

SHERMAN, SIDNEY-- Born July 23, 1805 in what was then Marlboro, Massachusetts, a son of Micha and Susanna Dennison Frost Sherman. His parents having died, he at the age of sixteen, moved to Boston where for a brief period he worked in a mercantile establishment, going from there to New York. In 1831 he moved ~~to~~ Newport, Kentucky, just across the Ohio River from Cincinnati where he engaged in the manufacture of cotton bagging.

The Cincinnati Evening Post of November 17, 1835 published an account of a mass meeting held in Cincinnati in behalf of Texas. Nicholas Clopper presided and at the suggestion of Robert F. Lytle it was decided to raise money with which to purchase arms and ammunition for the colonist in Texas in their ~~impeding~~ struggle for freedom from Mexico. Among other things furnished as a result of this meeting were the famous "Twin Sister" cannon used so effectively by the Texans at San Jacinto. Nicholas Clopper, who presided at the meeting had cast his lot with Texas and was visiting his former home in Cincinnati. His son, Andrew M. Clopper, later participated in the battle of San Jacinto. He was evidently a friend of Captain Sidney Sherman for in 1837 when Captain Sherman moved with his wife to Texas he settled near the Clopper home on San Jacinto Bay, near the present town of Morgans Point, Harris County.

The mass meeting probably inspired Captain Sherman to volunteer his services to Texas and to assist financially and otherwise in raising a volunteer company for the army of Texas. Mr. Lytle, and it is assumed others who had attended the meeting, helped to raise funds with which

to finance the organization and equipment of the company. This is indicated in the following notice that appeared in the Cincinnati Daily Gazette, Wednesday morning, January 6, 1836:

"A Card.

The Texian Volunteers, before leaving Cincinnati, feel impelled by a sense of true gratitude to return their sincere thanks to the many kind friends who attended their benefit at the Third Street Theatre, on Monday evening (Jan. 4), as also to Mr. Chapman and his generous family, for their invaluable professional services on the occasion. They beg leave to present their warmest thanks to Messrs. R. F. Lytle, and James Allen, and other gentlemen, whose indefatigable exertions in their aid they never can forget. By order of the Company.

S. Sherman
Lieut. Wood
Lieut. Stouffer."

Due to the fact that the company was raised just across the river from the city of Cincinnati, where its organization was largely financed it is reasonable to believe that the majority of the men in it lived in Ohio, but since the company was drilled by Captain Sherman in Newport, Kentucky, it is usually considered as its home. The company was the only uniformed company at San Jacinto. Since its men were equipped with rifles, it became known as the Kentucky Rifles.

Shortly before embarking on a steamer ^{for} of Natchitoches, Louisiana the volunteers were presented with a flag made by ladies of Newport, and this was the only flag carried by the Texas army at San Jacinto. James A. Sylvester of the Kentucky Company was the standard bearer.

original
 The banner is now the property of the State of Texas and framed, hangs back of the speaker's chair in the House of Representatives in the State Capitol.

Following are extracts from Cincinnati papers regarding the departure of the Kentucky Rifles from Newport, Kentucky:

CINCINNATI DAILY WHIG, December 29, 1835

"We understand that fifty-two Volunteers from this City, Newport and Covington, will depart from the Steam-Boat landing at 10 o'clock this morning, under the command of Captain Sidney Sherman, for the Texian Army. Only thirty of these noble fellows are provided with uniforms, but we understand that uniforms for the remainder of them, can be made on their passage down the river, provided the liberality of our citizens furnishes them with the materials. We hope therefore that those who feel disposed to make donations, will do so before the boat (The ^{Augusta} ~~Agusta~~) pushes off.

Mr. Chapman liberally gave them a benefit last night at the Theatre. This will enable them to purchase many necessary equipments. Success to their chivalrous enterprize."

DAILY EVENING POST, Dec. 31, 1835

"The Newport, Kentucky Volunteers, under the command of Captain Sherman, left the landing yesterday in the Augusta for Natches, and thence for the seat of war. They numbered about 50 in uniform, and each man supplied with a good rifle. We understand that from 10 to 20 more were to join them at Louisville. As this boat went up opposite New Port to turn, they were ~~sailed~~ hailed by the citizens of the

81 place with a Gun, and with another on their way down, and

on passing our wharf they were cheered by the crowd assembled to witness their departure. They presented a handsome appearance, stretching in line, afore and aft on the hurricane deck, with their beautiful banner waving over them, having on it the motto, "Liberty or Death".

