseback. On one of these trips his wife started with him in a carriage but could not get across the Trinity and had to turn back leaving Col. Miller to finish the trip on horseback. He was a member of the Senate when Sam Houston refused to take the oath of office and was deposed as Governor. When the Constitution of 1876 was adopted he was elected County Judge of Houston County and held the office for two terms.

#### ARMISTEAD THOMPSON MONROE

The following sketch of Col. A. T. Monroe is furnished the author by his only living son, A. T. Monroe, Jr. of San Antonio.

A. T. Monroe was the son of Augustine Garnett Monroe, who was a nephew of President James Monroe.

"My father had three brothers, named, John and Joseph. James was a general in the northern army and his regiment guarded the capital at Washington during the Civil War. He died in harness and his remains lie in the National cemetery at Washington. A life-like painting of him is now hanging in the armory in New York City. John, his brother, was a trader and left his family well provided for in New York City. His brother, Joseph, was a priest in New York City. Mrs. Douglas Robinson of New York City, who was a grandchild of President James Monroe, was a first cousin of my father, and her son married a sister of President Theodore Roosevelt.

"My father left Virginia when he was 18 years old and went to New York City, and my recollection is that he came to Texas in 1842 or 1843, landing at the west end of Galveston Island, instead of the east end, which is now Galveston City. A short time after this he went by ship to Liberty and took a steamboat to Alabama Crossing, on Trinity River, in Houston County. There he remained and went into the mercantile business. He met my mother there, who was a daughter of Jacob Allbright, and was married in 1846. He was the oldest child in the family and the only one who came south.

"My father had the first wood cook stove that was in Houston County, and had it put up at home, but the negro cook said she couldn't cook on that thing, and the only way he could get her to use it was to have the fireplace walled up.