



Vol. XXVIII No. 3

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PLEASE



NOTICE

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY now has specific addresses for certain purposes. To save time and trouble for yourself as well as for us, please use the appropriate address.
See inside back cover for more details. THANK YOU!

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MEETINGS at 7:30 p.m. on fourth Tuesdays of the month except August & December. They are held in Room 12, First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity Street. Enter by east door. Free parking in lot south of the church. VISITORS ARE WELCOME.

A HAIR-RAISING TALE

[The following exciting letter was written to our staunch AGS member, Martha (Aker) Askew, by her first-cousin-once-removed, Voyle C. Scurlock of Oklahoma City. His grandmother was Martha's mother's sister - that is to say, Mrs. E.C. Scurlock (née Catherine Gunn) was the sister of Carrie Gunn who married George Tom Aker.]

Dear Martha,

I shall endeavor to give you the facts concerning my Grandmother and the Comanches. About 1871 she and my Grandfather were married, but I have not been able to find an official record - in Johnson or any of the adjoining counties. [Editor's Note: Have you looked under the name Sherlock? It could have been recorded wrong.] In one or two instances, the courthouses have burned.

About 1872, he started a ranch about 40 miles southwest of where Abilene now is, near the present village of Maverick in Runnels County [It is served by the Ballinger P.O. now]. From her description, I am sure I have found the site of the ranch house, which I have visited twice in the last ten years.

At that time the country was quite wild, and my Grandfather did not want to expose his family to its dangers. So he simply left them in Grandview [Johnson County], and about every two or three weeks he would make the trip home for a visit - a trip of at least 175 miles by horseback, requiring four to five days of hard riding in each direction. Seems incredible today, but it was a way of life a hundred years ago. He seemed to feel, from what she said, that the new country would one day offer great possibilities, and it was his aim to eventually take the family to the ranch to live.

Finally, in the spring of 1874 (my Dad was born in January of that year), yielding to the wishes of his wife, he consented to take the family out to the ranch for a visit during the summer. Aunt Lola Watts, Dad's older sister, had been born in 1872, so Grandmother actually had two very small babies at that time. She often described the trip out in a jolting wagon, and the experience of camping out on the way, and apparently she got quite a thrill out of it.

The ranch consisted of several thousand acres, largely on the north side of the Little Colorado, which Grandfather leased for a few cents an acre. Beyond that were miles and miles of free range. Uncle Bob Gunn, her brother, who was then about 20 or 21, had joined Grandfather in this venture. It was 10 miles to the nearest neighbor, 40 miles to the nearest store and post office, 40 miles to the nearest white woman, and approximately 175 to the nearest railroad, which was at San Antonio.

According to her account, Grandmother had a picnic all summer. Most of the time the ranch hands were away during the day, and she was left to her own devices. She described the scene in this fashion: The ranch house stood on the north bank of the river, on a point somewhat above the river, and beside a "crossing" on the river, which, she said, was one of only two such crossings for miles in either direction. The other was just three miles above the ranch house. It seems that the river made a slight bend at this point, and down below, beside the crossing, was a fine "blue fishing hole." During the day she would spend hours fishing there, with pallets for the kids on the ground in the shade of some willows.

It seems that all went well until about the middle or last of August, when Grandfather decided it was time to go to market in San Antonio. There he would

buy supplies for another six months. He proposed to take her and the two children with him part of the way - to a family some 40 miles south, whom he had come to know, but whom she had not met. He assured her they would be delighted to have her visit them while he was away. But she had different ideas. She didn't know these people. She could stay right where she was - the ranch hands would be there; what was there to be afraid of, anyway? There had been some rumblings of unrest among the Comanches in the Indian country, but that was nothing new, she reminded him so, as always, I suspect, she had her way.

He left with several wagons and his saddle horse. If all went well it would take them a minimum of a week to make the trip one way. Then two days at least to shop and load up - and a week at best (if the weather were dry) or ten days to two weeks if it were not, to return. Grandmother said she didn't worry, and spent most of her time fishing and reading down by the crossing. In the meantime the ranch hands were working out from the ranch house and riding back at night. Finally, after about two weeks, they were so far out that she urged them not to try to come back each night, assuring them she would be all right.

One afternoon, fishing and reading down by the crossing, with both babies fast asleep, she heard a horse coming at full gallop, and then she heard a man's voice yelling "Hello!" at the house up above. Of course, there was no answer, so then he came rushing down the hill and plunged into the river, his horse covered with foam. When she stood up he saw her and yelled, "For God's sake, woman, get out of here as fast as you can! The Comanches are coming, and should be here by tonight." Then he was gone - and she was still there with two helpless babes.

I wish I could convey the anxiety she described as she told us about it. She first thought of saddling a horse and leaving. But where would she go? How would she manage with the two children? What if she ran right into the Indians, what then? She decided to stay put. After getting in a supply of water and wood for the fire, she barricaded the door, hung quilts over the windows, got the babies to sleep, and settled down to the longest night she was ever to experience.

I can see her yet as she described how she walked the floor, every so often peeking out the windows. The moon was out, but from time to time was almost hidden by a thin covering of clouds which drifted by. Once, looking out the west window, she saw something move. It was quite a ways up the slope, appearing to be sort of greyish, and about two feet high. While she watched, almost frozen with fear, it moved again - and again - just a few feet nearer, and then stopped. She concluded that it was an Indian crawling toward the house. She surmised that it was a small scouting party, and they were preparing to set fire to the house. Cautiously she checked the other windows but saw nothing. When she returned to the first, she found him closer, and still moving three or four feet at a time.

She decided the die was cast - that the Indians had arrived, and she determined to get some of them before it was all over. She had loaded two or three old guns that her husband had left. She was thankful that Grandfather had taught her to shoot. She found the "port hole" on the west side and leveled down on him, but waited for the moon to brighten. When it did, she "let him have it." Then all was dark - the black powder of that day was really something - and for some minutes she could not see anything. The old gun echoed up and down the river; then all was quiet. That really scared her - she had expected a war whoop, and when it did not come, she suspected a trick.

Slowly the night dragged on; finally daylight arrived, and with it came a familiar voice. It was Grandfather, who had heard of the threatened Indian raid and

had left the wagons and ridden full speed all night to get home. You can imagine how glad she was to see him, and how excitedly she told him about her ordeal while she was fixing his breakfast. She told us that he kidded her about being scared and about wasting lead shooting at shadows in the dark. She insisted there was something out there, and when they walked up the hill later that morning they discovered a huge jack rabbit about 80 yards from the house - shot through the head.

Later that day they learned that the Indians had crossed the Little Colorado the night before at the crossing three miles up the river. Although I was only eight when Grandmother died, I shall never forget that story, for she lived it all over again each time she told it.

In recent years I have had occasion to make some study of the Comanches, since they were placed on a reservation very near where we were raised in western Oklahoma. I find they made a number of raids down in Texas, and apparently the last one was in August or early September of 1874.

To me, that checks to a T.

Love,

Voyle



A TRIBUTE
to
GRAY GOLDEN

Austin Genealogical Society members were delighted to see a tribute to our beloved charter member, Mrs. Joseph B. Golden, in the Austin-American-Statesman/Neighbor on 13 August 1987. Columnist Betty Hudman embellished the article with a picture of "Mrs. Austin Genealogy" (as she dubbed Mrs. Golden) sitting with Chairman Betty Kaiser as they discussed plans for the upcoming seminar.

Gray Golden helped establish the Genealogy Collection of Texas State Library in 1964, and presided over it for several years. She was unstinting in her efforts to help everyone who came into the library, and diligent - nay, more: she went far beyond what was expected or paid for in the research she conducted for scores of clients. She is equally skilled in the fields of Texas history and genealogy.

For many years, the Board of AGS has been fortunate enough to have the seasoned advice and inspiring enthusiasm of this charming lady. She has been one of our most trustworthy guides in lean times as in prosperous.

Since retiring from the Library, Gray Golden has conducted classes in genealogy for Austin Community College and the Office of Continuing Education at the University of Texas. She often offered two courses a year, and has helped hundreds of people get started right in their difficult quest for their ancestors.

We pay homage to you, Gray! As Duncan said to Macbeth: "More is thy due than more than all can pay."

FAMILY LAND HERITAGE PROGRAM



Each year since 1974 the Texas Department of Agriculture has recognized families who have operated a farm or ranch on the same land continuously for at least a hundred years. Brief histories of the award-winning families, naming the successive land owners and their children and grouped under the respective county name, are published annually.

Since the attractive volumes (which include many heirloom pictures) have the names of only the current land owners in their indexes, AGS Quarterly is attempting to remedy that deficiency, as space permits. Instead of page numbers, we group the names by their counties (which cover only a few pages each, and are in alphabetical order), assuming that researchers will want to read all about their ancestors' neighboring relatives and friends.

Apologies are offered if some surnames are wrong - sometimes the narratives are hard to interpret as to generations - whether Tom, Dick and Mary are the children of the founder or of his daughter.

Married names are in parentheses in the book, but the genealogical form (maiden names in parentheses) is followed herein. If a name is unknown, we put three dots in parentheses; nicknames are in quotation marks; editorial suggestions in brackets; "pic" indicates that there is a picture of family members or buildings on the page.

This series started in AGS Quarterly Vol. XXIV No. 4 - November 1983.

