

## HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

to Texas in 1839 and settled in Crockett, where he resided, continuously, until his death on March 27th, 1893. He engaged in business in Crockett, and while pursuing his business, studied law under James Carr, who was probably the first lawyer to locate in Crockett. In 1843, he heard the call of his country, and enlisted in Col. Jacob Snively's Expedition. While on this expedition, through north and northwest Texas, and even farther, he kept a complete diary of the events that occurred, which is one of the most valuable diaries that the author has ever seen, and it is gratifying that the public will share the benefit of it, as his daughter, Mrs. Amelia Comer, will soon have it published in *The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

It is a fact worthy of note, that Hon. Henderson Yoakum, drew on this diary for material in his well known *History of Texas*, and mentions the same in a note in his history. It was while on this expedition that Col. Miller gained the title of "Colonel."

He returned to his native Virginia in the fall of 1850, and on June 24th, 1851, was married to Miss Rebecca F. Whitten, of Bedford County (now Liberty County), Virginia. Ten children were born of this union, the only one surviving at this time is Mrs. Amelia Miller Comer (now Mrs. C. C. Comer) of Carthage, Texas, who is a worthy descendant of a noble father, and is a leading spirit in her community. Carthage can well be proud of its inheritance from Crockett.

Col. Miller had a distinguished career in both the fields of law and politics. He was one of the outstanding lawyers of his day and the author has heard it said that the eminent jurist, Judge Geo. F. Moore, in his early life, said that if he made as good a lawyer as Col. Miller, he would be satisfied.

Col. Miller was at one time associated with the eminent Judge Royall T. Wheeler, one of the distinguished Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of Texas, and Judge Wheeler in a document, still in existence pays him a high tribute as both lawyer and upright citizen. The earliest case found in the Texas Supreme Court Reports, in which the name of Col. Miller appears, is the case of Allbright vs. Aldrich, 2 Texas Reports, page 166, tried in the Supreme Court at the December Term, 1847. In this case the names of three of the most outstanding pioneers of Houston County appear; Jacob Allbright, first county clerk, Collin Aldrich, first chief justice, and Elisha Clapp, noted Indian fighter and hero of San Jacinto. All three had a prominent part in the organization of the county in 1837.

When Texas was admitted to the union Col. Miller was