CHAPTER V

SURGEONS AT SAN JACINTO

Every pitiful tragedy in the making of this great state had its doctors and surgeons, usually back of the lines, working night and day with the sick and wounded; but many times in the foremost ranks of action, leading and bleeding in their great cause. They have not asked for credit; they do not want it. But as our world moves on with a fresh awakening in the hearts of men and women for peace, will it not be well to turn our thoughts to the other side of heroism, and, sometimes with a blare of trumpets and beating of drums, give credit to the men who mend the broken bodies that warriors have torn to pieces.

The characteristic qualities that are needed in a pioneer are a necessity in the make-up of a successful doctor—intelligence, bravery, endurance, human sympathy, and a spirit of adventure; especially the latter, for they must be ever solving the unknown. Quite naturally, then, many doctors not only answered the call of Texas in her early days and came to build their homes and make of the great unknown wilderness one of the most progressive, resourceful states in the Union, but they also took their places in the battle line.

We who saw the splendidly organized medical departments of the armies in the World War, can hardly realize that in an extensive research, the writer has been unable to find in the records of great generals and their battles, dating back to the beginning of time, any mention made of an organized effort to care for the wounded or sick up to the time of the American Revolution.

General Washington was the first great leader to attempt an organized medical staff in his army. Whether this step was taken to conserve the very limited manpower of that little band or was a real humanitarian effort on his part, we can only surmise. If the latter, he well deserves the title "Father of his Country."
The meager data on military surgery and medicine prior to the eighteenth century has to be dug out of non-medical writings and the memoirs of great personages, for in this earlier period medical officers as such were non-existent; and military surgeons when attached to armies were virtually vassals or body physicians to kings and nobles.

Following the example of Washington, General Houston and his associates attempted an organized medical department of their army. The Alamo and Goliad are separate stories and we have just read of their medical heroes.

We now come to the story of the Battle of San Jacinto. Of the nine hundred and fifty men who took part in this battle, the records show that sixteen were doctors, fourteen in active service, and two in charge of a field hospital.

A list of the doctors who fought in the Battle of San Jacinto and their rank:

DR. ALEXANDER EWING  Acting Surgeon General.
DR. J. P. T. FITZHUGH  Assistant Surgeon, 1st Regiment Volunteers.
DR. ANSON JONES  Surgeon, 2d Regiment Volunteers.
DR. SHIELDS BOOKER  Assistant Surgeon, 2d Regiment Volunteers.
DR. N. D. LA BADIE  Surgeon, 1st Regiment Regulars.
DR. W. M. CARPER  Surgeon of Staff, Command.
DR. W. M. MOTLEY  Aide de Camp to Sec. of War, Thomas J. Rusk.
DR. THOMAS J. GAZLEY  Private, Company C.
DR. J. W. BAYLOR  Private.
DR. LEMUEL GUSTIN  Surgeon, Cavalry Corps.
DR. TOBIAS DUBONNER  Private.
DR. CHARLES BALLINGER  Second Lieutenant, Volunteer.
STEWARD  Orderly Sergeant, Cavalry Corps.
DR. ROBERT K. GOODLOE  Captain, Company C.
DR. RICHARD ROMAN
Doctors stationed at hospital across the Bayou from Harrisburg:

DR. J. A. E. PHELPS  Hospital Staff.
DR. WM. F. H. DAVIDSON  Surgeon, 1st Regiment Volunteers.

One of the most prominent men in Texas at this time was Dr. Branch T. Archer. His presence in Texas had been solicited by Stephen F. Austin through John J. Crittenden of Kentucky. He immediately became very active in the cause of freedom from the Mexican rule. He held many important positions; but one of the most interesting things he did was preparing and sending back to the States a private circular asking for help. It is said that Stephen F. Austin sanctioned this circular. The following is an extract:

"Portentous events are hourly occurrences in the land of my adoption. The arm of Despotism is extended over this favored region with most blighting influence. A crisis has arrived. The torch of resistance to insult, injury and oppression (vulgarily called rebellion) is already lighted. The fagots for kindling the flame of civic combustion are at hand. The war dogs are un kennelled. The scent of blood grows strong upon the breeze, and the cry of 'Liberty to the rescue' yet lingers upon the tongues of the heroic. The Goddess of Liberty has been barbarously violated in these realms and we feel that we have a right to call our brethren of the North to aid us in rescuing her from further pollution."

Undoubtedly many of the doctors whose biographies follow came in answer to this call. It will be noted that they nearly all came in the next few years.

Dr. Archer did not take part in the battle. He was later Secretary of War during the Lamar administration. He went with Stephen F. Austin and William H. Wharton on a Commission to the United States in the interest of a provisional government.

Dr. Archer practiced medicine most successfully until within a few years of his death, September 22, 1856.

The Irish all enjoy a scrap, and it is not surprising to find at the head of "the runaway scrap", as it is sometimes called,
Dr. Alexander Ewing, Chief Surgeon of the "Texan Army."

Dr. Ewing was born in Londonderry, in the North of Ireland. He attended Trinity College, Dublin, where one of his relatives, Lord Castle Wray, was an important official. Later Dr. Ewing studied surgery in Edinburg.