First Installment of Volume 7 (1981)

TEXAS FAMILY LAND HERITAGE REGISTRY "INDEX"

AUSTIN COUNTY

Bielefeld, Lena (Sens)
 Bubak, Anna (Sens)
 Hartman, Dorothea
 Hillboldt, Emma (Sens)
 Kersten, Charlie A. - Emilie (Sens) - Vallie Ruby
 Kveton, Therese
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 Reinhardt, Lillie Louise - W.L.C.
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Ballard, Capt. ...
Bushell, Col. [Gen. August C. Buchel]
Burke, Alice - Alice (...) - Clara - Edmond L. - Jane - John Jerome - Joseph E. -
Molly - Nancy Jane (Ryan) - Patrick - Peter F.
Clare, Hane (Burke)
Hancock, Dorothy Alice (Wilson)
O'Carroll, Ann (...) Burke - Pat
O'Neil, Kathleen (Wilson)
Ray, Clara Elizabeth (Wilson)
Ryan, Nancy Jane
Smith, Alice (Burke)
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Kathleen - William Burke

BOSQUE COUNTY

Baker, W.R.
Nelson, Bennie C. - Carrol Odle - Castelle Atlee - Charlie A. - Glenna Dell -
Ida (...) - Mildred Fay
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Chapas, Francisco Guerra
Flores, Rosenda
Garcia, Francisca
Gonzales, Rafaela
Perez, Alfredo - Angelita (Gonzales) - Aurora - Basilio - Bonefacio - Elia -
Esther - Francisca (Garcia) - Herlinda - Juan - Leonides - Leopoldo -
Lino - Macaria - Manuel - Margarito - Maria - Martin - Martina - Ofilia -
Pedro - Rafaela (Gonzalez) - Romulo - Rosenda (Flores) - Sabas - Santos -
Secundina (Alaniz) Sostenes (Arevalo)

BROWN COUNTY

Allcorn, Fannie (Mullins) - Hugh - Lillie Pearl(e) - Mary June - Thelma
Allen, Susan Elizabeth
Baker, Blanche (Mullins) - Julia (Mullins)
Bowden, Mary June (Allcorn)
Cross, Mattie (Mullins)
Haven, Amy
McDonough, Mary (Mullins)
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Jennie - John Charles [pix: home chimneys p. 7; school building p. 8; smoke-
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san - Susan E. (Allen) - William
Rodgers, Georgia Ola (White) - R.J.
Sackett, Mr. [teacher]
Walker, Lillie Pearl (Allcorn)
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White, Georgia (Mullins) - Georgia Ola
Wright, Susan (Mullins)

BURLESON COUNTY

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Stella Gertrude - Taylor Baram - William Frances
Bishop, Everett W. - Lula Janet (Arendale)
Sands, Carey Baskum - James Edward - Margaret Elizabeth - Martitia Nancy - Mary
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ard Baram [pix of log cabin & home p. 49] - Thomas Baram
Wilkerson, Rachel Hope

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ces - Hyre Alice - Ida (...) - James Lenoir - James Washington - Jim - John -
John Laufette - L.B. - Laura C. - Lorena C. - Mae R. (Rounsaville) - Mattie
E. - Sadie - Sadie Belle (Smith) - T.H. - William J. - William T. - Willie
L. - Winnie
Mayes, Hyre Alice (Garner)
Morgan, Charolett
Newton, Mattie E. (Garner)
Potts, Winnie (garner)
Wimpy, Laura C. (Garner)

COLORADO COUNTY

Bock, August - Carl/Charles - Elizabeth - Emily - Emma - Louise (Eckhardt) -
Maria (Waak) - Meta - Richard
Braden, Anton Jr.
Eckhardt, Louise
Gross, Meta (Bock)

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Prause, Elizabeth (Bock)
Waak, Maria

COMANCHE COUNTY

Bell, Loraine (Irvin)
Carruth, Allie V. (Grimshaw) - Charles Robert - Elizabeth - Lavenia - Mary (Lively) -
Mary Francis - Mary Penina - Nancy J. - Robert Evelyn - William Lonnie - Wil-
liam Tully
Irvin, Lee A. - Lillie Mae (Terry) - Loraine - Madge
Knopp, Madge (Irvin)
Lesling, Bob
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Alice - Wayne Eli

COOKE COUNTY

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Cornelius, Huldah Cathrin - Lucinda (Hallmark) - Lucrita Mindory - Morian C. -
Sarah Jane - W.M.
Gooch, Bessie Lee - Claudie Ernest - Ester Elvin - Gracie Livonie - John - Lucrita
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Gregory, William
Grundy, Alabama Ann (Pace) - Christopher Columbus - E.W. - Ewing Weldon - Felix
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Sam - Samuel Pollard - Sara F. - William - Willie Mae (Bratcher)
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Isbell, David Kent - John W. - Odessa (Morrow) - Sherry A. (...)
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Isabella - Joe - Johanna (Sramek) - John - Julia - Julius - Louise - Mary
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hanna (...) - Rosalia - Theresa - Veronyka

GRAYSON COUNTY

Skaggs, Catherine (Young) - Charles - Curtis - Elizabeth - Ezekiel Y. - Grover -
James William - John H. - Josephine - Mary E. - Moss Davis - N.E. - Re-
becca J. - Sarah - Susan - Thomas J. - Wallace - William Frank
Young, Catherine

GUADALUPE COUNTY

Adams, Ida (Glenewinkel)
Altwein, Frieda (Dreyer)
Bittner, Lina
Brochers, Emma (glenewinkel)
Cherino, M.
Dreibrodt, Anna
Dreyer, Alton - Bertha - Bruno - Duane - Frieda - Fritz - Helmuth - Margarethe
(Wieters) - Mathilde - Matilde (Sehlmeyer) - Otto H. - Thekla (Wohlfahrt) -
Willie (continued)

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Glenewinkel, Angela - Anna - Anna (Willig) - August - Cora - Elmer - Elsie -
Emma - Heinrich - Henry - Herman - Ida - Johanna - Lina (Bittner) - Martin -
Norman
Heinemeyer, Anna
Henze, Johanna (Glenewinkel)
Horner, Mathias
Jahns, Cora (Glenewinkel)
Long, Sally E.
Mack, Angela (Glenewinkel)
Randow, Anna - Anna (Dreibrodt) - Bettye - Curt - Elmer K. - Karl C. - Rudolph -
Wallie
Sehlmeier, Matilde
Wagener, Elsie (Glenewinkel)
Wieters, Margarethe
Willig, Anna
Wohlfahrt, Bertha (Dreyer) - Thekla

HAMILTON COUNTY

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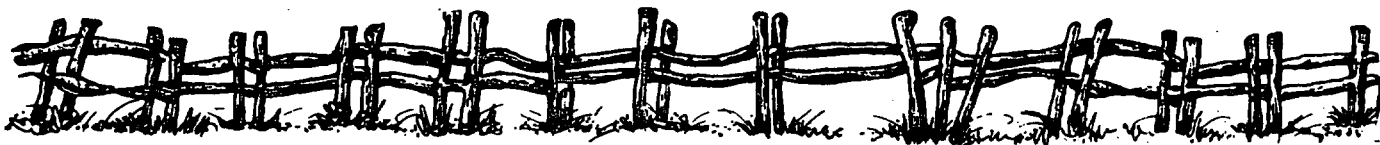
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Grady, Myrtle (Butler)
Harbeck, Ericson (Butler)
Houston, Eva (Butler)
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Kennedy, Betty Gay (Sturcken)
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Nichols, Helen (Butler)
Olson, Marlene (Baker) - Paul
Ricks, Sarah
Riggs, Susan
Seale, Emma Jane [pic p. 48] - Martha Louise
Semrod, Theda (Hummel)
Sturcken, Bess (Butler) - Betty Gay - Edward Butler

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Hendrixson, Bess Ed - Billie Ruth - Chattye - D.B. - David Carroll - Dee Benton -
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with mother, wife Katie Lee, & 8 of 11 children] - Willie E.
Jones, Luris Lanis
Roof, John Eberhard



TO GET COPIES OF PERTINENT PAGES FROM FAMILY LAND HERITAGE REGISTRY:

Your editor is always pleased when interest is shown in something we have published in our quarterly. People have written to ask for photocopies of the data about their families which the foregoing index brought to their attention. Rather than making a special trip to the Library to count the number of pages involved, reporting to the inquirer, waiting for a check, going back to the Library to make the copies, and then making a trip to the post office, I have decided to set up a basic rate to guide others who may want copies.

If you will send me a large SASE and \$1.50, plus 25¢ for each additional page (picture), I will copy the pertinent county for you. The text of a county may cover 1 to 4 pages, but pictures are scattered, as indicated by "[pic p. 25]" after a name. Only about 5 pages will go in a 22¢ SASE; if you order more (or if you prefer unfolded copies), send an extra 50¢ instead of SASE and I will furnish brown envelope and 39¢ postage.

BE SURE to specify surnames wanted, the county, and which issue of AGS Quarterly you found the names in.

This may seem high for 15¢ photocopies, but they are very clear - and I think I deserve a tip for the effort of going downtown! Figure carefully - I'm not going to spend 22¢ to refund a quarter to you! But if you send too little, you'll have to spend 44¢ to send me another SASE, or do without a picture or so. Please make the check to Helen H. Rugeley and send to 2202 W. 10, Austin TX 78703.

SEEKING CIRCUS PERSONNEL - A CHALLENGE

At the AGS Mini-Workshop on July 11th, someone asked about tracing ancestors who were with a circus. "He ran away and joined the circus" is a not-infrequent family tradition, and would require specialized procedures to track down, I feel sure.

We invite anyone who has gone down this road (as well as those who would like to) to contact your editor and collaborate on an article on the subject. We urge you to share your experiences - tell which ones were successful and which ones were a waste of time - and thus ease the task for fellow researchers!

