

HISTORICAL SKETCH
of
FIRST SETTLEMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY

and

CONSTITUTION OF OLD SETTLERS ASSOCIATION
ORGANIZED AUGUST 27th, 1904

by W. K. Makemson

The first white man's habitation in the territory now constituting Williamson County was a military post established in 1836 under orders of the Provisional Government of Texas. It was a block house built by Capt. Tumlinson and his company of rangers, near the head waters of Brushy Creek at the place since known as block house spring, where the residence of Judge A. S. Walker, Jr., is now situated. This post was occupied by the rangers until the latter part of February.

Noah Smithwick, in his book "Evolution of a State" says that he was a member of Tumlinson's company and assisted in building this block house; that it was occupied by the rangers until Santa Anna invaded Texas, which, he says, caused Tumlinson to fall back to Bastrop. There the command was turned over to Major R. M. Williamson "Three Legged Willie", and he hurried the company on to overtake Houston's army, but they did not reach San Jacinto until the day after the battle. Smithwick says the rangers did not return to the block house, and that it was destroyed by the Indians the following summer and was never rebuilt.

During the Spring of 1839, Dr. Thomas Kenny, assisted by Joseph Barnhart and others erected a fort on the South side of Brushy Creek at a place then known as Brushy Cove, and since 1853 as the W. T. Dyer homestead. The site of the old fort is just below the crossing of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad and is now owned by Mrs. Jennie Davis. When the fort was completed it was occupied by Joseph Wicks (or Weeks) and his family, Maj. Chennyworth, Jas. Rice, Henry Castleberry, Jack Angel, and others, aggregating in all a force of about fifteen men.

In the fall of 1839 Dr. Kenny brought his family, consisting of his wife and three children, from Bastrop and they made their home at the Fort. The evening of their arrival smoke was discovered in a northerly direction from the Fort, indicating the presence of Indians in the vicinity. On the following morning, Dr. Kenny, Maj. Chennyworth, Joseph Wicks, and Jack Angel started out to investigate. When they reached the bluff on the south side of Gunn's branch, where it runs into Chandler's branch, and East of the place where William Stinnett now lives, they were attacked by Indians who were lying in ambush behind the bluff. Dr. Kenny was shot through the leg, the ball passing entirely through his horse. Wicks was shot in the left arm which was shattered from the elbow to the shoulder, and Chennyworth was wounded in the nose by an arrow. The men turned immediately and fled toward the fort. After going about a mile the wounded horse had to be abandoned, and Dr. Kenny was mounted on Angel's horse, the owner running on foot and carrying Dr. Kenny's saddle. They soon reached the fort which was about four miles from the place where they were attacked.

In the summer of 1841 a surveyor named Force who was sick came to the fort for treatment by Dr. Kenny. When he was convalescing, Capt. Nelson Merrill, who lived near by, killed a bear and sent some of the meat to the fort. Without knowledge of Dr. Kenny Force ate some of the meat which caused him to relapse, and he died the following day. He was buried on the hillside across the branch east of the fort.

On December 12, 1841, Dr. Kenny's wife, Mrs. Mary Jane Kenny, died of consumption. Her coffin was made of walnut plank cut with a whipsaw by Capt. Merrill and others, and she was buried near the grave of Mr. Force.

Immense herds of buffalo were in this country and Henry Castlebury and John Courtney in the winter of 1843-44 had killed a great many on the Salado and cached the hides, intending in the spring to return and get them and expected to use Dr. Kenny's oxen and wagon for that purpose. In the meantime, Dr. Kenny had made arrangements to carry his two daughters, Mary Jane and Clarissa, to Rutgersville College (now merged into Southwestern University). As this team was the only means of transportation Castlebury persuaded him to defer his trip until they could go out and bring in their hides.

On April 6th, 1844 the three men left the Fort with the wagon and two yoke of oxen to go after the hides, intending to return in about a week. At this time there were in the Fort, after these men left, only Mrs. Courtney, Kenny's two daughters, and a man whose name now none can recall. The men did not return at the appointed time and a report reaching them that a band of Caddo Indians had been down on the Colorado depredating the people at the Fort became alarmed. Capt. Merrill raised a party of men, consisting of Mr. Stephens, John Brothers, an Englishman, and a negro man, and went in search of the missing men. Taking the wagon tracks, they followed them to the place now known as Bone Hollow where they found the bodies of the three men who had been dead several days and had evidently been killed by the Caddoes.

