

## BIOGRAPHIES

John H. Burnett, which was situated in a store building then located where the Crockett State Bank now stands. Mr. T. W. Thompson was present when this deal was consummated in the back room of the store building, and said that it was the largest sum of gold and silver that he had ever seen. I think the consideration was \$5000 cash.

A number of the descendents of Judge Read are still living in Houston County, among them Dr. Sam P. Beeson, of Weldon, who is a successful physician and farmer, and seems to have inherited some of the business ability of his grandfather. As stated in another article, his two grandfathers were Judge R. N. Read and H. W. Beeson, both of whom were seventh sons. I am told that the widow of Ben F. Read still lives in Mineola. Judge Read was one of the most prominent citizens who ever lived in Houston County and I take great pleasure in perpetuating his memory for the benefit of Houston County people who honor and esteem its history.

### THE RICE FAMILY

Joseph Rice, Senior, was born May 24th, 1805. He married Willie Masters, a daughter of Jacob Masters, Senior. As a colonist he was entitled to a league and labour of land, under the Mexican colonization laws. He had a part of this located on the Old San Antonio Road, about five miles northeast of Crockett, and there made his home. He kept a Stagecoach Inn at his log house home and this site is now marked by a granite marker placed there by the Centennial Board of Control. Here he managed a large plantation which was worked by slave labor until the close of the Civil War. His wife was born August 17th, 1809. He died August 11th, 1866 and he and his wife are buried in the Old Rice Cemetery, on his home place.

He and his wife were noted for their hospitality.

He was survived by his wife and the following children: Joseph Jr. who established his home on the Old San Antonio Road, just beyond the home of his father and there raised a large family, many of whom are still living, one, John Rice occupying the old home of his grandfather, known as the Stagecoach Inn. Another known as Shink is living in the Concord neighborhood. A daughter, Willie, married Jim Saxon and resides outside the county; another daughter married Jim Brown and also resides out of the county.

Another son of Joseph Rice, Senior, George, established his home also on the Old San Antonio Road and raised an interest-