There have always been "armchair" circus buffs who have studied circus life and collected all kinds of ephemera - newspaper ads, posters, programs, even the big four-sheets (?) that covered billboards. It is hoped that one or more will be kind enough to write me and tell where such collections might be seen. The stage names of some of the stars, at least, may be found in circus advertising.

Two tremendous obstacles stand in the way of those who seek circus personnel: They may have dropped their legal names and adopted more glamorous "show biz" names, AND - they were always on the move. Has anyone seen a circus roster on a census? If roustabout, aerialist or ringmaster married, they probably had to give their legal names to get a license, but where to start looking for such a record? Would they wait until they went into winter quarters?

Perhaps records may be found at Circus Winter Quarters near Venice, Florida, or at the Ringling Museum at Sarasota. But before the days of withholding for income tax or Social Security, we are not likely to find valuable payroll data.

Let's put our heads together and see what can be found about our high-flying, glamorous circus ancestors! Write me at 2202 W. 10, Austin TX 78703 (ph. 477-7313).



BOOK REVIEWS

NORTH CAROLINA WILLS: A TESTATOR INDEX, 1665-1900 (c) 1987 by Thornton W. Mitchell. Vol. I A-J, 694 pp., Vol. II K-Z, 740 pp.; cloth-bound, long-life paper; ca 6 x 9".

The coverage of Thornton W. Mitchell's index to North Carolina wills is probably unparalleled. He wisely by-passed Abstracts of North Carolina Wills Compiled from Original and Recorded Wills in the Office of the Secretary of State (published in 1910 by J. Bryan Grimes) and An Abstract of North Carolina Wills from about 1760 to about 1800 (published in 1925 by Fred A. Olds), both of which have been shown to be incomplete and sometimes erroneous. Instead, Mr. Mitchell personally examined the microfilmed copy of county will registers for his data base. Then he verified the registered wills by surviving original wills in North Carolina State Archives, a three-year process involving about 1,000 archives boxes and volumes.

Finally, the meticulous compiler visited some 20 counties that have retained some or all of their original wills. Some wills were found recorded in unusual places, where the average person would never think of looking. Mr. Mitchell expressed his appreciation for the cooperation of many people, especially his wife, the well-known genealogist Memory F. Mitchell.

The Introduction outlines the work done in this field by the late William Perry Johnson, and refers the reader to North Carolina Research: Genealogy and Local History, edited in 1980 by Helen F.M. Leary and Maurice R. Stirewalt. In its chapters on wills, Raymond A. Winslow Jr. and George Stevenson describe the manner in which wills were proved and probated in North Carolina. Before ordering copies of desired wills from Mr. Mitchell's Index, a researcher would be well advised to make a study of those chapters, in conjunction with the Introduction to North Carolina Wills: A Testator Index.

Next comes a section headed "Identification of Counties" which outlines the derivation of each county, subsequent changes, and present location of its wills, etc. It also is the key to the numbering of counties in this Index - Alamance, the first in alphabetical order, is 001, and so on through 107, Yancey County. It is recommended that you read this straight through, not just the one county you think you're interested in. There's a lot of eye-opening interrelationship there!

The three pages of Abbreviations are required reading, if you expect to make any sense of the Index and learn what you can order copies of. This would have been a good place to publish the address of North Carolina State Archives (Division of Archives and History, Department of Cultural Resources, 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27611).

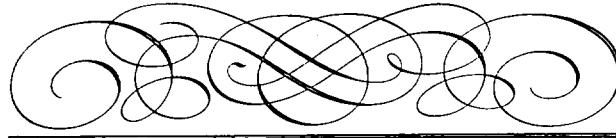
For the reader's convenience, the generous compiler repeats the abbreviations in the second volume and includes a two-page key to county identification numbers. Note that the letter c before a year in the Date column does not mean merely "about" but the actual year or date that the will was signed. This is shown because the date of probate could not be established.

The format of the body of the book is arranged thus: Surname, given name [variant spellings in their alphabetical places] - County [code number] - Date -

Recorded Copy - Original. The "Recorded Copy" column shows what kind of instrument it is: will, inventory, an entry in a deed book or the minutes of the county superior court, etc. The volume and page number follow that designation, which varies from county to county. The last column shows whether the document is in State Archives, a county courthouse, loose papers, etc.

This invaluable set of books is handsome in appearance - not that deplorable eye-straining dot matrix typeface, no typographical errors seen in a cursory examination, and very neatly done - for a computer product. ("It" was afraid to divide any word, so the right margin is slightly more ragged than necessary.) As for factual errors, I am confident that the former State Archivist has the skill to interpret and the dedication to copy the records accurately.

Millions of researchers with roots in North Carolina owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Thornton W. Mitchell!



IN MEMORIAM

Fay (Lockhart) Mays

Austin Genealogical Society members mourn the loss of long-time member Fay Elizabeth (Lockhart) Mays, who died 27 August 1987. She is remembered as a quietly gracious lady, friendly to all who had the privilege of knowing her. Many of us chatted with her at our Seminar on the 22nd.

Fay was born 17 March 1906 in Sherwood, Irion County, Texas, to William Edgar and Fannie Lee (McCutchen) Lockhart. Her father was a teacher, and must have been proud of her. She received a B.A. from West Texas State University in 1926, having majored in Spanish and Education, and was elected to the Scholarship Society of the South.

On 4 September 1927 she married Charles William Mays, then Captain, later Colonel, U.S. Army. Many of us remember Colonel Mays from his attendance at AGS meetings prior to his death in 1975.

Except for the years 1914-1918 which she spent in Lawrence, Kansas, Fay Mays always lived in Texas. She traveled extensively, notably to Nuremberg, Germany after World War II, and many other countries later.

Fay was awarded honorary life membership in the Women of University Presbyterian Church in Austin, the church where she served as an elder in 1979 and as chairman of many activities.

She was a member of the American Rose Society, A.A.U.W., Austin Genealogical Society, the Andrew Carruthers Chapter of the D.A.R., Officers' Wives Club of the Regular Armed Forces, Retired Officers Association, Nueces Activity Center, YWCA, etc.

Mrs. Mays is survived by a son, Dr. Charles W. Mays of Salt Lake City, Utah; and twin daughters, Elizabeth M. Rogers and Katherine M. Smith of Dallas; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and a brother, Col. Vincent M. Lockhart of El Paso, not to mention a host of friends.

The University Presbyterian Church (2203 San Antonio Street, Austin 78705) has set up a Memorial Fund in her name.

A GENEALOGIST'S NIGHTMARE

I'm My Own Grandpa!

Many, many years ago, when I was twenty-three,
I was married to a widow, who was pretty as could be.
This widow had a grown-up daughter who had hair of red;
My father fell in love with her and soon they too were wed.
That made my dad my son-in-law and changed my very life,
For my daughter was my mother 'cause she was my father's wife.
To complicate the matter, even though it brought me joy,
I soon became the father of a bouncing baby boy.
My little baby then became a brother-in-law to Dad
And so became my uncle, though it made me very sad,
For if he was my uncle, then that also made him brother
Of the widow's grown-up daughter, who of course was my stepmother.

Chorus

I'm my own grandpa, I'm my own grandpa --
It sounds funny I know, but it really is so --
Oh, I'm my own grandpa!

Father's wife then had a son, who kept them on the run.
He became my grandchild, for he was my daughter's son.
My wife is now my mother's mother and it makes me blue
'Cause altho she is my wife, she is my grandmother too.
If my wife is my grandmother, then I'm her grandchild
And every time I think of it, it nearly drives me wild,
For now I have become the strangest case you ever saw:
As husband of my grandmother, I am my own grandpa!

Chorus

[Always eager to do things for others, Barbara Goudreau painstakingly transcribed this for us from an old Guy Lombardo record after we had laughingly reminisced about it. The label credits Latham & Jaffee, but our thanks are due to Barbara for sharing it with us all.]

HAPPY HUNTING GROUND

Send queries to Mrs. H.H. Rugeley, 2202 W. 10, Austin TX 78703, NOT to AGS post-office box. Include at least one date, place & first name per query. Proofread your query carefully for clarity & accuracy; it may be edited to our format. Use name or abbreviation of months, NOT figures. Use 2 capital letters for states, as prescribed by P.O. Department for 20 years - no periods. Queries are free & welcome.

ABERNATHY_BOWEN_KALE_LITTEN_SCHRADER_STAFFORD. James M. Litten (b. ca 1820 poss. Catawba Co, NC) had sister Sarah Ann who m. Luther Kale 1848, Catawba Co, NC. Another sister, Martha Litten, m. D.A. Abernathy. Both families moved from NC to Anderson Co, TX in 1859.

James M. Litten is shown as an Austin physician on 1860, 1870 & 1880 censuses of Travis Co, TX. [In 1872 directory, his office & residence was at n.e. corner of Colorado & Bois d'Arc (7th) sts. - Ed.] In 1880, James was 60, his wife Mary L. was 37 (b. TN of TN parents), son Frank was 17 (b. TX), dau Mary was 13 & son George 11. Dau Mary later m. Ed Bowen and was still living in Austin as late as 4 Nov 1934, when her brother George died in Travis Co.