The Indians had taken Kenny's flintlock holster pistols, hack knife and horse, and Courtney's gun, but left the wagon loaded with buffalo skins and the camping outfit. They had killed one yoke of oxen and had taken the meat; and the other yoke made its way back to the Fort a few days later.

After making this gruesome discovery, the searching party returned to the Fort. A few days later, Capt. Merrill, Judge Joseph Lee, John Wooldridge, John Brothers, John Matthews and several others went again to the scene of the tragedy. They placed the bodies in a pen, which they built with loose stones on the ground and thereafter the place was known as Bone Hollow.

Kenny's Fort was only a short distance from the junction of a spring branch with Brushy Creek at the Double File Crossing. It consisted of four log cabins with port holes on the exposed sides, and was enclosed with a picket stockade of logs about eight feet high with wide strong gates on the East and West. It fronted North on the bluff of Brushy Creek, and the east side was near the branch.

It is reasonably certain that Kenny's fort was the first settlement made in the territory now constituting Williamson County, and that the first land cultivated and the first crop of corn was raised at this place by Mr. Rogers. He was afterwards killed by the Indians.

Kenny's Fort was the place of rendezvous for the Santa Fe Expedition. There, Mirabeau B. Lamar, President of the Republic of Texas, spent the night of June 20th, 1842, with Gen. McLeod. On the following morning, after listening to one of Lamar's thrilling, patriotic speeches, this little army fell into line and began its long weary march on that illfated enterprise. They camped that night at the Double File Crossing on the San Gabriel River, now known as Town's Mill Dam. Finding their wagons too heavily loaded, they threw into the river two loads of lead which have never been recovered.

This old Fort was also the scene of another very interesting historical incident. When an attempt was made to move the public archives from the City of Austin to Old Washington, under orders of Sam Houston, the men with wagons containing the books and papers reached the Fort late in the evening and obtained permission from Dr. Kenny to camp inside the stockade, which enclosed a court of considerable size. That night a company of men from Austin, commanded by Capt. Mark B. Lewis, reached the Fort and the following morning, December 31, 1842, compelled the parties in charge of the wagons to return to Austin with the Archives.

Dr. Kenny was a soldier in the Black Hawk war and lived at that time at Rock Island, Illinois. He immigrated to Texas from Quincy, Illinois, arriving with his wife, Mrs. Mary Jane Kenny, and child, Mary Jane, at Old Washington on Christmas day, 1833. He settled at Bastrop and was surgeon of Capt. Coleman's company. After the battle of San Jacinto he returned to Bastrop and engaged in business there until he moved his family, then consisting of his wife and three children, Mary Jane, Clarissa and Ann, to his Fort on Brushy Creek.

Dr. Kenny was an educated, cultured gentleman of sterling character, a physician of recognized ability, and was universally respected by all who knew him. While he occupied the Fort, all who called there were received with a cordial welcome and were generously entertained. It is said that his establishment was the home of every transient, homeless man in the country. His eldest daughter, Mary Jane, married John C. Lee, and they occupied the Fort from 1848 to 1852. She is now living in El Paso, Texas and is about 74 years old. She vividly remembers many incidents connected with the old Fort where she spent much of her childhood. The second daughter, Mrs. Click, is living on the Colorado River above Bastrop. The youngest daughter, Ann, married W. R. Mason of Georgetown, where they lived until she died in April 1865, and was buried in the old cemetery. Capt. Martin M. Kenny, Spanish translator in the Land Office at Austin, is a nephew of Dr. Kenny who built the Fort.

Soon after the Kenny Fort was built, Davis Chandler made a settlement on the north side of Brushy Creek at the place afterwards called Wadkins Crossing, and Capt. Ladd settled near the junction of Brushy and Chandler's Branch, then called Ladd's Creek. About the same time Joseph Barnhart improved a place higher up on Chandler's Branch, and soon after that Capt. Merrill settled one half mile above Barnhart on the same side of the branch. Chandler subsequently sold his improvements to Sam Wadkins and improved a place farther up the branch, which is now known as the old Thos. Thaxon place. In 1841 Dr. Miller settled on the south side of Brushy Creek, about three quarters of a mile below Wadkins crossing, which he abandoned two or three years afterwards.

It is reasonably certain that the above mentioned settlements on Chandler's Branch and Brushy Creek were the first made in the territory now known as Williamson County.

