

HISTORY OF HOUSTON COUNTY

ing family, one of his daughters, known as Banie, married Ike Lansford, and died several years ago; another daughter, Willie, married Dr. Ben Elliott and still resides in Crockett. Another daughter, Clara, married Chester Kennedy and they reside at Grapeland, Houston County.

Henry Rice, a son of Joseph Rice, Sr. established his home on the Rusk Road, about five miles northeast of Crockett and his son, Lonnie Rice, still lives near there. Jessie, a daughter of Henry Rice, married Judge John Spence, and still resides with her family in Crockett.

Elizabeth (Betty), a daughter of Joseph Rice, Sr., married Thomas J. Monk, and died many years ago, leaving several children, among them, John Monk, Jim Monk, Frank Monk, Dick Monk, Willie, a daughter, who married Jim Lacy, Beulah, who married Cal Beeson. All the children of Betty Monk are now dead.

Joseph and Willie Rice, Sr. had another daughter, Willie, who married Jeff Dawson, and her children are with us today, including Mrs. Nora Dean, wife of John L. Dean, and Lena, wife of Carlos Robbins, and mother of our County Clerk, J. Dawson Robbins.

Joseph and Willie Rice had a son, John, who died in the Civil War.

The Old Rice Cemetery, located just in front of the Old Stagecoach Inn, is still preserved and holds the dust of many members of the Rice family.

CAPTAIN JOHN T. SMITH

New York may justly be proud of her contribution to Houston County's honor roll of pioneers. On March 5th, 1815 Captain John T. Smith was born in the State of New York and later moved to Georgia, where he served in the Legislature of the State before coming to Texas in 1849 to begin a memorable career as a citizen of the Lone Star State. He served in the Texas Legislature during three sessions in 1866, 1873 and 1874. He died in Austin on February 16th, 1874, while serving in the Legislature and a delegation of Representatives escorted his remains to Crockett for burial. Dr. Frank Rainey, one of his best friends, also served with him in 1874, and at the memorial services held in the Legislative Hall, paid him a high and glowing tribute and accompanied his remains to Crockett. Among other things, Dr. Rainey said: "During the Civil War, he served