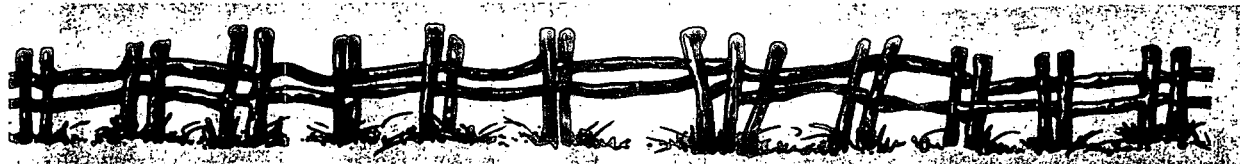
The father James was alive as late as 1894 (date of letter to sister); no death date found for him. His wife died 23 Aug 1916 and son Frank 14 May 1919. Any further details would be welcomed by Irene (Schrader) Stafford, great-granddaughter of Sarah Ann (Litten) Kale. The Staffords praised the Austin History Center where they got some help on this line. - Wayne Stafford, Rt. 1 Box 44, Montalba [Anderson Co] TX 75853.

? ?

A) CHANEY_HARRIS_JONES_SMOAK_ZANT/ZANDT. Solomon Zandt had son James Solomon Zant b. 26 Sep 1839, SC; d. 29 Mch 1915, Eolian, Stephens Co, TX; buried Plum Branch Cemetery. On 22 Dec 1859 James Solomon m. Margaret Eliza Smoak; among their children were (a) Julia Elfe (b. 7 June 1863, Murray Co, GA; d. 13 Jly 1902) who m. 7 Dec 1880 William Floyd Chaney (had dau Victoria Elfe who m. ... Harris); and (b) Margaret Anne "Annie" (b. 19 Apr 1876, Dooly Co, GA; d. 21 Apr 1957) who m. 16 Apr 1893 Stephen W. Jones. Additional data would be welcome.

B) AILER/AYLER_DUKE(S)_SMOAK_ZANT. William Smoak had son John Samuel Smoak b. 13 Nov 1811, Orangeburg Co, SC; d. 20 Nov 1900, Warwick, Dooly Co, GA) who married in 1835 Annie Margaret Duke(s) (b. 31 Oct 1809; d. 5 Aug 1863, Springplace, Whitfield Co, GA). Her father was Thomas Duke(s) Jr.; her mother Anne Ailer/Ayler. The John Samuel Smoaks had dau Margaret Eliza (b. 22 Dec 1841, GA?; d. 21 Feb 1882) who m. 22 Dec 1859 James Solomon Zant. We would be grateful for further details. -- Renee Britt Sherman, 13420 W. Warren Ave., Lakewood CO 80228 (303) 988-2444.

? ?



DENNIS LINDENBERG MERREM MEYER MILEY SCHMIDT ULBIG WALTERSDORF WALZ WESTPHAL. Would like to correspond with persons working on the above lines in Central Texas. Wilhelmine (Westphal) & Frank Schmidt were married near Hallettsville (Lavaca Co) in 1890; buried near Poth (Deweese). [Ed. Note: Meaning "or Dewees"?--both are in Wilson Co.] Emma (Ulbig) & Ernst Merrem m. 1889 in Hallettsville [named for John Hallet but town has double t.] & are buried in Moulton (Lavaca Co) with daughter Sedonia Meyer.

Natalie (Walz) & Edgar Merrem are buried in Wolters Cemetery at Schulenburg (Fayette Co) with 2 sons, a daughter, & Homer Miley. Mary (Lindenberg) & Frank Ulbig are buried in Hallettsville Catholic Cemetery with dau Agnes Waltersdorf. We recently visited these cemeteries and desire contact with others interested in these people. - Mrs. Ruby Schmidt Dennis, 536 Lahoma Dr, Bartlesville OK 74003.

? ?

BAKER BOWDEN BURRAGE CLOUD COX HIXSON RATLIFF REAVES/REEVES REDWINE REYNOLDS STEVENS TUCKER VINES. George Henry Cox (b. 1838, IN) m. Mary Ann Tucker (b. 23 Mch 1846). Children: John Henry Cox (b. 19 Dec 1869, MS; m. Mary M. Redwine) and Viola Virginia Cox (b. 27 Apr 1883, LA; d. ca 1926; m/1 Wash Hixson; m/2 ... Stevens). Need parents of George Henry Cox.

James A.B. Tucker (b. 11 Mch 1813) m. Mary Ann Ratliff (b. 31 Jan 1823) & had dau Mary Ann Tucker.

Andrew Jackson Reynolds (b. 7 Aug 1869, AK), son of James & Mary (Bowden) Reynolds, m. Bettie Elizabeth Reaves/Reeves (b. 24 Apr 1881, Tuscaloosa AL), dau of J.H. & Mary (Burrage) Reeves.

Benjamin R. Vines (b. ca 1839 GA?) had dau Amanda Ellen Ann Vines (b. 19 Jly 1866, Black Jack Grove, Hopkins Co, TX) who m. Samuel Leonard Cloud (b. 19 Feb 1842, OH), son of William Cloud (b. ca 1805, PA). Any additional information will be gratefully received. - Betty L. Cox Baker, 46 B Shadowood O.T.S., Granbury [Hood Co] TX 76048.

? ?

A) CRUMPLEY GLASCO HENRY YAWS. Seeking information on Yaws families of Bastrop Co, TX, particularly my great-great-grandmother Sarah Rosanna Yaws, born ca 1845, Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, LA. She m/1 John W. Crumpley, 27 Aug 1867, Bastrop Co; m/2 William Lafette Glasco, 7 Sep 1876, Bastrop Co. She died 24 Aug 1915, Okemah, Okfuskee, OK. Her parents were William & Sarah Rosanna (Henry) Yaws. [Ed. Note: Do your records clearly indicate Bastrop TX? There is a Bastrop in her native state, in Morehouse Parish, that might get confused.]

B) CRUMPLEY GLASCO. Would like to identify William Glasco of Washington Co, AR (who was discharged from U.S. Army at San Antonio in 1846) with the William Lafette Glasco who m. Sarah Rosanna (Yaws) Crumpley 7 Sep 1876, Bastrop Co, TX. Can anyone verify?

C) COLE DAVIS JONES. Would like to correspond with others working on Jones, Cole and Davis in Cass Co, TX, seen on 1850, 1860 & 1870 censuses. There are two distinct family groups each name for this 30-year time period. - Alan Rule Keeling, 1206 Hollow Creek Dr #4, Austin TX 78704.

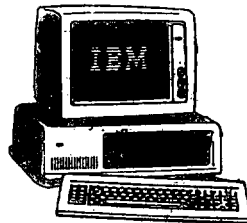
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Another thing - In upper right corner, it should read "Wife's Index Number," singular possessive, not just the plural form "Wives".

A DISGRUNTLED GERMAN-TEXAN

Austin May 11th 1870.

Mr. John Conway

Dear Sir & Friend!

About a week ago I received a Letter from our frd Mr. G. SCHOENERT, in which he stated to me that Dr. WINN had attached the note due to me, by him, for the house. The note had been sold to a man here long Befor Dr. Winn has taken out the Attachment, so Mr. Schoenert did not owe me any thing at the time. I want you, Mr. CONWAY, to attend to this affair for me. Though befor you do anything in this matter, write to me first & give me your opinion about it. It is true enough I am indebted to Dr. Winn for The treatment of my wife & also very willing to pay him, but I am not able to pay him such a anormous price as he wants me to pay. I have also an Account against Dr. Winn for some carpenterwork. Let me state the reason to you, why I have treated Dr Winn in this way: Not very long befor I left Gonzales I asked him what my Bill was. Well Mr MEYER, he said, I want to be liberal with you, I only charge you \$150.00, if you was a rich man I should charge you \$500.00. I told him allright but thought at the time it was damednation much for a poor fellow like me to pay but when we was ready to have a settlement, his Bill called for only [!] \$25.00 more, so his Liberality increased in the course of a few Days. I for my part would be perfectly willing to have a settlement with him, but I am not able to pay him his price. My Bill against him is about \$25.00 & I am willing to pay him \$50.00 more. If he is willing to accept my offer allright & well - if not. Let him go on [and sue]. Tell also Dr. TATE to hand you my Account. I want to settle with him for it. Tell him friend John to be as light as possible.

Your Lady love Miss so & so I have not seen yet, may be I do not know her any more. I have given up my Clerkship & went in the Brewing business again. I am very well pleased with my situation & also with the City of Austin.

Hopping to hear soon from you I remain

Yours truly,

My Address:

Philipp Louis Meyer

Mr. Ph. L. Meyer
care of
Mr. Paul PRESSLER, Austin

NOTES

The writer, Philipp Louis Meyer, has not been located in the 1986 History of Gonzales County, Texas, or other sources consulted. But in the 1872 Austin City Directory, P. L. Meyer, of Archer & Meyer, appears as partner of W. W. Archer, saloon keeper, basement of Ziller Building, northeast corner of Congress & Pecan. The "clerkship" he had given up may have been in the Land Office, where one Pressler was a draughtsman. Paul may have been his brother, or of Frank Pressler (saloon keeper on Congress between Hickory & Bois d'Arc streets); Rudolph (wheelwright with

Jones & Stelfox, Pine & Colorado); Charles William (Draftsman in the Land Office, res. Colorado between Cypress & Live Oak Streets. He later became a master map maker - see The Handbook of Texas).

John S. Conway, attorney, by 1870 had office in the Harwood & McKean Bldg. in Gonzales, and was a partner of T.M. Harwood there ca 1871-75. On 25 May 1861 he enlisted as a private in "The Gonzales Rifles Company"; later was in Co. C, 6th Texas Infantry, C.S.A.

G. Schoenert [later Gustav] was not found in the history of Gonzales, but might be brother of William Schoenert, a carpenter with Byrne & Schubert on Ash Street between Linden & Cherry, per 1872 Austin City Directory. Mr. Anton (reference in next letter) possibly brother of Gustav, or Anton could be surname?

