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NELSON, JAMES - Was probably born in Indiana. In the headright certificate issued to him July 5, 1838 for one labor of land by the Board of Land Commissioners of Colorado County it is stated that he came to Texas in 1823. He was one of the "Old Three Hundred" of Austin's colonists. His title to a league of land in what is now Colorado County was dated August 7, 1824. He was a member of Captain William J. E. Heard's Company of Citizen Soldiers at San Jacinto and on July 27, 1838 he was issued Donation Certificate No. 481 for 640 acres of land for having participated in the battle. On October 21, 1839 he received Bounty Certificate No. 9280 for having served in the army from March 4 to June 4, 1836.

In Comptroller's Military Service Record No. 7992 it is certified that Mr. Nelson was wounded at San Jacinto.

Mr. Nelson was living in Colorado County December 31, 1847 when he sold his headright certificate to Joseph Tinkley. He died in 1849 as shown by the Probate Records of Fayette County. In his will, signed June 18, 1849, he left most of his property, including 640 acres of land in Colorado County, to his son William H. Nelson. To his son in Indiana he left a house and lot, a cording machine, a horse George Washington, and a buggy.