

## HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

County, which shows that he was living in the County then.

He married Cornelia A. Bracken, a daughter of James R. Bracken, as early as 1851, for during that year Ben M. Bracken, a brother of Cornelia, conveyed to her certain slaves as shown by a bill of sale still in existence.

He was elected District Clerk of Houston County in 1847 and held the office until 1857, when he was succeeded by Isaac Adair. He was the second District Clerk of the County, his predecessors having been L. E. Downes.

About 1858 he and his first wife were divorced and he later married his stepsister, a daughter of his Stepmother, Mahala Hall, with whom he lived until his death November 12th, 1866.

The most unfortunate experience in his whole career was when, in a fit of anger, he killed his friend, Isaac Peacock, who had assisted John McLemore in eloping with his daughter, Margaret. He was acquitted of the charge of murder for this killing.

He deserves to be remembered for having kept one of the most complete diaries that the author has ever seen. It covers the entire period of the Civil War, from 1861 to 1866. In this he has preserved some valuable history of that trying period.

### CAPTAIN JOHN L. HALL.

Captain John L. Hall was born on October 25th, 1809, and came to Texas in the days of the Republic. He was here as early as July 1st, 1839 and probably earlier. On that date he conveyed, as agent of his kinsman, Joshua J. Hall, 23, 654 acres of the Roman de la Garza Grant to James Madison Hall, a son of Joshua J. Hall. On February 28th, 1844, he purchased from Jesse Walling, a San Jacinto veteran, 76 acres of the A. E. Gossett Headright Survey and probably made his first home in Crockett there. Soon afterwards he raised a company of volunteers for service in the Mexican War, and the muster roll of this company shows that it was a part of the Second Regiment, Texas Brigade of Texas Mounted Volunteers Rifleman Militia, commanded by Col. George T. Woods, and ordered into service of the United States by the Governor of Texas from June 9th, 1846 to December 19th, 1846.

The names of the subordinate officers in Captain Hall's company were: George English, first lieutenant; Wilbur B. Young, second lieutenant; Selden L. B. Jasper, first sergeant; Samuel A. Burton, second sergeant; John A. Moncrief, third sergeant; John P. Saunders, fourth sergeant; Robert C. Dickson,