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HALLETT, JOHN, JR. -- A son of John Hallett. On page 35, Book A, containing the list of applicants for land in Austin's Colonies and kept in the Spanish Archives in the General Land Office, Austin, it is shown that John Hallett, Sr., aged fifty, applied for land February 15, 1833. He stated that his wife and two children were in New York and that two of his sons were living with him at La Bahia, Texas.

John Hallett, Jr. was a member of Captain William J. E. Heard's Company of Citizen Soldiers at San Jacinto. He died before August 17, 1847 when Donation Certificate No. 86 for 640 acres of land was issued in his name, but delivered to his mother, for having participated in the battle. His heirs were entitled to receive a headright of one-third of a league of land but apparently did not apply for it.

The following information concerning the Hallett family was submitted to the compiler October 28, 1938 by Mr. James T. Ballard, Beeville, Texas:

John Hallett, Jr. was born in Virginia in 1812, a son of John and Margaret (Leatherbury) Hallett, and was killed by Indians near San Antonio, Texas in 1837. John Hallett, Sr. was born in Worcestershire, England. When but a lad of twelve he was placed in training in the British Navy. Being threatened with punishment by one of the officers of the ship, he climbed overboard in the night time, and swam to an American vessel in the harbor. The captain of this vessel brought him to the United States and adopted him. He followed the sea with his adopted father for years, and was a volunteer in an engagement in Chesapeake Bay against the British. Later he sailed for several

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years as Captain from the ports of New York and Baltimore. In 1808 he married Margaret P. Leatherbury in Virginia. While sailing on the ocean he lost a ship at Key West, Florida, and with the insurance money he received, he came to Texas and started in business at La Bahia, Texas. In October 1836, he died at La Bahia, Goliad County. His widow came to Texas in _____ and settled in Lavaca County. She donated one-half of the land for the townsite of Hallettsville, named in her honor. She died on her farm near Hallettsville in 1863.

Children of Mrs. and Captain John Hallett, Sr., were (1) John, Jr., the San Jacinto soldier; (2) William Henry, (3) Benjamin, and (4) Mary Jane Hallett.

(2) William Henry Hallett was reared in Matamoras, Mexico, from his eleventh to his twenty-first year, when he returned home to his mother. Later he was sent by General Felix Huston to Matamoras to buy land claims. He was arrested as a spy and confined for some time, but was finally paroled. After that nothing further was heard of him by his family.

(3) Benjamin Hallett died in 1836, aged ten years.

(4) Mary Jane Hallett at the age of fifteen was married to Collatinus Ballard at Hallettsville.

Children of Mr. and Mrs. Collatinus Ballard were James, Mary A., who died at the age of seventeen; Margaret P., who married W. P. Ballard; Fredonia Jane, who married a Mr. Rowe; Frances B., who married M. B. Woodall; Collatinue; Ezbell; and John L. Hallett, who died in her twentieth year.

Mr. C. Ballard, Goldthwaite, Texas is a grandson of John Hallett, Jr., and Mr. James F. Ballard, Beeville, is a great-grandson. Mrs. S. M. Kuykindall, Hallettsville, is a great-granddaughter.

October 20, 1938

Mr. James T. Ballard, Beeville, Texas:

You are receiving two copied of this sketch, one of which you are to keep. I shall appreciate it if you will correct any mistakes I may have made in the other and return it to L. W. Kemp, 214 Westmoreland Avenue, Houston, Texas.