He came to America with his family when still young and lived in Erie, Pennsylvania, until he came to Texas in 1830. He was given a grant of land in Stephen F. Austin's fifth colony, located in Jasper County. He was at once recognized as a man of unusual ability and appointed Surgeon General of the Army by President Burnet. Serving with great credit during the Battle of San Jacinto, Dr. Ewing was in charge of the treatment of General Houston, who was wounded in the leg. He strongly advised removing the distinguished patient to New Orleans, as the facilities for treatment were so crude. President Burnet objected very seriously to this and refused permission for his removal. Dr. Ewing ignored the refusal and assisted the wounded man aboard President Burnet's official boat and conveyed him to Galveston. The President again refused permission for him to go to New Orleans. Again the Scotchman disobeyed the President in the interest of his General and patient and conveyed him on to New Orleans. Dr. Ewing was promptly discharged from service for this insubordination but was later given a bounty of twelve hundred and eighty acres of land for his service during the battle.

Dr. Ewing was married twice. His first wife was Mrs. L. H. S., the daughter of Reverend Mr. H. Reid. She died January 27, 1942. He later married Mrs. August Thompson. Dr. Ewing died November 1, 1853. He was a Mason, and was buried by Holland Lodge No. 1 in the old cemetery adjoining Sam Houston Park in Houston.

Little is to be found about the life of Dr. John P. T. Fitzhugh, Assistant Surgeon of the First Regiment of Volunteers, except that he was born in Virginia in 1815 and came to Texas in 1835, probably in answer to Dr. Archer's call. He enlisted in the Auxiliary Corps at Nacogdoches, January 14, 1836, and took an active part in the Battle of San Jacinto.

Dr. La Badie in his account of the battle says: "It
was past three o'clock when all arrangements were finally concluded. The music struck up a lively air as we bid goodbye to our camp. We marched half the distance in single file, were then formed into parallel lines and ordered to advance. At this moment Drs. Booker, Davidson and Fitzhugh, with the writer, consulted as to what post we should take, as no orders had been received from the Surgeon General. We decided that it was best to follow the line and fight with our arms as circumstances might direct. Dr. Davidson preferred the right, Dr. Fitzhugh the center and the writer chose his former regiment, under Colonel Sherman, on the left. We shook hand and parted.

"I had hardly reached my position when a rifle discharged from the 2d Regiment, left wing, was heard, followed by a discharge from the rest—the cannon roared and a general engagement ensued amid showers of bullets."

The only other record of Dr. Fitzhugh is that he was a member of the Texas Veterans' Association, and that he died in 1883 at Canton, Van Zandt County.

The experiences of Dr. Shields Booker were most tragic. After the Battle of San Jacinto he was given a grant of land from Brazoria Municipality and was promoted from Assistant Surgeon to Surgeon in the army.

While attending court in San Antonio, held by Captain Andrew Hutchinson, September 11, 1842, the Mexican General, Adrien Woll, captured the whole court and attendants, fifty-two in number. They were carried prisoners to Mexico and held in the famous old prison Castle Peroté. Their treatment was so terrible that many died, some of starvation.

Dr. Booker was accidentally killed by a drunken Mexican who was shooting at a Mexican officer. He was buried in the prison yard, where about twenty-five other Texans also lie in unmarked graves.

The other doctor mentioned in Dr. La Badie's account just quoted, Dr. William Frank H. Davidson, is not recorded anywhere else as having taken active part in the engagement. His orders were to stay at the camp hospital and care for the sick and wounded.

Dr. Davidson was born in Tennessee in 1811. He en-
listed in the Volunteer Auxiliary Corps, January 14, 1836, and was reappointed with confirmation by the Senate May 22, 1837. There are no records showing that he received a grant of land, but many of the soldiers never claimed their rights. We find no record of his death.

Perhaps the most vivid descriptions to be found of the battle are those given by Dr. Nicholas D. La Badie. He was born in Windsor, Canada, West, December 5, 1802. His parents were both of French descent. He spent his early life on the Canadian frontier, and his education was meager until he came to the United States. His parents being pious Catholics, he studied for the priesthood in Missouri. It is not known why he did not enter the priesthood, but in 1829 he began reading medicine in St. Louis, defraying his expenses by clerking in a store. He later went to Fort Jessups, where his first calls were made.

Hearing of Texas and its many advantages, he mounted his horse and rode from Fort Jessups to Nacogdoches, then the chief place of consequence between the Louisiana line and San Felipe and the capital of Austin's colony. Delivering his letters of introduction to Colonel Piedras, commandante of the place, he received assurance of the good will of the government and in a few days went on to San Felipe. After meeting many prominent men, he made a trip to New Orleans, obtained a good stock of medicine, and on his return was employed by Colonel Bradburn as surgeon of the Mexican garrison at Anahuac, where about three hundred soldiers were stationed. It was here that he met and married Miss Mary Normant of Mississippi.