In the fall of 1841, Rogers, above referred to as having raised the first corn crop, was killed by the Indians between Chandler's Branch and the Gabriel, and was buried near the Barnhart place, now known as the William Palm place.

These settlements, with the exception of Kenny's Fort, were abandoned in 1842, when Gen. Houston, by proclamation, advised the settlers to fall back East of the Brazos on account of the combined danger of Mexicans and Indians. Later Joseph Barnhart settled in Travis County, near the present town of Manor, to which he moved most of his improvements from Chandler's Branch. He died there many years ago, and his wife is still living in Austin with their son, John S. Barnhart.

Soon after this second "Runaway Scrape", Capt. Merrill returned to his place on Chandler's Branch and remained there until about 1846, when he moved to Walnut Creek in Travis County, where Merriltown is now situated. After the Civil War he moved to Brushy Creek and purchased the old Freeman Smalley place below Round Rock, where he died a number of years ago.

In the fall of 1846, Dr. W. I. Anderson, Levi Asher, and his son-in-law, Freeman Smalley, settled their families on the south side of Brushy Creek, about one mile below Wadkins Crossing. About the same time, lower down on Brushy Creek, Calvin Barker established his home, which is still known as the "Old Cal Barker place".

In the summer of 1846, D. H. McFaddin, Jos. Dyches, and perhaps one or two other families located on the San Gabriel below the place where the Katy depot at Circleville is now situated. About the same time Judge Greenleaf Fisk settled on the South San Gabriel, where his daughter Mrs. Cashion now lives. During the same year Thos. Hornsby settled the place where the home of the Hon. Jas. H. Faubion is now situated, and Jas. Standifer settled lower down on Brushy Creek in Live Oak Prairie.

In the Fall of 1846, Capt. Shapely Ross, father of the late Ex Gov. L. S. Ross, with his company of Rangers was stationed on the South side of the San Gabriel River, in the bend just below the Double File Crossing. While the rangers were stationed there, two of them, Perry Neal and Tom Roberts, died of winter fever and were buried south of the camp in a live oak grove now in A. C. Beaver's field. A man named Fleming who a short time before had settled at the place which is now John Ischy's vegetable garden, through fear of the Indians, moved his family to the Capt. Ross Ranger camp for protection. Soon after, Fleming's daughter was married to Whitfield Chalk, one of the rangers, afterwards the first sheriff of Williamson County.

About the time Capt. Ross established this station, Col. W. C. Dalrymple made his settlement near there on the north side of the river at the place afterwards occupied by Capt. Wylie Peace, and Capt. John Berry settled on Berry's Creek, at the place where Mr. Brownie now lives. It is probable that other families settled in these sections of the country at different periods here mentioned, but their names have faded from the memory of the living, as far as I have been able to ascertain.

There were perhaps fewer Indian deprivations on this immediate border, than in many other sections of the State. As far as can be ascertained only about twenty-four people were killed by Indians within the present limits of Williamson County.

In the spring of 1839, at the Battle of Brushy (then called Boggy) Jacob Burleson, Edward Blakely, John Walters, and the Rev. James Gilleland were killed and in August the same year John Webster and his twelve companions were killed on Brushy Creek about two miles below where the town of Leander is now situated. As before stated in 1841 Rodgers was killed in the prairie between Chandler's Branch and the Gabriel, and Dr. Kenny, Castleberry and Courtney were killed in Bone Hollow in April 1844. In the summer of 1863, Wofford Johnson, his wife and daughter were killed by the Comanches near the Hope Well settlement. In May 1839 Manuel Flores, a Mexican officer and secret Indian Agent, with a company of about 40 Mexican soldiers were conveying ammunition and other supplies from Mexico to the Indians on the Lampas River. Lieut. Jas. O. Rice with a squad of seventeen rangers was out on a scout on Onion Creek, south of Austin, and discovered Flores and his party, and followed them through the mountains two or three days, finally overtaking them on the South Gabriel at a bluff on the south side of the creek where the Wm. Daniel farm is now situated. Rice at once attacked the Mexicans, killed Flores and one or two others of the party, and captured the entire outfit consisting of about one hundred and thirty head of horses and mules, several hundred pounds of powder and lead and all their camp equipage. With the baggage of Flores was found the correspondence between himself and the government of Mexico and the Indians, disclosing an arrangement for the destruction of the settlements and massacre of all the white people above and West of the old San Antonio Road. It is said that this is one of the most important events connected with the history of this section of Texas; for had Flores been permitted to reach the Indians with this ammunition and supplies the most disastrous consequences to the settlements would have been the result.