Captain Sherman left Natchitoches January 28th at ten o'clock in the morning. He had been ill for two weeks and his company had proceeded him. He reached the Sabine at night and crossed at Gaines' ferry. He spent the night of the 20th at the home of Thomas S. McFarland, six miles from San Augustine. On the following day he was overtaken by Captain Henry Teal and his company and they reached Nacogdoches during the day, where Captain Sherman rejoined his company. The volunteers departed February 3rd under Lieutenant Stouffer, arriving at Washington-on-the-Brazos on the 13th. They joined the main army at Gonzales. On March 12th the army was organized into one regiment of which Edward Burleson was elected Colonel and Sherman Lieutenant Colonel, and William Wood was elected captain of the Kentucky Rifles. On April 8th the army was reorganized and the Second Regiment formed, of which Sherman was elected Colonel, his old company remaining in the First Regiment.

The men of Colonel Sherman's regiment were the first to give the battle cry. Most Texas historians say it was: "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" Some of General Sherman's descendants, however, say it was: "Remember the Alamo! Goliad and the Alamo!"

This Comptroller's Military Service Record No. 6651 it is certified

that Colonel Sherman served as Captain of Infantry from December 18, 1835 to March 10, 1836; Lieutenant Colonel from March 10, to April 8, 1836; Colonel of Infantry from April 8 to August 5, 1836; and Colonel of Cavalry from August 5, 1836 to December 16, 1837. He was issued Bounty Certificate No. 1858 for 1280 acres of land for his services in the army and on May 14, 1838 he received Donation Certificate No. 8 for 640 acres of land for having participated in the battle of San Jacinto. On February 3, 1838 he was issued a headright certificate for a league and labor of land by the Harrisburg County Board of Land Commissioners.

Colonel Sherman in August, 1836 returned to Kentucky with authority from the Texas government to enlist men for the army. He returned in December of that year with his wife and his wife's brother, Christopher C. Cox, a boy of eleven. He selected a site for his home, a place he called Mt. Vernon, situated on San Jacinto Bay near New Washington. There he built his home consisting of a one-room log cabin and a brush covered kitchen. Early in 1837 Colonel Sherman's aunt, his niece and nephew arrived and later in the year Dana Sherman and wife arrived. In 1838 Dana and his wife both died of yellow fever. In 1839 Colonel Sherman moved to a place two miles above New Washington, which he called Crescent Place.

Colonel Sherman was a member of the House of Representatives, from Harris County, of the Seventh Congress, November 4, 1842 to January 17, 1843. He introduced a bill providing for the election of a Major General of Militia for the protection of the frontier, which was

passed. President Houston vetoed it but it was again passed by both houses of Congress. Thomas J. Rusk was the first to serve in that capacity and did not seek re-election. Colonel Sherman was elected September 4, 1843 and continued in office until Texas entered the union.

*Major General
of the
Mexican*

In 1846 General Sherman purchased 4000 acres of land in which was embraced one-half of the townsite of Harrisburg, burned ten years before by General Santa Anna, and during that year he began the successful promotion of the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railroad, now a part of the great Southern Pacific system. Actual construction of the road began at Harrisburg in 1852. Stafford's Point was reached in 1853 and Walker's in 1854. At Richmond in 1855 the line crossed the Brazos on a water level bridge. Alleyton on the Colorado was reached in 1859. It was the first railroad built west of the Sabine and the second west of the Mississippi, one having been built in St. Louis a few months prior. The first locomotive built for the road was named the General Sherman.

General Sherman moved to Harrisburg in 1847 and there built a palatial residence and saw mill. The saw mill was destroyed by fire in 1853 and later his home was burned. Having lost most of the modest fortune he had accumulated, he, in 1855, moved to Galveston where he owned and operated the Island City Hotel.

