

BIOGRAPHIES

the son of Rev. William B. and Sarah (Holden) Wall. The author of *Texas and Texans* pays this tribute to Judge Wall: "Reared under the sturdy and invigorating discipline of the old homestead plantation and in an environment of distinctive culture and refinement, Judge William B. Wall waxed strong in mental and physical powers, gained full appreciation of the precepts and example of his honored father and mother and found his ambition quickened by his purpose."

As soon as he reached his majority, in 1859, he left the old homestead and sought greener fields and enlarged opportunities in the comparatively new state of Texas. He landed in Houston County and for a year taught school, at the same time pursuing his study of law. Then came the call to arms, he entered the Confederate Army and became a member of the First Texas Infantry in General Wigfalls Battalion, which eventually became a part of General Hood's famous brigade. He was promoted to the rank of Captain after he had received a serious wound from a shot in the arm which necessitated the amputation of his thumb. After the close of the war he entered the mercantile business with Col. John H. Burnett and carried on this business for several years.

In 1878 he was elected County Judge of Houston County and held this office for eight years. During his incumbency of this office, the courthouse was destroyed by fire and he managed the erection of a new courthouse, which was completed in 1883.

In 1896 he was elected to the Texas Legislature and was instrumental in securing the submission of a constitutional amendment in favor of increased pensions for Confederate Veterans, and later in having a plank in the Democratic Platform in favor of a Home for Confederate soldiers and their widows.

He was a Mason and a member of Lothrop Lodge and of Trinity Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. He was a member of Crockett Camp of Confederate Veterans, and held the office of commander for several years.

On December 6th, 1866, he married Miss Nettie Cooper, the daughter of Judge Leroy W. Cooper, who was born in Monroe County, Georgia, March 30th, 1847. Of this marriage there were six children, the following five having lived to maturity: Miss Minnie Evelyn, a gifted musician who died without having married; William Cooper, who was a leading business man for many years, and still survives; Annie Pauline, who married Reeves Jordan, and is dead; Charles J. who is also dead and