

KELSO, ALFRED - Born in Fayetteville, Tennessee, April 21, 1808. In applying for land in Austin's Colonies, Mr. Kelso stated that he had arrived in Texas from Alabama in February 1835. In Sergice Record No. 661 it is certified that he served in the army from February 29 to May 30, 1836. He was a member of Captain William J. E. Heard's Company of Citizen Soldiers at San Jacinto and received a Donation Certificate No. 382 dated September 16, 1851 for having participated in the battle. He received a headright certificate for a league and labor of land from the Colorado County Board, January 20, 1838.

Mr. Kelso was twice married. His first wife, Mrs. Ophelia Kelso, died August 23, 1835 and he was on March 20, 1840 married to Loueze Jane Barton at Gonzales. Mrs. Kelso, born in Missouri, October 15, 1821, died May 5, 1898 and Mr. Kelso died May 12, 1898. They are buried in the Brite Cemetery near Pleasanton Atascosa County. Mr. Kelso was a member of the Texas Veterans Association.

Children of Mr. and Mrs. Kelso by his second marriage were (1) William, (2) Henry, (3) Barton, (4) Margaret, (5) Sarah, (6) Mary and (7) Martha Ann Kelso.

(1) William Kelso died in childhood.

(2) Henry Kelso was never married.

(3) Barton Kelso was married to Mary Jane Winn. Mrs. Kelso lives at 807 Blanco Street, Austin, Texas. Their children were Alfred, Jesse, Ophelia Ann, Benjamin Winn, John Dempsey, Alta and Dillard Kelso.

(4) Margaret Kelso died in childhood.

(5) Sarah Kelso was married to Benjamin Franklin Neill. Their

children were Maude Lillie, Jesse, Benjamin Franklin, Artie and John Neill Kelso.

(6) Mary Kelso was married to R. V. Bell. Their children were Louise Ruby, Lloyd, Maude and Claude Bell.

(7) Martha Ann Kelso, youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kelso was married to Benjamin Franklin Winn. Their children were William, Mae, Benjamin Franklin, Ora, Edker and Arvel Dell Winn.

The following letter was written in the camp of the Texas army nine days after the battle of San Jacinto. It was written by Alfred Kelso to his brother in law, John H. Martin, at Fayetteville, Tennessee. The original is now in the possession of the Clerk of the District Court of Colorado County, it being a file paper in suit No. 2714 of R. J. Jeffrieys et al vs. George W. Smith, et al, in which the title to the Alfred Kelso league of land, situated in this county, was involved. It was filed in said suit June 10, 1875, as appears from the indorsement thereon, by Charles Riely, then Clerk of the District Court:

"State of Coahuila and Texas Department, April 30, 1836,-

Dear Brother - a favorable opportunity presents itself at present to me to let you know that I am well. Your sister, Martha, was well some six or eight days since I heard from her. Martha is at the Sulphur Springs at this time, on the River Trinity. We live on the River Colorado when we are at home. I have been in the army ever since the latter part of the winter. The citizens marches from Colorado to Gonzales, the place of rendezvous, on the River Guadalupe. The army retreated from Guadalupe to Colorado.

"The families remained on the Colorado until the army retreated from Colorado to the River Brazos. Your sister, with a great many other families, was on the river fourteen miles below our army. The river only divided the Mexican army and the army of the Americans. The army took up the line of march before the families got the news. The families were liable to be cut off by the enemy and were com-

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Government. Our battle was fought on the 21st of April 1836.

"John, it is not worth while to write you about the beauty of our country and the richness of the soil for you have heard them both spoken of so often and never heard the beauty nor the soil more spoken of than it naturally is. Land will be very valuable in Texas in a shorttime. I have 6,000 acres of land in Texas.

"John, I must say to you that Ophelia died on 23d of August last. We have had one son since we came to Texas and called his name Martin Henry, and he is dead also.

"You must write to me. Direct your letters to Columbus, Texas. We live sixty miles above Matagorda, on Colorado.

"Nothing more at present, more than if you see any of my people, give them my compliments, and also receive them to yourself.

Alfred Kelso

To John H. Martin.

John, Martha and myself will be to the State in the fall and will come to see you.

A. K.

Mr. J. Martin, you must pay postage on all letters coming this way or they will remain in the office at New Orleans.

Alfred Kelso.