Dr. Pyramus C. Winn (p. 523, 1986 History of Gonzales...) was a native of Georgia and had lived in Alabama, moving to Gonzales ca 1863 after serving as a surgeon in the Army of the Confederacy. He was the son of a ferrier [ferrykeeper? or farrier?], and graduated in both law and medicine. [His father must have admired Shakespeare to name him for a character in A Midsummer Night's Dream, based on the legendary lover of Thisbe in ancient Babylon.] Dr. Winn unsuccessfully ran for office in both Alabama and Texas. In June 1870 Dr. Winn married Hattie A. Kendall--perhaps related to William A. Kendall who was in Gonzales Rifle Co., 1861.

Dr. Robert Nathaniel Chapman Tate (1827-1911) had been in Gonzales since 1855. His wife was Mary Elizabeth Wilson. He also was in The Gonzales Rifles Company when it was organized in 1861 - as Surgeon (p. 493, History of Gonzales).

Austin May 24th 1870.

John Conway

Gonzales

Dear Friend!

In receipt of your favor of the 19th inst., I have examined its contents & found that you wished to hear something more particular about the Transferring of my note. The note is now in the hand of an innocent purchaser. The Owner is my Brother [in-law? step-brother?] A. Hartmann, to which I was indebted to the handsome little sume of \$1450.00 with interest. On the 27th day of April 1870 I have turned the note over to him & hold his receipt in hand, given to me, by him the same Day. So far as I am concerned in the matter now I am an uninterested party in the subject matter. My Brother has left this place & do not know where he is gone too, therefor do I consider it my Duty to protect his interest as he has taken the note from me in good fathe [faith]. If you wished to have my receipt, now in my possession I will send it down to you. If this should not be enough proof I still can give more. Mr. Anton & Gustav Schoenert can testify that I was indebted to my Brother for the Am't above mentioned. I can not see that you will have any trouble in this case. Let Dr. Pyramus C. Winn go on & be damed. I will see him in H-11 befor I will pay him \$293.50 cents. Write to me right

away what you can do for me & also tell me what your charges will be to represent me next court in Gonzales & to whip Dr. Pyramus C. Winn [two words unprintable - one with an extra t]. It is very likely that [I] will go to Brenham in a month or so. My Credit is good with our frd Gust Schoenert yet. John I know you will take your fees out in Lager, Coffee, Tobacco & & . I will not remain more then a few days at Brenham.

Write soon

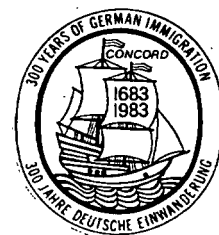
to your true Friend

Care of
Paul Pressler

Philipp Louis Meyer



AGS SEMINAR ACCLAIMED A HUGE SUCCESS



The 1987 Seminar of Austin Genealogical Society, with the theme "German Heritage - Yours and Mine", has been declared one of the best we've ever had. This was due in no small measure to the gracious co-operation of the German-Texan Heritage Society, which contributed such delightful entertainment and other elements.

The principal speaker, Mr. John W. Heisey of Pennsylvania, covered the field of researching for German ancestors thoroughly, lucidly, and patiently. Even for one with only a possibly German ancestor back in the 17th Century, there was never a dull moment in his discourse. Mr. Heisey's tips were applicable to many areas of ancestor hunting, and his slides were extremely interesting, as were his comments.

An audience-pleasing selection of German folk music was presented by Irma Guenther and Hilga Von Schwiehn, after which Mary Mathis El-Behri held the crowd spell-bound with her illustrated account of "My 33 Days in the German Democratic Republic."

Many vendors offered a rare opportunity for attendees to purchase pertinent books, charts, paper preservatives, and other appropriate items. The luncheon buffet of delicious German dishes was even beyond our expectations, while the fellowship and exchange between genealogists created a more congenial atmosphere than ever before.

I have no doubt that I speak for all who attended this splendid affair when I offer hearty thanks to those responsible for it: Andrea Nagel, President of AGS; Betty DuLaney Kaiser, Chairman of the event; Glenda Knipstein (1988 chairman), Registration; Lee Kinard, Treasurer, assisted by Julia Vinson; Martha Askew, Publicity; Putnam W. Monroe, Mailing; Connie Meyers, Membership; Betty McAnelly, Sales - Donated Items; Betty Kaiser & Wilena Young, Flyer & Program; Andrea Nagel, Courtesy Gifts; Allen Keeling, Decorations; Lee Kinard & John Barron, Surname List; Edith Williams, Exhibits; Billy J. Kaiser and Bill & Ruth Koehler, Hospitality; Clarice Neal, Jan Carter, Jo Tuttle, John Barron, Julia Vinson and any whose names escape me at the moment, plus members of the German-Texan Heritage Society for various jobs well done; and, last but by no means least, three members of Patrick Henry Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution: Leonard Gause of La Grange, W.E. Tinsley and Joe Preston, who were the impressive, uniformed color guard.

WIR DANKEN EUCH ALLEN!

LETTER BOOK OF THOMAS MOORE HARWOOD

LAW FIRM OF HARWOOD AND WINSTON, GONZALES, TEXAS

13 January 1879 - 10 March 1881

Thomas Moore Harwood was born 30 September 1827 in King and Queen County, Virginia, and died 29 January 1900 in Gonzales, Texas. His father, Archibald Roane Harwood, a veteran of the War of 1812, operated a 900-acre farm, called by some Newington Plantation. He also was a lawyer and a state representative.

Tom attended the University of Virginia and then earned his law degree at Balston Spa, New York. Being the sixth child in a large family that clung to the custom of primogeniture, he had realized early that he would not inherit any family land, so determined to seek his fortune elsewhere. On Christmas Eve 1850 he landed at Matagorda, Texas, where he taught school for a short time.

Then he learned of and seized the opportunity to serve as teacher and principal of a new school, Prairie Lea Academy, which opened 13 Sep 1852 in Caldwell County. There he met and later (on 11 Feb 1857) married Cordelia, the second daughter of Dr. David Franklin Brown, whose local claim to fame was that he had removed an Indian arrow from the breast of Mrs. Watts of Linnville, after the Battle of Plum Creek in 1840.

The T.M. Harwoods raised their six children in Gonzales where, since August of 1853, he had been building a thriving law practice which consisted largely of handling land claims for absentee owners or claimants. This afforded Mr. Harwood the opportunity to make canny investments in land for himself as well as for his clients. During the Civil War, T.M. Harwood rose to the rank of major, fighting in Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee and Mississippi - which incidentally served to widen his acquaintance and establish a reputation for integrity.

The necessity of keeping a record of his correspondence brought about the practice of using a "Letter Book," one of which was given the writer by an older relative. It consists of an index followed by 696 numbered pages of onionskin-type paper. From time to time, entries were made on the index pages, some in another hand. Errors were sometimes made (Sweeney on the L page, for example), which was helpful in interpreting some doubtful letters, but others eluded me entirely.

The index pages have tabs, one for each letter of the alphabet, but since entries were made chronologically, names are not completely alphabetized, and many are repeated. I consolidated the entries for each correspondent, put names in proper sequence, and typed the whole index.

I would like to know the mechanics of using such a letter book. My theory is that after a letter was written it was placed beneath a blank page in the book, a chemically treated sheet placed on that, and then pressure applied to draw the ink from the letter through the onionskin of the book. Or perhaps water was applied somehow - some of the sheets are waterstained and puckered, possibly indicating that too much water was used. [It doesn't work with ballpoint pen ink, but permanency is one of the selling points of modern ink.]

My theory may be completely hare-brained - perhaps the letters were merely copied by hand into the book. There are a lot of abbreviations that seem hardly compatible with the decorum of a gentlemanly lawyer. And some letters do appear to be squeezed into 5- or 5½-inch widths - but narrow tablets of ruled notepaper

were popular. On the other hand, there are no holes in the paper where forcible strokes made wider marks, as seen in many original letters of this vintage. Another indication that letters were somehow transferred to the pages of the book is in the dateline. Usually, "Jany 13th" is handwritten, followed by a space, and then "9", which suggests that "187" was printed on the firm's letterhead.

Any information on this subject would be welcomed and passed on to readers.

Since T.M. Harwood's correspondents were scattered all over the eastern half of the nation, as well as Texas, it is hoped that these letters, appearing from time to time in our quarterly, will be a source of interest to our readers.

I first considered publishing, in chronological order, all letters to a given addressee. But some of the letters are too dim to read much of, and some contain nothing of interest to genealogical searchers as a whole. Therefore I decided to look ahead, skim all letters to that firm or individual, and glean any data pertaining to persons named in the first one.

To identify people mentioned in these letters, I have consulted The History of Gonzales County, Texas (1986), which contains all of the county census for 1850 but only the heads of families for 1860, many Civil War rosters, and a wealth of historical data - unindexed. The family sketches submitted by living descendants are indexed, I'm thankful to say. Another rich source is Yesterdays, published first quarterly and then semi-annually, 1966-85, by South Texas Genealogical and Historical Society at Gonzales. Regrettably, most of this also has no index.

The Handbook of Texas, Compiled Index to Elected and Appointed Officials of the Republic of Texas, and Members of the Texas Legislature 1846-1962 have furnished clues to Texans named in this letter book. Since Confederate pensions were not awarded until 1899, that excellent source was not applicable.

Initials or names followed by question marks in brackets preceding a name are possibilities derived from the above sources or from entries in the index to the letter book. Readers are invited - urged - to send in further identification of people and places.

