

HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

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