

HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

and, as for prices, I will astonish the 'natives.' As I have made a clean breast of it, I beg you will not, during my absence, be harpies snort usis, fiery faces, or coram boguses issued against me--nor yet be taking out letters of administration on my estate, as had been done in our vicinity; for, if my health and life be spared, I will come back to you like a bad six-pence! As one of my neighbors is reported to have said, "I will stay with you until a certain hot place (which shall be nameless) will freeze over four feet thick!"

MRS. LUCY ATKINSON COLLINS

For much of this biography the author is indebted to an obituary, by Hon. J. W. Madden, published in the *Crockett Courier* in July 1925. The subject of this sketch was born in Middleburg, Tennessee, February 11th 1841, and died at Crockett, Texas, on July 18th 1925. When she was only a few years of age the family moved to the old town of Independence, Texas. There she received her finishing education, graduating from Baylor University in 1859, at the age of 18 years, and in which institution she taught during the Civil War. In 1866, she married Lieutenant John Collins, of Crockett, Texas, who later became a member of the Crockett Bar. Coming to Crockett as a bride she continued to reside here the remainder of her life. After two and one half years of happy married life her gifted and promising husband died. Thereafter she devoted her life to the honorable and useful profession of teaching, until the infirmities of old age compelled her to give it up. She taught school for about forty years. When she was a school girl she united with the Episcopal Church. In 1887, she united with the Crockett Methodist Episcopal Church South and continued a faithful member until her death. She left surviving her only child, Miss Amelia Collins, who still resides in Crockett; one sister, Mrs. Annie Peyton, of Trinity, who has since died. She has a nephew still living, Richard Atkinson, the son of her brother R. M. Atkinson, who was for many years a prominent business man of Crockett. Many members of her husband's family still live in Crockett.

JUDGE LEROY W. COOPER

Leroy W. Cooper was born of humble parents in Gwinnett County, Georgia, October 16, 1822, and died at his home at