-- Mrs. H. H. Rugeley (a great-granddaughter of T. M. Harwood)
2202 West Tenth Street, Austin TX 78703

Jany 13th [187]9

Mssrs. [Col. J.E.?] McCord & Lindsey, Brownwood [Brown Co, TX]

Gents - Yours of 30th ult. came to hand a few days ago and just after I had mailed to you mine of [space] inst. Enclosed find exchange on Galveston for \$30 to [pay] Taxes on the J.S. [Joseph S.] MARTIN surveys. I note what you say about tenants, all of which is satisfactory. I have not yet heard from [W.H.?] LIETT of Callahan. Please keep an eye on my interests there and don't let the lands be sold for Taxes.

I am truly yours,

T.M. Harwood

[Ed. Note: I believe the above typeface is hard to read, and it is very tedious to change print wheels for each letter. I'll stick to the Presidential but use 10 pitch for the letters.]

Notes on next page.

On 10 June 1879, TMH wrote to McCord & Lindsey that he wanted them to put a tenant on the Hay Creek tract (of the Martin survey) or sell it.

17 Feb 1880 - Enclosing deed from Abbey B. Martin to Joseph S. Martin conveying all her interest in the estate of J.S. Martin, deceased, and all her interest in estate of Albert Martin, decd. TMH asks them to record deed in Coleman County; it had been recorded in Brown when Coleman was part of Brown. Another deed is from L.J. STOREY, administrator of J.S. Martin, for two tracts of 1535 acres each, being two thirds of the J.S. Martin league & labor. One tract on Home Creek; other on Hay Creek. Renter of Hay Creek tract to pay taxes. Eager to sell Greenberry LOGAN-land.

Handbook: Greenberry Logan, born a slave in Kentucky in 1799, was emancipated by his father, David Logan. Coming to Texas from Missouri in 1831, Greenberry received $\frac{1}{4}$ league of land on Chocolate Bayou in Brazoria County. A blacksmith, he participated in the Battle of Velasco, and later was permanently disabled while in the Texas Army, for which he received a league of land. In 1853 he located other bounty and donation grants in Brown and Callahan counties. In 1834 he purchased the freedom of a slave named Caroline, and married her.

24 June 1880 - TMH explained the importance of getting tenants to pay taxes: He wanted to make all his lands self-sustaining; if Oliver left at the end of 4 years, the sheds he had built would not be worth as much as TMH had spent on taxes while he was there. That's why it was better to allow low rent than to put out cash for the taxes.

16 Sep 1880 - TMH sent revised contract for M.C. OLIVER to sign. He told Col. McCord he was going to Coleman County in November to visit his Mary Osborne survey and asked if he could meet him at McCord's old ranch.

12 Feb 1881 - Almost illegible, but comparing with letter of 14 Feb I deduce that TMH was sending P.O. order for \$25 to cover taxes on four surveys: J.S. Martin (1500 acres), W.A. FRENIPER (?) (1280 a.), W. SCHULTZ (320 a.), and G. Logan (320 a.)

Jany 13th [187]9

P[hilip] A[lexander] WORK, Esq. Hardin [Liberty Co, TX]

Dear Sir, - Yours of 23rd ult. came duly to hand, and although you hold out no bright prospects of rich harvests, in the sale of Judge [John C.] McKEAN's landed possessions in your country, I am thankful for the information - for I can now satisfy the old gentleman's anticipations as to the extent of his interests in that direction. Please keep an eye on the ADAMS tract and if you can sell it for even a "dead horse with a valuable hide on his carcass", do so.

Do you know anything about a suit brought in your court [county?] by M. [Mr.?] W. BRANCH of Galveston for Mrs. RENFRO of this county [Gonzales] against one Ezra GREEN? The first suit was on a note and to enforce the vendor's lien - and others after the sale under the decree. A suit was brought I understand for the land and judgment obtained for the land some time last year. Please let me know if the land can be sold. Could it be sold or exchanged for lumber? And what is it worth. Mrs. Renfro wants me to take it for a debt she owes me.

Your kind attention will be duly appreciated, and I hope someday I may render you like favors.

I am very truly, T.M. Harwood

NOTES

Philip Alexander Work (1832-1911) grew up in Tyler Co, TX; was admitted to the Texas bar 1853; was in ranging companies against Indians; during Civil War was in many battles, first with Hood's Brigade, then as lieutenant colonel commanding 1st Texas Infantry Regiment. After the war he practiced law in Woodville (Tyler Co), New Orleans, and then Hardin County. In 1855 he married Adeline F. Lea; 4 children.

John Clun McKean (1797-1880) was born in Pennsylvania; with brother Joseph W. brought 20 families to DeWitt Colony ca 1831. With Wm. A. MATTHEWS he acquired many tracts of land; was probate judge in Gonzales in 1836. In 1858 he moved to Prairie Lea (Caldwell Co), residence of TMH's father-in-law Dr. David Franklin Brown, formerly of Bolivar TN. Judge McKean probably father of A.J. McKean, b. 19 Mch 1831, Bolivar TN; attorney, Mason, Civil War officer; d. 10 June 1868; buried in or adjoining Harwood plot in Masonic Cemetery at Gonzales.

Wharton Branch, attorney at Galveston [occasionally spelled Worton]. In 1879 TMH had trouble getting him to return the power of attorney formerly given him by Mrs. J.P. Renfro and since revoked. Branch also ignored requests for the Ezra Green note which TMH (on recommendation of Judge CLEAVELAND of Galveston) had sent him when Branch thought he could sell the land but proved unsuccessful.

Mrs. Renfro was widow of J.P. Renfro (b. ca 1830) who was 32, married, a 2nd lieutenant in a Spy Company of Gonzales which was attached to Waul's Legion of Volunteers 13 June 1862. Since TMH was also an officer in that C.S.A. unit, it is only natural that Renfro's widow would entrust her legal business to him. From the letters written to Colonel Work in September and October 1879 we learn that Mrs. Renfro gave the Ezra Green note to TMH for prosecuting the murderer of her husband. Green had written Renfro that he was ready to pay the note, but before it was delivered to him, J.P. Renfro was killed. Mrs. Renfro said the only heirs of David Renfro Sr. were (1) a son who was killed during the war (unmarried and without an heir); (2) David Renfro Jr.; (3) J.P. Renfro; and (4) Mrs. WALL. David Jr. got $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 2222 acres, while Mrs. Wall and J.P. got 555 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres each, as can be seen in estate papers of David Renfro Sr. in probate records of Sabine County. J.P. sold his share to Ezra Green. He left two sons [one David K. of San Saba], both now of age.

A.B. HOOKS of Beaumont and Hardin first purchased Mrs. Wall's original share and then the interest of one of the part owners [David] from his agent, O.L.? WATTS. TMH advised selling the remainder (J.P.'s share) to Hooks "to close the matter out." He instructed Colonel Work to deduct his fee and send balance [ca \$400] to him by draft on Galveston or Houston. He would like \$200 in money and would take balance in lumber from a good mill at Beaumont or Orange "as I have need for lumber at once" [27 Oct 1879]. There is a confusing reference to ... WATERHOUSE who purchased something from Mrs. Wall [or Hall?].

On 31 October TMH wrote to Wharton Branch, Esq.: "The Renfro land is now mine & I have contracted to sell it to A.B. Hooks @ \$1 per acre. I am surprised to hear that you claim I agreed to give you as yr fee all in excess of \$300..." and goes on in politely expressed outrage about Branch's failure to accomplish anything, etc. The land was in Hardin County, where Branch lived.

I have been unable to find any details about EZRA GREEN, deceased., or the Renfro sister who married a Wall or Hall.

Add to McKEAN: The 1850 census of Caldwell County reveals that (contrary to the Gonzales History) John C. McKean was already there: age 53, b. VA, farmer, property valued at \$2260. His children: Helen, 25, b. TN; W.C., 24m, farmer, TN; Andrew J., 19, student, TN; Clarissa F., 13, student, TX; Catherine, 6, TX; and Joseph, 11, TX. So TMH probably knew the family when he taught at Prairie Lea Academy in 1852. As of 11 May 1861 A.J. McKean was 2nd Lt. in Capt. J.C.G. Kay's Company that became Co. A, 4th Texas Rgt. He was on 1860 census of Gonzales.

Jany 13 1879

Jas. E. HILL Esq., Livingston, Polk Co. [TX]

Dear Sir: Yours of 12th ult. came duly to hand. We would have sent you the recording fee for the Renfro-McKean deed long since had you notified us. Enclosed please find \$6. We don't care to be furnished with an abstract but simply your views[?] as to the title - Also the amount necessary to redeem the tax title - and whether or not it is adversely held. Also the character & value of the land.

Truly yours,

Harwood & Winston

NOTES

James Ewing Hill (1837-1916) b. TN; 1st Lt in Co. G, 22nd [Infantry?] Regt. C.S.A.; lawyer & judge; m. Frances Eugenia Dunnam 1859; 6 children; buried at Livingston.

S.F. Winston, formerly of Virginia, was TMH's law partner for several years. In April 1876 a home guard called the Gonzales Rifles (after the Civil War volunteer company) was formed with T.M. Harwood as captain and S.F. Winston the last names private. Winston died in 1882.

20 Feb 1879 - TMH wrote Hill that Judge McKean wanted to sell the little tract in his county; would it sell now or should they wait until the narrow gauge railroad was further advanced? What could he get for it?