On the invasion of Santa Anna, Dr. La Badie enlisted, March 11, 1836, in Captain William M. Logan's Company of 2d Regiment of Texas Volunteers, upon its organization in Liberty County. He reported with his company to General Houston at Beason's Ferry on the Colorado River on the 20th of the same month. He was absent from the main army, scouting with a company of volunteers under Captain Karnes, when the retreat to San Felipe began. Rejoining the army while it was encamped at Groce's Ferry, he was appointed by General Houston on April 6th, Surgeon of the 1st Regiment of Regulars. In this capacity
DR. NICHOLAS D. LA BADIE
Surgeon First Regiment, Regulars, Battle of San Jacinto.
he had charge of the medicine chest which was hauled on an ox wagon on the retreat.

In the Battle of San Jacinto he fought as a volunteer in Captain Logan’s Company in the left wing of the army, commanded by General Sidney Sherman. After the battle he acted as surgeon to the Texas army and by request of General Houston attended the wounded Mexicans. He had declined to do this when asked to by Dr. Ewing, Dr. Anson Jones and Colonel Hockley. The prisoners had been for three days without medical aid, and General Houston, sending for Dr. La Badie, said: “Everyone point out you as the only surgeon willing to perform your duty. I want you to take care of the wounded prisoners. Go to them; don’t let them suffer.” Dr. La Badie replied: “I have attended on the garrison at Anahuac eleven months, day and night, for which I have never received one cent through the rascality of Bradburn, and I have resolved never to attend on that nation again, unless my pay is secured to me.” Houston then promised he would pay three hundred dollars, to quote Dr. La Badie—“if I would attend upon these prisoners, to which I agreed in the presence of Colonel Hockley, Dr. Jones and four or five others. I faithfully discharged that duty, but have never yet received the first cent of the promised compensation.”

Dr. La Badie was present when Santa Anna was brought into camp and presented to General Houston. Some years before his death Dr. La Badie gave the press the following account of this experience:

“While I was engaged in attending the wounded Mexican prisoners, a Mr. Sylvester rode up to the prison square with a prisoner who refused to enter. I was called upon to interpret, as neither the sentinel nor Mr. Sylvester could speak Spanish. I told him that this was the place where all prisoners were kept. He replied: ‘I want to see General Houston. Is he in camp?’ ‘Yes,’ I replied. ‘Mr. Sylvester take this man to yonder oak tree where General Houston lies.’ As they departed the prisoner whose wounds I was dressing, a Mexican lieutenant, whispered to me: ‘Est il Presidente’ (He is the president.) I at once folded my instruments and followed after them and met Colonel Hockley calling me to come quickly as I was wanted. I found
General Houston lying on his back on the ground under the oak tree. He was wounded and on his left the prisoner was sitting on a chest. He politely returned my salute and I said to him in Spanish, pointing: 'This is General Houston, do you want anything of him?' He replied 'Tell General Houston that General Santa Anna stands before him a prisoner.' Houston, hearing this interpreted, appeared much surprise, and turning on his left side, said: 'General Santa Anna, in what condition do you surrender yourself?' 'A prisoner of war,' said he, and continued, 'while I was in the camino royal—the public highways—I met two of your soldiers to whom I surrendered myself a prisoner of war.' 'Well,' said General Houston, 'tell General Santa Anna that so long as he shall remain in the boundaries I shall allot him, I will be responsible for his life.' Upon hearing this Santa Anna's countenance brightened. He said: 'Tell General Houston that I am tired of blood and war and have seen enough of this country to know that the two people cannot live under the same laws and I am willing to treat with him as to the boundaries of the two countries.' In reply General Houston said: 'Tell him that I cannot treat with him, but that the cabinet that is in Galveston will make a treaty with him.'

"Here the crowd pressing against us interfered with the conversation and the guard had to force them back. Colonel Hockley appearing with a young Zavalla to serve as interpreter, I returned to my wounded, who had been taken across the bayou to the Zavalla place, which was thereafter used as a hospital."

One historian says that General Santa Anna was much exhausted mentally and physically after his capture, that he asked for a dose of opium and was given it, but we do not know that Dr. La Badie administered the dose.

The reason Santa Anna was not at once recognized was the disguise of his dress. He had on a glazed cotton cap, a striped jacket (volunteer roundabout) country made, coarse cotton socks, soldier's coarse white linen pants bespattered with mud. His fine linen bosom shirt and sharp pointed shoes were all that did not correspond with a common soldier's dress.

Conditions were pitiful at the Zavalla place, where the
wounded were being cared for. There were so few bandages for dressing wounds that Dr. La Badie went to search in the pile of plunder taken from the battle field. He found sheets, bees wax, and tallow—the latter he used in making salve. While he was doing this, some soldiers examining a Mexican pistol accidentally discharged it. The ball grazed the chin of Colonel Handy, who was taking an inventory of the plunder. He fell but was not dangerously wounded. The burning wad from the pistol fell among some cartridges which exploded, setting fire to everything. Seizing a bucket, Dr. La Badie ran to the bayou, got water, and put out the fire. Later he was presented by the government with a bill of $15 for sheets used in making bandages.

Food was very scarce also, and the surgeons went for many hours without food. They attended the wounded on pallets on the floor, many times with just a candle for a light.