In order to be convenient to wood and water the first settlers built their log cabins and made their homes near the creeks. At the time the county was organized, with few exceptions, the settlements were confined to Brushy Creek and the San Gabriel River. Comparatively few settlements were made far out in the prairies until the era of barbed wire and the advent of the railroads.

In the winter of 1848, Geo. W. Glasscock, Sr. erected a large water mill for grinding wheat and corn and for sawing lumber. It was about three quarters of a mile below the junction of the North and South San Gabriel Rivers and is said to have been the first mill for making flour in the State.

In 1855 E. D. John, the grandfather of the Hon. Robt. A. John, Ex Assistant Attorney General, erected a large steam mill at Brookville (now Florence) for manufacturing flour. It is probable that this is the first steam flour mill in the State.

The territory now constituting Williamson County, was taken off the West end of Milam County, and the act of the legislature creating the county was approved by Gov. Wood on March 13th, 1848. The county was named in honor of Judge R. M. Williamson, better known as "Three Legged Willie". He was one

of the remarkable men of his day. He was a patriot and statesman and as an advocate and jurist he had few, if any, superiors.

In the act creating the county, John Berry, Sr., W. C. Dalrymple, D. C. Cowan, Washington Anderson, and Jas. O. Rice were named as commissioners to locate the county site, and the Chief Justice of Milam County was authorized to organize the county. After an examination of all eligible sites in the territory, in May 1848 (no record can be found of the fixing of the exact date) the Commissioners assembled under the large live oak tree then standing where Locust and Church Streets intersect. Geo. W. Glascock, Sr., was also present, and he proposed to the commissioners that if they would locate the town there and name it Georgetown, they could run a line from that tree due North to the South San Gabriel, and another one due West to the river from the same point, and he would donate to the county, without reservation, all the land between these two designated boundaries. The Commissioners accepted this proposition, located the town and named it Georgetown, in honor of the donar, Mr. Glascock, and he executed his deed for the tract consisting of 173 acres.

Mr. Glascock was a noble generous man of Sterling integrity, great force of character, and one of the most public spirited men in the State. He was the father of Senator Geo. W. Glascock of Georgetown, who donated the land for the old Southwestern University Building, including its large and splendid campus.

Soon after the town was located the surveyors, Matthias Wilbarger and D. C. Cowan laid off the tract in blocks and lots, and on the 4th day of July 1848, the lots were sold at public sale for the benefit of the county.

The first election for County officers was held sometime about the first of August, 1848 (again there is no record fixing the exact date) and it resulted in the election of Greeleaf Fisk, Chief Justice (corresponding to County Judge now); Whitfield Chalk, Sheriff; Geo. T. Williams, County Clerk; Ira E. Chalk, District Clerk; John Gooch, County Treasurer; Jacob M. Harrell, W. I. Anderson, D. H. McFaddin and Richard Tankersley, County Commissioners. I can find no record showing who was elected Assessor and Collector of Taxes.

The first district court was held October 10, 1848 by the Hon. Wm. E. Jones, Judge of the Second Judicial District of Texas. The following Grand Jury was impaneled; Washington Anderson, foreman, D. C. Cowan, William Berry, John Berry, Calvin Barker, James Standifer, Peter Banta, Thomas Hornsby, Elias Marshall, Abner Gray and Daniel Kimbro. After being charged by the court, the grand jury retired, as the record says, in charge of the Sheriff to consider their duties. They returned in a short while and reported to the court that they had no presentments to make and no bills to return, and they were discharged. It is said that this grand jury held its session under the same tree which the commissioners met to locate the town. The court then proceeded to call the Civil Docket, consisting of Cause #1, M. C. Hamilton vs James O. Rice. trespass to try title, and upon motion of the plaintiff's counsel the case was continued, and upon being in session about two hours adjourned until next term in course, March 22, 1849. Thus closed the first District Court of Williamson County.

The first court house was a log cabin about 16 feet square, fronting on main street, and immediately north of the present office of the Williamson County Sun, and immediately South of the present Masonic Temple. The third was

a two story stone building about 50 ft. square, situated in the center of the public square. It was torn down to give place to the present building. During the Civil war the frame court house was moved to the place where the town of Jonah is now located, and is still standing to the right of the public road leading to Taylor, and on the south side of the branch where it is doing duty as a tenant house.