22 Dec 1880 - TMH reminded Judge Hill that over a year he had reported that times were so tight that it would be useless to offer the 132 $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre tract for sale (the tract that William F. Renfro [the son who died during the Civil War?] had transferred to John C. McKean). Now they were inquiring if the tract had been sold for taxes; if so, they will send money to redeem it.

Jany 14 1879

H. A. LEE, Esq. [no address]

Dear Sir -- Yours containing note on B.G. ANDERSON is to hand. We talked with Mr. A. about a compromise. He offered 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents on the dollar, and says that is the best he can do. The note will be barred by limitation in 22 [?] weeks and we think it to the interest of the owner to push [?] it into a judgment. Our fee for obtaining judgments is \$20 and the costs would be [illegible from here on. Regrettably, there is no further correspondence with this man, and no identification of Lee or Anderson has been found.]

Jany 15th 1879.

J. M. Bonner, Esq. [New Orleans]

Dr Sir: Your favor of the 10th inst. to hand and contents noted. We have some land belonging to Fred CARLETON in our hands for sale & you could make the suit [?] by getting an order from him on us which we will accept to be paid out of the proceeds when the land is sold.

Have advised Mrs. CARUTHERS of Mr. NANKIN[?].

Yours,

Harwood & Winston

NOTES

Unable to find anything about BONNER except that he is addressed as Judge John M. Bonner in subsequent letters which do not pertain to names in this one.

Fred. Carleton was a member of the firm of F.W. Chandler, E.E. Turner and Fred. Carleton, Attorneys, in Austin in 1870. In 1872-73, Fred W. Carleton of Hurd, Chandler & Carleton had office on Pine St first door west of Congress, and resided at northeast corner of Mulberry and San Antonio. There were several other Carletons and Chandlers in that Austin Directory.

No clues to Caruthers or Nankin.

Jany 15th 1879

E. H. CUSHING Esq. - Houston

Dr Sir, Enclosed find P.O. order for \$13.25 between [? to be divided between?] bills rendered against Harwood & Winston \$7.00 and T. M. Harwood \$6.25.

Yours,

Harwood & Winston

NOTES

Edward Hopkins Cushing had published the Houston Telegraph before and throughout the Civil War. He also published books, including John Sayles' A Treatise on the Practice of the District and Supreme Courts of the State of Texas in 1875. He sold the Telegraph a few years after the war and conducted a book and stationery business until he died, the day this letter was written. See Handbook of Texas.

Jany 15th 1879

Jas. H. ROBERTSON, Esq., Round Rock [Williamson Co, TX]

Dear Sir - We send you commission to take Deposition of HOGAN in the CLANTON vs COX suit. Our Court begins 1st Monday in April and will have full time to take them - but want to know what proof can be made by this witness. Clanton must be here to testify. Will set this case for some particular day. Please call on him for [or far?] enough to have these Dep[ositions] taken & forward to some atty who will attend to it. Truly yours, Harwood & Winston

NOTES

James Harvey Robertson (1853-1912) came from Roane Co, TN and was admitted to the bar at Austin in 1875; married Susie Marsh Townsend and moved to Round Rock; six children. Was district attorney of Travis Co 1884-90; district judge 1891-95.

On 17 Apr 1879 TMH wrote Robertson that the Clanton-Cox suit had been compromised, Cox paying \$250, of which Robertson's fee was \$25 and Harwood's was \$75. He suggested that Robertson might be able to get more out of Clanton.

No clues to HOGAN, CLANTON or COX.

Jany 15 1879

G.W. STEWART, Esq. Clay County [TX]

Dear Sir - We have filed suit in this county for partition of the lands belonging to J.C. Stewart deceased to set aside the undivided one third of the locator, T.S.WALKER. Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart informs us that you own several shares & we want to know what shares you own. It will be a friendly suit for partition - and we wish to have your co-operation so as to save expense. We will want you to give us the names of some good competent persons (say three) to act as commissioners to divide the land and if you have improved any part of the land you will be entitled to have your part set apart to you, so as to include your improvements.

If you know the names and residences of those heirs who lived in Georgia please give them to us, and we will get them to join in the suit without having to cite them by publication - which would increase the cost.

Hoping to hear from you soon, we are truly yours

Harwood and Winston

[No other letters to G.W. Stewart, but the following to an attorney in Alabama sheds some light on the STEWART family. However, Thomas Lloyd Miller (in Bounty and Donation Land Grants in Texas, 1835-1888) reports that J.C. Stewart's bounty warrant and donation certificate indicate that he "fell with Fannin." A James Stewart received a donation certificate for service at San Jacinto. No Stewart heirs received a donation for their ancestor's having fallen at the Alamo. Pvt. J.C. Stewart is on the roster of Capt. Aaron B. King's company of Auxiliary Volunteers, according to a reconstructed muster roll of Fannin's men which was published in 1836 in the Telegraph and Texas Register.]

June 24th 1879

W.B. APPLING, Esq. - Jasper, Walker Co., Alabama

Dear Sir: - We are suing for partition of some lands belonging to J.C. Stewart, dec'd, who was a soldier of the Republic of Texas & was killed at the fall of the Alamo. He left ten Bros. & Sisters - a list of whom I enclose to you. Some of whom lived in your county 20 years ago.

We want to know if any are yet living - & which - and the names of the descendants of those dead - and to suggest that you get a power of atty. with power of statute ... [?] so as to make appearance for them & save cost of citation by publication ... about 3000 [?] acres ... [rest of page too smudged to read. Next page:]

Memo of Heirs - being Bros. & Sisters of J.C. Stewart dec'd who died unmarried leaving no wife or children; viz:

William Stewart Walker Co., Ala.

Alexander " " "

Sally Pains " " "

Vina EVANS " " "

Beverly Stewart died in Gonzales Co., Texas leaving widow & children.

Joshua Stewart - living in Texas.

Benjamin " dec'd - Son George W. lives in Clay Co., Texas.

Jacob " - his share is owned by above named George W.

Emily S. BRAZIEL - Her share is owned by Jas. M. WILSON living in Texas.

NOTES

On 25 June 1879, TMH wrote to T.B. REESE in Henrietta, Clay Co, TX, asking again for a complete list of the J.C. Stewart heirs. Previous correspondence had elicited a few facts: (1) Joseph EVANS had deeded one third of his 640-acre head-right on the Little Wichita in Clay County to T.S. WALKER. (2) "Wilson and wife" reside on the Stewart survey 2½ miles from Henrietta and know all the Stewart heirs, having purchased two shares from one of them. TMH asked for all the full names so he could prepare interrogatories. He expected to buy Walker's whole interest as well as Mrs. Beverly Stewart's, if he could clear title by partition, and then would turn it over to Reese to sell at whatever profit he could get.

In August TMH wrote that Walker's interest was in his hands as trustee to pay his debts. Again he asked for a correct list of Stewart's heirs and their shares, particularly W.M. WILSON & Geo. W. Stewart. He asked if W.F. EVANS owned all of Mrs. Vina Evans's share and lived in Grayson Co, TX. Also, if Marshall PAINS was the sole owner of Mrs. Sally Pains's share & now lives in Denton Co, TX.

On 17 Feb 1880 TMH wrote to E.W. WALKER Esq. in Waelder, Gonzales Co. (no clue to his relationship to T.S. Walker, who apparently had a lumber yard in Gonzales, for in May of that year TMH ordered about 150 pieces of lumber from him). It seems that E.W. Walker had misunderstood the purpose of the suit (T.S. Walker vs. Heirs of J.C. Stewart), which was for a friendly partition of the undivided interests of Stewart heirs in order to be able to sell part of the land. However, some of the heirs in Alabama and Georgia had not responded to TMH's letters.

What appears to be the last letter in this book that pertains to the J.C. Stewart land reads as follows:

March 7th 1881

Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart - Waelder

Dear Madam - Yours of 21st Feby came duly to hand and contents noted. We are pressed for money and we are not in condition to buy any more land. We need money. We would like to accommodate you & wait until we sell the Walker share of the Stewart land but circumstances prevent it. We have paid out a great deal of money for Walker & will have to take his land in payment. We don't want horse property. If you have cattle we could take them at market value, otherwise we must have the amt. of the note in money. We have waited long - particularly on WHITE & find now that we are not able to wait much longer. I hope to hear from you soon.

We are yrs truly,

Harwood & Winston

NOTES

Identification of J.C. STEWART is complicated by the occurrence of the names James, John, Joshua and Jacob in the family with a fairly common surname. Furthermore, the Gonzales History shows a John Francis Stewart, also from Alabama, who settled near Flatonia in Fayette Co, TX, not far from Waelder in Gonzales County where Mrs. Beverly Stewart lived on land her husband had bought before 1850. However, John Francis was a later generation and not, I think, close kin.

On page 489 of the 1986 Gonzales History is an interesting sketch headed Stewart, John (relationship of author not stated), but many elements in it do not agree with other printed data. For example, it says: "John Stewart went to Texas in 1823 with Austin and the Old 300," that his father was named Casey and his two younger brothers, James and Beverly, as well as their mother and all were from Alabama. The father (Casey) and mother soon died, so sons James and John were awarded their father's land grant in Bastrop County.

General Land Office records (index published by Virginia H. Taylor) show:

Name & Date of Title	Amount	Colony or Commissioner	Present Location [county]
STEWART, Charles B., May 17, 1831	½ league	Austin 2	Fort Bend
" John Sep 18, 1835	1	" Vehlein	San Jacinto
" Jno & Jas. E. Apr 9, 1831	1	" Austin 2	Bastrop
STUART, James Jly 17, 1833	1	" Milam	Bastrop
" John Sep 20, 1835	1	" Milam	Hays

[No Casey Stewart]

Coming to Texas with John Stewart were his mother's grandfather, James Curtis Senior, accompanied by his three sons and two daughters. James Curtis Jr. (father of Mrs. Casey Stewart) had a daughter who m. Bartlett Sims and one (Nancy) who m/1 John Oliver, m/2 George Washington Cottle, and m/3 John C. Cooksey.