Under orders from the Secretary of War, Thomas J. Rusk, Dr. La Badie started in a few days after the Battle of San Jacinto for Galveston. He stopped at Anahuac to see his family and found that during his absence his little son had died, one of his houses had burned, and the other one had been pillaged; his wife and remaining child were without the necessities of life. He was immediately taken with an illness caused by exposure preceding the Battle and was delirious for a week. His sufferings, both mental and physical, were great at this time; and, to add to his discomfort and embarrassment, when he recovered, his hearing was gone, and he was ever after afflicted with this infirmity.

Dr. La Badie shortly after this moved to Galveston. He built one of the first frame houses on the island. Most of the inhabitants were then living in tents. He opened a drug store where he did a large business in connection with his medical practice.

In 1859 the fatal "vomito", really yellow fever, became prevalent on the island. His courageous pioneer wife died of this disease, leaving him with three little girls, the eldest six years, the baby five months old. But the doctor bravely struggled on. He helped in all progressive meas-
ures, establishing the line of sailing vessels between Pensa­cola, Florida and Galveston which furnished a large quantity of the lumber that went into the early buildings of the city. He built the wharf at the foot of Twenty-seventh Street which bore his name for many years. He built the first marine ways and many business houses. He took the initiative in establishing and building the first Catholic Church in Galveston, and there with his own hands planted the first tree on the lot.

The religious connection of Dr. La Badie’s family with the Catholic Church was unbroken for over two centuries. He was one of the first to respond to a subscription for the building of the Charity Hospital, which was constructed just after the Civil War.

Dr. La Badie could not serve actively in the Civil War but was a member of the examining board of the 1st Brigade of Texas troops and served faithfully at home with the families of our soldiers.

Dr. La Badie married the second time, Mrs. Agnes Rivera, and one son was born of this union.

The life of this interesting and splendid man closed March 13, 1867.

The one medical martyr of San Jacinto, Dr. William M. Motley, was scarcely more than a boy, being in his early twenties. As aid-de-camp to Colonel Rusk he was treated as his son. One historian speaks of seeing them several days before the battle sitting on the banks of the bayou waiting to be carried across—young Motley with his head on Colonel Rusk’s shoulder like that of a loving son.

During the battle he was shot through the abdomen, and while the surgeons knew there was no hope from the first, Drs. Jones, La Badie, and Phelps gave him loving care. He begged not to die, but being told that he could not live, he said he had “nothing, nothing, nothing to fear.”

He was born in Virginia April 9, 1812, and later moved to Kentucky, where he studied medicine, graduating from Transylvania University in 1834. He came to Texas in 1835, locating in Gonzales. He was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence from Bexar Municipality. Colonel Rusk in his official report says: “My aid-de-camp Dr. William Motley of Kentucky, fell near me mortally
DR. WILLIAM M. MOTLEY
Aide-de-Camp to Secretary of War Thomas J. Rusk. The only doctor killed during the Battle of San Jacinto.
wounded, and soon after his spirit took its flight to join the immortal Milam and others in a better world."

Many men taking part in the battle were brought to Texas by a spirit of adventure. They did their part nobly and then passed on to fresh adventures elsewhere. Consequently many records are very brief, as is the case with the next four men.

The only record of Dr. Lemuel Gustin is that of Surgeon in the Cavalry Corps of M. D. Lamar. He never claimed his land grant, but did draw a pension.

Dr. William M. Carper came to Texas in 1835. His commission follows:

"To all to whom these presents shall come.

"Know Ye that reposing Special trust and confidence in the honor, patriotism, medical skill and science of William M. Carper, I, David G. Burnet, President of the Republic of Texas, have nominated and by and with the advice and consent of my Cabinet do hereby constitute and appoint him, the Said William M. Carper, a regimental Surgeon in the army of Texas. As such he will be diligent and attentive in the discharge of the duties of his station; taking care to conform himself to the rules and regulations which are or may be established for the government of said army and of the medical department thereof; and to be obedient to all the lawful orders of his Superiors:

"And all officers and soldiers attached to said army are strictly enjoined and required to respect him, the said William M. Carper, as a Regimental Surgeon and to yield to him at all times a prompt and ready assistance in the discharge of the duties of his office.

"Done at Harrisburg the 10 day of April, A. D., 1836, and of the Republic the first."

Endorsed:

Commission to Wm. M. Carper Regimental Surgeon from Burnet Harrisburg 10 April, 1836.

Dr. Carper was given two-thirds of a league of land by the Harris County land board for his war services. He practiced medicine in Houston after the war. There is no record of his death, but his wife, Sara Ann Minerva Carper, died at Houston May 16, 1841 and is buried at the old cemetery on West Dallas Street.
The famous Horse Marines have been fabled in song and story, but perhaps the members of that group did not find it a comical experience. One of their number was Dr. J. W. Baylor; he had seen action at Goliad, the fall of Bexar and at San Jacinto. His records are all given with much credit, but after the taking of the Mexican boats with Captain Isaac W. Burton's Cavalry Corps, Dr. Baylor asked for a furlough and went back to Cahaba, Alabama, where he died in a very short while, perhaps from the hardships he had endured.

