

HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

months old at the time. This family came from Greenville, Tennessee, the home town of Andrew Johnson, in company with his brother-in-law, Alfred Bitner, and Susan Bitner, the sister of William Johnson.

For a short time both families settled and lived near old Shiloh where Bitner and his family lived, and where Bitner died after raising a large family, who still live in the same neighborhood. Mr. Johnson came to Crockett some time about 1855 and boarded with A. T. Monroe, in the house where George W. Crook now resides, and where his son, Samuel Hays Johnson was born on December 26th, 1856.

Mr. Johnson moved to a two-story house where B. F. Chamberlain now lives, and made that his home until he erected a new ten-room dwelling house just across the street where the Henry Arledge home now stands. He engaged in the mercantile business in Crockett for many years and also operated a gin and grist mill on his home place, about where the home of Dr. J. S. Wootters now stands. During the Civil War he held the office of County Treasurer.

He was born on May 25th, 1825 and was married to Mary Isabella Dunwoody on June 3rd, 1850 in Tennessee. Their first child, Florence Josephine (later Mrs. Florence J. Arledge) was born on November 6th, 1852. They had eight children, only two of whom are now living: Miss May Johnson and Walter Everett Johnson, both of whom now reside in Marlin. William Johnson and wife both died in Crockett and are buried in Glenwood Cemetery.

DOCTOR WILLIAM GEORGE WASHINGTON JOWERS

Dr. W. G. W. Jowers, prominent citizen of East Texas during the days of the Republic, and after, was born in Wadeborough, North Carolina. In 1835 he was graduated from Transylvania Medical College, Lexington, Kentucky. In 1839 he came to Texas and stopped at Nacogdoches, enlisting in the Texas Militia for six months. During this same year he accompanied Martin Lacy, of Fort Lacy, Cherokee County, Indian Agent, and John H. Reagan, as bearers of the letter to Chief Bowles, of the Cherokee Indians, from President Lamar, saying that the Cherokee Indians must go. He was married to Ann Lacy, daughter of Martin Lacy, May 20th 1840, and soon thereafter moved to Crockett, where he practiced the profession of medicine. Ann Lacy died and he married Pauline Catherine Tatum