The first jail was a double log two story building about 18 ft. square, situated east and directly in the rear of the frame court house. The next jail was built on the place where the frame court house had stood, it was a two story stone building, lined with hewn elm logs, driven full of ten penny nails, and thought to be a very Gilbraltor for strength and security, but when put to the test it proved to be a snare and a delusion. The third jail was a two story cut stone building with chilled steel cells. It stood in the public square near the northeast corner of the present court house and was torn down some years ago, and the material used to construct the County Record Vault and County Judge's office. The next jail is the one now in use, inconveniently situated three blocks north of the court house.

At the time the act creating the County was passed by the Legislature, it is safe to say the population of the territory did not exceed 250 souls. The number was so small that the petition asking for the creation of the County was signed not only by all the men, but by many of the women and children, the women and girls signing their initials, instead of their Christian names. I remember distinctly when Washington Anderson and James O. Rice brought the petition to my father's house for his signature. After he had signed it they insisted that my mother sign it also, and I, a boy of eleven, signed it at their request.

During the summer of 1847, Jas. G. Harrell, Mark Moss, and two or three others settled on Brushy Creek about two miles above where Old Round Rock is now situated, and in the spring of 1848, Jacob M. Harrell, moved from Austin with his family, built his cabin and put up a blacksmith shop on the North side of Brushy Creek, and named the place Round Rock.

In the summer of 1848, Jas. G. Harrell, the father of F. M. Harrell of Round Rock, assisted by one or two others, built a cabin at Moss Spring for a school house, and employed a man named Allen to teach school. F. M. Harrell and his sister Azalee, now Mrs. Lambert Houston, living at Florence, two or three of the Moss boys, who lived in Llano County, and Henry Bratton of Travis County, are perhaps all, who are now living, who attended this school, which was the first taught in the county.

Soon after this Geo. W. Laymon taught a school in a log cabin built for that purpose by my uncle, Dr. D. F. Knight, and my father, Samuel L. Makemson, on the north side of Brushy Creek, where Dr. Knight settled in 1847, which place is now known as the old Charley Saul place. Of the 25 or 30 children who attended this school only four are living, Mrs. Ruth Layman of Burnet, Mrs. Maria Northington of Lampasas, Mrs. Louisa Coulson and myself.

The first store in the county for the sale of general merchandise was opened by Nelson Morey on the north side of Brushy Creek and South of the present residence of Mrs. Wm. Juvenal. In the Fall of 1848, Josiah Taylor, father of E. E. Taylor of Georgetown, and the late Capt. Emzy Taylor, located on Brushy at the place where the Shiloh's school house is now located, and sold goods there until he moved to Georgetown in 1850.

The second post office in the county, Georgetown being the first, was established on Brushy Creek where Rice's Crossing now is, it was called Blue Hill Post Office and Jas. O. Rice was the postmaster.

The first sermon in the county was delivered at the house of Freeman Smalley on Brushy just below the Wadkin's Crossing by Rev. R. H. Taliaferro, who afterwards organized the Baptist church in Austin and was its pastor for over a quarter of a century. Mr. Taliaferro married the daughter of Washington Anderson. Both have been dead many years, Mr. Anderson died a few years after the death of his daughter, but his wife, Mrs. Mary Anderson lived to the age of 84 years. She died July 16th, 1904, in Georgetown at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Lee M. Taylor. The Old Pioneers have all passed away, and we who knew them personally are fast passing to the Great Beyond.

Surrounded with the comforts and luxuries of today, it is difficult for the younger generation to realize or properly appreciate the dangers incurred, the hardships endured, and the sacrifices made by those who first came to make their homes on this extreme border. When we consider Williamson County of Today, we know that we owe those brave hearted men and women a great debt of gratitude.

The chief purpose of our association is to gather up the fragments of history pertaining to the lives and deeds of the early settlers of our county and perpetuate them for future generations.

Note: For information in regard to the important incidents related in this sketch I am indebted to Mrs. Mary J Lee of El Paso, Mr. John Darlington of Taylor, Mrs. Mary E. Barnhart of Austin, and John C. Compton of Eolian, Texas.

CONSTITUTION OF THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION
OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Whereas, We, the old settlers of Williamson County, and our lineal descendants, for the purpose of perpetuating the historical events and incidents connected with the early settlement of our country; preserving family records, renewing old friendships and forming a closer fraternal relation with each other, have this, the 27th day of August, 1904, formed ourselves into an association, and for the government of the same have ordained and adopted this constitution.