Dr. Tobias Dubronner had the unique experience of belonging to a lost company of seventeen men who fought in the battle but were not recorded until the oversight was discovered two weeks later.

We have no further knowledge of him except his service record and honorable discharge, which follows:

“In Camp
Near Victoria, July 25, 1836
Thomas J. Rusk, Brig Gen’l Comg
Approved William J. Fisher Secretary of War

Auditor’s Office, Columbia, March 28, 1837. This day comes Doctor Tobias Dubronner and says the annexed instrument is just, true and original, that he owes the government nothing on his own account or on account of any other person, nor has he retained, sold or embezzled any arms, munitions of war, or any other property whatever belonging to the Republic of Texas, or caused the same to have been done.

Sworn to before J. M. Moody, Auditor.
Endorsed: 793 $37.60 Doctor Tobias Dubronner filed 28th March 1837”

One of the most talented men Texas history records is Dr. Charles Bellinger Stewart. Of distinguished colonial ancestry, a graduate physician and a traveler of experience, he was at once recognized for his worth and given many places of importance in the building of the new Republic.

He came to Texas with Baron De Bastrop's party and helped to draft the plots of lands for the Midway Colonists. When the convention was called at San Felipe de Austin in 1832, he was a member; again in 1833 he served in this capacity. He spoke Spanish fluently and served

...
as secretary to the Mexican Supreme Court in 1834. He was a member of the convention held at Brazoria in 1834 and at San Felipe when war was declared. He was also a member of the central committee of vigilance at Velasco.

He was secretary to Governor Smith when he was provisional governor and was loyal to his chief and to his own strong principles during those tempestuous times. He was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence and was appointed on a committee to draft a constitution, where he gave most valuable service.

Dr. Stewart fought in the Battle of San Jacinto and is said to have been one of the interpreters between General Houston and Santa Anna.

Dr. Stewart was appointed on a committee from the Senate, of which he was then a member, to devise and adopt both a flag and a seal for Texas. He made lovely drawing of the first flag and is given credit for suggestions for the first seal of Texas—both of these were adopted officially by the Senate January 25, 1839.

In 1845 Dr. Stewart was elected delegate to the convention in Washington to discuss the annexation of Texas to the United States. He was elected to the first legislature of the new state, and subsequently served many times, the last being in 1882, forty years later.

Soon after coming to Texas, Dr. Stewart established a drug store at Brazoria, a much needed business at that time as real medicine was at times entirely unavailable. His apothecary license bears the date of 1829—his medical license was not issued until 1835.

With boldness and decision of character this man was yet safe and wise in his counsel; and after more than a half century of service to Texas, he went into the great beyond July 28, 1885. His memory will ever be honored by true Texans.

Another talented man was Thomas J. Gazely who came from New York State in 1801. He stopped first in Louisiana, then came on to Texas January 7, 1829. He signed the Declaration of Independence of Texas from Mina Municipality, now Bastrop.

Dr. Gazely fought in the Battle of San Jacinto as a private in Company C, Captain Jess Billingsly in command. After
the battle he lived in Houston, where he practiced law as a partner of John Birdsall. He was a member of the House of Representatives from Harrisburg County in the Second Congress, September 25, 1837, to May 24, 1838, proving again that those pioneer doctors were talented in many ways. Soldier, physician, lawyer, statesman, Dr. Gazely’s last record is that of a Mason in good standing as late as 1858, in Bastrop.

Dr. Robert K. Goodloe was born in Virginia in 1813. He came to Texas in 1836, with Captain Sidney Sherman. He was a medical student at Cincinnati, Ohio, when he joined Sherman’s Kentucky Volunteers. He participated in the skirmish on April 20 under Colonel Sherman and was orderly sergeant in Captain H. W. Karnes’ Company in the cavalry corps commanded by M. B. Lamar on April 21. Goodloe defended two Mexican boys whom some of the exasperated Texans wanted to kill. Colonel Sherman ordered the men to leave them in Dr. Goodloe’s charge. His appointment as first lieutenant of a company of mounted gunmen for the defense of the frontier was confirmed by the Senate May 31, 1837.

Dr. Goodloe on June 9, 1859, addressed the following letter to General Sidney Sherman:

“Dear General Sherman: Your favor of the 30th of May last came to hand today, also a copy of the Galveston News of May the 24th, containing General Houston’s valedictory delivered in the United States Senate, and I am sorry to see two gentlemen I so highly esteem at variance with each other. But, my dear General, I am bound to say in justice to you, that I have never known any act of yours in my life that I did not think was in perfect keeping with that of a gentleman; and as an officer and soldier I have always entertained the highest opinion of you. At the Battle of San Jacinto I served under your immediate command and in that battle you no doubt saved my life by placing under my care two little Mexican boys who had clung to me for protection, at the bayou. I was at the time of the battle Orderly Sergeant of Captain Karnes’ Company, but my horse having been shot under me on the evening of the 20th, I took command of 19 of Karnes’ Company and fell in on the left of your regi-
ment and left of Captain Calder’s Company of Brazoria, which Regiment brought on and commenced the fight. I saw you when the fight commenced and I saw you on the bayou when the Mexicans attempted to swim it, and also in the open field after leaving the bayou, before and after the fight was over. I saw nothing in your conduct during the battle or at any time during the campaign that did not comport with that of a high-toned gentleman, soldier and officer.