In 1861 General Sherman was requested by the local Committee of Safety of the Confederacy to take full charge of affairs at Galveston, with full authority to put the island in a state of defense. In 1862 he moved with his family to his old home on San Jacinto Bay

and with them went former President David G. Burnet. Early in 1863 the Sherman's moved to Richmond, Fort Bend County where they remained until the close of the War.

General Sherman was elected First Vice President of the Texas Historical Society at its organization at Houston, May 23, 1870.

On April 27, 1835 General Sherman was married to Catherine Isabel Cox of Frankfort, Kentucky. Mrs. Sherman was born April 27, 1815. She died in Houston, January 20, 1865 while visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Kos Morgan, and was buried in Magnolia Cemetery, Galveston beside her son, Sidney Sherman, Jr. General Sherman died in Galveston August 1, 1873 at the home of his daughter Mrs. J. M. O. Menard, and was buried near his wife and son. In 1894 his remains and those of former President David G. Burnet were removed to Lake View Cemetery, Galveston. A joint monument at their new graves erected by the Sidney Sherman Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, was unveiled March 2, 1894. The remains of Mrs. Sherman were removed to a Catholic Cemetery in Galveston and in 1936 the State of Texas had a monument erected at her grave.

Children of General and Mrs. Sherman were (1) Sidney A., (2) Caroline M., (3) Matilda Isabel, (4) Susan Florence, (5) Cornelius Fenwick, (6) Sallie Lennie, (7) Lucy Kate and (8) David Burnet Sherman.

(1) Sidney A. Sherman was killed January 1, 1863 at Galveston by a shot from the Harriet Lane, while serving in the Confederate army.

(2) Caroline M. Sherman was married first to John A. Williams, Colonel of Engineers in the Confederate army. Colonel Williams died,

and on October 30, 1872 Mrs. Williams was married to J. M. Odin Menard. Of this union the following children were born (a) Mary Susan Sherman Menard, who married Eugene Le Cand. After the death of Mr. Le Cand his widow was married to Philip McCaleb and now resides in Galveston; (b) Frances Mary Agnes Menard, who married Francis E. Russell. Mrs. Russell died December 8, 1934. (c) Joseph Mary Odin Menard, who died September 17, 1878. (d) William Kendall Menard, who married Lola M. Chubb. Mr. Menard resides on Coduceus Street, Galveston; (e) Catherine Isabel Menard, deceased, was married to John D. Griggs; (f) Caroline L. Menard, who married David Scott Keene, and resides on Caduceus Street, Galveston.

(3) Matilda Isabel Sherman was married to William E. Kendall. Their children were (a) C. Sherman, who died December 1, 1887 aged seventeen years; (b) Charles Leonard who died August 22, 1872, aged eighteen months; (c) William Earl who married Theodora Keeper and resides at 3617 Burlington Street, Houston; (d) Odin Menard who has never married and resides at 1314 South Second Street, Corpus Christi; (e) Thomas Clarence, who married Eugenia Dabney and resides at 3207 Montrose Boulevard, Houston; and Francis Fenwick Kendall, deceased, who married Juliette Daughterty.

(4) Susan Florence Menard was married to George O. Cherry and, after Mr. Cherry's death, to Charles A. MacMurphy. Carrie Belle MacMurphy, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. MacMurphy was married to Moses William Garnett, who died March 10, 1900.

(5) Cornelius Sherman died in infancy, August 8, 1853.

(6) Sallie Lennie Sherman was married to John T. Brady. Their

children were (a) Lucy Sherman who married Wilmer Sperry Hunt and resides at 2020 Crawford Street, Houston; and Sidney Sherman Brady, who married Cahille Jones. Mr. Brady died in September, 1910.

(7) Lucy Kate Sherman, only surviving child of General and Mrs. Sidney Sherman was married to Louis W. Craig. Mrs. Craig resides at 2318 1/2 Austin, Street, Houston. Children of Mr. and Mrs. Craig were: (a) Leonard Wiles, who married Besse Boyle and resides in Pico, California; Doddridge Henry; (d) Emily Belle who died at the age of 2 years; and William Kendall Craig who resides at 2318 1/2 Austin Street, Houston.

(8) David C. Burnet Sherman died in infancy, July 30, 1863.

Mrs. Sherman's remains were removed to the old Catholic Cemetery
40th St. and Ave. U-- in the Sherman-Menard plot.