ARTICLE I.

This organization shall be known as THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION OF WILLIAMSON COUNTY, TEXAS, and shall be under the supervision and control of an Executive Committee, as hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE II.

All white persons, who settled in Williamson County prior to January 1st, 1870, their lineal descendants, and their husbands and wives, who are of good moral character, shall be eligible to membership in this Association, upon the terms hereinafter provided.

ARTICLE III.

The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall be elected for a term of two years by a majority of the members of the Association present at such election.

The PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of the Association, and in connection with the Executive Committee, shall exercise a general supervision over the affairs of the Association. He shall draw all drafts on the Treasurer for funds when the same have been appropriated by the Executive Committee, and he shall make a report to the Association at each annual meeting, showing fully the condition of the affairs of the Association, and in case of his absence, or inability to act from any cause, the Vice-President shall discharge the duties of the President.

The SECRETARY shall keep a journal of the proceedings of the meetings of the Association, and of the meetings of the Executive Committee; he shall receive all monies belonging to the Association, receipt for the same, and pay the same over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor, and by or before each annual meeting of the Association he shall make a full report to the President of all monies received by him, and the source from which received, and such other information as will enable the President to make his report, and he shall be custodian of the archives, books and papers belonging to the Association.

The TREASURER shall receive all monies from the Secretary, and receipt him for the same; pay all drafts drawn on him by the President for all monies appropriated by the Executive Committee, and by or before each annual meeting of the Association he shall make a full report to the President of all monies received by him, of all paid out, and of the amount on hand.

ARTICLE IV

The Executive Committee shall consist of two members of the Association from each of the eight Justice Precincts in the county; they shall be elected, or appointed, for a term of two years, by a majority of the members in said Justice Precinct at the annual meeting of this Association, and when so chosen, their names shall be reported to the Secretary of the Association; and the President of the Association shall be ex-officio a member of the Executive Committee, and Chairman thereof, and it shall take a majority of said committee to constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.

Said Committee shall hold a session at least one month before each annual meeting of the Association, and prepare a program for the exercises of such annual meeting, and make such general provision for the same as may be necessary, and publish the same for the benefit of the members of the Association, at least four weeks before such annual meeting. Said Committee shall have control over the fiscal affairs of the Association; make all appropriations for money, and no money shall be paid out unless so appropriated, and no appropriations shall be made except for the actual and necessary expenses of the Association, and for the carrying out of the objects and purposes thereof. No debts shall ever be incurred by them against the Association. It shall be the duty of said Committee to arrange a uniform system by which the several family records of the original settlers represented in this Association may be prepared, and brought up to the date of this organization, and afterwards kept up and continued, as changes may occur, by some member of this Association who is a representative of such family.

The members of said Executive Committee shall receive all applications for membership, and enroll all members living in their respective justice precincts, collect all monies due from said members, and pay the same over to the Secretary.

They shall collect all historical incidents, traditions and events; locate and identify all historical places in their respective precincts, and report the same to the committee at its regular meeting, and said committee shall appoint a historiographer for the Association, whose duty it shall be to systematize and compile all historical matter so reported after the same has been verified and approved by the committee.

And said committee shall exercise a general supervision over the affairs of the Association.

ARTICLE V.

Each male member of this Association shall, at the time his name is enrolled, pay a membership fee of fifty cents, and shall pay annually thereafter fifty cents dues, to be paid at least one month prior to each annual meeting of the Association, and on failure to pay such dues, such member shall be suspended and dropped from the roll of membership.

ARTICLE VI.

No political or sectarian debate shall be allowed at the meetings of this Association, and all campaign speaking or discussions of a partisan nature are positively forbidden.

ARTICLE VII.

The annual meetings of this Association shall be held at Georgetown on the first Friday in August of each year, and may continue for two or more days, as may be determined by the Association, and the home of this Association is hereby fixed at Georgetown in Williamson County, Texas.

ARTICLE VIII.

This Constitution may be amended upon the recommendation of a majority of the Executive Committee and being ratified by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Constitution unanimously adopted at a meeting of the Old Settlers' Association of Williamson County, Texas, held at the courthouse in the city of Georgetown on the 27th day of August A.D. 1904.

W. K. MAKEMSON,
President.

S. A. HODGES,
Secretary