I remain, dear General, your friend, truly,

R. K. Goodloe.”

This letter is of particular interest, as it is one man’s opinion of the bravery of General Sherman.

Dr. Goodloe was a member of the Texas Veterans’ Association. He died at Sabine-town, Sabine County, October 21, 1879.

Dr. Richard Roman was born near Lexington, Kentucky in 1811, and after receiving the usual preliminary education was graduated at the University of Transylvania. He then entered the medical department of the same University, receiving his degree a few years later. His first military service was as a volunteer in the Black Hawk War. He came to Texas in 1836, and enlisted January 29, as first lieutenant in Captain John Hart’s Company. On February 13, 1836, he was elected Captain of Company C, General Edward Burleson’s regiment, which he commanded at San Jacinto. He was honorably discharged June 29, 1836.

Dr. Roman was elected to a seat in the House of the first Congress from Victoria County, and in the third from Refugio County. On March 9, 1841, he qualified as county clerk of Victoria County, and in the ninth and last Congress, December 2, 1844 to June 28, 1845, he was a Senator from the district composed of Victoria, Matagorda and Jackson Counties.

At the outbreak of the Mexican War Dr. Roman promptly enlisted in the United States Army as a private in Captain John C. Hay’s Company C Rangers. He was wounded in the battle of Monterrey and fought at Buena Vista. He was later appointed Commissary with the rank of Major. After the close of the war he moved to California and was
elected first Treasurer of the State, serving from December 22, 1849 to January 2, 1858. He was appointed Consul to Guaymas during the administration of President Pierce; this position he resigned after a short time. Later he held the position of United States Appraiser at San Francisco under President Buchanan. After retiring from this position he engaged in mining. He became entirely deaf, so that he was compelled to be communicated with by writing. He died at the residence of his nephew, William T. Wallace, in San Francisco, at 7 a. m., Wednesday, December 22, 1875.

One of the picturesque characters in the great drama was Dr. Samuel Stivers. Born and educated in Amsterdam, Holland, he came to this country and located in Philadelphia, where he practiced medicine. The United States Government sent him to Mexico on a secret mission. While passing through Texas he became interested in the country and its people. After finishing his mission for the government he returned to Philadelphia, arranged his personal affairs, and left for Texas, arriving before the Haden F. Edwards Colony was established. Always interested in the cause of independence for Texas, Dr. Stivers went as a messenger from Sam Houston to the Alamo with instructions for a retreat; he was also to stay and care for the sick and wounded. He was within four hours ride of San Antonio when he heard of the fall of the Alamo. He immediately retreated to General Houston with all the information he could gather about the disastrous battle. This tragedy and the loss of so many splendid leaders was a hard blow to General Houston, and Dr. Stivers never forgot the fact that he was the bearer of such ill news.

During the Battle of San Jacinto, Dr. Stivers was so eager to participate that despite the fact that his orders were to stay in the rear and care for the wounded, the doctor, on a big gray Kentucky horse, with a red sash that had been lost by a Mexican tied around his waist, kept dashing to the front both before and during the battle. General Houston finally sent him this message: “Stay in front, and I hope they shoot your damned head off.” But they did not, and the doctor lived many years to minister to his fellowmen. His first thought after the battle was
for his wife and several small children. He had sent them word to leave their home and get across the Sabine River to safety. Mrs. Stivers and the children obeyed the messenger and with only one horse and what belongings they could manage, were making slow progress to the river when they met the Indian chief, Nose. The chief told them to return home assuring her that he would place a guard of his best men around her place to protect her, saying: "No matter what happens we will take care of you for the Big Doctor." Dr. Stivers was six feet four inches tall, hence the name Big Doctor given by the Indians.

After Texas won her independence, Dr. Stivers practiced medicine many years in Angelina County. Several fine descendants have followed him in the profession.

Dr. Anson Jones played a wonderful part in the making of this State; he is sometimes called the Architect of Annexation. This, the last President of the Republic of Texas, was a lineal descendant of Oliver Cromwell. He was born January 20, 1798, at Barrington, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. He was educated in the common schools of the county, gaining a good knowledge of English, Latin, and Greek. He then studied medicine at Litchfield, Massachusetts, and was licensed to practice medicine in 1820. He was not very successful in his practice, and when the American Consul to Venezuela invited him to go with him to South America, he accepted and remained for two years. On his return, he attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine in March, 1827. He remained in Philadelphia five years. While there, he became very much interested in the Odd Fellows and writes: "On March 29, 1829, I organized, joined and put in operation the Philadelphia Lodge No. 13 of the I. O. O. F., framing its constitution, by-laws, and rules of order, which continue unchanged and have been the model for the order everywhere."

