

## THOMAS JEFFERSON FOSTER 268

Thomas Jefferson Foster, fifth son of William James Foster and Jane Frazer Foster married Dora Hollingsworth in Crockett.

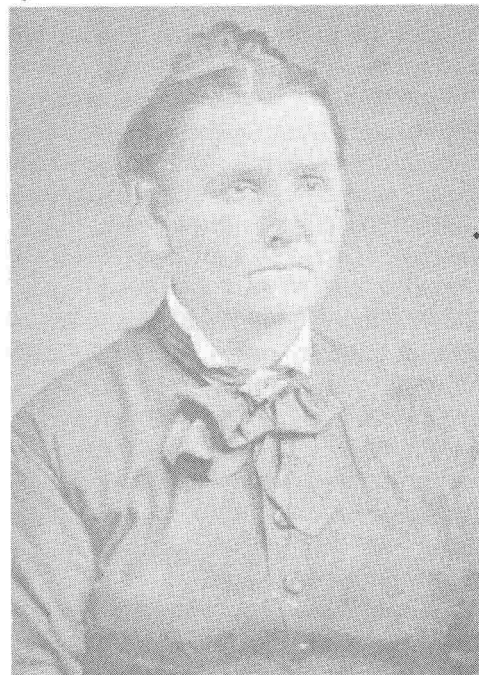
They were the parents of three children; Callie, Lizzie and Willie.

Willie Stephen Foster, born August 7, 1896, in Crockett married Vera Alberta Chadwick, born April 2, 1896, in Vinona, Minn. W.S. and Vera met and married in Waco on August 28, 1921. They had moved into Central Texas area around 1915. Their current address is 2616 Old Robinson Road at Waco. W.S. is active in practice of law and publication of THE WACO CITIZEN of which his son is publisher.

Their four children are: Barbara Dell (Foster) Sutter, born Sept 10, 1924, in McAllen, and now a resident of Fort Worth at 2316 Harrison; Beverly Jean (Foster) Hannon, born in Waco in August 25, 1922, and a resident there at 1821 Algonquin; Brady McCall Foster, born in Brady on Dec. 29, 1926, who now lives at Rt. 2, Sinton; and Bill Chadwick Foster, the newspaper publisher, born Nov. 28, 1931 in Waco and is a resident there at 3833 Huaco Lane.

There are 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

By: W.S. Foster



Jane Frazer Foster, photo taken when she was 40 years of age, wife of W.J. Foster

## WILLIAM JAMES FOSTER AND JANE STONE FRAZER FOSTER 269

William James Foster, Crockett artisan of 1850's, was born in Manchester, Tenn., Jan. 31, 1830. His future wife Jane Stone Frazer, born Feb. 1, 1836, in Stanford, Ky., came with her family to Texas in the spring of 1850. Her father James Frazer bought a farm in Fayette County, near the Old Postal



William James Foster (B. Jan. 31, 1830; D. Feb. 13, 1898)

stop of Lyons. W.J. Foster met her there and married Jane in LaGrange, Fayette County, Nov. 6, 1856. The couple came to Crockett, making their home on present Goliad Avenue, location of First Baptist Church. Her father James moved into Crockett also, establishing his home on present Houston Avenue. He later moved to Lampasas.

W.J. and Jane Foster were the parents of 10 children, all born and reared in Crockett. They include: 1) Will who moved to Austin; 2) James or Jim (see family story); 3) Ed who married Antillis from England and had a daughter Edna May (Adair); 4) Berry who married Anna and their children include Berry Jr. who married Florence Wickersham of Los Angeles, Ca., Katie and a second son; 5) Tom who settled in Waco (See family story); 6) Lindsay who married Elizabeth Davis and their children are Sadie (Miller), Helena (Whatley), Helen (Hewitt), Lindsay Jr.; 7) Charlie who never married; 8) Mary who married Jack Christian and their children are Jimmy, Minnie Pearl, Johnny and Mary, moved to Marlin; 9) Minnie who also moved to Marlin; and 10) John Robert (see family story).

A Mason, W.J. Foster and his wife shared active membership in First Methodist Church where he was a faithful superintendent of the Sunday School for 20 years (A memorial window in the present church honors him and his service).

During Civil War, W.J. Foster was a member of Texas Brigade under Capt. D.A.

Nunn. (Other Company members were W.D. Pritchett, W.B. Wall, Gus Aldrich, Calvin Aldrich, G.B. Lundy and N.B. Barbee). Foster brought four cannon balls back from the war; two of them now rest in front of the house at 704 Lamar, Crockett, which fifth son Tom Foster built. Foster left his father's famous Texas Brigade souvenirs when he moved.

Foster, the artisan before the war, advertised that he could supply wardrobes, bedsteads, lounges, safes, cribs, tables and all kinds of house hold furniture for natives and coffins-caskets "at the shortest notice" and then added a note to farmers "from years of experience we feel able to put any repairs needed upon gins and guarantee satisfaction if not damaged, by unexperienced hands."

In 1860, Foster had a three man shop which was equipped with a horse powered lathe. He used 3000 feet of sawed lumber, valued at \$1675 to produce house furniture valued at \$3000 and Coffins valued at \$300 and to make Gin repairs valued at \$500.

Suspending operations during the Civil War, Foster returned in July 1865 and successfully re-established his shop through this notice; "On hand again. I have opened up Business in my shop and will do work as before such as furniture of all kinds, Collins etc. and repair Cotton Gins. In returning, thanks to my old customers for past favors, I solicit their patronage again with as many new ones as may need my work. Terms. Postively Cash, Cloth, Meat, Salt, Flour, Lumber, or something that I can use in my shop or for my family. Shop at the old stand where the Printing Office is located and Business is carried too. I am prepared to do all kinds of lathe. Call and see me I can fix you up with a trade if you want my work. Necessity drives me to my terms, as I was broke up in the army."

signed: W.J. FOSTER, Crockett, Texas.

He was still working in Crockett in 1870, moving to Weatherford where he died on Feb. 13, 1898. Jane Frazer died Jan 17, 1900. Both are buried in Crockett. A Masonic Emblem marks his grave.

By: Alice & Marian Foster

## BETTY ROBBINS JAMES GRIFFIN FOWLER

270

Betty Robbins and James Griffin Fowler were married in Alabama, Bibb County, near Selma. To this union were born five children: John William, Eugene, Geneva Jane, James Malkijah, Nancy Elizabeth, and James Griffin, Jr.

James Fowler died in August 1882 and his son, James Jr. was born in Feb. 1883. In 1890, Betty and her five children moved to Shilo in Limestone County to be near a half