It may be assumed that J.C. Stewart was named James Curtis for his grandfather and great-grandfather, one of whom has been called the oldest man in the Battle of San Jacinto, who was at fever pitch to avenge the death of his son-in-law Wash Cottle who had been killed at the Alamo. (The Gonzales History sketch confused the Jr. and Sr. or else left out a "great" before "their grandfather.") This is an oft-repeated tradition, and may be true, but the only Curtis to receive a donation certificate for being at San Jacinto was named Hinton Curtis. The History says both John and James Stewart were at San Jacinto, but only James received a donation certificate for participating.

As seen in his letter to Appling, TMH also was confused about who was killed at the Alamo. There is a James E. Stewart from England on some Alamo lists, but I doubt that he was in this family.

Amelia Williams cited Military Donation 1018 as proof that James Stewart died in the Alamo, but T.L. Miller (Bounty and Donation Land Grants of Texas) states that an unnumbered donation certificate received in 1848 by James Stewart for participating in the Battle of San Jacinto was a relocation of #1018. The 640 acres were patented by assignees in Cooke County.

The donation certificate awarded to the "Heirs of J.C. Stewart" in 1853, as well as his bounty warrant, indicate that he "fell with Fannin," which occurred about a month before the Battle of San Jacinto. A Thomas G. Stewart (or his heirs) also received a donation certificate for service with Col. William Ward in Fannin's command.

The roster of Col. J.W. Fannin's command, as reconstructed in the Telegraph and Texas Register in 1836, shows a J.C. Stewart in Capt. Amon B. King's company

of Auxiliary Volunteers. They were wiped out at Refugio 16 March 1836. It now appears most likely that this poor victim was the J.C. Stewart whose lands were the subject of considerable interest to the firm of Harwood & Winston ca 1878-81.

The Stewart sketch in the Gonzales History states that John and Beverly Stewart moved from their father's Bastrop County land to Gonzales County where they purchased land near Waelder in the 1840s or 1850s, but James remained in Bastrop. This conflicts with our theory that James was the J.C. whose heirs received Donation Certificate # 490 for 640 acres in 1853. It was issued "for his having fallen with Fannin." Help is needed to solve the confusion of James and J.C. Stewart. The History may have telescoped two generations of Jameses. Given data comes tantalizingly close to identification, but not quite!

The family sketch says that John married Abigail Burleson and Beverly married her sister Elizabeth. Their children's names do not agree with census data at all, and there's no mention of a Joshua Stewart living near Beverly. The latter is said to have died "in middle life" leaving children Monroe, Beverly, William, Taylor, James, and Edward.

The 1850 census of Gonzales County, "On Peach Creek", shows:

30-30	Joshua Stewart	ae 30		b. AL
	Hetty	18		TN
	Elizabeth	1		TX
	Beverly	2/12		TX
33-33	Beverly Stewart	31	\$150	AL
	Elizabeth	22		AL
	John	5		TX
	Mary	3		TX
	Margaret	11/12		TX
47-47	Asa Aplin	35	\$50	TN
	Elizabeth Aplin	70		TN
	John	23		AR

In 1855, Gonzales County conducted an enumeration of its children of school age (6-16). In District 4, on the northeast side of Gonzales County (including Waelder) we find a John Stewart with 2 males and one female, and B. Stewart with one male and one female, corresponding with 1850 census.

The Gonzales History gives only heads of households from the 1860 census. Ben [misinterpretation of Bev.?] Stewart, ae 43, born Alabama, was counted at 454-415, and Jno Stewart, ae 45, Alabama, not far away at 456-417.

One wonders if the Aplin family living near the Stewarts on the 1850 census was related to W.B. APPLING, apparently an attorney and real estate dealer in Jasper Co, AL, where many Stewart relatives lived.

Other names in the preceding letters have not been identified. We invite correspondence - the least clue might solve a puzzle for someone.



REPUBLIC OF TEXAS PENSION APPLICATION ABSTRACTS

Compiled by

John C. Barron, Nan Polk Brady, Emma Gene Seale Gentry,

Barbara Langham Goudreau and Iris Higgins Zimmerman

Thanks to Ms Jean Carefoot at Texas State Archives we learn that on 13 Aug 1870 the Texas Legislature passed an act allowing pension benefits of \$250 per year to all surviving veterans of "the revolution which separated Texas and Mexico, including the Mier prisoners". The amount was doubled for those who were wounded in any engagement or whilst a prisoner of war.

The Pension Act of 1874 reduced the annual amount to \$150 but increased the categories of eligibility. Widows who had not remarried were included later. However, the applicant was required to prove inability to support himself. Reductions were necessitated by the strain on the state treasury, which became so depleted that no new pensioners could be added to the rolls between 1879 and 1883. By 1885, applicants had to prove not only their military eligibility but also that they owned no more than \$1,000 worth of property.

So, unless your Texas Revolutionary ancestor applied for a pension between 1870 and 1874, if you do not find him in this book you can be thankful that he was financially independent!

Approximately 1900 applications for a pension for military service rendered to the fledgling Republic of Texas are preserved in the Archives Division of Texas State Library. These records, which consist of affidavits of service by the veteran and others who could swear to their validity, have been abstracted by the above members of Austin Genealogical Society. In addition to proof of military service, the files contain valuable genealogical data such as birth, death, marriage, and immigration.

Proven descent from one of these veterans should qualify a person for membership in the Sons or Daughters of the Republic of Texas. These hitherto almost inaccessible records will be eagerly sought by genealogists, historians, and others who are involved in the social sciences. Certainly no Texas library can afford to be without this book!

Republic of Texas Pension Application Abstracts is printed on eye-soothing ecru archival paper, stitched and bound in a warm brown cloth binding. It has 397 + viii pages, including over 30 pages of all-variants surname index.

The price of \$40 covers tax, postage, and handling. (Standing in line at the post office holding several of these heavy books is no picnic!) A check or money order made to AGS PUBLICATIONS must accompany each order, except those from LIBRARIES, which may be invoiced.



AGS PUBLICATIONS, Box 1507, Austin TX 78767-1507

Please send _____ copy/ies of Republic of Texas Pension Application Abstracts. My check/money order for \$ _____ is enclosed. (or) [] Please invoice library.

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(city) _____ (state) _____ (ZIP) _____

PURPOSE: Austin Genealogical Society was organized in 1960 as a non-profit corporation chartered by the State of Texas. Its purposes are to collect and preserve genealogical and historical information about the people of Texas, particularly pertaining to the City of Austin and to Travis and surrounding counties; to instruct and assist members in genealogical research; and to publish public and private records of genealogical interest. Gifts and Bequests to Austin Genealogical Society are tax-deductible.

MEMBERSHIP is open to all upon payment of annual dues: \$12 per individual, or Family Membership at \$14 for two in the same household, entitling them to one copy of each Quarterly, and two pages apiece (a total of four pages for \$14 whether one or two persons) in the Ancestor Listing Issue (June). [See AGS QUARTERLY below.]

DUES FOR THE ENSUING YEAR ARE PAYABLE on or before the FIRST DAY OF JANUARY each year. Members who have not paid by February 1st will be dropped from the membership roll and will not receive the March Quarterly until dues and charge for mailing separately are paid. Send payments to AGS Treasurer at 3702 Palomar Lane, Austin TX 78727. SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE QUARTERLY are same as membership dues. All are on a calendar-year basis; if you join late in the year and pay the full amount, you are entitled to back quarterlies for that year if they are available (we order few extras), but there will be a \$2 fee for mailing them.

MISSING COPIES. If your Quarterly does not reach you by the 10th of April, July, October or December, notify the Society at Box 1507, Austin TX 78767-1507 (but Exchange Quarterly Chairmen use TEXAS STATE LIBRARY address given on inside front cover). Members who fail to give the Society sufficient advance notice of a change of address will be responsible for the postal fee for returned copies and for remailing the copy at individual rather than bulk mailing rates.

MEETINGS of the general membership are held at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except August and December, while the Board of Directors meets at 6:30. (Directors will be notified of any changes.) MEETING PLACE: Room 12, First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity. Enter on the east side (Neches Street). Free parking in the lot south of church, 9th & Trinity. Visitors are welcome.

AGS QUARTERLY is sent free to all members about the middle of March, June, September and November. To save time and postage, send material for and letters about the Quarterly (except subscriptions and missing copies) to Editor at 2202 W. 10th St., Austin TX 78703. Contributions of material are welcome and will be used at the discretion of the Editor, who may edit them to conform to our format. Neither the Society nor the Editor shall be held responsible for such material; the contributor must vouch for its accuracy or disclaim it, and is responsible for copyright infringement. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the consensus of the Society.

DEADLINES: 10th of February, May, August and October.

ANCESTOR LISTING PAGES must reach the Editor at 2202 W. 10th, Austin TX 78703 by the TENTH OF MAY. They must be BLACK and LEGIBLE, whether typewritten, hand-printed, computer printout, or superior calligraphy. Months must be spelled or abbreviated, not figures. Preferred form for dates: day, month, year. Allow space for binding at inner margins of facing pages, carefully checking any horizontal charts. Otherwise, the Editor has to position some upside down to prevent loss of data in the binding/stapling process.

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