In 1832 Dr. Jones went to New Orleans. After a disastrous mercantile venture there he resumed the practice of medicine. Through enforced idleness he indulged extravagantly in drink and gaming, which habits he laments pathetically in his private papers. In the autumn of 1833
he sailed with Captain Brown, of the Sabine of New Orleans, and arrived at Velasco, October 29, of that year. Up to this period of his life his career had been one of continued disappointment and of struggles against poverty and adversity. When he landed in Brazoria he had $17 in money and a small stock of medicines and owed more than $2,000, chiefly a security debt, every dollar of which he afterward paid. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession, and was very successful, visiting patients within a radius of forty miles.

To Dr. Jones and five of his brethren, John A. Wharton, Asa Brigham, James A. E. Phelps, Alexander Russell and J. P. Caldwell, belongs the honor of instituting the first lodge of Freemasons in Texas. The first meeting was held in a private burying ground near Brazoria, and from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana the charter was obtained for Holland Lodge, No. 36, A. F. and A. M., which was opened December 27, 1835. Death and war played havoc with the little organization, and the last meeting was held in February, 1836, when the lodge was closed until October, 1837. It was reopened by Dr. Jones in the city of Houston, and he was afterward chosen the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas. He was also identified with the Odd Fellows of Texas, and was Grand Master of that order in 1852.

At the close of the year 1834 he found himself well established and in possession of a practice worth $5,000 a year. In 1835 the difficulties between Texas and Mexico began to assume a serious character, and Dr. Jones became an anxious observer of the political aspect of events occurring in his adopted country. He accompanied Padre Apulche, a Mexican of some distinction who had recently come from his own country, to San Felipe, where the convention was being held for the purpose of consulting upon the affairs of the people. He became convinced of the unfaithfulness of the Padre, notwithstanding his assertions to the contrary, and prevented his advice being followed by the convention. His opinion was that history would not be able to say much of this consultation or the provisional government it established, though these did have the effect of precipitating the final and probably inevitable result of an
Dr. Anson Jones
Surgeon Second Regiment Volunteers, Battle of San Jacinto. Last President of the Republic of Texas
early separation from Mexico. He was satisfied that the best and only course was an unconditional declaration of independence. At a meeting called in December, 1835, in the municipality of Brazoria, Dr. Jones was chairman of the committee which drew up resolutions declaring in favor of "the total and absolute independence of Texas, and that the people are at liberty to establish such form of government as, in their opinion, may be necessary to promote their prosperity." These resolutions were the first on the subject of total separation from Mexico ever passed in Texas. Santa Anna and the Mexican people were thoroughly aroused; and seeing the storm approaching, Dr. Jones made his preparations accordingly. Immediately following the fall of the Alamo he enlisted as a private in Captain Colder's company, and at the urgent request of his many friends and former patients he consented to take the post of Surgeon of the Second Regiment, upon the condition that he should be permitted to resign as soon as the necessity of his service ceased, and that he should be permitted to hold his rank as a private in the line. The success which he met was phenomenal, not a single member of the Second Regiment dying from the time of his appointment until the Battle of San Jacinto. He was appointed Judge Advocate General the second day of April and held that position until September, 1837, when he entered Congress.

On the morning of the day the army left the camp at Harrisburg, a general order was issued for a detail to stay with the sick. Dr. Jones was of the number but resolved to disobey the order; and after attending to his daily routine, he joined the army. As a consequence, he participated in the Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836. Having resigned the office of Surgeon to the Second Regiment, he was appointed Assistant Surgeon General and Medical Purveyor to the army.

After the Battle he accompanied General Houston and Santa Anna by boat to Galveston. On May 10th he sailed for New Orleans to procure supplies for the army. The Texans had captured many thousands of dollars in gold from the Mexicans after the Battle. One historian says this was used to buy supplies for the navy; and it is very
likely that Dr. Jones used part of it for the army, as they were badly in need of supplies of every kind.

He held the office of Assistant Surgeon General until the close of the year 1836, when he resigned and prepared to resume the practice of his profession. However, at the solicitation of his friends he consented to become a candidate for Representative in the Second Congress, and after a somewhat heated campaign, was elected, taking his seat at the called session in September, 1837. He uniformly resisted the issue of paper money beyond what had been authorized by the previous acts of Congress, and vehemently opposed a bill “for issuing promissory notes of the Government for $3,000,000 or upward.” In the spring of 1838 he endeavored to procure an appropriation of the public lands for the purposes of education and made a report to Congress on the subject.

In 1836-7 Texas was suppliant to the United States for annexation; but as Mr. Wharton informed Dr. Jones, “was rudely spurned by President Jackson.” In 1837-8 she was again suppliant to President Van Buren, but her request for admission was promptly and firmly rejected. Indignant at the position Texas occupied, Dr. Jones introduced, April 23, 1838, in the House, a resolution authorizing the President to withdraw the proposition of annexation to the United States of North America from before the Government at Washington. The resolution was a failure, so he urged President Houston to withdraw the proposition, but he declined. Upon his appointment as Minister to the United States, he made it one of the conditions of his acceptance that this proposition should be withdrawn, and after his presentation to the President he lost no time in declaring the independence and retrieving the dignity of the country he represented.

While in the city of New York in April, 1839, Dr. Jones addressed a letter to the Honorable Christopher Hughes, Charge d’Affaires of the United States in Sweden and Norway, soliciting his good offices in behalf of Texas with influential men of England and France, with a view of obtaining the recognition of her independence by those powers. This was among the first steps taken by Dr. Jones in that course which ultimately led to the settlement of the difficulties
between Texas and Mexico and the annexation of Texas to the United States. After nearly a year in Washington he was recalled by President Lamar, and upon his arrival at Galveston learned that he had been elected to the Senate for a term of two years, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Honorable William H. Wharton. At the close of the session he abandoned the idea of resuming his practice in Brazoria.

He later held many positions of importance in the New Republic. His counsel was always valuable. As early as 1837 he adopted and maintained decided opinions upon three great and vital questions of administrative policy: (1) Annexation to the United States, which he was wholeheartedly for, concerning which he says: "It was a great fault, thinking and acting as a great nation when we were but a first-rate county." (2) A more economical administration of the government, and (3) A defensive and conciliatory attitude toward Mexico and peace with the Indians.

Dr. Jones was elected President of the Republic in September, 1844, and inaugurated on December 9, 1844. The diplomatic way in which he handled the matter of annexation is certainly to be commended. Dr. Jones did not mention the question of annexation in his inaugural address; the United States having several times scorned the overtures made for annexation by the New Republic, he adopted the watchful waiting policy.

One of Dr. Jones' first official acts was the appointing of Dr. Ashbel Smith as Minister to France and England, to express upon behalf of the government of Texas the greatful sentiments entertained for these powers by the New Republic. Of course severe criticism followed such an act, and the President and his cabinet were accused of opposing annexation, and of using every means in conjunction with England and France to defeat the popular will on this subject.

On March 1, 1845, the Congress of the United States at last passed resolutions favoring annexation of Texas. Dr. Jones as President called for a popular vote on the subject. Receiving cordial assurances of the good will of England and France, and conditions preliminary to a treaty
of peace with Mexico, Texas for the first time in ten years was at peace with the world, and entered the union "not from necessity, nor as a suitor," but with the consent of her people and the assurances of friendship from her former enemies.

Dr. Jones surrendered the government of Texas into the hands of General J. O. Henderson, Governor, February 19, 1846. The closing words in his final address were: "The lone star of Texas, which ten years since arose amid cloud, over fields of courage and obscurity shone for a while, has culminated and following an inscrutable destiny has passed on and become fixed forever in that glorious constellation which all free men and lovers of freedom must reverence and adore, The American Union. Blending its rays with its sister stars, long may it continue to shine and may a gracious heaven smile on this consummation of the wishes of the two republics now joined as one. May the union be perpetual and may it be the means of conferring benefits and blessings upon the people of all the states is my ardent prayer. The final act of this great drama is now performed. The Republic of Texas is no more."

Dr. Jones refused all public offices after this time. He devoted much of his time and effort to the building of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad.

On May 17, 1840, Dr. Jones had married Mrs. Mary McCrory, nee Smith. Her parents built one of the first houses in Houston. She was a woman of splendid personality, a perfect example of the type of noble women who in the infancy of Texas endured with their fathers, husbands, brothers and sons all the perils and sufferings incident to laying in the wilderness the foundation of an empire.

In 1844 he built a lovely home on his estate near old Washington on the Brazos, and named it Barrington after his native town in Massachusetts. In November, 1857, he sold his home and intended moving to Galveston to resume the practice of medicine. He was not well, and during a spell of deep despondency he took his own life while stopping at the old Capitol Hotel in Houston. This was on January 9, 1858. He had just remarked to a friend, "Here in this house twenty years ago I commenced my political career in Texas, and here I would like to end it."
Thus ended the brilliant career of one of the real Fathers of Texas, a patriot and a talented doctor.

After the Battle of San Jacinto, General Santa Anna was a prisoner on the plantation of Dr. J. A. D. Phelps for many months. Mrs. Phelps was very kind to the prisoner; on one occasion she saved his life by throwing her arms around him when a soldier was attempting to shoot him. Dr. Phelps also saved his life by quick professional service. Santa Anna had attempted suicide by taking poison and Dr. Phelps pumped the poison from his stomach. This picturesque character was ever grateful to the Phelps for their real goodness to him. When their son, Orlando Phelps, was taken prisoner in Mexico during the ill-fated Mier Expedition, Santa Anna set him free, had him brought as a guest to his palace, gave him clothing, paid his passage to New York and gave him $500 in gold.

This last record is given to show that even our worst enemies have hidden somewhere in their hearts a spark of good.

In thus recording the lives of these heroes of medicine and surgery, we must not allow any feeling of pity or sympathy to enter into our appreciation of their deeds. Theirs was a great opportunity to serve their country and to demonstrate to the world their belief in the supremacy of the Anglo-Saxon race. They had many problems to solve and many privations, but they also had unusual joys. Just think of the thrill of speaking a nation into existence, of adding another star to the blue of our flag, of the great satisfaction they had in bestowing thousand of acres of virgin soil upon one another for their common service. Yes, they were heroes—and we honor them. Their heritage was an enviable one.